

MacRae, Diann. 1997. Olympic vulture study: The outlook from Washington state. *B. C. Birding* 7(2):7-10.

ABSTRACT. Starting in 1992, the fall migration of Turkey Vultures from Vancouver Island, British Columbia to the United States has been monitored. Turkey Vultures are known to fly over water for 25 km or less, making it possible for them to cross the 20 km Strait of Juan de Fuca. Observations showed increasing numbers near Rocky Point, Vancouver Island, but visibility was difficult. Observations were then made from the Salt Creek Recreation Area directly across the Strait in Washington. Sightings are most commonly of about 200 Turkey Vultures in a group, and most often on days with light winds and no rainfall. Other raptors often cross the Strait with large concentrations of vultures. In response to posting of flyers, there have been numerous volunteer reports of vulture sightings and favorable publicity in both British Columbia and Washington.