

Have you seen a wing-tagged Turkey Vulture?



Researchers at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, together with colleagues in Venezuela, recently placed color wing tags on more than 100 Turkey Vultures over-wintering in northwestern Venezuela. The tagged birds are members of the *meridionalis*, or western North American, subspecies. The birds were tagged to study long-distance migration in the species. They are expected to begin migrating back toward their breeding areas in February. Their movements should take them through Central America and Mexico and into the western United States and Canada.

Reports of these birds will help Hawk Mountain scientists determine the timing and geography of migration in Turkey Vultures, as well as the breeding areas of the birds. Some of the birds have red tags with white numbers, others have light-blue tags with black numbers.

Please report the date and specific location of your sighting, color and number of the tag, the wing (right or left) to which the tag is attached, and the circumstances of the sighting, including whether or not the bird was alone or in a group of vultures, flying or perched, feeding or roosting, etc. Dead birds also should be reported. Report sightings to Keith Bildstein, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, 410 Summer Valley Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961; Bildstein@hawkmtn.org; 1-570-943-3411 ext. 108. All reports will be recognized, and individuals reporting tagged birds will receive summary information about the study. Thank you.