

# THE BALD EAGLE



***HOW DID THE BALD EAGLES GET ON THE  
ENDANGERED LIST?***

# **THE BALD EAGLE'S NATIONALITY**

The U.S. Congress selected the bald eagle as a national symbol  
June 20, 1782.

The bald eagle became a symbol of the U.S. soon after the nation  
was founded.

The bald eagle stands for strength and freedom. It can show up  
on coins or other U.S. items.

Sometimes the bald eagle can be called “The American Eagle”.

The name “bald eagle” stands for its name in Latin that means  
“the sea eagle with a white head”.

# **BALD EAGLE FACTS**

The bald eagle can be black or brown.

It has a white head and tail.

The bald eagle's call sounds weak and squeaky. It can also sound like a whistle.

Its habitat can be by seacoasts, rivers or large lakes.



# **HOW DID THE BALD EAGLES GET ON THE ENDANGERED LIST?**

At one time there were probably 500,000 pairs of bald eagles. By 1963 there were less than 500 pairs in the lower U.S.

***WHAT HAPPENED?***

# **THE BALD EAGLE BECAME ENDANGERED BECAUSE OF THE USE OF DDT.**

DDT is a chemical used to kill insects.

DDT stands for, Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane.

In 1947 DDT was used widely across the U.S. 106 Million pounds of DDT were produced for use across the country in 1951.

# HOW DOES DDT EFFECT THE BALD EAGLES?

It caused the bald eagles to lay eggs with thin shells. When the parent sat on the shell, it would crack. It also caused some eaglets to be infertile, that means the eaglet can not lay its own eggs. As a result, the population of bald eagles decreased greatly.

In the 1960's the bald eagles were placed on the endangered list.

# **HOW DID THE BALD EAGLES GET OFF THE ENDANGERED LIST?**

In 1972 the use of DDT was banned in the U.S

On June 28, 2007, the bald eagles were removed from the endangered species list.

# TODAY

Today in the U.S, the bald eagles are making a great recovery. According to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Services, there are more than 10,000 pairs of bald eagles currently in the U.S.





***NOW THE BALD EAGLE CAN SOAR  
HIGH IN THE SKY.....***



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