



black-chested buzzard eagles of south america

human energy

wild files vol. 15



situation

2012 • Argentina

- Chevron Argentina operates the El Trapial oil field located in Neuquén province about 615 miles (990 km) southwest of Buenos Aires.
- During safety maintenance activities in 2012 to replace wooden power poles and other equipment damaged by high-wind storms, our workers reported seeing large nests built on some of the power poles.
- The nests' location on the crossarms of the power poles posed a risk to the raptors inhabiting them.



El Trapial's operations are powered by electricity fed from Argentina's National Interconnected System. There are two power plants with turbo generators and more than 155 miles (250 km) of medium-voltage power lines.

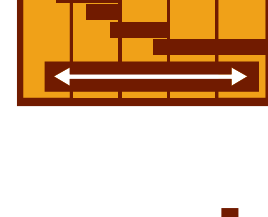


black-chested buzzard eagles are often seen:

- In dry, open habitats with rugged terrain
- Perched on rocky cliffs or tall poles
- Soaring, often in pairs, as they search for prey

territory:

Throughout Argentina and a large portion of subequatorial South America



actions taken

We consulted with a local wildlife biologist to assess the situation.

To mitigate risk to the species, identified as black-chested buzzard eagles, we followed the expert's recommendations and:



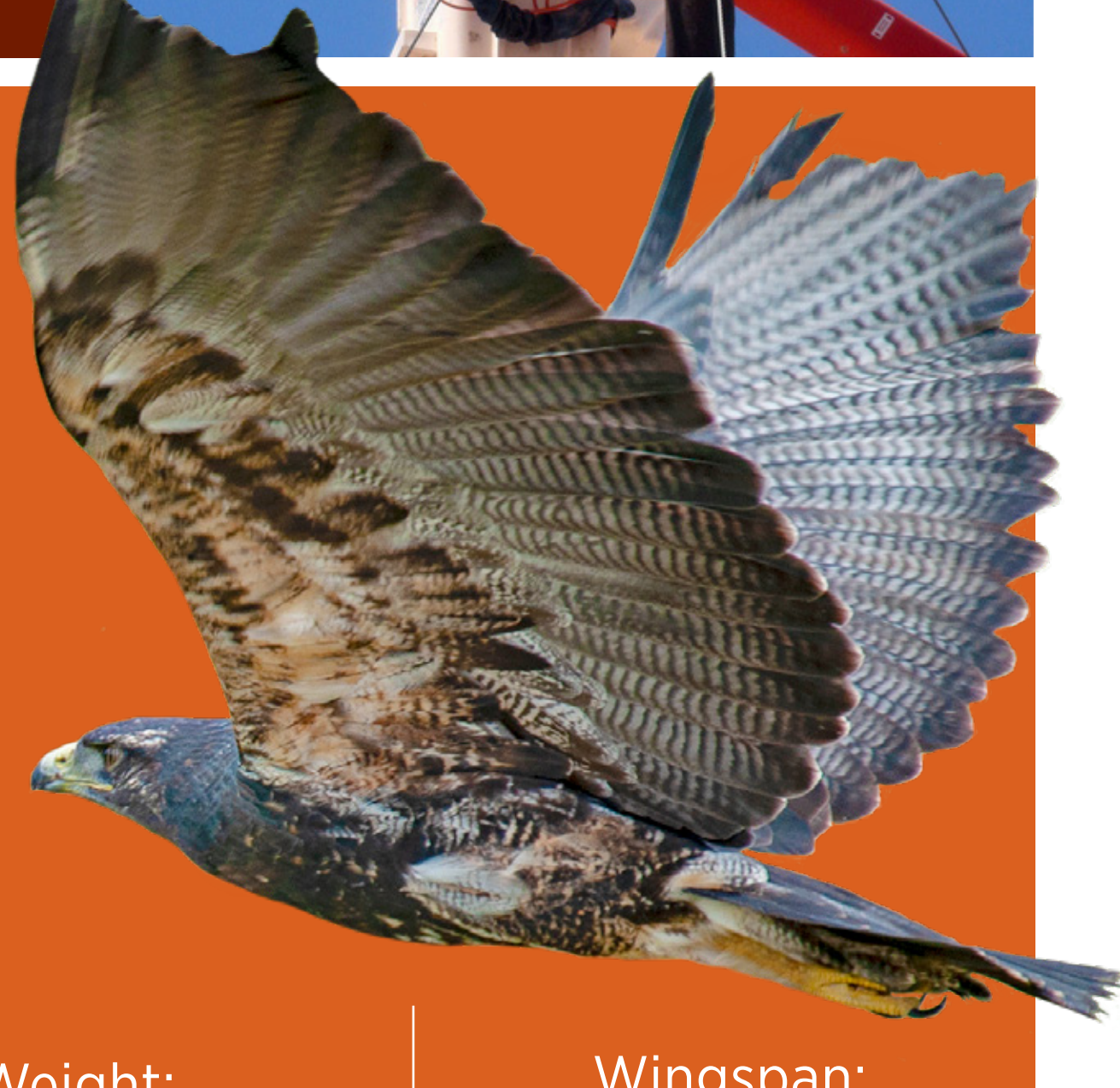
- Erected higher poles that were independent of the power lines
- Constructed artificial nesting boxes attached to the new poles

- Relocated 10 black-chested buzzard eagle nests, including eaglets and eggs, to the nesting boxes



black-chested buzzard eagle

- Black or dark gray chest, neck and head
- Black tail
- White underside
- Black or dark gray wings with white along the edges



Length:
24-30 in
(62-76 cm)

Weight:
3.7-7.1 lbs
(1.67-3.2 kg)

Wingspan:
4'11"-6'7"
(149-200 cm)

Females are larger than males

diet consists of:



reptiles



small birds



carrion



small mammals



rabbits are their preferred meal



results

the nesting boxes provided safe space

for the relocated eagles to raise their families

we continue to monitor power lines for nests

that might need to be relocated

our actions helped promote preservation

of this indigenous raptor species



our actions were consistent with our goal to conserve biodiversity:

we strive to avoid or reduce the potential for significant impacts on sensitive species, habitats and ecosystems