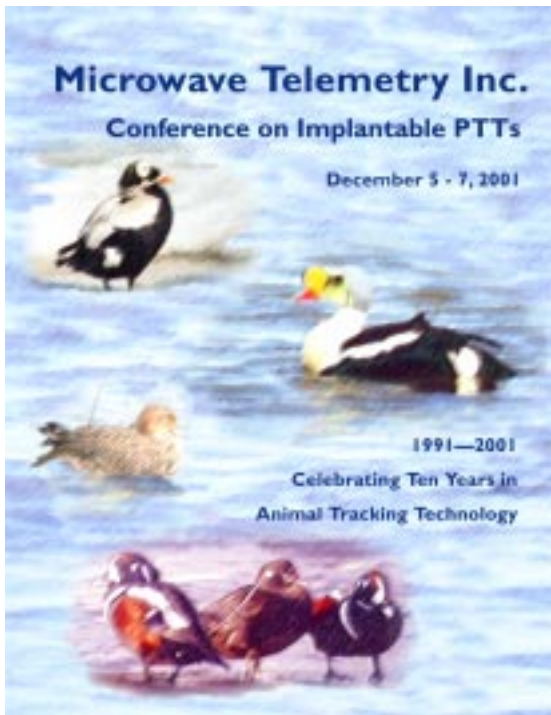


Implantable PTT Conference a Success!



The increasing use of implantable PTTs is revealing surprises in the study of migratory routes of endangered species.

Microwave Telemetry hosted a conference on Implantable PTTs in the first week of December 2001. The conference was designed for biologists who track waterfowl and seabirds and for the veterinarians who implant the PTTs. This relatively new technology was developed by Microwave Telemetry for Margaret Petersen in the early 1990's to track the wintering location of the Spectacled Eider.

The conference provided a rare chance for field biologists and veterinarians to meet and share experiences, ideas and suggestions with each other and with the manufacturer. Close to fifty attendees heard presentations from biologists and veterinarians and participated in a round table discussion led by Dan Mulcahy, a pioneer in implanting PTTs.

All agreed that the conference was a well-timed opportunity to relate successes and failures with surgical implantation of transmitters in many species of waterfowl and seabirds. It was also an occasion to trade tips on the capture and implantation of birds with as little stress to the animal as possible.

Tours of Microwave Telemetry gave everyone a chance to ask questions about the manufacturing process and to give Paul their input or "wish list" for future PTTs.

The last day of the conference, attendees toured the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge in Laurel, MD. They visited the veterinary hospital, where implant procedures are performed, the breeding area for whooping and sandhill cranes, as well as the educational center.



Participants at our Implantable PTT conference, December 2001.



Presentations, round table discussions, networking during breaks, and conversation over lunch gave biologists and veterinarians opportunities to talk shop and to trade ideas and methods.

