

## **Eagle Nest Update: July 2019**

The eagles began occupying an osprey nest near Coles Cabin in the winter of 2018. One osprey returned alone and upon finding the eagles squatting in the nest, he/she spent the next four days dive bombing the eagles and screaming at them in an attempt to evict them from the nest. The eagles resisted and held fast to their new found home. When the osprey's mate finally arrived, the war had already been lost and the osprey moved down the pond to make a new nest, leaving the eagles the victors.

In early spring of 2019, twin eagle chicks hatched to the adult bald eagles. Following a strong storm in July, the structure of the nest was weakened, leaving the nest a bit smaller and much less stable. The adults continued to feed the hungry eaglets in what was left of the nest until on July 16<sup>th</sup> one of the adults dropped a large fish into the nest and the nest collapsed through the trees below, leaving the eagle babies clinging to nearby branches and screaming in outrage and confusion. The adult eagles had bombed and destroyed their own nest! The eaglets hovered in the nest remains in the lower tree bows then fledged a few days later. Both are still returning to the home nest tree as they build their flying stamina.

Moral of the story – do not sublease your nest to eagles.