



April 22, 2021

Dear Friends, Family and Eagle's NEST Supporters,

April 22, a very significant day. It is Earth Day! It also happens to be the eighth anniversary of Eagle's NEST US!

Many have asked me about the significance of our organizations name and how we chose it.

Growing up, I always had a love for eagles, especially bald eagles. And just as much, I have always had a fascination with nests... from eagles or hawks or any other raptor, any large nest, to me, was fascinating. I remember in high school reading a National Geographic magazine article about bald eagle nests in Alaska. The size of the nests, the materials the eagles used to build the nests ... it all was fascinating and inspiring to me. Even more importantly though to me, is the imagery that opens up the book of Genesis (Ch. 1, vs. 2) showing the Spirit of God hovering over this newly forming creation in a protective mode. The New International Version Bible Commentary says it this way, "like an eagle 'hovering' over its young with great concern." (For complimentary phrasing and meaning, see Deuteronomy 32:10-11 and Isaiah 31:5). From the very beginning, God showed great concern and protection for His creation – we should too!

So with that said, let me share some data regarding bald eagles. In 1963, bald eagles reached an all-time low of 417 known nesting pairs in the entire lower 48 states. Tragic! An endangered species to say the least!

Over the course of our organizations existence, we have communicated many of the conservation or environmental issues and crisis staring us in the face. You may remember communications regarding the climate crisis, the declining numbers of monarch butterflies, plastic in the ocean or severe drought just to name a few. Unless we change, unless we care more, it seems bad news all the time.

How about some new data? How about some great news this time? It's about the bald eagle. It's because people cared. It's because people made a difference. It's because extinction is tragic and extinction is forever! People cared to add the bald eagle to the Endangered Species List. People cared to eliminate the use of chemical pesticides like DDT and others when they were found to be harmful. A brand new study in March 2021 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service states that the number of bald eagles in the lower 48 states have quadrupled since 2009. Their study reveals that there are now more than 71,000 nesting pairs and over 316,000 individual birds in the lower 48. If you have been fortunate like I have to witness a bald eagle it is truly an amazing sight. I have had the privilege to observe and study these majestic birds in Alaska, Washington, Montana and Wyoming ... and even in and around

our own local foothill and mountain lakes. This iconic species, this national treasure is back. When we care, we can make a difference. Earth Day! Eagle's NEST US anniversary! The Bald Eagle recovery! God's concern! **Celebrate!**

A Special Request:

Through this time of pandemic, like other non-profits, it has been a struggle for Eagle's NEST US.

If you are able please share what you can with a one-time gift. You can bless us by easily making a one-time donation to Eagle's NEST US online with credit cards at www.eaglesnestus.org or by mailing a check to: Eagle's NEST US, PO Box 322, Visalia, CA 93279.

But, we have a special challenge for our eighth anniversary.

The challenge is to secure eight new Monthly Raptor Partners at \$15, \$25, \$50 or \$100 per month. OR to have eight current Monthly Raptor Partners move up to the next level of Raptor support. Any combination of those two categories will help us meet this challenge. Please see the Raptor Partner Pledge Card and help us continue to make a difference.

**We thank God for you and are blessed
by your prayers, encouragement and support.**

Joy and Peace!

Todd Slinde, President & CEO

Eagle's NEST US

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Providing Quality Creation Education Leading to Better Environmental Integrity and Conservation