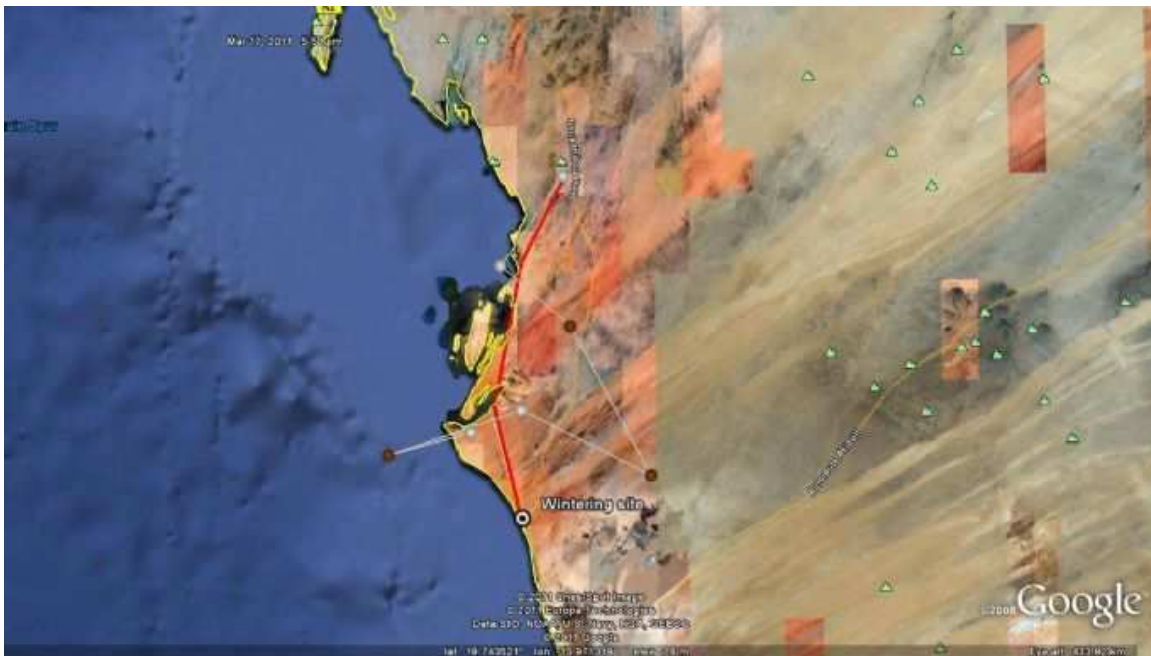


Morven's Movements in 2011

Spring Migration

17 March 2011: Starts migration

Morven's transmitter sent some non-GPS data which showed she was 47 kms up the coast from her wintering site at midday on 16th March - she has started her spring migration. She roosted overnight in the Banc d'Arguin coast and then on 17th turned NE over the Sahara Desert and by 1750GMT was 50kms inland.



22 March 2011: Moroccan coast

Morven was in the desert in the northern part of Western Sahara on 20th at 1446GMT - 574 kms since previous check. Yesterday afternoon, 21st at 1436GMT she was flying towards the Moroccan coast near Seheb el Harcha, so she is through the main desert. Her signals are non-GPS and not best quality but they indicate her route, and she is 400 kms further on.



25 March 2011: In Spain

Morven was in the west of Extramadura at 1428GMT on 25th, a Class A non-GPS signal. On 23rd/24th poor quality signals north - NW of Seville. She is probably heading for her spring stop-over at Villaviciosa estuary on the North Spain coast - 470 kms further north, so she might just get there evening of 27th March.



28 March 2011: Arrives Villaviciosa Estuary

Very welcome email this evening:

"Dear Roy today at 15:00 pm, Morven was eating a mullet in the estuary of Villaviciosa. Best regards from Doriana Pando of FAPAS in North Spain"

So she has arrived at her favourite spring stop-over location, which is full of mullet and ideal for her to feed up before the Bay of Biscay crossing. Thanks very much, Doriana, for locating her and sending the news.

31 March 2011: Possibly on her way

Adolfo Villaverde, who has reported on Morven in previous years, first saw her back on one of her favourite posts on the marsh at 1345 on 28th March (colour ring white/black PE); she was in the same area on 29th and 30th, but this morning he found no sign so may be she has departed. He also tells me that she featured in the local newspaper on 29th March. Thanks for information, Adolfo.

01 April 2011

Adolfo checked several times and she definitely left yesterday - he tells me that the weather improved yesterday and she should have made good migration. Next link will probably be arrival at her nest (empty today) as the transmitter seems to have stopped working totally.

09 April 2011: Back at nest

Morven was at the nest at 8am on 6th April but not positively identified (white/black colour ring PE) until I saw her on 8th April. She was with a male and I am certain it is pale yellow HA - which has tried to muscle in on several local nests in the last few years. If Talisman did die in December in Africa and does not turn up, then HA may inherit Logie's old nest.

Summer

18 April 2011: Settling down

Morven is now well-settled at her nest and appears to have accepted a new mate, yellow/black HA, which has been trying to find a mate and a nest these last few springs. They have built up the nest really well and he has been supplying her with fish. Should expect her to lay eggs in the next week.

26 April 2011: All settled

Morven and her new mate (yellow HA) have been busy building up the nest and when I visited this morning she was standing in the nest and he was perched in the tree just above her. I expect her to lay eggs very soon.

28 April 2011: Now incubating

Morven was incubating when I checked the eyrie this morning.

23 June 2011: Has hatched

I haven't seen the young yet but her behaviour in the last few visits indicate that she has been brooding small young against the rain.

09 July 2011: 2 chicks

I saw two young on the nest a couple days ago with Morven perched in the dead tree above the nest. Morven's transmitter gave out a few non GPS signals.

15 July 2011: Ringed 3 young

In recent days I noticed that the nest contained 3 young and they were ideal for a ringing. Today, I was very grateful to Ross and Alice who came from Abernethy

Forest with the big ladder and we ringed all 3 young ones. 2 males and a female, two in very good condition, but the youngest was a bit of a runt at just 1105 gms weight compared to his sister at 1850 gms and brother at 1444 gms. Nevertheless he seemed in good condition and as long as food keeps coming in he should survive and fledge. Great that Morven has reared three young for the first time.

12 August 2011: All 3 young flying

All three young are now flying. It's the first time Morven has reared three young - I wonder if yellow HA has been a more proficient fisher than Talisman, her old mate. There was no sign of her today - may be she has gone - and like recent years she has probably gone north to Caithness. Sadly her transmitter has always been poor quality so I have had no signals recently, so I'll need to ask friends up north to have a look for her near Loch Calder.

Autumn Migration

16 August 2011: Morven at Loch Calder

A non GPS location at midday showed that Morven had gone to Caithness and was somewhere close to Loch Calder - a favourite fishing location in previous autumns. Stan Laybourne had views of an osprey there the previous day which was almost certainly her. I wonder how long she will stay up north before starting her along migration to Mauritania.

27 August 2011: Still in Caithness

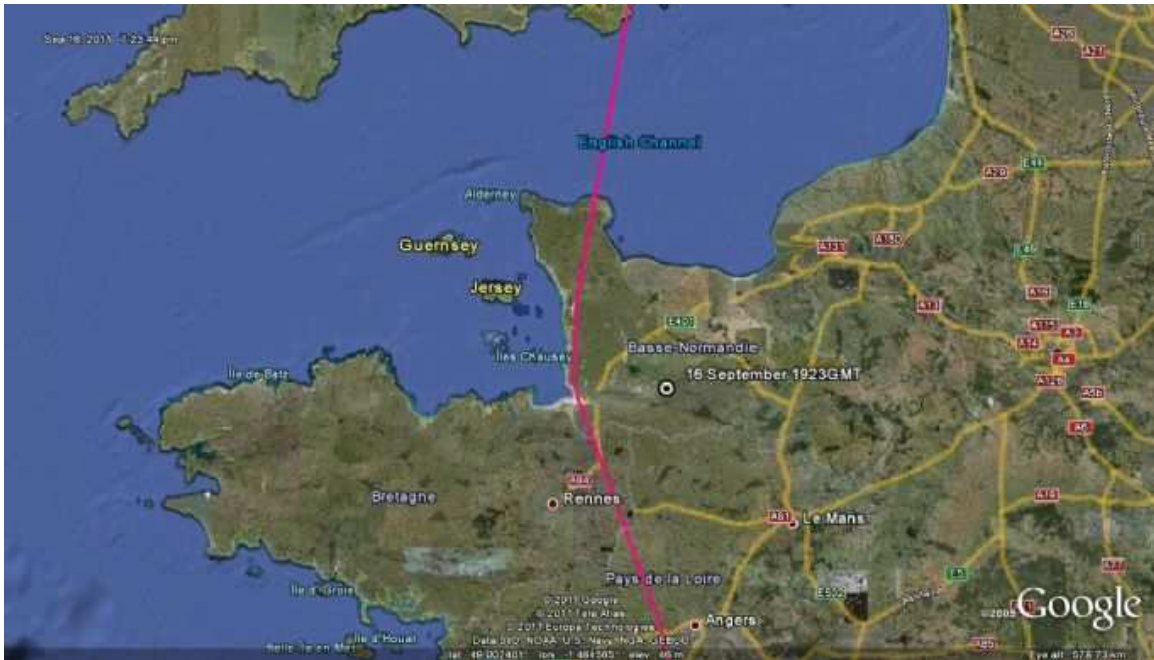
Stan Laybourne was pretty sure it was Morven he saw today at Loch Olginney.

01 September 2011: At her nest

Two of her chicks on the tree next to the nest - one eating a good sized flounder and the other waiting his turn.

16 September 2011: In France

Morven's transmitter gave one of its regular locations at 1923GMT on 16 September and she was near Tinchebray, between Vire and Domfort in northern France. She is not far from the route she took on 30th August 2008, the first of her migrations that we tracked.

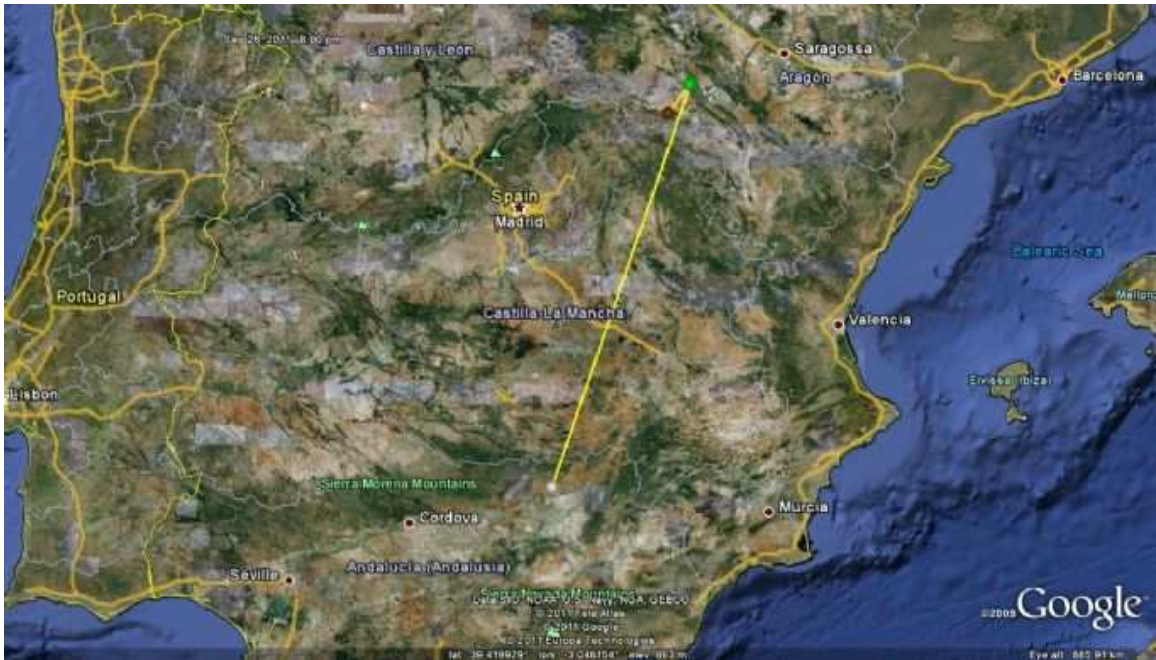


21 September 2011: In Spain

Morven's transmitter gave quite an accurate signal last night. At 2100 hrs she was roosting at the edge of woods on hills near Moros, in Aragon, 87 kms SW of Saragossa.

23 September 2011: In Andalucia

Yesterday afternoon (1532GMT) Morven was a further 380 kms towards her winter quarters - she was north of Ubeda.



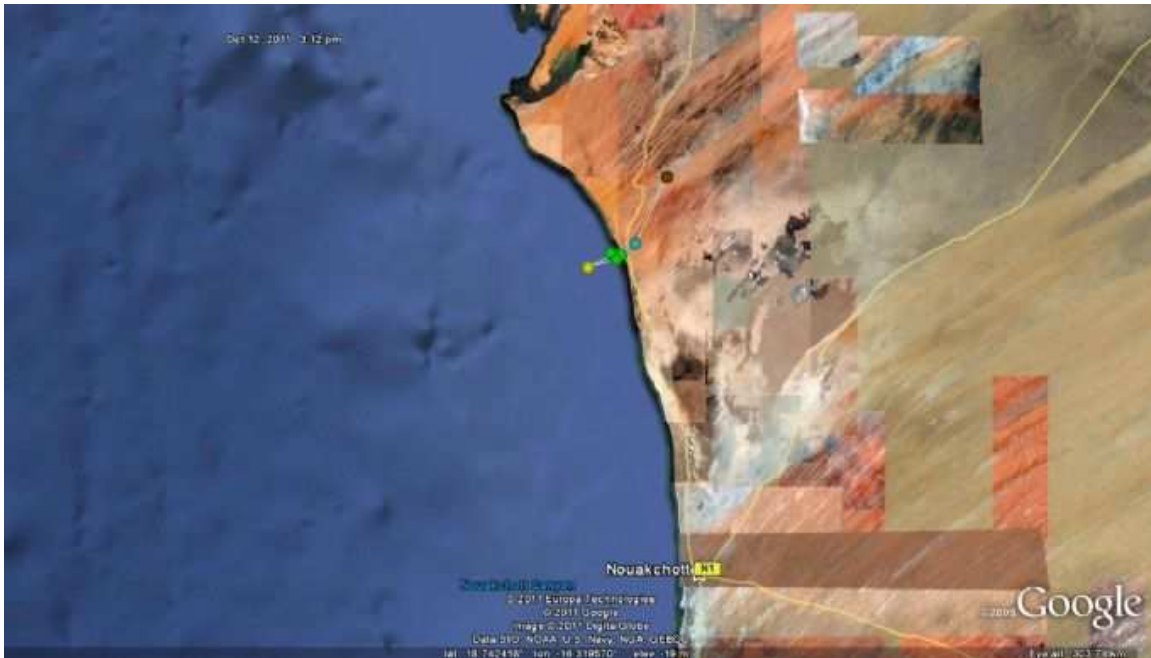
05 October 2011: At her same winter location

A non-GPS location on 5th October in the afternoon showed Morven on exactly the same part of the north Mauritanian coast as in the previous years.

Winter 2011 – 2012

12 October 2011: Settled for winter

Morven is settled on exactly the same part of the Mauritanian coast - roosting inland at night in the desert. She was 5 kms inland today at 0942GMT; on the shore at 1122hrs and about 3 kms off shore at 1403hrs.



27 October 2011: Settled on coast

Two signals from usual coast on 25th.

27 November 2011: Same place

A few signals in for 22nd and 26th November - it's a pity her transmitter continues to malfunction. But even so it shows she is wintering in the same part of the Mauritanian coast and on 22nd November at 0219GMT was roosting in the desert 5.5 kms from the coast.



15 December 2011: No change

Very settled in her winter quarters.

26 December 2011: No change

Usual area of Mauritania; roosting 14 kms inland in desert on 24th.

06 January 2012: On the Mauritanian coast

Morven's transmitter burst into life and gave four locations from the usual area of coast, at 02.57am she was roosting 16 kms SE.

20 January 2012: Few more locations

Morven was on the usual part of the coast at 1101GMT on 13th and 1804GMT on 17th January.



Locations on 13th (green dot) and 17th (blue dot)

10 March 2012: Still there

Nice series of fixes on 29th February and March 1st showed Morven fishing and loafing on the coast, and night roosting in the desert - all in usual site.

