

Alaska Falconry Manual

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ALASKA FALCONRY MANUAL NO. 8



**Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
July 1, 2008**



IMPORTANT DATES

January 10	Due date for annual falconry and raptor propagation reports. Date to request permit renewal (unless otherwise specified). Requests for renewal must be submitted <i>at least 20 days prior to expiration of the current permit.</i>
January 31	Date falconry and raptor propagation permits expire.
May 26 – August 5	Period when eyases may be taken.
August 15 – November 30	Period when passage birds, adult American kestrels and adult great horned owls may be taken.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Taking Raptors	Report to the regional falconry representative and nearest department office in the intended area of take <i>prior to and within 5 days after</i> taking a raptor from the wild. You must also report to both the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS (Form 3-186A) <i>within 5 days</i> of taking a raptor. Additional reporting requirements apply for peregrine falcons.
Markers	Upon taking a peregrine falcon or gyrfalcon, a USFWS marker (black band) must be attached; a department marker (red band) must be placed on any other raptor originating from the wild and possessed in Alaska.
Release/Loss/Death of Raptors	Notify the regional falconry representative <i>prior</i> to the intentional release of any raptor. Notify the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS (Form 3-186A) of the loss, escape, release, or death of any raptor <i>within 5 days</i> of such occurrence. Deliver the marker from a dead or released raptor to the regional falconry representative <i>within 15 days</i> of death or release.
Import/Export	<p>Prior written approval from the ADF&G Permits Section is required before any raptors may be <i>imported</i> into or permanently <i>exported</i> from Alaska.</p> <p>A person with a current permit for falconry from another state or province may import raptors and use them for falconry for up to 30 days under the terms of a temporary import permit issued by the ADF&G Permits Section.</p> <p>Raptors imported into Alaska must be accompanied by a health certificate issued within 30 days prior to the date of importation. A "health certificate" means a legible certification issued by an accredited veterinarian of the state of origin or the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (APHIS-USDA) and executed on an official form of the state of origin or of the APHIS-USDA. Consult the State Veterinarian (Department of Environmental Conservation) or ADF&G Permits Section for current disease testing requirements before applying for an import permit.</p> <p>For raptors traveling through Canada or to or from a foreign country, please contact the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to obtain information, appropriate declaration forms, and export/import permits or licenses.</p>

Cover illustration courtesy of William R. Tilton



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

Falconry is the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game using a trained raptor. Falconry is a lawful hunting method when practiced in compliance with state and federal regulations under the terms of a permit issued jointly by the Commissioner of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). There are eleven species of raptors authorized for falconry in Alaska: sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), merlin (*Falco columbarius*), gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*), Peale's peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus pealei*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and hybrids of these species produced by a raptor breeder. Alaska regulations require that anyone taking, holding, or possessing one or more of these raptor species for falconry must first obtain a falconry permit.

State falconry regulations were adopted by the Alaska Board of Game to assist in the management of raptor populations and to maintain standards for the care of birds legally held for falconry purposes. This manual includes regulations that pertain to the taking, holding and possession of raptors for falconry and issuance of falconry permits. Whether you are a novice falconer or an experienced falconer who is new to Alaska, the application and reporting procedures may seem complex and are summarized for your convenience below. More detailed information is contained in the Standards section of this manual and is not repeated here; please refer to the Standards section before conducting your falconry activities. Statewide provisions for issuing falconry permits and promulgating regulations are contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and AS 16.05.255. Federal regulations on falconry can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 21 (50 CFR §21.28 and §21.29).

Falconry Permits

A falconry permit, when accompanied by a current Alaska hunting license, authorizes you to hunt game with your falcon in compliance with applicable seasons, bag limits, and other provisions of law. You are responsible for the actions of your raptor while it is hunting. If your bird takes game illegally, you must leave the dead game where it lies, although your raptor may feed on the game before leaving the kill site.

Falconry permits are valid from the date issued through January 31 of the third calendar year following the year of issue (e.g., a permit issued on February 4, 2008 expires on January 31, 2011), unless a shorter period is prescribed on the permit. Not later than January 10 of each calendar year, a permittee must submit an annual report (Appendix B) to the ADF&G Permit Section.

Raptors legally possessed under an Alaska falconry permit may not be bred in captivity and birds taken from the wild under authority of a falconry permit may not be sold or bartered. Temporary

transfer of raptors between falconers requires proper notification of state and federal authorities. A permit from the ADF&G Permit Section is required to import a raptor into or permanently export a raptor from the state of Alaska. All raptors imported into Alaska must be accompanied by a health certificate and meet disease testing requirements as specified by the state veterinarian. You may not permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in Alaska unless you have legally possessed the bird in the state for at least one year.

There are three classes of falconry permits issued depending on your experience: apprentice (new falconers); general (at least two years experience as a practicing falconer); and master (at least five years experience as a practicing falconer). You must have a bird in possession to be considered a practicing falconer. The table below summarizes the permit conditions for each class of falconer:

Permit Condition	Apprentice	General	Master
Max no. of falconry birds in possession	1	2	3
Max no. of birds (including replacements) that may be obtained from all sources during any 12-month period	2	2	No limit
Max no. of birds that may be taken from the wild during any 12-month period	2	2	2
Authorized species	American kestrel northern goshawk red-tailed hawk Harlan's hawk	All except eagles (but only falconers with more than 2 yrs. experience at the general class level may take a peregrine falcon from the wild)	All
Possession of hybrids allowed?	No	Yes	Yes

Application Procedures

If you have never held a falconry permit in Alaska before, the basic application procedures are the same whether you are a new (apprentice) falconer or transferring a permit from another state. To apply, you must: (1) pass the Alaska falconry exam; (2) have your raptor facilities and equipment inspected and approved by ADF&G; and (3) submit an application form to the ADF&G Permit Section (new falconers must also include the application fee). Permits may be renewed by checking the renewal box on the annual report form and paying the application fee. Please contact the ADF&G Permits Section or USFWS for the current fee schedule. The application fee may be submitted with the application or mailed directly to the USFWS. Please make checks or money orders (no cash) payable to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

If you are transferring a permit from another state, you must submit photocopies of your current falconry permit, along with copies of your annual reports to document the requisite years of experience at the class level for which you are applying.

To be eligible for an apprentice class permit, you must be at least 14 years of age and be sponsored by a general or master class falconer (a falconer may not sponsor more than three apprentices at one time). Your sponsor will provide help and guidance to get started, but you should expect to invest considerable amounts of time on your own learning about raptors and falconry by reading and observing raptors in the wild. If you do not know any falconers who can serve as a sponsor, contact your regional falconry representative for recommendations or a list of active falconers in your area. You may have to travel long distances to meet with your sponsor. This requirement will not be waived under any circumstances, even if there are no falconers nearby who are willing and qualified to serve as your sponsor.

Falconry Examination

All new (apprentice) falconers and falconers who are transferring a permit from another state must take the Alaska falconry examination. This is to ensure that you are familiar with Alaska's falconry regulations and standards and are knowledgeable about caring for raptors in extreme climate conditions. The falconry examination is designed to test your knowledge of raptor identification, natural history of Alaska raptors, care of raptors in captivity, and Alaska falconry rules and regulations. The test will take a maximum of two hours, and it will be a supervised, closed book examination. You are required to answer correctly at least 80 percent of the questions to pass the test. A person who fails the examination may retake it after waiting at least 30 days, but an applicant may not take the examination more than twice during any six-month period. When you are ready to take the test, contact your regional falconry representative to make the necessary arrangements.

To prepare for the examination, study the falconry standards included in this manual carefully. You must have a thorough understanding of Alaska falconry regulations and standards. Become familiar with the natural history, care, and training of raptors and the art of falconry. Be sure you know how to care properly for raptors in extreme cold and/or wet conditions. References available at libraries or bookstores will acquaint you with caring for a raptor and explain how to train a bird for falconry. Suggested references on falconry and the natural history of raptors are listed below.

Falconry:

Beebe, F. L. and H. M. Webster. 1994. *North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks, 7th edition*. North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks, Denver, Colorado.

Beebe, F. L. 1984. *A Falconry Manual*. Hancock House, Surrey, British Columbia.

Evans, H. 1960. *Falconry for You*. John Gifford, Ltd., London.

- Ford, E. 1992. *Falconry: Art and Practice*. Batsford, London.
- Glazier, P. 1978. *Falconry and Hawking*. Batsford, London.
- Haak, B. A. 1992. *The Hunting Falcon*. Hancock House, Surrey, British Columbia.
- Mavrogordato, J. G. 1960. *A Hawk for the Bush*. H. F. & G. Witherby, Ltd., London.
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- Mitchell, E. B. 1960. *The Art and Practice of Hawking*. C.T. Branford Co., Boston.
- Oakes, W. C. 1994. *The Falconer's Apprentice: A Guide to Training the Passage Red-tailed Hawk*. Eaglewing Publishing, Roy, Utah.
- Parry-Jones, J. 1994. *Training Birds of Prey*. David and Charles, Devon.
- Peeters, H. J. and E. W. Jameson, Jr. 1970. *American Hawking: A General Account of Falconry in the New World*. Privately published, Oakside, Davis, California.
- Turner, R. and A. Haslen. 1991. *Gamehawk: Field and Moor*. Gallery Press, Lavenham, UK.
- Upton, R. 1991. *Falconry: Principles and Practice*. A. & C. Black, London.
- Woodford, M. H. 1977. *A Manual of Falconry, 3rd Edition*. Adam and Charles Black, London.

Natural History of Raptors:

- Brown, L. 1977. *Birds of Prey: Their Biology and Ecology*. A. & W. Publishers, New York.
- Clark, W. S. and B. K. Wheeler. 1987. *A Field Guide to Hawks: North America*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
- Cornell Lab of Ornithology and American Ornithologist's Union. *The Birds of North America Online*. 26 June 2008. <<http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna>>.
- Dunne, P. and D. Sibley. 1988. *Hawks in Flight*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
- Ferguson-Lee, J. and D. A. Christie. 2001. *Raptors of the World*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
- Fox, Nicholas. 1995. *Understanding the Bird of Prey*. Hancock House Publishers, Blaine, Washington.

- Johnsgard, P. A. 1990. *Hawks, Eagles, and Falcons of North America: Biology and Natural History*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington DC.
- Newton, I. N. 1979. *Population Ecology of Raptors*. Buteo Books, Vermillion, South Dakota.
- Palmer, R. S. 1962. *A Handbook of North American Birds*. Yale University Press, New Haven, Connecticut.
- Peterson, R. T. 1990. *Western Birds*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
- Poole, A. and F. Gill, eds. 1992-2001. *The Birds of North America*. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, DC and Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.
- Weidensaul, S. 2000. *The Raptor Almanac: A Comprehensive Guide to Eagles, Hawks, Falcons, and Vultures*. Lyons Press, Guilford, Conn.
- Wheeler, B. K. and W. S. Clark. 1999. *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*. Academic Press, San Diego.

Facilities and Equipment

You are required to provide adequate facilities for holding a raptor in captivity. You are also required to possess proper equipment for practicing falconry before a permit will be issued. Your facilities and equipment must meet the federal standards set forth in 50 CFR §21.29; these standards are summarized for your convenience below. You should contact your regional falconry representative to make arrangements to have your raptor housing facilities and equipment inspected and approved before submitting your application.

The department has not established specifications for hawk houses or mews. Specifications are readily available in reliable falconry texts if a falconer wishes to construct such facilities. Raptors can be retained in captivity and properly cared for without recourse to construction of mews. Some falconers house their birds in the home or garage and utilize the backyard to meet the needs of their raptors. Consequently, this manual provides only a general description as to what constitutes adequate or inadequate facilities, *leaving final judgment to those who conduct the inspection*.

If mews are constructed for untethered raptors, the following general specifications should apply:

- Loft, house, pen or enclosure size:
- Large.....8' x 8' x 7'
(Gyr Falcon, goshawk, red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon)
- Small.....6' x 6' x 7'
(American kestrel, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk)

Mews shall have at least one window protected on the inside by vertical bars (dowels, tubing, etc.), spaced narrower than the width of the bird's body. Chicken wire or hardware cloth is unacceptable for covering windows. The door must be secure and easily closed. Artificial (plastic) grass (such as AstroTurf®) is recommended for the perching surface of blocks used for falcons; uncovered blocks are *not* recommended. Straw or sawdust/wood chips are *not* suitable for floors of mews due to the potential for harboring aspergillosis or other pathogens. Artificial (plastic) grass is easily cleaned and has proven to be good floor covering for mews.

Tethered raptors should be provided with a padded perch. When placed out-of-doors, raptors should be protected from cats, dogs, and wild predators, excessive exposure to wind, rain, snow or sun, and provided with water for drinking and bathing.

Poor physical condition of raptors (e.g., excessive broken tail and wing feathers, damage to cere and head, dirty appearance) is a sign/symptom of inadequate care. Examples of inadequate housing are:

- bird cage of the pet store variety;
- housing constructed of chicken wire, hardware cloth, or with exposed, sharp obstructions;
- housing with exposure to the elements; or
- unsanitary housing such as unclean chicken houses or pigeon lofts.

An applicant must possess the following falconry equipment before a permit will be issued:

1. Jesses, leashes, and swivels—At least 1 pair of Aylmeri or similar type jesses constructed of pliable, high-quality leather or suitable synthetic material must be used when any raptor is flown free. Traditional 1-piece jesses may be used on raptors when they are not being flown. At least 1 flexible and weather-resistant leash and 1 strong swivel of acceptable falconry design (e.g., Sampo or falconry swivel).
2. Bath container—For each raptor, at least 1 container suitable for drinking and bathing, 2 to 6 inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor.
3. Weighing device—A reliable scale or balance suitable for weighing the raptor(s) and graduated into increments of not more than 1/2 ounce (15 grams).

Applicants should have spare materials and the tools necessary to make additional leashes, jesses, grommets, etc. The size, strength, and type of equipment and facilities should be appropriate for the size and type of raptor being held.

Records and Reporting

Falconry permits are issued with a number of reporting conditions. Failure to comply with these conditions constitutes a violation of your permit and may result in your permit being revoked or your renewal being denied. You are required to file a report annually by January 10 that details the status of all falconry birds in your possession at any point during the preceding calendar year.



Report forms are mailed to falconers in November. Please notify the ADF&G Permits Section if you change your mailing address. You are required to file an annual report even if you do not receive a report form in the mail. Report forms are available on the ADF&G website or from the Permits Section. Please be sure to fill out all the requested information completely; reports with missing information will be returned to the falconer.

If you intend to take a raptor from the wild, you must first notify both the regional falconry representative and the nearest department office in the intended take area of your planned taking activities (including the species, location, and dates). Within 5 days of taking any raptor, you must notify the regional falconry representative in the take area of your completed taking activities, including the specific location and date of take, and the species, age (if known) and sex (if known) of the raptor taken, along with any other information required by the department. There are additional notification and reporting requirements for peregrine falcons; these are detailed in the Falconry Standards section (page 18). In addition, within 5 days of taking any raptor, you must submit USFWS Form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS. Form 3-186A is also used to inform the department and the USFWS in writing of any transfer, release, escape, or death of a raptor within *five days* of such occurrence.

You should always keep a copy of your falconry permits, annual reports, 3-186As, import and export permits and all other falconry-related records.

Markers

Before taking a raptor, you must possess a valid falconry permit and an appropriate USFWS or ADF&G marker (band) issued in your name. USFWS markers are black in color, and department markers are red. Requests for markers should be made *in writing* to the USFWS Migratory Birds Permit Section (black bands) or to your ADF&G regional falconry representative (red bands) well in advance of the date you anticipate needing them.

Immediately upon taking a raptor, you must attach the appropriate marker (see Banding section below). Federal markers (black bands) are used on only two species in Alaska; peregrine falcons and gyrfalcons. Department markers (red bands) are used on all other species (sharp-shinned hawk, northern goshawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, American kestrel, merlin, golden eagle or great horned owl). Once attached, the marker must not be removed, except that the rear tab may be trimmed and any imperfections on the surface may be smoothed, provided that the integrity of the marker and numbering are not affected.

All markers (black and red) from dead or released raptors must be surrendered to the department within 15 days of death or release.

Banding

Applying a falconry marker to a raptor may be challenging, even to an experienced falconer. The paramount consideration in banding any bird is to ensure the marker fits properly on the tarsus

and is applied without injuring or causing undue stress to the raptor. The following guidelines and illustrations are provided to assist you in accomplishing this important task.

1. Record the marker number in your personal banding diary and on USFWS Form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report).

Note: In Alaska, USFWS markers are used only on gyrfalcons and peregrine falcons. All other raptors require ADF&G markers.

2. Outfit the marker with protective tubing (figure 1). The installation of clear, plastic tubing over raptor markers serves to lessen the risk of injury to raptors by reducing marker abrasion to the tarsus and preventing accidental closure of the marker. Plastic tubing also protects the marker's identification number. The best choice of clear, plastic tubing is AWG Size #10 with standard 0.016" wall thickness, commonly used for electrical wire installation. It is usually available from the USFWS (inquire when requesting markers from USFWS) or may be purchased from hardware and electrical supply stores.

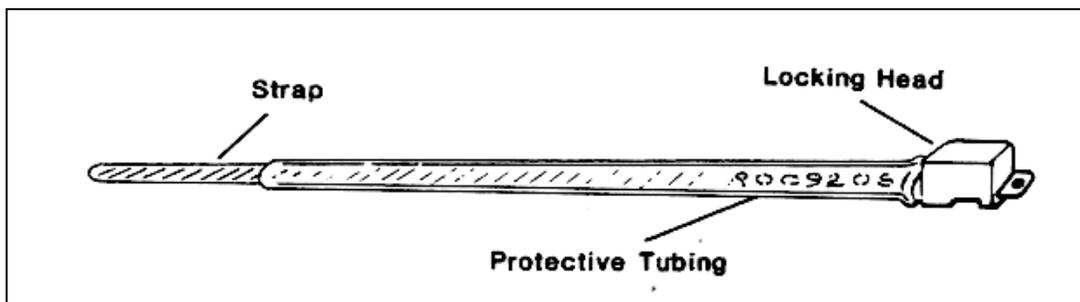


Figure 1

The length of protective tubing placed on the marker is very important since it limits how tightly a band may be closed on the tarsus. Use the following table to determine the length of tubing to apply to the marker:

Species (typical applications)	Length of Tubing (inches)	
	Male	Female
sharp-shinned hawk	3/4	7/8
goshawk	1-3/8	1-1/2
American kestrel	7/8	7/8
merlin	7/8	15/16
peregrine falcon	1-3/8	1-1/2
gyrfalcon	1-7/8	1-7/8
Harlan's hawk	1-7/8	1-7/8

Cut the tubing to length, ensuring the ends are square. Insert the marker strap into tubing as follows: hold the tube against a flat surface, push the strap through the tube until the tip is exposed, and grasp the strap tip and slide the tube solidly against the locking head.

Do not lubricate the strap or tube. Pliers are useful for longer tubes. The marker, fitted with protective tubing, is now ready to be placed on the raptor.

3. Attach the marker. Warm the marker in your hand while bending it into a circular form. Position the marker on the tarsus *above* the jess (figure 2). The marker should be placed on the raptor's left leg with the serial number right side up. This will tend to center the locking head in an outboard position if a nametag or bell is attached to the rear tab.

Insert the end of the strap through the locking head box (figure 3). Use pliers to pull the strap through and about an inch beyond the locking head. Slowly close the marker to the appropriate size by pulling the strap through the locking head. It should not be necessary to use pliers.

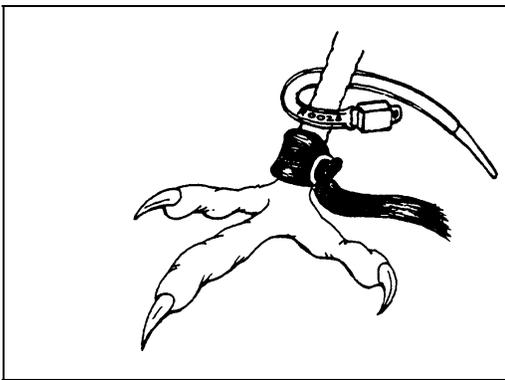


Figure 2

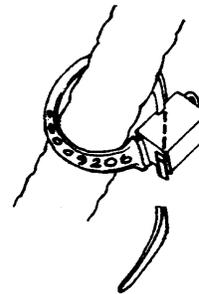


Figure 3

Use fingernail clippers or scissors to cut off the excess strap that extends beyond the locking head. It is important that the strap be cut flush with the surface of the locking head to prevent the bird from pulling at it.

Note: A properly fitted marker will move freely on the leg but be tight enough to prevent removal from an unjessed raptor.

Captive Breeding

Captive breeding or propagation of raptors may only be conducted by qualified falconers under the terms of special propagation permits issued by both the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS. For additional information about captive breeding of raptors in Alaska, or to apply for propagation permits, contact the ADF&G, Permit Section and the USFWS, Migratory Birds Permit Section.

FALCONRY REGULATIONS

5 AAC 92.029. Permits for possessing live game.

...

(f) ... the following species may be temporarily released for the purpose of hunting dog or falcon training, field trials, and tests:

- (1) Pigeon (*Columba livia* Var.);
- (2) Pheasant, Junglefowl, or *Coturnix* (Subfamily Phasianinae);
- (3) any Guineafowl species (Subfamily Numidinae);
- (4) any New World Quail species, including *Colinus*, [i.e., Bobwhite] (Subfamily Odontophorinae);
- (5) any duck, goose, swan, or other migratory waterfowl which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not require a federal permit for private ownership;
- (6) Chukar partridge (*Alectoris chukar*).

(g) A person using live game listed in (f) of this section for the purpose of hunting dog or falcon training, field trials, or tests

- (1) may release the game only on the day of use and shall make reasonable efforts to capture, kill, or recover the temporarily released live game;
- (2) may take the live game in connection with hunting dog or falcon training, field trial, and test activities; and
- (3) must legally acquire, hold, and dispose of the live game in accordance with all other applicable state statutes and regulations.

...

5 AAC 92.037. Permits for falconry. (a) A permit jointly issued by the department and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is required for taking, transporting, or possessing a raptor for falconry or for practicing falconry in this state. The permit will be issued under standards, procedures, and conditions set out in the Falconry Standards section of the Alaska Falconry Manual No. 8, dated July 1, 2008; that section of the falconry manual is hereby adopted by reference. Only a bird defined in (f) of this section as a raptor may be taken, transported, imported, exported, held, or possessed for falconry.

(b) A person may not permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in this state unless the person has legally possessed that raptor in this state for at least one year. Prior written approval

of the commissioner is required before a raptor may be exported from or imported into this state, except as follows:

(1) a raptor legally possessed by an Alaska falconer may be temporarily exported from this state for a period not to exceed 12 months;

(2) an individual with a permit for falconry in another state or province may temporarily import a raptor, and use it for falconry under the terms of a temporary permit issued by the commissioner; an individual moving into this state may import a raptor under authority of a temporary permit, but must apply for a falconry permit in this state within 30 days after the raptor arrives in this state.

(c) A falconer is liable for the actions of the raptor with respect to seasons, bag limits, and other applicable regulations. If a falconry bird takes game that may not be taken under established regulations, the falconer must leave the dead game where it lies, except that the raptor may feed upon the game before leaving the kill site.

(d) The commissioner may impose additional permit conditions as necessary.

(e) Before taking American or arctic peregrine falcons for the practice of falconry, a permittee must possess either an Alaska master class falconry permit or an Alaska general class falconry permit and have more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level.

(f) In this section, "raptor" means any bird of the following species:

- (1) sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*);
- (2) northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*);
- (3) red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*);
- (4) golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);
- (5) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*);
- (6) merlin (*Falco columbarius*);
- (7) gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*);
- (8) American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*);
- (9) arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*);
- (10) Peale's peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus pealei*);

(11) great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*);

(12) a hybrid of the species in this subsection that is produced by a raptor breeder.

Note: For regulations governing hunting of small game and migratory birds, including special seasons and/or restrictions for falconry (5 AAC 85.065), refer to the current **Alaska State Hunting Regulations or Alaska Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations**.



ALASKA FALCONRY STANDARDS

Definitions

1. For the purpose of the falconry standards:
 - a. “Falconry” means the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game by means of trained raptors.
 - b. “Take” means to trap or capture, or attempt to trap or capture any raptor.
 - c. “Raptor” means any bird of the following species: sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), red-tailed or Harlan’s hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), merlin (*Falco columbarius*), gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*), Peale’s peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus pealei*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders.
 - d. “Eyas” means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is not yet capable of flight.
 - e. “Passage bird” means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is capable of sustained flight.
 - f. “Permittee” means a person who takes, transports, or possesses a raptor for falconry or for the practice of falconry under a falconry permit issued in accordance with the falconry standards in this section of this manual.
 - g. “Transfer of raptor” means to transfer or change the possession of a raptor from one permittee to another permittee; transfer does not include the sale, barter, or exchange of a raptor for anything of value.

Falconry Permits

2. A person may not take, transport, or possess a raptor for falconry or for the practice of falconry in Alaska without possessing a valid falconry permit. A falconry permit shall be issued jointly by the department and a representative of the Alaska office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
3. A falconry permit is nontransferable. When accompanied by a current Alaska hunting license issued to the permittee, a falconry permit authorizes the permittee to hunt game in compliance with seasons, bag limits, and other provisions of law.
4. A falconry permit is valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January of the third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies a shorter period on the permit.

5. A representative of the department may, at a time mutually agreed upon by the permittee and the department, inspect a permittee's raptor and raptor facilities. If an inspection reveals that a raptor is in poor condition as a result of the permittee's negligence, if facilities are determined to be inadequate under federal standards in 50 CFR §21.29, or if the permittee violates any other provision of the falconry standards in this section of this manual, the department may revoke the permit.
6. Falconry permits are issued for apprentice, general, and master class falconers.
 - a. Apprentice class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than one raptor at any time nor obtain more than one raptor for replacement during any 12-month period; and
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess only the following species, which must be taken from the wild: American kestrel, northern goshawk, and red-tailed or Harlan's hawk.
 - b. General class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than two raptors at any time nor obtain more than two raptors, whether for initial stocking or for replacement of raptors already possessed under a permit, during any 12-month period;
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess only the following species: American kestrel, merlin, northern goshawk, sharp-shinned hawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, gyrfalcon, captive-bred peregrine falcon, great-horned owl, and hybrid raptor. A permittee with more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level may also take, transport, or possess a Peale's peregrine falcon, American peregrine falcon and arctic peregrine falcon; and
 - (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor must be surgically sterilized and may not be flown free unless the permittee first attaches to the bird at least one radio transmitter designed to track the bird if it is lost.
 - c. Master class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than three raptors at any time. During any 12-month period, a permittee may not obtain more than two raptors taken from the wild. At any time, a permittee may replace a lawfully possessed raptor with a captive-bred raptor bearing a seamless band;
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess only the following species: American kestrel, merlin, northern goshawk, sharp-shinned hawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, gyrfalcon, Peale's peregrine falcon, American peregrine falcon, arctic

peregrine falcon, golden eagle (federal regulations contain additional provisions and restrictions for golden eagles), great-horned owl, and hybrid raptor;

- (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor must be surgically sterilized and may not be flown free unless the permittee first attaches to the bird at least one radio transmitter designed to track the bird if it is lost.
7. The commissioner may add to a permit other conditions that the commissioner determines are necessary under the circumstances in order to protect raptors that are to be taken, transported, or possessed under the permit.

Falconry Permit Requirements and Application Procedures

8. Requirements and procedures for new (apprentice) falconers:
 - a. An applicant must be at least 14 years of age;
 - b. An applicant must be sponsored by a general or master class falconer;
 - c. An applicant must answer correctly at least 80% of the questions on a supervised examination administered by ADF&G staff; an applicant who fails the examination may retake a similar test after waiting at least 30 days, but an applicant may not take the examination more than twice during any six-month period;
 - d. An applicant's raptor housing facilities and equipment must be inspected by the ADF&G falconry representative for that region and be certified as meeting the federal standards set forth in 50 CFR §21.29; and
 - e. An applicant must submit a falconry permit application and any applicable fees to the ADF&G Permits Section. An application form is included in the Alaska Falconry Manual and forms are also available from the Permits Section or the regional offices of the department.
9. Requirements and procedures for renewing a permit:
 - a. To renew a falconry permit, a permittee must check the "Are you requesting renewal?" box on the annual report form and pay all applicable fees (please check with ADF&G Permits Section for a current fee schedule). A permit will not be renewed unless the permittee has complied with all reporting requirements and other provisions of the falconry standards in this manual.
 - b. Renewal permits are valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January of the third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies a shorter period on the permit.

10. Requirements and procedures for upgrading a permit:
 - a. To upgrade a falconry permit, a permittee must submit a written request for an upgrade to the ADF&G Permits Section. The request must specify the number of months of experience the applicant has in the practice of falconry and provide written documentation (annual reports) to support the request (only time with a bird in possession counts as experience). Apprentice falconers must also obtain a letter of recommendation from their sponsor supporting the upgrade.
 - b. A request for an upgrade will be granted at the discretion of the department. A request may be denied due to failure to comply with permit conditions and reporting requirements, substandard raptor housing facilities, birds that are in poor condition, or loss or deaths of raptors in the applicant's care.
 - c. An upgrade may be requested at any time and there is no fee to upgrade an existing permit. The existing permit will be re-issued at the higher class level and will retain the original expiration date.
11. Requirements and procedures to transfer a falconry permit from another state:
 - a. The procedures for transferring a permit from another state are the same as for new falconers, except that no sponsor is required and the falconer must submit a copy of his or her current falconry permit along with the application;
 - b. An Alaska falconry permit issued to a falconer from another state will be issued at the apprentice class level unless the falconer can provide copies of annual falconry reports documenting the requisite experience to qualify at a higher class level.

Temporary Facilities

12. A permittee shall provide all raptors being transported or held in a temporary facility with safe, humane housing and shall protect the raptors from extreme temperatures and excessive disturbance. A person may not hold a raptor in a temporary facility for longer than 30 days.

Annual Report

13. No later than January 10 of each year, a permittee shall submit to the ADF&G Permits Section an annual report that lists all raptors in the permittee's possession and all raptors held during the previous year. For each raptor, the permittee shall indicate the species, marker number, sex (if known), age (if known), date and location of acquisition, manner (escaped, released, or died) and date of disposition, location of escape or release or cause of death, and other information relating to the permittee's falconry activities, as required by the department.

Markers

14. Before taking a raptor, a permittee shall obtain a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or ADF&G marker issued in the permittee's name. Upon taking a peregrine falcon or gyrfalcon, a permittee shall immediately attach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service marker to the raptor. Upon taking a sharp-shinned hawk, northern goshawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, American kestrel, merlin, golden eagle, or great horned owl, a permittee shall immediately attach the ADF&G marker to the raptor. The marker may not be removed, except that the rear tab may be removed and any imperfections on the surface may be smoothed if the integrity of the marker and numbering are not affected.

Taking of Raptors

15. An eyas may be taken only from May 26 through August 5. A passage bird, adult American kestrel, or adult great horned owl may be taken only from August 15 through November 30. Except for American kestrels and great-horned owls, a raptor that is over one year of age may not be taken. An eyas may be taken only by general or master class falconer; no more than two eyases may be taken during the specified period; and, at least one nestling must be left in any nest from which a bird is removed.
 - a. Peregrine falcon take requirements:
 - (1) An Alaska master class permittee, and an Alaska general class permittee with more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level may take peregrine falcons; and
 - (2) Peregrine falcons may not be taken from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Colville River, beginning at the mouth of the Etivluk River and extending downstream to Ocean Point, nor from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Yukon River, beginning at the Alaska/Canada border and extending downstream to Circle, Alaska.
 - (3) The department may restrict the take of peregrine falcons from specific sites or general areas.
16. Permittees must comply with the following notification requirements when taking raptors for falconry:
 - a. Regional falconry representatives and department offices where permittees must report their planned and completed taking activities:
 - (1) Game Management Units 1 - 5: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region I, 803 3rd Street, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99824-0024;
 - (2) Game Management Units 6 - 17: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region II, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518-1565;

- (3) Game Management Units 19 – 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region III, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599;
 - (4) Game Management Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region V, Pouch 1148, Nome, AK 99762;
 - (5) State copy of form 3-186A: ADF&G, Permits Section, Division of Wildlife Conservation, 1255 West 8th Street, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; and
 - (6) Federal copy of form 3-186A: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds Permit Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.
- b. Before taking any raptor from the wild, a permittee must notify:
- (1) the department regional falconry representative in the intended area of take of the permittee’s planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take; and
 - (2) the nearest department office in the intended area of take of the permittee’s planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take.
- c. Within five days after taking a raptor, excluding an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon, a permittee must:
- (1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee’s completed taking activities, including the specific location, date, species, age (if known) and sex (if known) of take; and
 - (2) submit other information related to the taking, as requested by the department.
- d. Within five days after taking an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon from the wild, a permittee must:
- (1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee’s completed taking activities, including the specific location of taking, date, species, age (if known), sex (if known), and the number of young in the nest at the time of taking (when eyas birds are taken);
 - (2) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the specific location of all American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon nests visited, the number of young in each nest visited, and other information requested by the department; and

- (3) submit to the department regional falconry representative in the area of take any leg band retrieved from an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon removed from a nest.
- e. Within five days after taking any raptor, a permittee must submit copies of federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/ Disposition Report) to the following locations:
 - (1) ADF&G Permits Section; and
 - (2) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Birds Permit Office.

Import/Export

17. Except for the temporary export of a raptor possessed under an Alaska falconry permit, a person shall obtain prior written approval from the ADF&G Permits Section before exporting a raptor from or importing a raptor into Alaska. A person may not permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in Alaska unless that person has legally possessed that raptor in Alaska for at least one year. If the department determines it to be necessary to conserve or protect raptors in the state, or if the person desiring to import or export a raptor has not fully complied with the conditions or requirements of the falconry standards in this section of this manual, the department may disapprove the import or export of a raptor.
18. A person with an Alaska falconry permit who legally possesses a raptor may temporarily export the raptor from Alaska for a period of not longer than 12 months. A permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative of the temporary export of a raptor at least five days before leaving Alaska, shall provide the date of departure and anticipated date of return, and shall notify the department's regional falconry representative within five days after returning the raptor to Alaska.
19. A person with a permit for falconry in another state or province may temporarily import a raptor and use it for falconry for up to 30 days after the date of import under that falconry permit. If a person who temporarily imports a raptor intends to keep the raptor in Alaska longer than 30 days after the date of import, the person must, within the 30-day period, apply for an Alaska falconry permit, deliver to the department any falconry permit issued for the raptor by another state or province, and certify in writing that the person intends to become a resident of Alaska.

Transfer of Raptors

20. A person may not sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value a raptor held under a falconry permit. A permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative not less than five days before permanently transferring a raptor to another permittee. A person who acquires or disposes of a raptor shall submit copies of federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to both the ADF&G Permits Section and the U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service within five days after the acquisition or disposal. A person may not permanently transfer possession of a raptor originally taken from the wild in Alaska to a person located outside of Alaska.

21. A person may care for a permittee's raptor if, during the time of care, the person holds a written authorization signed by the permittee. If the period of care will exceed 30 days, the permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative in writing within three days after transferring the raptor. The permittee shall inform the regional falconry representative of the location where the raptor will be held, the reason for the transfer, the name of the person who is caring for the raptor, and how many days the raptor will be in the transferee's care.

Release, Loss or Death of Raptors

22. Only a raptor originally taken from the wild in Alaska may be intentionally released to the wild. Before intentionally releasing a raptor to the wild, a permittee must notify the regional falconry representative and must remove the USFWS or ADF&G marker from the raptor. A permittee must submit copies of federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to both the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS upon any loss, escape, release, or death of the permittee's raptor within five days after that event. A permittee must deliver the marker from a dead or released raptor to the regional falconry representative within 15 days after the death or release of the raptor to the wild.
23. A permittee may retrap a marked raptor that is lost to the wild through accident, within five days after its loss, without notifying the regional falconry representative. If the permittee intends to retrap the raptor more than five days after its loss, the permittee must notify the regional falconry representative that the raptor has been lost and that the permittee intends to recapture it. If a permittee recaptures the raptor, previously reported to the department as lost, the permittee must notify the department within 5 days after the recapture.

Imping

24. A permittee may retain or exchange feathers that are molted or feathers from raptors that die in captivity only for imping purposes.

Captive Breeding

25. Unless a person holds a propagation permit issued by the department, the person may not breed raptors in captivity for falconry. Propagation permits are issued under the following conditions:
 - a. The department may issue a propagation permit only to a person who:
 - 1) holds a federal raptor propagation permit,

- 2) holds an Alaska master class falconry permit, and
- 3) passes an inspection of facilities with the following guidelines:
 - i) adequate chamber size,
 - ii) double-door access to prevent escape,
 - iii) any window protected on the inside with vertical bars,
 - iv) adequate padded perches,
 - v) adequate roof covering of chain-link or welded wire material,
 - vi) adequate floor covering [straw and/or sawdust are not suitable],
 - vii) adequate protection from the elements.
- b. A propagation permittee may have no more than four individual raptors that originated from the wild; no more than two wild-origin birds may be acquired within a calendar year. A propagation permittee may have no more than 12 birds for breeding that include first-generation captive progeny and wild-origin birds. A propagation permittee will have no limit on the number of second or later generation captive-bred progeny held in captive propagation. A raptor held under a propagation permit does not count as one of the three raptors that may be held under a falconry permit.
- c. A propagation permittee may not sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value first generation captive-bred progeny of raptors and may only transfer first generation captive bred progeny to a person in Alaska who holds an Alaska falconry permit or to a person who holds an Alaska propagation permit. The propagation permittee may sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value second or later generation captive-bred progeny to any person holding a falconry license or raptor propagation permit within Alaska or outside of Alaska. The propagation permittee must dispose of captive-bred progeny within one year after hatching. Captive-bred progeny not sold or transferred as described in this subsection may be transferred or otherwise disposed of only with the written approval of the department.
- d. A propagation permittee may not possess a raptor produced by interspecific hybridization unless the raptor has been surgically sterilized.
- e. A raptor that originated from the wild in Alaska and is held under a propagation permit may not be exported from the state.

STATE OF ALASKA ALASKA FALCONRY PERMIT APPLICATION

1. NAME

Last	First	M.I.
------	-------	------

2. MAILING ADDRESS

Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip

3. TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Home	Business or Message
------	---------------------

4. EMAIL ADDRESS

--

5. ALASKA RESIDENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Since _____

6. DATE OF BIRTH

--

7. LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Street	City
--------	------

8. DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER

State	Number
-------	--------

9. RAPTORS IN POSSESSION

Species	Sex	Age	Band Number	Date Acquired	Source (wild or captive-bred)

10A. PERMIT CLASS

<input type="checkbox"/> Apprentice
<input type="checkbox"/> General*
<input type="checkbox"/> Master*

10B. APPRENTICE'S SPONSOR

Last Name	First	Telephone
Address		Class

11. FALCONRY EXAM/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Exam Passed Approved By _____ Date _____

12. MEWS INSPECTION/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Mews Inspected Approved By _____ Date _____

13. CERTIFICATION

I have read and understand the Alaska Falconry Standards. Furthermore, I hereby certify that all information made on or in connection with this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.	
Applicant's Signature _____	Date _____

*An applicant requesting a general or master class permit must submit a photocopy of the most recently held permit/license issued from any state or province AND annual falconry reports.

**Please mail application and fees to:
ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526**



ALASKA FALCONRY REPORT

Name: _____ State Permit No.: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip _____

Telephone No.: (home) _____ (work) _____

Email: _____ Location of Facilities: _____

Class (check one) Apprentice General Master

Permit expiration date: _____ Are you requesting renewal? Yes No

ANNUAL REPORT for _____ (year)

RAPTORS ON HAND AT BEGINNING OF PERMIT YEAR (January 1)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Marker Number</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Year Hatched</u>	<u>Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained</u>	<u>Date Obtained month/day/year</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___

RAPTORS ACQUIRED DURING 12 MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31

(Raptors acquired from the wild or another person)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Marker Number</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Year Hatched</u>	<u>Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained</u>	<u>Date Obtained month/day/year</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___

RAPTORS NO LONGER IN POSSESSION

(since previous annual report)

<u>Species</u>	<u>Marker Number</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Year Hatched</u>	<u>Disposition*</u>	<u>Disposition Date month/day/year</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/___

*Disposition (lost, transferred, died, released, stolen): Provide complete details, i.e., where lost or released, to whom transferred, cause of death, etc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Annual falconry reports are due by January 10. Please mail this report to:
ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526**



CONTACT INFORMATION

General requests for information about falconry, appointments to take the falconry examination or have your facilities inspected, applications for a falconry permit, requests for state markers (bands), and notification of take or intent to take a raptor from the wild are handled by the regional falconry representative at a regional office of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation.

ADF&G/Wildlife
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599
Phone (907) 267-2257

ADF&G/Wildlife
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599
Phone (907) 459-7213

ADF&G/Wildlife
P.O. Box 240020
Douglas, AK 99824-0020
Phone (907) 465-4265

ADF&G/Wildlife
P.O. Box 1148
Nome, AK 99762-1148
Phone (907) 443-2271

Processing of falconry and state raptor propagation permits, submission of annual reports and 3-186A forms, and requests to import or permanently export a raptor are handled by the ADF&G Permit Section.

ADF&G/Wildlife Permit Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Phone: (907) 465-4148
Email: dfg.dwc.permits@alaska.gov

For information about health certification and disease testing requirements for the importation of raptors, contact the state veterinarian.

Office of the State Veterinarian
Department of Environmental Conservation
500 S. Alaska, Suite A
Palmer, AK 99501
Phone (907) 375-8215

For information about federal regulations and permitting requirements, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permits Office
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone (907) 786-3693

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility please write:

- ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042, Arlington, VA 22203
- Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW MS 5230, Washington DC 20240.

The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers:

- (VOICE) 907-465-6077
- (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648
- (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646
- (FAX) 907-465-6078

For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact the following: Publications Specialist, ADF&G/Division of Wildlife Conservation, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526, or call 907-465-4176





**ALASKA
FALCONRY MANUAL
NO. 9**



**Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
July 1, 2012**



IMPORTANT DATES

January 10

Date to request permit renewal (unless otherwise specified). Requests for renewal must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of current permits.

January 31

Falconry and raptor propagation permits expire.

Year-round

- Notify the department Permits section and regional falconry representative of acquisition, transfer, or disposal of a raptor using federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) within 10 days of occurrence.
- Notify the department Permits Section within 10 days of acquiring, transferring, rebanding, or microchipping a raptor; if a raptor is stolen; if a raptor is lost to the wild and not recovered for 30 days; or if a raptor dies, using federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report).
- Notify the department office nearest the area of intended take and the regional falconry representative in the area of take at least 10 days before taking raptors from the wild.
- Notify the department Permits Section and the regional falconry representative in the area of take within 10 days of taking a raptor from the wild.
- Notify the department Permits Section at least 30 days prior to import or 10 days prior to export of a raptor.
- Report a marker or band that must be removed or is lost within 5 days of loss to the regional falconry representative.
- Notify and the regional falconry representative at least 5 days prior to intentional release of a raptor.
- Report to the regional falconry representative a dead, lost, or escaped raptor within 5 day of the occurrence;
- Report to the regional falconry representative the intentional release of a raptor within 10 days of occurrences;
- Report death or loss of a raptor temporarily outside the U.S. for falconry purposes to the department Permits Section immediately upon return to the state.
- Surrender to the regional falconry representative marker bands from a dead or released raptor within 15 business days of death or release.
- Notify regional falconry representative of intent to recapture raptors lost more than five days; report recovery of raptors reported as lost within 10 days of recapture (recapture within five days of loss requires no such notification).
- Notify the department regional falconry representative within 5 days of recapturing raptors wearing falconry equipment or captive-bred raptors.
- Notify the regional falconry representative at least 10 days before permanently transferring a raptor to another permittee.
- Notify the regional falconry representative within 3 days after transferring raptors for temporary care if the period of care will exceed 45 days.
- Notify the department within 5 business days of changing location of falconry facilities.
- A non-resident falconer must notify the department Permits Section at least 30 days prior to importing a falconry bird into Alaska to practice falconry under a non-Alaska falconry permit.
- A non-resident falconer must contact the department's permit section for procedures at least 30 days prior to the date of import if the falconer intends to keep imported birds in the state longer than 60 days.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Taking Raptors

Report, electronically, orally, or in writing, to the regional falconry representative and nearest department office in the intended area of take at least 10 days prior to and within 10 days after taking a raptor from the wild. You must also report to the ADF&G Permits Section using Form 3-186A within 10 days of taking a raptor.

Markers

Upon taking a peregrine falcon, gyrfalcon, goshawk, either from the wild or from a rehabilitator, a USFWS marker band must be attached, or an ISO-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip implanted.

Release/Loss/Death of Raptors

Notify the regional falconry representative prior to the intentional release of any raptor. Hybrid raptors or species without breeding populations in Alaska may not be released. Notify the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS using Form 3-186A of the loss, escape, release, or death of any raptor within 5 days of such occurrence. Deliver the marker from a dead or released raptor to the regional falconry representative within 15 days of death or release.

Import/Export

Prior written approval from the ADF&G Permits Section is required before any raptor may be imported into or permanently exported from Alaska.

A person with a current permit for falconry from another state may temporarily import raptors and use them for falconry for up to 30 days. Oral, electronic, or written notification of the ADF&G Permits Section is required at least 30 business days before entering Alaska to practice falconry under a non-Alaska falconry permit. See Import Disease Testing Requirements below.

Raptors imported into Alaska must be accompanied by written authorization from the department and a health certificate issued within 30 days prior to the date of importation. A "health certificate" means a legible certification issued by an accredited veterinarian of the state of origin or the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (APHIS-USDA) and executed on an official form of the state of origin or of the APHIS-USDA. Consult the State Veterinarian (Department of Environmental Conservation) or ADF&G Permits Section for the most current disease testing, vaccination, or other requirements before importation.

Current import disease testing requirements include:

West Nile Virus - a negative titer for West Nile Virus at a 1:10 dilution from a blood sample drawn within 30 days prior to the date of import, or a certificate indicating the raptor was vaccinated against West Nile virus by a licensed veterinarian. Test results or a certificate of vaccination should accompany the application for an import permit.

For raptors traveling through Canada or to or from a foreign country, please contact the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to obtain information, appropriate declaration forms, and export/import permits or licenses.

Cover illustration courtesy of William R. Tilton



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GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

Falconry is the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game using trained raptors. Falconry is a lawful hunting method when practiced in compliance with state and federal regulations under the terms of a permit issued by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The following species listed in Table 1 are authorized for falconry in Alaska and are a subset of the species described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13).

Table 1. Species authorized for falconry in Alaska.

northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*),
sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*),
Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*),
northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*),
Harris' hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*),
Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*),
red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*),
ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*),
rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*),
golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*),
American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*),
merlin (*Falco columbarius*),
peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*),
gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*),
prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*),
Aplomado falcon (*Falco femoral is*),
great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*),
snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*),
northern hawk-owl (*Surnia ulula*),
barred owl (*Strix varia*),
great gray owl (*Strix nebulosa*),
any nonindigenous subspecies of northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) requires sterilization, except *Accipiter gentilis atricapillus* or *A.g. laingi*.
and
hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders. [NOTE: There are no breeding populations of Cooper's hawk, Harris' hawk, Swainson's hawk, ferruginous hawk, or prairie falcons in Alaska.]

Alaska regulations require that anyone taking, holding, or possessing one or more of these raptor species for falconry must first obtain a falconry permit.

State falconry regulations were adopted by the Alaska Board of Game to assist in the management of raptor populations and to maintain standards for the care of birds legally held for falconry purposes. This manual includes regulations that pertain to the taking, holding and possession of raptors for falconry and issuance of falconry permits. Whether you are a novice falconer or an experienced

103 falconer new to Alaska, the application and reporting procedures may seem complex and are
104 summarized for your convenience below. More detailed information is contained in the Standards
105 section of this manual and is not repeated here; please refer to the Standards section before
106 conducting your falconry activities. Statewide provisions for issuing falconry permits and
107 promulgating regulations are contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and AS 16.05.255. Federal regulations on
108 falconry can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 21 (50 CFR §21.29).
109

110 **Falconry Permits**

111
112 A falconry permit, when accompanied by a current Alaska hunting license, authorizes a falconer to
113 hunt game with his/her raptor(s) in compliance with applicable seasons, bag limits, and other
114 provisions of law.

115
116 Special or written permission is not required for falconry activities on public lands where it is
117 authorized, but permittees must comply with all applicable federal, state, territorial or tribal laws
118 regarding falconry activities, and/or hunting. Falconry permits do not authorize capture or release of
119 raptors or the practice of falconry on public lands if prohibited on those lands, or on private property,
120 without permission from the landowner or custodian.

121
122 Falconers must have their permit(s) or legible copies of them in their immediate possession when not
123 at the location of their falconry facilities or they are trapping, transporting, working with, or flying
124 falconry raptor(s).

125
126 Falconers are responsible for the actions of their raptors while hunting. If a falconry bird takes quarry
127 outside of a regular hunting season, the falconer must leave the dead quarry where it lies, although
128 the raptor may feed on the game before leaving the kill site. Falconers must report take of any
129 federally listed endangered or threatened species to the USFWS Ecological Services Field Office for
130 the location in which the take occurred. With a falconry bird, falconers may take any bird species
131 listed in 50 CFR §21.43, 21.44, 21.45, or 21.46 for which a depredation order is in place at any time,
132 in accordance with the conditions of the applicable depredation order, as long as the falconer is not
133 paid for doing so.

134
135 Falconry permits are valid from the date issued through January 31 of the third calendar year
136 following the year of issue (e.g., a permit issued on February 4, 2013 expires on January 31, 2016),
137 unless a shorter period is prescribed on the permit.

138
139 Raptors legally possessed under Alaska falconry permits may be bred in captivity only if authorized
140 by captive propagation permits. Birds taken from the wild under authority of falconry permits may
141 not be sold or bartered. Permanent transfer of raptors between falconers requires proper notification
142 of state authorities using Form 3-186A.

143
144 **Prior notification of the ADF&G Permit Section is required to import raptors into or export raptors**
145 **from the State of Alaska. All raptors imported into Alaska must be accompanied by a health**
146 **certificate and meet disease testing, vaccination, and other requirements as specified by the state**
147 **veterinarian and/or ADF&G. Permittees may not permanently export raptors taken from the wild in**
148 **Alaska unless; 1) those permittees have legally possessed the bird in the state for at least one year**

149 **and 2) have met the definition of Alaska resident in AS 16.05.415 for at least one year prior to the**
 150 **export (i.e, resided in the state for two years).**

151
 152 There are three classes of falconry permits issued depending on permittees' experience: apprentice
 153 (new falconers); general (at least two years experience as practicing falconers); and master (at least
 154 five years experience as practicing falconers at the general class level). Permittees must have birds
 155 in possession to be considered practicing falconers. Falconry school or educational program
 156 experience may not be substituted for active falconry experience for purposes of advancing to
 157 general or master class permits.

158
 159 **Table 2.** Summary of the permit conditions relative to numbers of birds and species for each class of
 160 falconer:
 161

Permit Condition	Apprentice	General	Master
Maximum number of falconry birds in possession	1	3	5 wild-taken, including up to 3 eagles; no limit on captive-bred birds, but all raptors must be trained in the pursuit of wild game and used in hunting.
Maximum number of birds (including replacements) that may be obtained from all sources during any 12-month period	2	2	No limit
Maximum number of birds that may be taken from the wild during any 12-month period	2	2	2
Authorized species	All except northern harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>), ferruginous hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>), golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>), prairie falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>), Aplomado falcon (<i>Falco femoralis</i>)	All listed in Table 1.	All listed in Table 1.

Possession of hybrids allowed?	Yes	Yes	Yes
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Application Procedures

Applicants who reside in Alaska and have never held an Alaska falconry permit must: (1) correctly answer at least 80% pass the questions on the Alaska falconry exam, and (2) submit completed application forms including signatures of the ADF&G biologist who proctored the exam. At least 30 days prior to acquiring a falconry bird, permittees must have falconry facilities and equipment inspected and approved by ADF&G.

Permit Classes – When submitting an application for an Alaska Falconry Permit, applicants must designate the permit class for which they are applying. To be eligible for an Apprentice Class permit, applicants must be at least 12 years of age and submit at least one letter of sponsorship from a general or master class falconer who is at least 18 years old and holds a valid Alaska falconry permit. Falconers applying for General Class permits must be at least 16 years of age and be able to document the necessary experience with raptors in possession within the five years prior to applying for a General Class permit. Falconers applying for Master Class permits must be able to document the necessary experience with raptors in possession within 10 years prior to applying for a Master Class permit. Experience may be documented by submitting copies of Annual Reports or forms 3-186A with your application.

Sponsoring Apprentices – Individuals applying for Apprentice Class permits must be sponsored by a more experienced falconer. A Master or General Class falconer may sponsor up to three apprentices at one time. Applicants under 18 years of age must have a parent or legal guardian sign their applications stating they are legally responsible for the applicant’s activities. Sponsors will provide help and guidance to get started, but apprentices should expect to invest considerable amounts of time on their own learning about raptors and falconry by reading and observing raptors in the wild. Applicants who do not know falconers who can serve as sponsors should contact their regional falconry representatives for recommendations or a list of active falconers in the applicant’s area. Apprentices may have to travel long distances to meet with their sponsors. This requirement will not be waived under any circumstances, even if there are no falconers nearby who are willing and qualified to serve as sponsors.

Transferring Permits from Other States - Falconers transferring permits from other states must submit; 1) a completed Alaska Falconry Permit application including ADF&G inspection of facilities and equipment, 2) a copy of their current falconry permit, and 3) copies of annual reports or Forms 3-186A to document the requisite years of experience at the class level for which they are applying. Applicants holding current permits from other states need not pass the Alaska falconry exam.

Renewing Permits - Permits may be renewed by checking the renewal box on the when submitting the annual report. Requests for renewal must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of current permits. Contact the ADF&G Permits Section for the current requirements.

206 **Falconry Examination**

207

208 All new (apprentice) falconers and falconers transferring permits from other states must pass the
209 Alaska falconry examination. This is to ensure they are familiar with Alaska’s falconry regulations
210 and standards and are knowledgeable about caring for raptors in extreme climate conditions. The
211 falconry examination is designed to test knowledge of raptor identification, natural history of Alaska
212 raptors, care of raptors in captivity, and Alaska falconry rules and regulations. The test will take a
213 maximum of two hours, and it will be a supervised, closed book examination. Applicants are
214 required to answer correctly at least 80 percent of the questions to pass the test. Applicants who fail
215 the examination may retake it after waiting at least 30 days, but may not take the examination more
216 than twice during any six-month period. Applicants ready to take the test should contact their
217 regional falconry representatives to make the necessary arrangements.

218

219 To prepare for the examination, applicants should study the falconry standards included in this
220 manual carefully. Applicants must 1) have a thorough understanding of Alaska falconry regulations
221 and standards, 2) become familiar with the natural history, care, and training of raptors and the art of
222 falconry, and 3) know how to care properly for raptors in extreme cold and/or wet conditions.
223 References available at libraries or bookstores will acquaint applicants with caring for a raptor and
224 explain how to train a bird for falconry. Suggested references on falconry and the natural history of
225 raptors are listed below.

226

227 Falconry:

228

229 Beebe, F. L. and H. M. Webster. 1994. *North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks, 7th*
230 *edition*. North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks, Denver, Colorado.

231

232 Beebe, F. L. 1984. *A Falconry Manual*. Hancock House, Surrey, British Columbia.

233

234 Evans, H. 1960. *Falconry for You*. John Gifford, Ltd., London.

235

236 Ford, E. 1992. *Falconry: Art and Practice*. Batsford, London.

237

238 Glasier, P. 1978. *Falconry and Hawking*. Batsford, London.

239

240 Haak, B. A. 1992. *The Hunting Falcon*. Hancock House, Surrey, British Columbia.

241

242 Mavrogordato, J. G. 1960. *A Hawk for the Bush*. H. F. & G. Witherby, Ltd., London.

243

244 Mavrogordato, J. G. 1966. *A Falcon in the Field*. Knightly Vernon, Ltd., London.

245

246 Mitchell, E. B. 1960. *The Art and Practice of Hawking*. C.T. Branford Co., Boston.

247

248 Oakes, W. C. 1994. *The Falconer’s Apprentice: A Guide to Training the Passage Red-tailed*
249 *Hawk*. Eaglewing Publishing, Roy, Utah.

250

251 Parry-Jones, J. 1994. *Training Birds of Prey*. David and Charles, Devon.

252



253 Peeters, H. J. and E. W. Jameson, Jr. 1970. *American Hawking: A General Account of Falconry*
 254 *in the New World*. Privately published, Oakside, Davis, California.
 255

256 Turner, R. and A. Haslen. 1991. *Gamehawk: Field and Moor*. Gallery Press, Lavenham, UK.
 257

258 Upton, R. 1991. *Falconry: Principles and Practice*. A. & C. Black, London.
 259

260 Woodford, M. H. 1977. *A Manual of Falconry, 3rd Edition*. Adam and Charles Black, London.
 261

262 Natural History of Raptors:
 263

264 Brown, L. 1977. *Birds of Prey: Their Biology and Ecology*. A. & W. Publishers, New York.
 265

266 Clark, W. S. and B. K. Wheeler. 1987. *A Field Guide to Hawks: North America*. Houghton
 267 Mifflin Co., Boston.
 268

269 Cornell Lab of Ornithology and American Ornithologist's Union. *The Birds of North America*
 270 *Online*. 26 June 2008. < <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna>>.
 271

272 Dunne, P. and D. Sibley. 1988. *Hawks in Flight*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
 273

274 Ferguson-Lee, J. and D. A. Christie. 2001. *Raptors of the World*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
 275

276 Fox, Nicholas. 1995. *Understanding the Bird of Prey*. Hancock House Publishers, Blaine,
 277 Washington.
 278

279 Johnsgard, P. A. 1990. *Hawks, Eagles, and Falcons of North America: Biology and Natural*
 280 *History*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington DC.
 281

282 Newton, I. N. 1979. *Population Ecology of Raptors*. Buteo Books, Vermillion, South Dakota.
 283

284 Palmer, R. S. 1962. *A Handbook of North American Birds*. Yale University Press, New Haven,
 285 Connecticut.
 286

287 Peterson, R. T. 1990. *Western Birds*. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston.
 288

289 Poole, A. and F. Gill, eds. 1992-2001. *The Birds of North America*. American Ornithologists'
 290 Union, Washington, DC and Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.
 291

292 Weidensaul, S. 2000. *The Raptor Almanac: A Comprehensive Guide to Eagles, Hawks, Falcons,*
 293 *and Vultures*. Lyons Press, Guilford, Conn.
 294

295 Wheeler, B. K. and W. S. Clark. 1999. *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*.
 296 Academic Press, San Diego.
 297
 298
 299

Facilities and Equipment

Permittees are required to provide adequate facilities for holding raptors in captivity in humane and healthful conditions. Facilities and equipment must be inspected and approved by the department at least 30 days before permittees may obtain raptors to use in falconry. Applicants should contact their regional falconry representatives to make arrangements to have raptor housing facilities and equipment inspected and approved before submitting their applications.

The department has not established specifications for raptor housing facilities. Specifications are readily available in reliable falconry texts if falconers wish to construct such facilities. Raptors may be retained in captivity and properly cared for without recourse to construction of permanent mews. Some falconers house their birds in homes or garages and use back yards to meet the needs of their raptors. Consequently, this manual provides only a general description as to what constitutes adequate or inadequate facilities, leaving final judgment to those who conduct inspections.

Permittees are responsible for the maintenance and security of the raptors they possess. Whether indoors (a “mews”), outdoors (a “weathering area”), or temporary facilities while traveling or hunting away from permanent housing, facilities must protect raptors from the elements, predators, domestic animals, and other dangers.

Poor physical condition of raptors (e.g., excessive broken tail and wing feathers, damage to ceres and heads, dirty appearance) is symptomatic of inadequate care. Examples of inadequate housing are:

- bird cages of the pet store variety;
- housing constructed of chicken wire, hardware cloth, or with exposed, sharp obstructions;
- housing with excessive exposure to the elements; or
- unsanitary housing, such as unclean chicken houses or pigeon lofts.

Indoor facilities must be large enough to allow easy access for the care and feeding of raptors kept therein. Acceptable indoor facilities include shelf perch enclosures where raptors are tethered side by side. Other innovative housing systems are acceptable, provided they offer the enclosed raptors with adequate protection and allow the maintenance of healthy plumage.

Mews shall provide healthy environments for raptors inside; each must have at least one opening for sunlight, protected on the inside by vertical bars (dowels, tubing, etc.), spaced narrower than the width of the birds’ bodies. Chicken wire or hardware cloth is unacceptable for covering windows. If untethered raptors are housed therein, all walls that are not solid must be protected on the inside in the same fashion as windows, although heavy-duty netting or similar materials may be used to cover the roofs and/or walls of enclosures. Doors must be secure and easily closed. Artificial (plastic) grass (such as AstroTurf ®) is recommended for the perching surfaces of blocks used for falcons; uncovered blocks are not recommended. Straw, sawdust, or wood chips are not suitable for floors of mews due to the potential for harboring *Aspergillus* spores or other pathogens. Artificial (plastic) grass is easily cleaned and has proven to be good floor covering for mews.

A mews must have at least one suitable perch for each raptor. Untethered raptors may be housed together if they are compatible. Untethered raptors must have sufficient space to fully extend their wings and fly. Each raptor must have a suitable container of clean water available for drinking and bathing.

347
348 If mews are constructed for untethered raptors, the following general specifications should apply:
349

350 Loft, house, pen or enclosure size:

351 Large.....8' x 8' x 7'
352 (Gyr Falcon, goshawk, red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon)

353
354 Small.....6' x 6' x 7'
355 (American kestrel, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk)

356
357 Permittees may keep falconry raptors inside their places of residence provided birds have suitable
358 perches. If raptors are kept in permittees' homes, windows and other openings of the structure need
359 not be modified, but raptors must be tethered when not being moved into or out of locations where
360 they are kept.

361
362 **Outdoor facilities** are required. They must be fully enclosed, and may be made of heavy-gauge wire,
363 heavy-duty plastic mesh, slats, pipe, wood, or other suitable materials. Facilities must be covered
364 and have at least one covered perch for each raptor to protect them from predators and weather.
365 Facilities must be large enough to insure the birds cannot strike the enclosure when attempting to fly
366 from perches to which they are tethered. New or innovative types of housing facilities and/or
367 husbandry practices may be used as long as they satisfy the requirements above.

368
369 Weathering areas or other enclosures containing tethered raptors must provide suitable, preferably
370 padded, perches for each raptor. When placed out-of-doors, raptors should be protected from cats,
371 dogs, wild predators, and other dangers, as well as excessive exposure to wind, rain, snow or sun.
372 Tethered raptors must be able to fully extend their wings or bate (attempt to fly while tethered)
373 without damaging their feathers or contacting other raptors. Each raptor must have a suitable
374 container of clean water available for drinking and bathing.

375
376 Falconry raptors may be kept outside in the open as long as they are under watch, such as by
377 permittees or permittees' family members at any location or, for instance, by designated individuals
378 in weathering yards at falconry meets.

379
380 Permittees' facilities may be located on property owned by other persons where permittees reside, or
381 at different locations. Regardless of location, facilities must meet the standards above and any
382 additional conditions the department may require. For facilities on property not owned by
383 permittees, permittees must provide the department with a signed and dated statement demonstrating
384 the property owners' agreement that facilities, equipment, and raptors may be inspected by state
385 authorities, necessarily in the permittees' presence, at times mutually agreed upon by permittees and
386 state officials.

387
388 Permittees must notify the department within five business days of changing the location of
389 permanent falconry facilities.

390
391 **Temporary Facilities** - When transporting raptors or hunting away from home facilities, permittees
392 must provide raptors suitable perches and protection from predators and other dangers, the elements,
393 and excessive disturbance. So-called giant hoods or similar containers are acceptable housing for

394 raptors when transporting them or hunting away from home. Permittees may house raptors in
395 temporary facilities for no more than 60 consecutive days.

396
397 **Required Equipment** - Applicants must possess the following falconry equipment before permits
398 will be issued:

- 399
- 400 1. Jesses, leashes, and swivels—At least 1 pair of Aylmeri or similar type jesses constructed of
401 pliable, high-quality leather or suitable synthetic material must be used when any raptor is
402 flown free. Traditional 1-piece jesses may be used on raptors when they are not being flown.
403 At least 1 flexible and weather-resistant leash and 1 strong swivel of acceptable falconry
404 design (e.g., Sampo or falconry swivel).
 - 405
 - 406 2. Bath containers—For each raptor, at least 1 container suitable for drinking and bathing, 2 to
407 6 inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor.
 - 408
 - 409 3. Weighing devices—A reliable scale or balance suitable for weighing raptors and graduated
410 into increments of not more than 1/2 ounce (15 grams).

411
412 Applicants should have spare materials and the tools necessary to make additional leashes, jesses,
413 etc. The size, strength, and type of equipment and facilities should be appropriate for the size and
414 type of raptors being held.

415
416

417 **Records and Reporting**

418
419 Falconry permits are issued with a number of reporting conditions. Failure to comply with these
420 conditions constitutes violation of permit conditions and may result in falconers' permits being
421 revoked or renewals denied. Permittees must notify the ADF&G Permits Section if they change their
422 mailing addresses.

423
424 Permittees intending to take raptors from the wild must first notify both the regional falconry
425 representative and the nearest department office in the area of planned taking activities (including
426 the species, location, and dates) at least 10 days prior to the intended take. Within 10 days of taking
427 any raptor, permittees must notify the regional falconry representatives in the take areas of
428 completed taking activities, including the specific locations and dates of take, and the species, age (if
429 known) and sex (if known) of the raptors taken, along with any other information required by the
430 department. Within 10 days of taking any raptors, permittees must submit USFWS Form 3-186A
431 (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the ADF&G Permits Section. Form 3-186A is
432 also used to inform the department in writing of any transfers, releases, escapes, losses, or deaths of
433 raptors within 10 days of such occurrences.

434
435 Annual Reports – All falconers are required to submit annual reports each year on a form provided
436 by the department regardless of whether they possessed a bird. A report form is included in this
437 booklet or forms may be obtained by contacting the Permits Section or from the department's
438 website, <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=otherlicense.possession>.

439

440 Permittees should always keep copies of their falconry permits, 3-186As, and all other falconry-
441 related records. Permittees must retain copies of all electronic database submissions documenting
442 take, transfer, loss, rebanding, or microchipping each falconry raptor until five years after
443 transferring or losing the raptor, or it has died.
444

445 **Markers**

446
447 Before taking a raptor, permittees must possess valid falconry permits and, if required, appropriate
448 USFWS marker bands issued in permittees' names. Permittees should request marker bands in
449 writing from the ADF&G Permit Section or their Regional Falconry Representative well in advance
450 of the date permittees anticipate needing them.
451

452 Immediately upon taking raptors of species requiring marker bands, permittees must attach
453 appropriate ADF&G provided markers. Once attached, marker bands must not be removed, except
454 that the rear tabs may be trimmed and any imperfections on the surfaces may be smoothed, provided
455 that the integrity of the marker bands and numbering are not affected. Permittees may not alter,
456 deface, or counterfeit marker bands, nor attach them to raptors other than the individuals to which
457 marker bands were initially attached.
458

459 Permittees may implant ISO (International Organization for Standardization)-compliant (i.e., 134.2
460 kHz) microchip in a raptor in addition to banding. Permittees must report marker band numbers
461 and/or microchip information when reporting acquisition of raptors.
462

463 If permittees document health or injury problems for raptors they possess that are caused by marker
464 bands, the state may provide an exemption to the banding requirement for those raptors.

465 Falconers must carry copies of exemption paperwork when flying exempted raptors. For exempted
466 wild-origin goshawks, peregrine falcons, and gyrfalcons, [and Harris's hawks,] bands must be
467 replaced by ISO-compliant microchips. In such cases, the USFWS will provide suitable microchips.
468

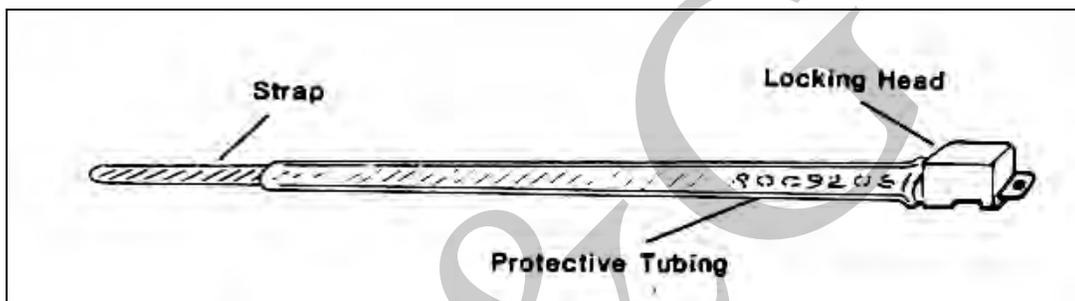
469 All marker bands from dead or released raptors must be surrendered to the department Regional
470 Falconry Representative within 15 days of death or release. Marker bands that must be removed or
471 marker bands lost from raptors in permittees' possession must be reported to the department within
472 five days of the loss.
473

474 **Banding**

475
476 Applying falconry marker bands to raptors may be challenging, even to experienced falconers. The
477 paramount consideration in banding birds is to ensure markers fit properly on the tarsi and are
478 applied without injuring or causing undue stress to the raptors. The following guidelines and
479 illustrations are provided to assist permittees in accomplishing this important task.
480

- 481 1. Record marker numbers in personal banding diaries and on USFWS Form 3-186A
482 (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report).
483
484
- 485 2. Outfit markers with protective tubing (figure 1). The installation of clear plastic tubing over
486 raptor markers serves to lessen the risk of injury to raptors by reducing marker abrasion to

487 the tarsus and preventing accidental closure of the marker. Plastic tubing also protects
 488 markers' identification numbers. The best choice of clear, plastic tubing is AWG Size #10
 489 with standard 0.016" wall thickness, commonly used for electrical wire installation. It is
 490 usually available from the ADF&G (inquire when requesting marker bands) or may be
 491 purchased from hardware and electrical supply stores.
 492



493 Figure 1

494 The length of protective tubing placed on markers is very important since tubing limits how
 495 tightly bands may be closed on the tarsi. Use the following table to determine the length of
 496 tubing to apply to markers:
 497
 498

Example Species (typical applications)	Length of Tubing (inches)	
	Male	Female
sharp-shinned hawk	3/4	7/8
goshawk	1-3/8	1-1/2
American kestrel	7/8	7/8
merlin	7/8	15/16
peregrine falcon	1-3/8	1-1/2
gyrfalcon	1-7/8	1-7/8
red-tailed hawk	1-7/8	1-7/8

499 Cut tubing to length, ensuring the ends are square. Insert marker straps into tubing by
 500 holding the tubing against a flat surface, pushing straps through the tubing until the tips are
 501 exposed, and grasping the strap tips and sliding the tubing solidly against the locking heads.
 502 Do not lubricate straps or tubing. Pliers are useful for longer tubing. Marker bands, fitted
 503 with protective tubing, are now ready to be placed on raptors.
 504
 505

- 506 3. Attach the markers. Warm markers in the hand while bending them into a circular form.
 507 Position markers on the tarsi above the jesses (Figure 2). Markers should be placed on the
 508 raptors' legs with serial numbers right side up. This tends to center the locking heads in an
 509 outboard position if nametags or bells are attached to rear tabs.
 510

511 Insert the ends of the straps through the locking head boxes (Figure 3). Use pliers to pull the
 512 straps through and about an inch beyond the locking heads. Slowly close markers to
 513 appropriate size by pulling straps through the locking heads. It should not be necessary to
 514 use pliers.

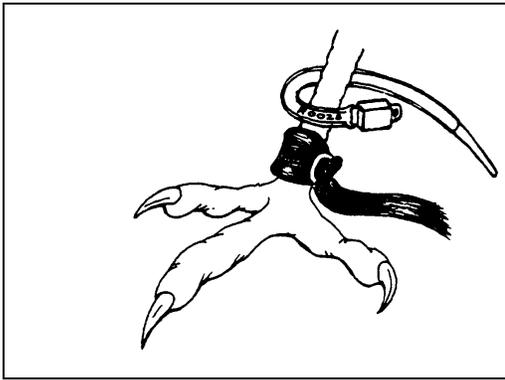


Figure 2

516

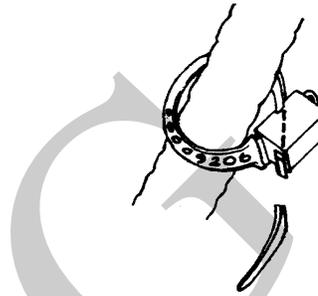


Figure 3

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Use fingernail clippers or scissors to cut off the excess straps extending beyond the locking heads. It is important that the straps be cut flush with the surface of the locking heads to prevent birds from pulling at them.

Note: Properly fitted markers will move freely on legs but be tight enough to prevent removal from unjessed raptors.

526 **Captive Propagation**

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Captive propagation of raptors may only be conducted by qualified falconers under the terms of special propagation permits issued by the ADF&G Permits Section. For additional information about captive breeding of raptors in Alaska, or to apply for propagation permits, read the Captive Propagation section of the Alaska Falconry Standards and contact the ADF&G Permit Section.

533 **Conservation Education**

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Permittees may use falconry raptors in conservation programs presented in public venues, but raptors held under a falconry permit must be primarily used for falconry. When giving educational presentations falconers must present information about falconry and the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, although not all topics must be addressed in every presentation. Permittees may not present programs that do not address falconry and conservation education. Permittees may charge fees for presentation of conservation education programs, but fees may not exceed the permittee's costs for providing that educational presentation. Falconers are responsible for the costs of maintaining birds in their possession and may not solicit funds to help defray those costs. Apprentice class permittees may present conservation programs only under the supervision of a general or master falconer when doing so, and all permittees are responsible for any liability associated with conservation education activities undertaken.

547

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Permittees may allow photography, filming, video recording, or other such uses of falconry raptors to make movies or other sources of information on the practice of falconry or on the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, but may not be paid for such

550 activities. Falconry raptors may not be used in commercial ventures not related to falconry or
551 conservation education, nor used for entertainment, advertisements, promotions or endorsements of
552 any products, merchandise, goods, services, meetings, exhibitions, or fairs, or as representations of
553 any businesses, companies, corporations, or organizations.

554

555 **Rehabilitation**

556

557 General and master class falconry permittees may assist permitted migratory bird rehabilitators to
558 condition raptors in preparation for their release to the wild. Falconers may keep birds they are
559 helping to rehabilitate in their facilities.

560

- 561 a. Rehabilitators must provide falconers with letters of forms identifying the birds and
562 explaining that falconers are assisting in their rehabilitation.
- 563 b. Falconers need not meet rehabilitation facility standards, only the facility standards
564 for falconry permits; falconry permittees' facilities are not subject to inspection for
565 compliance with rehabilitation facility standards.
- 566 c. Raptors possessed for rehabilitation purposes need not be added to falconers'
567 permits; they remain under the rehabilitators' permits.
- 568 d. Through coordination with rehabilitators, falconers must release all raptors to the
569 wild or return them to rehabilitators for release within the 180-day timeframe in
570 which rehabilitators are authorized to possess the birds, unless the issuing office
571 authorizes retention and conditioning for longer than 180 days, or unless
572 rehabilitators permanently transfer birds to falconers under their falconry permits.
- 573 e. Raptors that cannot be released to the wild must be returned to rehabilitators for
574 placement within the 180-day timeframe in which rehabilitators are authorized to
575 possess the birds, unless the issuing office authorizes retention for longer than 180
576 days.

577

578 **Abatement**

579

580 Master class falconry permittees may conduct abatement activities with raptors possessed for
581 falconry only if they hold a Special Purpose Abatement permit issued by the USFWS. General class
582 falconry permittees may conduct abatement activities only as subpermittees of Special Purpose
583 abatement permit holders. Only Special Purpose Abatement permittees may receive payment for
584 abatement services.

FALCONRY REGULATIONS

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5 AAC 92.029. Permits for possessing live game.

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(f) ... the following species may be temporarily released for the purpose of hunting dog or raptor training, field trials, and tests:

(1) Pigeon (*Columba livia* Var.);

(2) Pheasant, Junglefowl, or *Coturnix* (Subfamily Phasianinae);

(3) any Guineafowl species (Subfamily Numidinae);

(4) any New World Quail species, including *Colinus*, [i.e., Bobwhite] (Subfamily Odontophorinae);

(5) any duck, goose, swan, or other migratory waterfowl which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not require a federal permit for private ownership;

(6) Chukar partridge (*Alectoris chukar*).

(g) A person using live game listed in (f) of this section for the purpose of hunting dog or raptor training, field trials, or tests

(1) may release the game only on the day of use and shall make reasonable efforts to capture, kill, or recover the temporarily released live game;

(2) may take the live game in connection with hunting dog or raptor training, field trial, and test activities; and

(3) must legally acquire, hold, and dispose of the live game in accordance with all other applicable state statutes and regulations.

...

5 AAC 92.037. Permits for falconry.

(a) A permit and valid, current Alaska hunting license is required for taking, transporting, or possessing a raptor for falconry or for practicing falconry in this state. The permit will be issued under standards, procedures, and conditions set out in the Falconry Standards section of the Alaska Falconry Manual No. 9, dated July 1, 2012; that section of the falconry manual is hereby adopted by reference. Only a bird defined in (f) of this section as a raptor may be taken, transported, imported, exported, held, or possessed for falconry.

631 (b) A person may not permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in this state unless the person
632 has legally possessed that raptor, under an Alaska falconry permit, in this state for at least one year.
633 Prior written approval of the commissioner is required before a raptor may be exported from or
634 imported into this state, except as follows:

635 (1) a raptor taken from the wild in Alaska and legally possessed under an Alaska falconry permit
636 may be temporarily exported from this state for a period not to exceed 12 months by an Alaska
637 falconer who has;

638 (A) met the definition of an Alaska resident in AS 16.05.415(a) for the previous two years, or

639 (B) legally possessed the raptor in Alaska for at least one year.

640 (2) an individual with a valid, current permit for falconry in another state or province may
641 temporarily import a raptor, and use it for falconry under the terms of a temporary authorization
642 issued by the commissioner; an individual moving into this state may import an approved raptor
643 species under authority of a temporary permit, but must apply for an Alaska falconry permit within
644 30 days after the raptor arrives in this state. Upon approval of the falconry permit, the permit
645 becomes valid with a hunting license. Conditions for the import of the raptor shall be determined by
646 the department as specified in the *Alaska Falconry Manual*.

647 (c) A falconer is liable for the actions of the raptor with respect to seasons, bag limits, and other
648 applicable regulations. If a falconry bird takes game that may not be taken under established
649 regulations, the falconer must leave the dead game where it lies, except that the raptor may feed
650 upon the game before leaving the kill site.

651 (d) The commissioner may impose additional permit conditions as necessary.

652 (f) In this section, "raptor" means any bird of the following species:

653 (1) sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*);

654 (2) northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*);

655 (3) red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*);

656 (4) Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*);

657 (5) Rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*);

658 (4) golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);

659 (5) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*);

660 (6) merlin (*Falco columbarius*);

661 (7) gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*);

662 (8) peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*);

663 (9) great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*);

664 (10) northern hawk-owl (*Surnia ulula*);
665 (11) snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*);
666 (12) a hybrid of the species in this subsection that is produced by a raptor breeder;
667 (13) the following nonindigenous species: Harris' hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*), Cooper's hawk
668 (*Accipiter cooperii*), Ferruginous hawk (*Bueto regalis*), prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*), Aplomado
669 falcon (*Falco femoralis*), and
670 (14) any nonindigenous subspecies of northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) requires sterilization,
671 except *Accipiter gentilis atricapillus* or *A.g., laingi*.
672 History: Eff. 7/5/85, Register 95; am 8/12/90, Register 115; am 2/28/96, Register 137; am 3/10/96,
673 Register 137; am 6/8/96, Register 138; am 3/30/2002, Register 161; am 7/1/2004, Register 170; am
674 12/30/2004, Register 172
675 Authority: AS 16.05.255
676 AS 16.05.270
677 AS 16.05.920
678
679
680

ALASKA FALCONRY STANDARDS

Definitions

1. For the purpose of the falconry standards:

- a. “Falconry” means the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game by means of trained raptors.
- b. “Take” means to trap or capture, or attempt to trap or capture any raptor.
- c. “Raptor” means a bird of any Accipitriform, Falconiform, or Strigiform species described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13), as restricted by the list contained in **5 AAC 92.037 and Table 1**.
- d. “Eyas” means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is not yet capable of flight.
- e. “Passage bird” means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is capable of sustained flight.
- f. “Permittee” means a person who takes, transports, or possesses a raptor for falconry or for the practice of falconry under a falconry permit issued in accordance with the falconry standards in this section of this manual.
- g. “Transfer of raptor” means to transfer or change the possession of a raptor from one permittee to another permittee; transfers include the sale, barter, or exchange of a raptor for anything of value.
- h. “Year” means any 12-month period for take defined by the state for determining possession and take of raptors for falconry.

Falconry Permits

2. A person may not take, transport, or possess a raptor for falconry or for the practice of falconry in Alaska without possessing a valid falconry permit issued by the department, or a valid falconry permit issued by another state or country for a maximum of 30 days after entering Alaska.
3. A falconry permit is nontransferable. When accompanied by a current Alaska hunting license issued to the permittee, a falconry permit authorizes the permittee to hunt game in compliance with seasons, bag limits, and other provisions of law. Special or written permission is not required for falconry activities on public lands where it is authorized, but permittees must comply with all applicable federal, state, territorial or tribal laws regarding falconry activities, including hunting. Falconry permits do not authorize capture or release of raptors or the practice of falconry on public lands if prohibited on those lands, or on private property, without permission from the landowner or custodian.

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4. A falconry permit is valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January of the third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies a shorter period on the permit.
5. Representatives of the department may, during business hours on any day of the week, at times mutually agreed upon by the state and permittees, and only in the presence of permittees, inspect falconry raptor(s), facilities, equipment, and records. If inspections reveal raptors in poor condition as a result of permittees' negligence, if facilities are determined inadequate, or if permittees violate any other provisions of the falconry standards in this section of this manual, the department may revoke permits.
6. Falconry permits are issued for apprentice, general, and master class falconers.
 - a. Apprentice class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than one raptor at any time, may not take a nestling raptor from the wild, nor obtain more than one raptor for replacement during any 12-month period; and
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess all authorized species and hybrids contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and Table 1.
 - b. General class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than three raptors at any time nor obtain more than two raptors, whether for initial stocking or for replacement of raptors already possessed under a permit, during any 12-month period;
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess all authorized species contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and Table 1.
 - (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor may not be flown free unless the permittee first attaches to the bird at least two radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it is lost.
 - c. Master class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 - (1) A permittee may not possess more than five wild-taken raptors at any time, three of which may be eagles, but may possess any number of captive-bred raptors. During any 12-month period, a permittee may not obtain more than two raptors taken from the wild;
 - (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess all authorized species contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and Table 1.

774 (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor may not be flown free unless the permittee first
775 attaches to the bird at least two radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it is
776 lost.
777

778 7. Federal regulations contain additional provisions and restrictions for eagles:
779

780 a. Master falconers may possess up to 3 golden eagles.
781

782 b. The department must document the following before approving requests to possess
783 eagles for use in falconry:

784 (1) the applicant's experience in handling large raptors, including information
785 about the species handled and the type and duration of the activity claimed as
786 pertinent experience; and

787 (2) at least two letters of reference from people with experience handling
788 and/or flying large raptors such as eagles, ferruginous hawks (*Buteo regalis*),
789 goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*), or great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*). Each
790 letter must contain a concise history of the author's experience with large
791 raptors which may include, but is not limited to, rehabilitating large raptors,
792 scientific studies involving large raptors, or handling of raptors held by zoos
793 and/or rehabilitation operations. Each letter must also assess the applicant's
794 ability to care for eagles and fly them in falconry.
795

796 c. White-tailed eagles, Steller's sea-eagles, or golden eagles count as wild-taken
797 raptors permittees may possess. (Note – sea eagles are not permitted for take by
798 Alaska regulation).
799

800 d. Master falconers authorized to possess golden eagles may take one or two
801 immature or sub-adult golden eagles from the wild as provided in 50 CFR 22.23.
802

803 e. Permittees must send the entire bodies of falconry golden eagles that die, including
804 all feathers, talons, and other parts, to the National Eagle Repository.
805

806 8. Permittees must ensure falconry activities do not cause the take of federally listed threatened
807 or endangered wildlife. "Take" under the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR §3(18)) means
808 "to harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in
809 any such conduct." Within this definition, to "harass" means any act that may injure wildlife
810 by disrupting normal behavior, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering. To "harm" means
811 an act that actually kills or injures wildlife (50 CFR §17.3). Contact the department to obtain
812 information about endangered or threatened species in Alaska or on lands permittees wish to
813 practice falconry; contact the USFWS for information on federally listed species.
814

815 9. Hacking, or temporary release to the wild, is an allowable method of conditioning raptors for
816 falconry. Only general and master class falconers may hack raptors.
817

818 a. Raptors at hack count against permittees' possession limits.
819

819 b. Interspecific hybrid raptors and non-native species/subspecies shall not be placed
820 at hack.

821 c. Permittees may not hack falconry raptors near nesting areas of federally designated
822 threatened or endangered bird species, or in other locations where raptors are
823 likely to disturb, harm, or take federally listed threatened or endangered animal
824 species. Permittees should contact the department and/or the USFWS regional
825 office before hacking falconry birds to prevent adverse encounters with listed
826 wildlife.

827
828 10. Permittees may use acceptable falconry practices such as, but not limited to, the use of
829 creance (tethered) flying, lures, balloons, and kites in training and conditioning falconry
830 raptors. Permittees may fly falconry raptors at bird species not protected by the Migratory
831 Bird Treaty Act and at captive-raised animals subject to 5 AAC 92.029.

832
833 11. The commissioner may add to a permit other conditions the commissioner determines are
834 necessary under the circumstances in order to protect raptors that are to be taken, transported,
835 or possessed under the permit.

836
837
838 **Falconry Permit Requirements and Application Procedures**

839
840 12. All falconers must:

- 841
842 a. complete and submit an application form from the department, co-signed by a parent or
843 legal guardian if the applicant is under 18 years of age;
844
845 b. prove they have either passed the falconry examination administered by the department
846 or have previously held a falconry permit and held birds at the sought level.
847
848 c. present an original, signed certification of particular familiarity with 50 CFR §10.13 (the
849 list of migratory bird species to which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act applies, 50 CFR
850 §13 (general permit regulations), 50 CFR §21 (migratory bird permits), and 50 CFR §22
851 (eagle permits). This certification is incorporated into the department's application form
852 and is worded as follows:

853
854 *I certify that I have read and am familiar with the*
855 *regulations in title 50, part 13, of the Code of*
856 *Federal Regulations and the other applicable*
857 *parts in subchapter B of chapter 1 of title 50, and*
858 *that the information I have submitted is complete*
859 *and accurate to the best of my knowledge and*
860 *belief. I understand that any false statement*
861 *herein may subject me to the criminal penalties*
862 *of 18 U.S.C. 1001.*

- 863
864 d. at least 30 days before acquiring a bird, have their raptor housing facilities and
865 equipment inspected and approved by the ADF&G falconry representative for that
866 region; and
867

868 e. submit falconry permit applications to the ADF&G Permits Section. An application form
869 is included in the Alaska Falconry Manual and forms are also available from the Permits
870 Section or the regional offices of the department.

871
872 13. New (apprentice) falconers must:

- 873
- 874 a. be at least 12 years of age;
 - 875
 - 876 b. be sponsored by general or master class falconers who are at least 18 years old and have
877 at least 2 years' experience at the general falconer level;
 - 878
 - 879 c. answer correctly at least 80% of the questions on a supervised examination administered
880 by ADF&G staff (applicants failing the examination may retake a similar test after
881 waiting at least 30 days, but applicants may not take the examination more than twice
882 during any six-month period); and
 - 883
 - 884 d. provide a letter from a master or general class falconer 18 years of age or older stating he
885 or she has agreed to assist the applicant in learning about the husbandry and training of
886 raptors held for falconry and about relevant wildlife laws and regulations, and in deciding
887 what species of raptor is appropriate to possess while an apprentice.
 - 888

889 14. Requirements and procedures for renewing a permit:

- 890
- 891 a. To renew a falconry permit, a permittee must request renewal and pay all applicable fees;
892 requests for renewal must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of current
893 permits (by January 10th); check with ADF&G Permits Section for current fee schedule.
894 A permit will not be renewed unless the permittee has complied with all reporting
895 requirements and other provisions of the falconry standards in this manual.
 - 896
 - 897 b. Renewal permits are valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January of the
898 third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies a shorter
899 period on the permit.
 - 900

901 15. Requirements and procedures for reinstating a lapsed permit:

- 902
- 903 a. If a permit has lapsed for fewer than 5 years, it may be reinstated at the level an applicant
904 held previously with proof of certification at that level.
 - 905
 - 906 b. If a permit has lapsed for 5 years or longer, an applicant must correctly answer at least 80
907 percent of the questions on an examination administered by the department. If the
908 applicant passes the exam, the permit may be reinstated at the level previously held. An
909 applicant's facilities must pass department inspection before a permittee may possess a
910 falconry bird.
 - 911
 - 912 c. If a permit has been revoked, the department may restore the person's permit at the end
913 of the revocation period upon request of the person whose permit was revoked.
 - 914

- 915 16. Requirements and procedures for upgrading a permit:
916
917 a. To upgrade a falconry permit, a permittee must present a written request for an upgrade
918 to the ADF&G Permits Section. The request must include a summary of birds held
919 including species and number of months each was held and copies of Forms 3-186A
920 and/or Annual Reports to verify time with birds in possession (only time with a bird in
921 possession counts as experience). An apprentice falconer must also present a letter of
922 recommendation from his or her sponsor supporting the upgrade and attesting the
923 applicant has practiced falconry with raptors taken from the wild at the apprentice level
924 for at least two years, including maintaining, training, flying, and hunting the raptor(s)
925 for an average of six months per year, with at least four months in each year. General
926 class falconers must be at least 16 years of age. Applicants seeking upgrade to master
927 class must attest to having practiced falconry at the general level for at least five years.
928
929 b. Requests for upgrade will be granted at the discretion of the department. Requests may
930 be denied due to failure to comply with permit conditions and reporting requirements,
931 substandard raptor housing facilities, birds that are in poor condition, or losses or deaths
932 of raptors in the applicant's care.
933
934 c. Upgrades may be requested at any time and there is no fee to upgrade an existing permit.
935 The existing permit will be re-issued at the higher class level and will retain the original
936 expiration date.
937
938 17. Requirements and procedures to transfer falconry permits from other states:
939 a. The procedures for transferring permits from other states are the same as for new
940 falconers, except, that no sponsors are required for general and master class permittees,
941 and falconers must present copies of current falconry permits along with applications, to
942 be considered for a general or master class permit.
943
944 b. Alaska falconry permits issued to falconers from other states will be issued at the
945 apprentice class level unless falconers present documentation (Forms 3-186A or Annual
946 Reports) establishing the requisite experience to qualify at higher class levels.
947
948 18. Requirements and procedures for non-U.S. visitors practicing falconry in Alaska:
949 a. Non-U.S. visitors to Alaska who present valid falconry permits from their country of
950 origin may qualify for temporary falconry permits appropriate to their levels of
951 experience.
952 i. Temporary falconry permits may be valid for any period specified by the department.
953 ii. To demonstrate knowledge of U.S. and Alaska falconry laws and regulations, visitors
954 must correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on the Alaska falconry
955 exam administered by the department. If visitors pass the examination, the
956 department will determine the level of permit for which visitors are qualified, based
957 on visitors' documentation of their falconry experience.
958 iii. Persons holding temporary falconry permits may possess raptors for falconry if they
959 have approved falconry facilities and fly raptors held for falconry by permitted
960 falconers.

- 961 iv. Persons holding temporary falconry permits may not take birds from the wild to use
962 in falconry.
963
- 964 b. For the duration of their temporary falconry permits, visitors may use any birds for
965 falconry they possess legally in their countries of residence for that purpose, provided
966 import of those species to the U.S. is not prohibited, and provided they have met all
967 permitting requirements of their countries of residence, and all of the import/export
968 requirements.
969 i. Visitors must comply with the provisions of this Manual, the state of Alaska, and all
970 states through which they travel with falconry raptors.
971 ii. Visitors may transport registered raptors; visitors may need one or more additional
972 permits to bring raptors into the U.S. or to return home with them. Please see 50
973 CFR §14 (importation, exportation, and transportation of wildlife), 50 CFR §15
974 (Wild Bird Conservation Act), 50 CFR §17 (endangered and threatened species), 50
975 CFR §21 (migratory bird import and export permits), and 50 CFR §23 (endangered
976 species convention) for details.
977 iii. Unless visitors have the necessary permits to bring raptors into the U.S. and leave
978 them here, they must take the raptors brought into the country for falconry out of the
979 country when they leave. If raptors brought into the U.S. die or are lost while in this
980 country, visitors must document the losses before leaving the U.S. by reporting losses
981 to the department.
982 iv. When flown free, falconry raptors brought to the U.S. temporarily must wear two
983 functioning radio transmitters designed to track the birds if lost.
984 v. The commissioner may impose additional restrictions on non-U.S. residents
985 practicing falconry or importing raptors for falconry
986

987 19. Updating a falconry permit after a move:

- 988 a. If a permittee moves to a new state or outside the jurisdiction of the department and takes
989 falconry raptors along, the permittee must concurrently inform the department and the
990 permitting authority for the new place of residence of the address change. To obtain a
991 new falconry permit, permittees must follow the permit application procedures of the
992 authority under which the permittee wishes to acquire a new permit. Permittees may
993 keep falconry raptors while applying for a new falconry permit, although the new
994 jurisdiction into which the permittee moves may place restrictions on possession of
995 falconry raptors until the permittee meets local residency requirements.
996

997 **Temporary Facilities**

- 998
999 20. A permittee shall provide all raptors being transported or held in a temporary facility with
1000 safe, humane housing and shall protect the raptors from extreme temperatures and excessive
1001 disturbance. A person may not hold a raptor in a temporary facility for longer than 60 days.
1002

1003 **Markers**

- 1004
1005 21. a. Before taking a goshawk, Harris' hawk, peregrine falcon, or gyrfalcon from the wild, or
1006 acquiring one from a rehabilitator, a permittee shall first obtain a U.S. Fish and Wildlife
1007 Service marker band issued in the permittee's name. Upon taking a goshawk, Harris' hawk,



1008 peregrine falcon or gyrfalcon, a permittee shall immediately attach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
1009 Service marker band to the raptor. The marker band may not be removed, except that the
1010 rear tab may be removed and any imperfections on the surface may be smoothed if the
1011 integrity of the marker and numbering are not affected.

1012
1013 b. In addition to banding, a permittee may purchase and implant an ISO (International
1014 Organization for Standardization)-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip in a bird. A permittee
1015 must report the band number and/or microchip information when reporting acquisition of a
1016 bird.

1017
1018 c. A raptor bred in captivity must be banded with a seamless metal USFWS marker band or
1019 carry an implanted ISO-compliant microchip. If a permittee must remove a seamless band or
1020 if it is lost, the permittee must report it and request a replacement USFWS non-reusable
1021 marker, or implant an ISO-compliant microchip. Wild-origin raptors may not be banded
1022 with seamless metal USFWS marker bands.

1023
1024 d. If a marker band must be removed or is lost from a raptor in a permittee's possession, a
1025 permittee must report within five days, and do one of the following:

1026
1027 i. Request a USFWS non-reusable marker band from the department. The
1028 permittee must submit the required information immediately upon re-banding the
1029 raptor at <http://permits.fws.gov/186A> or by submitting a paper or electronic form
1030 3-186A to the department at dfg.dwc.permits@alaska.gov.

1031
1032
1033 ii. Purchase and implant an ISO-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip in the raptor
1034 and report the microchip information at <http://permits.fws.gov/186A> or by
1035 submitting a paper form 3-186A to the department at
1036 dfg.dwc.permits@alaska.gov.

1037
1038
1039 e. Permittees may not alter, deface, or counterfeit marker bands, nor attach them to raptors
1040 other than the individuals to which marker bands were initially attached.

1041 1042 1043 **Taking of Raptors**

1044
1045 22. Take of any raptor species must be in compliance with these standards. Eyas and passage
1046 birds may be taken any day of the year. Except for American kestrels and great horned owls,
1047 raptors over one year of age may not be taken. Actively breeding birds, including those in
1048 immature plumage, may not be taken. An eyas may be taken only by general or master class
1049 falconers; at least one nestling must be left in any nest from which a bird is removed.
1050 Permittees may not intentionally capture raptor species not allowed by their classifications
1051 for possession for falconry. Permittees unintentionally or otherwise capturing raptors not
1052 allowed must immediately release them.

1053
1054 a. Permittees may take no more than two raptors from the wild each year for use in falconry;

1055
1056 b. If a permittee transfers a raptor taken from the wild to another permittee in the same year
1057 in which the raptor was taken, that bird will count as a raptor the permittee took from the
1058 wild that year. It will not count as a raptor taken from the wild by the recipient permittee, but
1059 it will always be considered a wild-origin bird. No matter how long wild-taken raptors are
1060 held in captivity or whether they are transferred to other permittees or permit types, they are
1061 always considered as wild-taken birds. Such birds are considered taken from the wild only
1062 by the permittees who originally captured them, not by any subsequent permittees to whom
1063 they are legally transferred.

1064
1065 c. A permittee taking possession of a raptor for falconry purposes, who is present at the
1066 capture site, even if another person captures the raptor, is considered the person who removes
1067 the bird from the wild and is responsible for reporting that take.

1068
1069 d. If a permittee seeking possession of a falconry raptor is not at the immediate location
1070 where a raptor is taken from the wild, the person who removes the bird from the wild must
1071 be a general or master class permittee, and must report take of the bird, even if it is promptly
1072 transferred to the recipient permittee. When the permittee capturing the raptor transfers it to
1073 the absent permittee, both must report the transfer. The bird will count as one of the two
1074 raptors the permittee who took it from the wild is allowed to capture in any one year. The
1075 raptor will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee.

1076
1077 e. A permittee with a long-term physical disability preventing direct capture of a species
1078 allowed for falconry by that permittee may designate a general or master class falconer to
1079 take a raptor on their behalf. When a raptor is taken from the wild, the disabled permittee is
1080 responsible for reporting the take, and the bird will count as one of the two raptors he/she is
1081 allowed to capture in any one year.

1082
1083 f. General or master class permittees may take no more than one raptor of a threatened
1084 species from the wild each year as long as; 1) federal regulations allow take, 2) the permittee
1085 obtains a federal endangered species permit to do so, and 3) the permittee complies with
1086 applicable state, territorial, or tribal regulations regarding take of that species.

1087
1088 23. Permittees must comply with the following notification requirements when taking raptors for
1089 falconry:

1090
1091 a. Regional falconry representatives and department offices where permittees must report
1092 their planned and completed taking activities:

1093
1094 a) **Region I**, Game Management Units 1 - 5: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife
1095 Conservation, Region I, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99811-0024;
1096 (i) **Regional Falconry Rep**: Rich Lowell, ADF&G, P.O. Box 667 Petersburg,
1097 AK 99833, (907) 772-5235.

1098
1099 b) **Region II**, Game Management Units 6, 7, 8, 14(C), and 15: ADF&G, Division of
1100 Wildlife Conservation, Region II, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518-1599;

- 1101 (i) **Regional Falconry Rep:** Marian Snively, ADF&G, 333 Raspberry Rd.,
 1102 Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2893.
 1103
- 1104 c) **Region III**, Game Management Units 12, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C: ADF&G,
 1105 Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region III, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK
 1106 99701-1551;
 1107 (i) **Regional Falconry Rep:** Travis Booms, ADF&G 1300 College Rd.,
 1108 Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 459-7378.
 1109
- 1110 d) **Region IV**, Game Management Units 9, 10, 11, 13, 14(A), 14(B), 16, and 17:
 1111 ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region IV, 1800 Glenn Highway Suite
 1112 4, Palmer, AK 99645-6736;
 1113 (i) **Regional Falconry Rep:** Marian Snively, ADF&G, 333 Raspberry Rd.,
 1114 Anchorage, AK 99518, (907) 267-2893.
 1115
- 1116 e) **Region V**, Game Management Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A: ADF&G, Division of
 1117 Wildlife Conservation, Region V, Pouch 1148, Nome, AK 99762; and
 1118 (i) **Regional Falconry Rep:** Peter Bente, ADF&G, PO Box 1148, Nome, AK
 1119 99762, (907) 443-8188.
 1120
- 1121 f) **Headquarters Office**, State copy of form 3-186A: ADF&G, Permits Section,
 1122 Division of Wildlife Conservation, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526.
 1123 (i) **Permits Section:** (907) 465-4148.
 1124
- 1125 b. At least 10 days before taking any raptor from the wild, a permittee must notify:
 1126
- 1127 (1) the department regional falconry representative in the intended area of take of the
 1128 permittee's planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take;
 1129 and
 1130
- 1131 (2) the nearest department office in the intended area of take of the permittee's planned
 1132 taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take.
 1133
- 1134 c. Within 10 days after taking any raptor, a permittee must:
 1135
- 1136 (1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the
 1137 permittee's completed taking activities, including the specific location, date, species,
 1138 age (if known) and sex (if known) of take;
 1139
- 1140 (2) present other information related to the taking, as requested by the department;
 1141
- 1142 (3) and submit a completed federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/
 1143 Disposition Report) to the ADF&G Permits Section in Juneau.
 1144
- 1145 d. Golden Eagle Take – Falconers desiring to take a golden eagle are advised to contact
 1146 both the department and USFWS at least 90 days prior to any planned take. There are
 1147 special provisions for take in designated areas that are administered by the USFWS.

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24. Permittees may recapture raptors wearing seamless metal bands, transmitters, falconry equipment, or other items identifying them as falconry or captive-bred birds at any time, even if they are not allowed to possess the species. Birds will not count against permittees' possession limits, nor will their take count against permittees' annual wild take limits. Recaptures must be reported to the state no more than five business days after the recapture. Permittees must return recaptured falconry raptors to the permittees who lost them, if those people may legally possess them. Disposition of raptors whose legal possession cannot be determined will be at the discretion of the department. While permittees keeping birds for return to the permittees who lost them, those birds will neither count against permittees' possession limits nor limits on take of raptors from the wild, but permittees must report possession of such raptors to the department within five business days.
25. Permittees may take from the wild raptors of species they are authorized to possess that are banded with Federal Bird Banding Laboratory aluminum bands. However, permittees may not take banded peregrine falcons from the wild.
- a. Permittees capturing peregrine falcons marked with research bands or research markings must immediately release them, except falcons wearing transmitters may be held for up to 30 days in order to contact researchers to determine if transmitters or batteries warrant replacement. Researchers may choose to replace transmitters or batteries, or remove transmitters. Researchers, their designees, or falconry permittees authorized by researchers may conduct this work. If researchers choose, transmitters may be removed and falcons transferred to permittees, who may keep such birds if captured in circumstances allowing capture of wild peregrines.
 - b. If captured raptors have bands, research markings, or transmitters attached, permittees must promptly report band numbers and all relevant information to the Federal Bird Banding Laboratory at 1-800-327-2263.
 - c. Permittees may contact researchers to determine if they wish to replace transmitters or batteries on captured birds. If so, permittees are authorized to possess such raptors for up to 30 days until the researchers, their designees, or authorized permittees completes the replacements. Disposition of such raptors will be at the discretion of the researchers and the department.
 - d. Such birds held temporarily will not count against permittees' possession or annual wild take limits for falconry raptors.
26. Permittees are responsible for costs of care and rehabilitation of raptors injured by their trapping efforts.
- a. Permittees may place raptors injured by trapping efforts on their falconry permits, and must report take to the department within 10 days using federal form 3-186A. After reporting, permittees may have birds treated by veterinarians or permitted wildlife rehabilitators. Such birds count against possession and annual wild take limits.
 - b. Permittees may give raptors injured by trapping efforts directly to veterinarians, permitted wildlife rehabilitators, or appropriate wildlife agency employees. Such birds do not count against possession and annual wild take limits.

1195
1196 27. Permittees may acquire raptors of any age of species they are allowed to possess directly from
1197 rehabilitators. Transfer to falconry permittees is at the discretion of the rehabilitators.

- 1198
1199 a. Permittees must report acquisitions from rehabilitators within 10 days of the
1200 transactions using federal form 3-186A.
1201
1202 b. Raptors acquired from rehabilitators count against possession and annual wild take
1203 limits.
1204

1205 **Import/Export**

1206
1207 28. A permit from ADF&G is required to permanently export a raptor and to temporarily or
1208 permanently import a raptor. A permittee shall contact the ADF&G Permits Section at least
1209 10 days before exporting a raptor and at least 30 days before importing a raptor into Alaska.
1210 Permittees may not permanently export raptors taken from the wild in Alaska unless; 1) those
1211 permittees have legally possessed the bird in the state for at least one year and 2) have met
1212 the definition of Alaska resident in AS 16.05.415 for at least one year prior to the export (i.e.,
1213 resided in the state for two years). If the department determines it necessary to conserve or
1214 protect raptors in the state, or if the person desiring to import or export a raptor has not fully
1215 complied with the conditions or requirements of the falconry standards in this manual, the
1216 department may disapprove the import or export of a raptor.
1217

1218 29. A person who legally possesses a raptor under an Alaska falconry permit and who has met
1219 the definition of Alaska Resident in AS 16.05.415 for at least one year may temporarily
1220 export the raptor from Alaska for a period of not longer than 12 months. A permittee shall
1221 notify the regional falconry representative of the temporary export of a raptor at least 10 days
1222 before leaving Alaska, shall provide the date of departure and anticipated date of return, and
1223 shall notify the department's regional falconry representative within 10 days after returning
1224 the raptor to Alaska.
1225

1226 30. An Alaska falconry permit authorizes a permittee who legally possesses a raptor for falconry
1227 and who has met the definition of Alaska Resident in AS 16.05.415 for at least one year to
1228 export and then import such a raptor for falconry to another country to use in falconry
1229 without an additional migratory bird import/export permit issued under 50 CFR §21.21,
1230 providing the permittee:

- 1231 a. meets any requirements in 50 CFR §14 subpart B;
1232 b. holds necessary additional permits to take a bird from the U.S. or return home with it
1233 (*see* 50 CFR §15 (Wild Bird Conservation Act), 50 CFR §17 (endangered and
1234 threatened species, and 50 CFR §23 (endangered species convention));
1235 c. brings any raptor taken out of the country for falconry back to the U.S. when he or she
1236 returns, unless he or she holds the necessary permit(s) to permanently export a raptor;
1237 d. covers each raptor with a CITES certificate of ownership issued under 50 CFR §23,
1238 holds full documentation of lawful origin of each raptor (e.g., a copy of a propagation
1239 report or federal form 3-186A), and identifies each raptor with a seamless numbered
1240 band, a permanent non-reusable, numbered USFWS leg band, or implanted microchip;
1241 and

1242 e. reports death or loss of a raptor immediately upon return to the U.S. and in the manner
1243 required by the department and in accordance with conditions of the CITES certificate.
1244 The permittee need not bring back the body of a dead raptor.
1245

1246 31. A person possessing a valid falconry permit issued by a U.S. state, territory, or tribe may
1247 possess and transport for falconry purposes a lawfully possessed raptor through other states
1248 or U.S. territories. Any state, territory, or tribe may further regulate such transport. A person
1249 with a permit for falconry in another state may temporarily import a raptor into Alaska
1250 subject to an import permit issued by ADF&G and use it for falconry for up to 60 days after
1251 the date of import under that falconry permit. If a person who temporarily imports a raptor
1252 intends to keep that raptor in Alaska longer than 60 days after the date of import, the person
1253 must, within 30 days of the date of import, apply for an Alaska falconry permit, deliver to the
1254 department any falconry permit issued for the raptor by another state, and certify in writing
1255 that the person intends to become a resident of Alaska.
1256

1257 **Transfer of Raptors**

1258

1259 32. A person may not sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value a wild-taken raptor held
1260 under a falconry permit. A permittee may sell, purchase, or barter, or offer to sell, purchase
1261 or barter a captive-bred raptor marked with a seamless band to another permittee authorized
1262 to possess it. A permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative at least 10 days
1263 before permanently transferring a raptor to another permittee. There is no restriction on the
1264 number of wild-taken or captive-bred raptors transferred to a permittee, except permittees
1265 may not exceed possession or annual wild take limits. A person who acquires or disposes of a
1266 raptor shall submit federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to
1267 the ADF&G Permits Section within 10 days after the acquisition or disposal. A person may
1268 not permanently transfer possession of a raptor originally taken from the wild in Alaska to a
1269 person located outside of Alaska.
1270

1271 33. Under some circumstances, permittees may transfer a raptor to another permit type if the
1272 recipient permittee holds the necessary permits for the other activity and is authorized to
1273 possess the bird. Transfers must be reported within 10 days to the department using federal
1274 form 3-186A.
1275

1276 a. Permittees may transfer wild-taken falconry birds to raptor propagation permits after
1277 birds have been used in falconry for at least two years, or at least one year for sharp-
1278 shinned hawks, Cooper's hawks, merlins, or American kestrels. When transferring such
1279 birds, permittees must provide a copy of the federal form 3-186A documenting acquisition
1280 of the bird by propagators to the federal migratory bird permit office administering the
1281 propagation permits.
1282

1283 b. Permittees may transfer wild-taken raptors to other permit types in less than two years,
1284 or one year for sharp-shinned hawks, Cooper's hawks, merlins, or American kestrels, if
1285 the birds have been injured and veterinarians or permitted wildlife rehabilitators have
1286 determined the birds can no longer be flown in falconry.
1287

- 1288 i. When transferring birds, permittees must provide copies of the federal forms
 1289 3-186A documenting acquisition of the birds to the federal migratory bird permit
 1290 office administering the propagation permits.
 1291
 1292 ii. When transferring birds, permittees must provide copies of the certifications from
 1293 veterinarians or permitted wildlife rehabilitators who have determined the birds can
 1294 no longer be flown in falconry to the federal migratory bird permit office
 1295 administering the propagation permits.
 1296
 1297 c. Permittees may transfer captive-bred falconry raptors to holders of other permit types if
 1298 they are authorized to possess the birds.
 1299

- 1300 34. A person may care for a permittee's raptor if, during the time of care, the person holds a
 1301 written authorization signed by the permittee. Raptors must remain on the permittee's
 1302 falconry permit and remain in the permittee's facilities. Care may be extended indefinitely in
 1303 extenuated circumstances such as illness, family emergency, and military service. The
 1304 person providing care may not fly permitted raptors for any reason. If the period of care will
 1305 exceed 45 days, the permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative in writing
 1306 within three days after transferring care of the raptor. The permittee shall inform the regional
 1307 falconry representative of the location where the raptor will be held, the reason for the
 1308 transfer, the name of the person who is caring for the raptor, and how many days the raptor
 1309 will be in the transferee's care.
 1310
 1311 35. A surviving spouse, executor, administrator, or other legal representative of a deceased
 1312 falconry permittee may transfer any bird held by the permittee to another authorized
 1313 permittee within 90 days of the death of the falconry permittee. After 90 days, disposition of
 1314 any bird held under the permit is at the discretion of the department.
 1315

1316 **Release, Loss or Death of Raptors**
 1317

- 1318 36. **Release** - Only a raptor originally taken from the wild in Alaska may be intentionally
 1319 released to the wild. Before intentionally releasing a raptor to the wild, a permittee must
 1320 notify the regional falconry representative and must remove the USFWS or ADF&G marker
 1321 from the raptor. Permittees must release birds back to the wild only at appropriate times of
 1322 year and in appropriate locations. A permittee must submit federal form 3-186A (Migratory
 1323 Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the ADF&G Permits Section upon any loss, escape,
 1324 release, or death of the permittee's raptor within 10 days after that event. A permittee must
 1325 deliver the marker from a dead or released raptor to the regional falconry representative
 1326 within 15 days after the death or release of the raptor to the wild.
 1327
 1328 37. **Loss** - A permittee may retrap a marked raptor that is accidentally lost to the wild within five
 1329 days after its loss without notifying the regional falconry representative. If the permittee
 1330 intends to retrap the raptor more than five days after its loss, the permittee must notify the
 1331 regional falconry representative that the raptor has been lost and that the permittee intends to
 1332 recapture it. If a permittee recaptures the raptor, previously reported to the department as
 1333 lost, the permittee must notify the department within 10 days after the recapture.
 1334 Recapturing marked raptors is not considered take of a bird from the wild.

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Theft - Thefts of raptors must be reported to the department on federal form 3-186A and to the USFWS regional law enforcement office within 10 days of the theft.

38. **Record Keeping** - Permittees acquiring, transferring, rebanding, microchipping raptors or reporting loss to the wild (>30 days), theft, or death of a falconry raptor must retain copies of all electronic database submissions (forms 3-186A etc.) documenting the event for at least five years after the event.
39. **Use/Disposal of Raptors that Die** - For falconry raptors that die, permittees may donate the bodies or feathers of any species (except eagles) to persons or institutions authorized by permit to acquire and possess such parts or feathers or to persons or institutions exempt under 50 CFR §21.12. The bodies, feathers, talons, and other parts of golden eagles possessed under falconry permits must be sent to the National Eagle Repository.
- a. Permittees may keep the bodies of raptors banded or microchipped prior to death, except those of golden eagles. Bodies may be kept so feathers are available for imping. Bodies may be mounted by taxidermists for use in presenting conservation education programs. Marker bands must remain in place on the bodies of birds that were banded; microchips must remain in place in birds with implanted microchips.
 - b. Permittees not wishing to donate bird bodies or keep them themselves must burn, bury, or otherwise destroy them within 10 days of death or after final veterinary examination to determine cause of death. Because carcasses of euthanized raptors could pose a risk of secondary poisoning of eagles and other scavengers, permittees must take appropriate precautions to avoid such poisonings.
 - c. Permittees may possess flight feathers of falconry raptors that die for as long as they hold valid falconry permits. Permittees may not buy, sell, or barter such feathers and must keep paperwork documenting the acquisition of the birds from which they came.

Imping

40. A permittee may retain or exchange feathers that are molted or feathers from raptors that die in captivity only for imping purposes under the following conditions:
- a. permittees may possess flight feathers for each species of raptor they possess or previously held for as long as they hold valid falconry permits;
 - b. permittees may receive feathers for imping from other permitted falconers, wildlife rehabilitators, or raptor propagators in the United States, and may give feathers to them;
 - c. permittees may not buy, sell, or barter imping feathers;
 - d. permittees may donate feathers from falconry birds, except golden eagle feathers, to any persons or institutions with valid permits to have them, or to anyone exempt from the permit requirement under 50 CFR §21.12;
 - e. except for primary or secondary flight feathers or rectrices from golden eagles, permittees are not required to gather feathers molted or otherwise lost by falconry birds. Permittees may leave feathers where they fall, store them for imping, or destroy them;
 - f. permittees must collect molted primary and secondary flight feathers and rectrices from golden eagles;
 - g. molted primary and secondary flight feathers and rectrices from golden eagles not kept for imping must be sent to the National Eagle Repository at this address: U.S. Fish and

1382 Wildlife Service, National Eagle Repository, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Building 128,
1383 Commerce City, CO 80022. The telephone number at the Repository is 303-287-2110;
1384 h. permittees are asked, but are not required to, send all other feathers, including body
1385 feathers, collected from falconry golden eagles and not needed for imping, to the
1386 National Eagle Repository; and
1387 i. if falconry permits expire or are revoked, permittees must donate the feathers of any
1388 species of falconry raptor except golden eagle to any persons or institutions authorized by
1389 permit to acquire and possess the feathers, or are exempt from the permit requirement
1390 under 50 CFR §21.12. Feathers not donated must be burned, buried, or otherwise
1391 destroyed.

1392 **Captive Propagation**

- 1393
- 1394
- 1395 41. Unless a person holds a propagation permit issued by the department, the person may not
1396 breed raptors in captivity for falconry. Propagation permits are issued under the following
1397 conditions:
- 1398
- 1399 a. The department may issue a propagation permit only to a person who:
- 1400 1) holds a federal raptor propagation permit,
- 1401 2) holds an Alaska master class falconry permit, and
- 1402 3) passes an inspection of facilities with the following guidelines:
- 1403 i) adequate chamber size,
- 1404 ii) double-door access to prevent escape,
- 1405 iii) any window protected on the inside with vertical bars,
- 1406 iv) adequate padded perches,
- 1407 v) adequate roof covering of chain-link or welded wire material,
- 1408 vi) adequate floor covering [straw and/or sawdust are not suitable],
- 1409 vii) adequate protection from the elements.
- 1410
- 1411 b. A propagation permittee may acquire no more than two wild-origin birds within a calendar
1412 year. A propagation permittee may have no more than 12 birds for breeding that include
1413 first-generation captive progeny and wild-origin birds. A propagation permittee will
1414 have no limit on the number of second or later generation captive-bred progeny held in
1415 captive propagation. A raptor held under a propagation permit does not count as one of
1416 the three raptors that may be held under a falconry permit.
- 1417
- 1418 c. Raptors possessed for falconry may be used in captive propagation if falconry permittees
1419 or permitted raptor propagators hold the necessary permits. Falconry raptors need not be
1420 transferred to propagation permits if used in captive propagation fewer than eight months
1421 in a year, but must be transferred if permanently used in captive propagation.
- 1422
- 1423 d. The propagation permittee may sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value first or later
1424 generation captive-bred progeny to any person holding a falconry license or raptor
1425 propagation permit within Alaska or outside of Alaska. The propagation permittee must
1426 dispose of captive-bred progeny within one year after hatching. Captive-bred progeny
1427 not sold or transferred as described in this subsection may be transferred or otherwise
1428 disposed of only with the written approval of the department.

1429
1430 e. A raptor that originated from the wild in Alaska and is held under a propagation permit
1431 may not be exported from the state.
1432

1433 **Conservation Education**

- 1434
1435 42. Permittees may use falconry raptors in conservation programs presented in public venues,
1436 under the following conditions:
1437
- 1438 a. raptors must be used primarily for falconry;
 - 1439 b. permittees must present information about falconry and the biology, ecological roles, and
1440 conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, although not all topics must be
1441 addressed in every presentation;
 - 1442 c. permittees may not present programs that do not address falconry and conservation
1443 education;
 - 1444 d. apprentice class permittees may present conservation programs only under the direct
1445 supervision of a general or master falconer;
 - 1446 e. permittees may charge fees for presentation of conservation education programs, but fees
1447 may not exceed amounts to recoup costs associated with attending the presentation; and
 - 1448 f. permittees are responsible for all liability associated with conservation education
1449 activities undertaken.
- 1450
1451 43. Permittees may allow photography, filming, video recording, or other such uses of falconry
1452 raptors to make movies or other sources of information on the practice of falconry or on the
1453 biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, under
1454 the following conditions:
1455
- 1456 a. permittees may not be paid for such activities;
 - 1457 b. falconry raptors may not be used to make movies, commercials, or in other commercial
1458 ventures that are not related to falconry or conservation education; and
 - 1459 c. falconry raptors may not be used for entertainment, advertisements, promotions or
1460 endorsements of any products, merchandise, goods, services, meetings, exhibitions, or
1461 fairs, or as representations of any businesses, companies, corporations, or organizations.

1462 **Rehabilitation**

- 1463
1464
1465 44. General and master class falconry permittees may assist permitted migratory bird
1466 rehabilitators to condition raptors in preparation for their release to the wild and may keep
1467 birds they are helping to rehabilitate in their facilities, under the following conditions:
1468
- 1469 a. rehabilitators must provide falconers with letters of forms identifying the birds and
1470 explaining that falconers are assisting in their rehabilitation;
 - 1471 b. falconry permittees need not meet rehabilitation facility standards, only the facility
1472 standards for falconry permits; falconry permittees' facilities are not subject to inspection
1473 for compliance with rehabilitation facility standards;
 - 1474 c. raptors possessed for rehabilitation purposes need not be added to falconers' permits; they
1475 remain under the rehabilitators' permits;

- 1476 d. through coordination with rehabilitators, falconers must release all raptors to the wild or
1477 return them to rehabilitators for release within the 180-day timeframe in which
1478 rehabilitators are authorized to possess the birds, unless the issuing office authorizes
1479 retention and conditioning for longer than 180 days, or unless rehabilitators permanently
1480 transfer birds to falconers under their falconry permits; and
- 1481 e. raptors that cannot be released to the wild must be returned to rehabilitators for placement
1482 within the 180-day timeframe in which rehabilitators are authorized to possess the birds,
1483 unless the issuing office authorizes retention for longer than 180 days.
1484

1485 **Abatement**

- 1486
- 1487 45. Master class falconry permittees may conduct abatement activities with raptors possessed for
1488 falconry only if they hold Special Purpose Abatement permits. General class falconry
1489 permittees may conduct abatement activities only as subpermittees of Special Purpose
1490 abatement permit holders. Only Special Purpose Abatement permittees may receive payment
1491 for abatement services.

DRAFT

ALASKA FALCONRY PERMIT APPLICATION

1. NAME

Last	First	M.I.
------	-------	------

2. MAILING ADDRESS

Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip

3. TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Home	Business or Message
------	---------------------

4. EMAIL ADDRESS

--

5. ALASKA RESIDENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Since _____
----------------------------------------------------------	-------------

6. DATE OF BIRTH

--

7. LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Street	City
--------	------

8. DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER

State	Number
-------	--------

9. RAPTORS IN POSSESSION

Species	Sex	Age	Band Number	Date Acquired	Source (wild or captive-bred)

10A. PERMIT CLASS

<input type="checkbox"/> Apprentice
<input type="checkbox"/> General*
<input type="checkbox"/> Master*

10B. APPRENTICE'S SPONSOR

Last Name	First	Telephone
Address		Class

11. FALCONRY EXAM/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Exam Passed	Approved By _____	Date _____
--------------------------------------	-------------------	------------

12. MEWS INSPECTION/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Mews Inspected	Approved By _____	Date _____
-----------------------------------------	-------------------	------------

13. CERTIFICATION

I have read and understand the Alaska Falconry Standards. I certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations in title 50, part 13, of the Code of Federal Regulations and the other applicable parts in subchapter B of chapter 1 of title 50, and that the information I have submitted is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

*An applicant requesting a general or master class permit must submit a photocopy of the most recently held permit/license issued from any state or province AND annual falconry reports.

Please mail application and fees to:
ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526



ALASKA FALCONRY ANNUAL REPORT FORM

Name: _____ State Permit No.: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip _____

Telephone No.: (home) _____ (work) _____

Email: _____ Location of Facilities: _____

Class (check one) Apprentice General Master

Permit expiration date: _____ Are you requesting renewal? Yes No

ANNUAL REPORT for 20____

RAPTORS ON HAND AT BEGINNING OF PERMIT YEAR (January 1)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained	Date Obtained month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_

RAPTORS ACQUIRED DURING 12 MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31

(Raptors acquired from the wild or another person)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained	Date Obtained month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_

RAPTORS NO LONGER IN POSSESSION

(since previous annual report)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Disposition*	Disposition Date month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_/_/_

*Disposition (lost, transferred, died, released, stolen): Provide complete details, i.e., where lost or released, to whom transferred, cause of death, etc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Annual falconry reports are due by January 10. Please mail this report to:
ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99817



CONTACT INFORMATION

General requests for information about falconry, appointments to take the falconry examination or have your facilities inspected, applications for a falconry permit, requests for state markers (bands), and notification of take or intent to take a raptor from the wild are handled by the regional falconry representative at a regional office of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation.

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Phone (907) 465-4190

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
P.O. Box 240020
Douglas, AK 99824-0020
Phone (907) 465-4265

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, AK 99518-1599
Phone (907) 267-2257

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
1300 College Road
Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599
Phone (907) 459-7213

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 4
Palmer, AK 99645-6736
Phone (907) 745-6300

ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation
P.O. Box 1148
Nome, AK 99762-1148
Phone (907) 443-2271

Processing of falconry and state raptor propagation permits, submission of 3-186A forms, requests to import or permanently export raptors, and information about health certification, disease testing, vaccination, and other requirements for the importation of raptors are handled by the ADF&G Permit Section.

ADF&G/Wildlife Permit Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Phone: (907) 465-4148
Email: dfg.dwc.permits@alaska.gov

For information about federal regulations and permitting requirements, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Migratory Bird Permits Office
1011 East Tudor Road
Anchorage, AK 99503
Phone (907) 786-3693



The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) administers all programs and activities free from discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, or disability. The department administers all programs and activities in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility please write:

- ADF&G ADA Coordinator, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, MS 2042, Arlington, VA 22203
- Office of Equal Opportunity, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW MS 5230, Washington DC 20240.

The department's ADA Coordinator can be reached via phone at the following numbers:

- (VOICE) 907-465-6077
- (Statewide Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) 1-800-478-3648
- (Juneau TDD) 907-465-3646
- (FAX) 907-465-6078

For information on alternative formats and questions on this publication, please contact the following: Publications Specialist, ADF&G/Division of Wildlife Conservation, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526, or call 907-465-4176

ADF&G
DRAFT



**ALASKA
FALCONRY MANUAL
NO. 98**



**Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
July 1, 201208**



CHANGES FROM ALASKA FALCONRY MANUAL NO. 8

General Information

Throughout this new Manual, all references to falconers and their raptors are now expressed in the singular, as per the preference of the USFWS.

Purpose

Falconry Permits

1. A falconry permit is issued solely by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, not jointly with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

2. A falconry permit must be accompanied by a valid, current Alaska hunting license; a falconry permittee may not take a raptor from the wild without first possessing a valid, current falconry permit and a valid, current Alaska hunting license.

3. A falconry raptor or raptors, facilities, equipment, and records may be inspected only in the presence of the permittee, during business hours on any day of the week, and at a time mutually agreed upon by the state and the permittee.

4. A general or master class permittee may hack, or temporarily release to the wild, a raptor to condition it for falconry.

5. A permittee may use creance (tethered) flying, a lure, balloon, or kite in training and conditioning a falconry raptor, and may fly a falconry raptor at bird species not protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and at captive-raised animals.

6. A master falconer may hold a maximum of five wild-taken raptors, including up to three eagles, with no limit on number of captive-bred raptors held [present maximum is three birds total].

7. An interspecific hybrid raptor or a raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska may not be flown free, including flying at hack, unless the permittee first attaches to the bird at least two radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it is lost.

8. A person may not practice falconry with a raptor of a species not covered by federal and state falconry regulations without first obtaining an Alaska falconry permit.

Application Procedures

Falconry Examination

9. A falconer moving to Alaska and wishing to acquire an Alaska falconry permit or visiting Alaska and wishing to acquire a temporary falconry permit must pass an Alaska falconry



47 examination. A falconer who previously held an Alaska falconry permit need not pass the
48 Alaska falconry examination.

49
50 10. Added Ronald Stevens's *Observations On Modern Falconry* to the list of references.

51
52 **Facilities and Equipment**

53
54 11. Raptor housing includes indoor facilities (mews), outdoor enclosures (weathering area) and a
55 permittee's residence, provided facilities offer protection from predators and other dangers,
56 adequate shelter from the elements, appropriate perches, and availability of clean water. Outdoor
57 facilities are required.

58
59 12. A falconry raptor may be kept outside in the open if it is under watch by a permittee, one of
60 his or her family members, or, for instance, by a designated individual in a weathering yard at a
61 falconry meet.

62
63 13. A permittee may keep a falconry raptor inside his or her place of residence provided the bird
64 has a suitable perch and is tethered when not being moved into or out of the permittee's home.

65
66 14. A permittee must notify the department within five business days of changing the location of
67 his or her permanent falconry facilities.

68
69 **Records and Reporting**

70
71 15. Annual reports are no longer required.

72
73 16. Notification of authorities before and after taking a raptor, reporting a lost or dead raptor,
74 reporting a lost, damaged, or removed marker band, a change in location of housing facilities, a
75 change in contact information, and any other official notification of activity carried out under a
76 falconry permit may be made electronically, orally, or in writing. A completed form 3-186A
77 may be filed electronically or in writing on a paper form. A permittee must retain a copy of each
78 electronic database submission documenting take, transfer, loss, rebanding, or implanting a
79 microchip in a falconry raptor until five years after transferring or losing the raptor, or it has
80 died. A permittee acquiring a raptor; transferring, rebanding, or implanting a microchip in a
81 raptor; if a permittee's raptor is stolen; if a raptor lost to the wild is not recovered within 30 days;
82 or if a raptor possessed for falconry dies; a permittee must report to the department within 10
83 days using federal form 3-186A. These and other notification deadlines are as follows:

- 84
85
- 86 • Acquisition/transfer/disposal of a raptor – within 10 days to the department (using federal
 - 87 form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report)) – hereafter, “the
 - 88 department” means Permits Section at ADF&G headquarters unless otherwise noted;
 - 89 • Intent to take a raptor from the wild – at least 10 days prior to the department office
 - 90 nearest area of intended take and the regional falconry representative in the area of take;
 - 91 • Take of a raptor from the wild – within 10 days to the department and the regional
 - 92 falconry representative in the area of take;
 - 93 • Import of a raptor – at least 30 days prior to the department, except at least 10 days for
 - 94 the return of a raptor of Alaska origin from temporary export;



- 94 • Export of a raptor – at least 10 days prior to the department;
- 95 • A marker band is lost or had to be removed – within five days to the department;
- 96 • Intentional release of a raptor – prior notification to the regional falconry representative;
- 97 • Death, loss, escape, or intentional release of a raptor – within 10 days to the department,
- 98 or immediately upon return to the country for death or loss of a raptor temporarily outside
- 99 the U.S. for falconry purposes, using federal form 3-186A;
- 100 • Surrender of the marker band from a dead or released raptor – within 15 business days to
- 101 the department;
- 102 • Intent to recapture a raptor lost more than five days – to the regional falconry
- 103 representative;
- 104 • Recovery of a raptor reported as lost – within 10 days of recapture to the regional
- 105 falconry representative;
- 106 • Recapture of a raptor wearing falconry equipment or a captive-bred raptor – within five
- 107 business days of recapture to the department;
- 108 • Permanent transfer of a raptor to another permittee – at least 10 days before the transfer
- 109 to the regional falconry representative;
- 110 • Intent to transfer a raptor for temporary care for a period of care to exceed 45 days –
- 111 within three days after transfer to the regional falconry representative;
- 112 • Changed location of falconry facilities – within five business days to the department;
- 113 • Non-resident falconer entering Alaska to practice falconry under a non-Alaska falconry
- 114 permit – at least 10 days prior to the department; and
- 115 • Non-resident falconer importing a raptor if he or she intends to keep an imported bird in
- 116 the state longer than 60 days – within 30 days of the date of import to the department.

117
118 **Markers**

119
120 **Banding**

121
122 **Captive Propagation**

123
124 **Conservation Education**

125
126 **Rehabilitation**

127
128 **Abatement**

129
130 **Falconry Standards**

131
132 **Definitions**

133
134 17. For determining possession and take of a raptor for falconry, a regulatory year is any 12-

135 month period defined by the state.

136
137 18. Defines “permittee” to include a person who holds a valid, current Alaska falconry permit

138 [the previous definition limited “permittee” to one who actually holds a raptor under the

139 authority of a falconry permit].



141 19. Defines “resident” using the language in the Alaska Hunting Regulations: “a person
142 (including an alien) who is physically present in Alaska with the intent to remain indefinitely and
143 make a home in Alaska, has maintained that person’s domicile in Alaska for the 12 consecutive
144 months immediately preceding application for a license, and is not claiming residency or
145 obtaining benefits under a claim of residency in another state, territory, or country; or a member
146 of the military service or U.S. Coast Guard who has been stationed in Alaska for the 12
147 consecutive months immediately preceding application for a license; or a dependent of a resident
148 member of the military service or U.S. Coast Guard who has lived in Alaska for the 12
149 consecutive months immediately preceding application for a license. A person who does not
150 otherwise qualify as a resident may not qualify by virtue of an interest in an Alaska business.”

151
152 20. Raptors authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including all subspecies thereof,
153 and authorized for falconry use in Alaska include: turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*); osprey
154 (*Pandion haliaetus*); bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*); white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus*
155 *albicilla*); Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*); northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*); Asiatic
156 sparrow hawk (*Accipiter gularis*); sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*); Cooper's hawk
157 (*Accipiter cooperii*); northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*); Harris's hawk (*Parabuteo*
158 *unicinctus*); Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*); red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*);
159 ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*); rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*); golden eagle (*Aquila*
160 *chrysaetos*); Eurasian kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*); American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*); merlin
161 (*Falco columbarius*); aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis*); peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*);
162 gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*); prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*); western screech-owl (*Otus*
163 *kennicottii*); great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*); snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*); northern hawk-
164 owl (*Surnia ulula*); northern pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*); barred owl (*Strix varia*); great
165 gray owl (*Strix nebulosa*); long-eared owl (*Asio otus*); short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*); boreal
166 owl (*Aegolius funereus*); northern saw-whet owl (*Aegolius acadicus*); and hybrids of these
167 species produced by raptor breeders. [NOTE: Cooper’s hawk, Harris’s hawk, ferruginous hawk,
168 aplomado falcon, and prairie falcon are not indigenous to Alaska, and may be flown free only
169 with at least two radio transmitters attached.]

170
171 21. The definition of an animal taken outside of regular hunting seasons is changed from “game”
172 to “quarry” to cover inadvertent take of both game and non-game animals.

173
174 22. Release of live game under terms of 5 AAC 92.029, “Permits for possessing live game,” is
175 allowed for training of “raptors” [present language specifies only “falcons”].

176
177 23. A permittee must ensure his or her falconry activities do not cause the take of federally listed
178 threatened or endangered wildlife.

179
180 24. A permittee must report take by a falconry bird of any federally listed endangered or
181 threatened species to the USFWS Ecological Services Field Office for the location in which the
182 take occurred.

183
184 25. A permittee may use a falconry raptor take any bird species for which a depredation order is
185 in place at any time in accordance with the conditions of the order, but may not be compensated
186 for doing so.

188 **Falconry Permits**

189
190 26. The list of legal falconry species now includes the new order Accipitriformes.

191
192 27. A person may not take, transport, or possess a raptor, including Accipitriform, Falconiform,
193 and Strigiform birds not identified as raptors in these standards, for falconry or for the practice of
194 falconry in Alaska without possessing a valid falconry permit issued by the department.
195 Someone whose permit was revoked or canceled by the department would not be able to
196 continue the practice of falconry with an “exotic” raptor not listed as a falconry species, as has
197 occurred elsewhere. Given Alaska’s tight restrictions on non-indigenous wildlife, this is
198 extremely unlikely, but this closes a potential loophole.

199
200 28. Specifies a raptor held under any level of falconry permit must be trained in the pursuit of
201 wild game and used in hunting [that requirement was previously included only in the language
202 allowing master class falconers an unlimited number of birds].

203
204 29. Deleted “general class falconers may possess up to 3 golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*)” as
205 per federal restrictions.

206
207 30. Regulations allowing master falconers to possess and take golden eagles from the wild are
208 adopted by reference to 50 CFR 22.23 and 22.24 rather than citing the specific language, in order
209 to accommodate expected changes at the federal level.

210
211 31. A permittee may not sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value a wild-taken raptor held
212 under a falconry permit, but may do so with a captive-bred raptor marked with a seamless band.

213
214 32. A non-U.S. visitor to Alaska may qualify for a temporary falconry permit appropriate to his
215 or her level of experience.

216
217 **Falconry Permit Requirements and Application Procedures**

218
219 33. Application and permit fees are payable to ADF&G, not USFWS.

220
221 34. ADF&G Region IV contact information added.

222
223 35. Additional language is added to the certification block of the permit application: “I certify
224 that I have read and am familiar with the regulations in title 50, part 13, of the Code of Federal
225 Regulations and the other applicable parts in subchapter B of chapter 1 of title 50, and that the
226 information I have submitted is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I
227 understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C.
228 1001.”

229
230 **New (apprentice) falconers**

231
232 36. An apprentice falconer must be at least 12 years old [present minimum age is 14], may hold
233 only one bird at any time, may not possess a wild-taken eyas, nor a bird imprinted on humans.
234 An apprentice may hold all authorized species except bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).



235 white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*), northern
236 harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*),
237 golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), prairie falcon (*Falco*
238 *mexicanus*), short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), and hybrids of these species produced by raptor
239 breeders.

240
241 An applicant must be sponsored by a master or general class falconer who is at least 18 years old
242 and has at least two years of experience at the general falconer level. A parent or legal guardian
243 of an apprentice under 18 years of age must sign the falconry permit application and is legally
244 responsible for the permittee's activities.

Renewing a permit

245
246
247
248 37. A permittee who allows his or her permit to lapse may reinstate the permit at the same level
249 of the previously held permit by applying to reinstate the permit within five years of its
250 expiration, paying any appropriate fee, and presenting proof of certification at that level. An
251 applicant's facilities must also pass department inspection before the permittee may possess a
252 falconry bird. The permittee need not pass the Alaska falconry examination.

253
254 38. A permittee who allows his or her permit to lapse for five years or longer must pass the
255 Alaska falconry examination to reinstate the permit. If he or she passes the examination, the
256 permit will be reinstated at the level previously held after the permittee pays any appropriate fee
257 and presents proof of certification at that level. An applicant's facilities must also pass
258 department inspection before the permittee may possess a falconry bird.

259
260 39. A revoked permit may be restored at the end of the revocation period upon request of the
261 person whose permit was revoked.

Upgrading a permit

262
263
264
265 40. A permit upgrade request must include a summary of species held and how long each bird
266 was held. An apprentice falconer must also present a letter of recommendation from his or her
267 sponsor supporting the upgrade and attesting the applicant has practiced falconry with a raptor
268 taken from the wild at the apprentice level for at least two years, including maintaining, training,
269 flying, and hunting the raptor for an average of six months per year, with at least four months in
270 each year. An applicant seeking upgrade to master class must attest to having practiced falconry
271 at the general level for at least five years.

272
273 41. A general falconer must be at least 16 years of age [no change from existing minimum age],
274 may hold a maximum of three raptors, and may hold all authorized species except bald eagle
275 (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Steller's sea-eagle
276 (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*), and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*). General class falconers with less
277 than two years of experience may take peregrine falcons from the wild [not allowed by present
278 regulation]. The application of a general class falconer under 18 years of age must be signed by
279 a parent or legal guardian accepting legal responsibility for the falconer's activities.

281 42. Falconry school or educational program experience may not be substituted for active falconry
282 experience for purposes of advancing to a general or master class permit.

283
284 **Transferring a permit from another state or country**

285
286 43. An applicant with a valid, current permit from another state or U.S. territory must pass the
287 Alaska falconry examination, unless he or she previously held an Alaska falconry permit.

288
289 44. A non-resident wishing to hunt with a raptor in Alaska for 60 days or less may be issued a
290 temporary falconry permit. A temporary permittee may not take a bird from the wild.

291
292 45. A falconer moving to Alaska from a non-U.S. jurisdiction or wishing to practice falconry
293 temporarily in Alaska is required to demonstrate familiarity with U.S. and Alaska law by passing
294 an examination. A permits will be issued at the apprentice level unless the applicant documents
295 experience qualifying him or her for a higher-level permit.

296
297 **Updating a permit after a move**

298
299 46. A permittee moving from Alaska must notify the department and the permitting authority of
300 the new place of residence within 30 days. A permittee may continue to hold a falconry raptor
301 while applying for a new permit, but the jurisdiction into which permittee has moved may place
302 restrictions on possession of a falconry bird until residency requirements in the new jurisdiction
303 are met.

304
305 **Temporary Facilities**

306
307 47. A raptor may be held in temporary facilities for up to 45 days [present maximum is 30 days].

308
309 **Markers**

310
311 48. A red ADF&G marker band is no longer required; a black USFWS marker band issued by
312 the department is required for a wild-taken goshawk, Harris's hawk, peregrine falcon, or
313 gyrfalcon; a captive-bred raptor must wear a seamless metal USFWS marker band. An ISO-
314 compliant (i.e., 134.2 kHz) microchip may be implanted in addition to using the USFWS marker
315 band. A wild-origin raptor may not be banded with a seamless metal USFWS marker band.

316
317 49. A microchip may be implanted in a raptor in addition to, but not in place of, banding.

318
319 50. The state may provide an exemption to banding requirements if a health or injury problem
320 caused by a marker band is documented. A falconer must carry a copy of exemption paperwork
321 when flying an exempted raptor. For an exempted wild-origin peregrine falcon, gyrfalcon,
322 Harris's hawk, or goshawk, a band must be replaced by an ISO-compliant microchip. In such a
323 case, the USFWS will provide a suitable microchip.

324
325 51. A marker band may not be attached to a raptor other than the individual to which the marker
326 band was originally attached.



328 **Taking of Raptors**

329
330 52. Only an Alaska resident may take a raptor from the wild in Alaska. The definition of
331 “resident” is the same as published in the Alaska Hunting Regulations and is included in the
332 definitions section of Alaska Falconry Manual No. 9.

333
334 53. Take of any raptor species must be in compliance with these standards.

- 335
336 a. A permittee may not intentionally capture a raptor of a species not allowed by his or her
337 classification for possession for falconry. A permittee capturing a raptor not allowed
338 must release it immediately.
- 339
340 b. A permittee may take no more than two raptors from the wild each year for use in
341 falconry.
- 342
343 c. If a permittee transfers a raptor taken from the wild to another permittee in the same year
344 in which it was taken, that bird will count as one of the raptors the permittee is allowed to
345 take from the wild that year; it will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee, but
346 will always be considered a wild-origin bird.
- 347
348 d. A permittee taking possession of a raptor for falconry purposes, who is present at the
349 capture site, even if another person captures the raptor, is considered the person who
350 removes the bird from the wild and is responsible for reporting that take.
- 351
352 e. If a permittee seeking possession of a falconry raptor is not at the immediate location
353 where a raptor is taken from the wild, the person who removes the bird from the wild
354 must be a general or master class permittee, and must report take of the bird, even if it is
355 promptly transferred to the recipient permittee. When that person transfers the raptor to
356 the absent permittee, both must report the transfer. The bird will count as one of the two
357 raptors the permittee who took it from the wild is allowed to capture in any one year.
358 The raptor will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee.
- 359
360 f. If a permittee has a long-term physical impairment preventing direct capture of a species
361 allowed for falconry use by that permittee, a general or master class permittee may take a
362 raptor for that person. When a raptor is taken from the wild, the recipient permittee is
363 then responsible for reporting the take, and the bird will count as one of the two raptors
364 he or she is allowed to capture in any one year.
- 365
366 i. A permittee with a long-term physical disability is defined as a permittee who
367 provides the department with either 1) written proof that the person receives at least
368 70 percent disability compensation from a government agency for a physical
369 disability or 2) an affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in
370 the state, stating that the person is at least 70 percent disabled.

371
372 54. Restrictions on dates when an eyas or passage raptor may be taken from the wild are
373 eliminated; a raptor may be taken any day of the year. A breeding bird, including one in
374 immature plumage, may not be taken.



375
376 55. Peregrine falcons, including all subspecies thereof, are considered the same as other raptors
377 available for falconry use. There are no special requirements for taking or reporting take of a
378 peregrine falcon, nor are there restrictions on where peregrines may be taken. Previously closed
379 corridors on the Colville and Upper Yukon Rivers are now open to peregrine take.

380
381 56. A permittee may retrap a marked raptor or a raptor wearing falconry equipment lost to the
382 wild at any time and within five days after its loss without notifying the regional falconry
383 representative. Recapturing such a raptor is not considered take from the wild. A permittee must
384 return a recaptured falconry raptor to the permittee who lost it, if that person may legally possess
385 it. Disposition of a raptor whose legal possession cannot be determined will be at the discretion
386 of the department. While a permittee is keeping a bird for return to the permittee who lost it, the
387 bird will neither count against the permittee's possession limit nor the limit on take of raptors
388 from the wild, but the permittee must report possession of such a raptor to the department within
389 five business days of capture.

390
391 57. A falconer may acquire a bird from a rehabilitator. A raptor acquired from a rehabilitator
392 must be capable of being flown at wild quarry.

393
394 58. An interspecific hybrid raptor need not be surgically sterilized.

395
396 59. An interspecific hybrid raptor or a raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska at hack or
397 flown free must wear at least two radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it is lost..

398
399 60. A permittee may take from the wild a raptor he or she is authorized to possess if the bird is
400 banded with a Federal Bird Banding Laboratory aluminum band, except a permittee may not take
401 a banded peregrine falcon from the wild. A permittee capturing a peregrine falcon marked with
402 a research band or a research marking must immediately release it, except a falcon wearing a
403 transmitter may be held for up to 30 days in order to contact a researcher to determine if the
404 transmitter or battery warrants replacement. A researcher may choose to replace a transmitter or
405 battery, or remove a transmitter. A researcher, his or her designee, or a falconry permittee
406 authorized by the researcher may conduct this work. If the researcher chooses, the transmitter
407 may be removed and the falcon transferred to the permittee, who may keep such a bird if
408 captured in circumstances allowing capture of a wild peregrine.

- 409
410
 - 411 • If a captured raptor has a band, a research marking, or a transmitter attached, the
412 permittee must promptly report the band number and all relevant information to the
413 Federal Bird Banding Laboratory at 1-800-327-2263.
 - 414
 - 415 ○ A permittee may contact a researcher to determine if he or she wishes to replace a
416 transmitter or battery on a captured bird. If so, a permittee is authorized to
417 possess such a raptor for up to 30 days until the researcher, his or her designee, or
418 an authorized permittee completes the replacement. Disposition of such a raptor
419 will be at the discretion of the researcher and the department.
 - 420 ○ Such a bird held temporarily will not count against a permittee's possession or
421 annual wild take limits for falconry raptors.

422
423 61. A permittee is responsible for the cost of care and rehabilitation of a raptor injured by his or
424 her trapping efforts. A permittee may place a raptor injured by trapping efforts on his or her
425 falconry permit, report the take to the department within 10 days using federal form 3-186A, and
426 have the bird treated by a veterinarian or a permitted wildlife rehabilitator; such a bird counts
427 against possession and annual wild take limits. A permittee may also give such a raptor directly
428 to a veterinarian, permitted wildlife rehabilitator, or appropriate wildlife agency employee; such
429 a bird does not count against possession and annual wild take limits.

430
431 62. A master falconer authorized to possess a golden eagle may take one or two immature or sub-
432 adult golden eagles from the wild only in a livestock depredation area during the time the
433 depredation area is in effect, as follows. A livestock depredation area is declared by USDA
434 Wildlife Services or upon the request of a state governor. A permittee meeting the conditions
435 outlined in 50 CFR §21.29 (c)(3)(iv) and who has a state permit to possess a golden eagle is
436 considered sufficiently authorized for the purposes of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
437 (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), subject to the requirement that take of golden eagles for falconry is
438 compatible with the preservation of the golden eagle. Under present federal regulations, a
439 permittee:

- 440
441 a. may capture a nestling golden eagle, or take a nestling from its nest, in a
442 livestock depredation area if a biologist representing the agency
443 responsible for declaring the depredation area has determined that the
444 adult eagle is preying on livestock;
- 445
446 b. must determine the location of the livestock depredation areas; neither the
447 state, USDA Wildlife Services, nor the USFWS will notify permittees
448 about them;
- 449
450 c. must inform the USFWS regional law enforcement office of capture plans
451 in person, in writing, or via facsimile or e-mail to
452 lawenforcement@fws.gov at least three business days before beginning
453 trapping activities;
- 454
455 d. must meet all requirements of the state, territory, or tribe in which or on
456 whose lands trapping activities are intended;
- 457
458 e. must have permission from the landowner to capture an eagle or, if
459 capture is intended on public land, the responsible agency must allow it;
460 and
- 461
462 f. may receive a golden eagle from a government employee who has trapped
463 it under federal, state, or tribal authority in a livestock depredation area
464 declared by USDA Wildlife Services or a state governor if the employee is
465 unable to release the bird in an appropriate location.

466
467 **Import/Export**



469 63. A written permit to import or permanently export a raptor is no longer required, but oral,
470 electronic, or written notification must be made to the ADF&G Permits Section at least 10 days
471 prior to temporary or permanent export or 30 business days prior to importation, except
472 notification must be given at least 10 days before the return of a raptor of Alaska origin from
473 temporary export.

474
475 64. A permittee must either have held a bird for a year or maintained Alaska residency for two
476 consecutive years prior to the date of export before temporarily or permanently exporting a
477 falconry raptor. A falconer who has maintained Alaska residency continuously for at least two
478 years may temporarily or permanently export a raptor held under falconry permits even if he or
479 she has not held the bird for a full year.

480
481 65. Requirements for importation of raptors specify “vaccination, or other requirements” in
482 addition to “disease testing,” and designate both state and provincial entities as acceptable
483 authorities for certification of good health.

484
485 66. A person possessing a valid falconry permit issued by a U.S. state, territory, or tribe may
486 possess and transport for falconry purposes a lawfully possessed raptor through other states or
487 U.S. territories. Any state, territory, or tribe may further regulate such transport.

488
489 67. A non-resident may import a raptor and use it for falconry in Alaska for up to 60 [formerly
490 30] days on the authority of the falconry permit issued by his or her home state. A temporary
491 Alaska falconry permit is no longer required, but a non-resident must notify the ADF&G Permits
492 Section at least 10 business days prior to entering the state.

493
494 68. A permittee legally possessing a raptor for falconry may export and then import such a raptor
495 for falconry to other countries to use in falconry without additional migratory bird import/export
496 permits issued under 50 CFR §21.21.

497 **Transfer of Raptors**

498
499
500 69. Only permanent, not temporary, transfer requires notification of state and federal authorities
501 using form 3-186A. “Transfer of raptor” means to transfer or change the possession of a raptor
502 from one permittee to another permittee. Transfer includes the sale, barter, or exchange of a
503 raptor for anything of value [present language does not consider these transactions as transfers].
504 Short-term handling, such as letting another person hold or practice flying a raptor held under a
505 falconry permit, is not considered possession if the permittee is present and supervising the
506 person working with his or her raptor.

507
508 70. A permittee may transfer a raptor to captive propagation and other permit types.

509
510 71. A person other than a permittee may temporarily care for a permitted raptor for up to 45
511 days, provided the raptor remains on the permittee’s falconry permit and remains in the
512 permittee’s facilities. Care may be extended indefinitely in extenuated circumstances such as
513 illness, family emergency, and military service. If a period of temporary care will exceed 45
514 days, the permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative in writing within 10

515 [previously three] days after transferring the raptor. A person providing care may not fly a
516 permitted raptor for any reason.

517
518 72. A survivor/legal representative of a deceased falconry permittee may transfer a bird held by
519 the permittee to another authorized permittee within 90 days of death. After 90 days, disposition
520 of a bird is at the discretion of the department.

521 **Release, Loss or Death of Raptors**

522
523
524 73. A permittee must notify the regional falconry representative at least five days before
525 intentionally releasing a raptor to the wild.

526
527 74. A permittee may keep the body of a raptor banded or with a microchip implanted prior to
528 death, except that of a golden eagle. A body may be kept so feathers are available for imping. A
529 body may be mounted by a taxidermist for use in presenting conservation education programs.
530 A dead raptor preserved by taxidermy must permanently retain its marker band and/or microchip.
531 A permittee not wishing to donate a bird body or keep it him or herself must burn, bury, or
532 otherwise destroy it within 10 days of death or after final veterinary examination to determine
533 cause of death. A permittee must take appropriate precautions to avoid secondary poisoning of
534 eagles and other scavengers via a carcass of a euthanized raptor. A permittee may possess flight
535 feathers of a falconry raptor that died for as long as the permittee holds a valid falconry permit.
536 A permittee may not buy, sell, or barter such feathers and must keep paperwork documenting the
537 acquisition of the bird from which the feathers came.

538
539 75. A permittee must send the entire body of a falconry golden eagle that dies, including all
540 feathers, talons, and other parts, to the National Eagle Repository.

541 **Imping**

542
543
544 76. For imping purposes, a permittee may retain or exchange feathers from each species of raptor
545 he or she possesses or previously held for as long as he or she holds a valid, current falconry
546 permit; may receive feathers from another permittee and may give feathers to him or her; may
547 not buy, sell, or barter imping feathers; may donate feathers from a falconry bird, except golden
548 eagle feathers, to a permitted or exempted person or institution. Except for primary or secondary
549 flight feathers or rectrices from golden eagles, a permittee is not required to gather feathers from
550 a falconry bird; golden eagle feathers not kept for imping must be sent to the National Eagle
551 Repository. If a falconry permit expires or is revoked, a permittee must donate feathers of any
552 species of falconry raptor except golden eagle to a person or an institution authorized by permit
553 to acquire and possess the feathers or are exempt from the permit requirement under 50 CFR
554 §21.12, or burn, bury, or otherwise destroy them.

555 **Captive Propagation**

556
557
558 77. A raptor held under a falconry permit may be bred in captivity under the authority of a
559 captive propagation permit. A raptor possessed for falconry may be used in captive propagation
560 only in Alaska.



562 78. Propagation permittees are no longer required to dispose of captive-bred progeny within one
563 year after hatching.

564
565 79. A falconry raptor may be used in captive propagation for less than eight months in a year
566 without transferring it to a propagation permit. Permanent use in propagation programs requires
567 a permit transfer.

568
569 80. There is no limit on the number of wild-origin birds held under a captive propagation permit;
570 no more than two wild-origin birds may be acquired in a calendar year.

571
572 81. A captive propagator may sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value first or later
573 generation captive-bred progeny [present regulations limit such disposal to second generation or
574 later progeny].

575
576 82. A permittee moving from the state may permanently export a raptor held under a propagation
577 permit if the permittee has legally possessed that raptor in Alaska for at least one year and retains
578 possession of the raptor at his or her new place of residence, except a raptor held less than one
579 full year may be exported permanently if the propagation permittee holding it has maintained
580 Alaska residency continuously for at least two years immediately prior to the date of export.

581 582 **Conservation Education**

583
584 83. A permittee may use a falconry raptor in a conservation program presented in a public venue.

585 586 **Rehabilitation**

587
588 84. A general or master class falconry permittee may assist a permitted migratory bird
589 rehabilitator to condition a raptor in preparation for its release to the wild and may keep a bird he
590 or she is helping to rehabilitate in his or her facilities.

591 592 **Abatement**

593
594 85. A master class falconry permittee may conduct and receive payment for abatement activities
595 with a raptor possessed for falconry if he or she holds a Special Purpose Abatement permit; a
596 general class falconry permittee may conduct abatement activities only as a subpermittee of a
597 Special Purpose Abatement permit holder.

IMPORTANT DATES

January 11~~0~~

~~Last due date for annual falconry and raptor propagation reports.~~

~~Date to request permit renewal (unless otherwise specified). Requests for renewal must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of the current permits.~~

January 31

~~Date falconry and raptor propagation permits expire.~~

~~**Year-round**
May 26
August 5~~

- ~~Notify the department of acquisition, transfer, rebanding, or disposal of a raptor, implanting a microchip in a raptor, or if a raptor is stolen, is lost to the wild and not recovered for 30 days, or dies, using federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) within 10 days of occurrence.~~
- ~~Notify the department office nearest the area of intended take and the regional falconry representative in the area of take at least 10 days before taking a raptor from the wild.~~
- ~~Notify the department Permits Section and the regional falconry representative in the area of take within 10 days of taking a raptor from the wild.~~
- ~~Notify the department at least 10 days prior to export or 30 days prior to import of a raptor, except notification must be given at least 10 days before the return of a raptor of Alaska origin from temporary export.~~
- ~~Notify the department of a marker band that must be removed or is lost within five days of removal or loss.~~
- ~~Notify the regional falconry representative at least five days prior to intentional release of a raptor.~~
- ~~Report to the department a dead, lost, escaped, or intentionally released raptor within 10 days of occurrence; report death or loss of a raptor temporarily outside the U.S. for falconry purposes immediately upon return to the country.~~
- ~~Notify the department and the USFWS Regional Law Enforcement office of a stolen raptor within 10 days of the theft.~~
- ~~Surrender marker band from a dead or released raptor within 15 business days of death or release, except a raptor preserved by taxidermy must permanently retain its marker band and/or microchip.~~
- ~~Notify regional falconry representative of intent to recapture a raptor lost more than five days; report recovery of a raptor reported as lost within 10 days of recapture (recapture within five days of loss requires no such notification).~~
- ~~Notify the department within five days of recapturing a raptor wearing falconry equipment or a captive-bred raptor.~~
- ~~Notify the regional falconry representative at least 10 days before permanently transferring a raptor to another permittee.~~
- ~~Notify the regional falconry representative within three days after transferring a raptor for temporary care if the period of care will exceed 45 days.~~
- ~~Notify the department within five business days of changing location of falconry facilities.~~
- ~~A non-resident falconer must notify the department at least 10 days prior to entering Alaska to practice falconry under a non-Alaska falconry permit.~~
- ~~A non-resident falconer must notify the department within 30 days of the date of import if intending to keep an imported raptor longer than 60 days in the state.~~
- ~~Period when eyases may be taken.~~

~~**August 15** — **November 30**~~

~~Period when passage birds, adult American kestrels and adult great horned owls may be taken.~~



601
602

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Taking Raptors

Report electronically, orally, or in writing to the regional falconry representative and nearest department office in the intended area of take at least 10 days prior to and within 105 days after taking a raptor from the wild. You must also report to ~~both~~ the ADF&G Permits Section ~~and the USFWS using (Form 3-186A)~~ within 105 days of taking a raptor. Additional reporting requirements apply for peregrine falcons.

Markers

Upon taking a peregrine falcon, ~~or~~ gyrfalcon, goshawk, or Harris's hawk, either from the wild or from a rehabilitator, a USFWS marker ~~(black band)~~ must be attached, or an ISO-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip implanted; ~~a department marker (red band) must be placed on any other raptor originating from the wild and possessed in Alaska.~~

Release/Loss/Death of Raptors

Notify ~~the~~ regional falconry representative at least five days prior to the intentional release of any raptor. Notify the ADF&G Permits Section and the USFWS using (Form 3-186A) of the loss, escape, release, or death of any raptor within 105 days of such occurrence. Notify the department and the USFWS Regional Law Enforcement office of a stolen raptor within 10 days of the theft. Surrender/Deliver the marker from a dead or released raptor to ~~the~~ regional falconry representative within 15 days of death or release.

Import/Export

~~Prior written approval from~~ Oral, electronic, or written notification of the ADF&G Permits Section is required at least 10 business days before a raptor is exported from or 30 business days before any raptor is ~~may be~~ imported into ~~or permanently exported from~~ Alaska, except notification must be given at least 10 business days before the return of a raptor of Alaska origin from temporary export.-

A person with a current permit for falconry from another state ~~or province~~ may import a raptors and use ~~them~~ for falconry for up to 30 days. Oral, electronic, or written notification of the ADF&G Permits Section is required at least 10 business days before entering Alaska to practice falconry under a non-Alaska falconry permit under the terms of a temporary import permit issued by the ADF&G Permits Section.

A rRaptors imported into Alaska must be accompanied by a health certificate issued within 30 days prior to the date of importation. A "health certificate" means a legible certification issued by an accredited veterinarian of the jurisdictionstate of origin or the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (APHIS-USDA) and executed on an official form of the state of origin or of the APHIS-USDA. Consult the State Veterinarian (Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation) or ADF&G Permits Section for ~~current~~ disease testing, vaccination, or other requirements before importation applying for an import permit.

For a raptors traveling through Canada or to or from a foreign country, ~~please~~ contact the U.S. Customs Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to obtain information, appropriate declaration forms, and export/import permits or licenses.

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604
605

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APPENDIX

DRAFT



GENERAL INFORMATION

Purpose

Falconry is the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game using ~~a~~ trained raptor. Falconry is a lawful hunting method when practiced in compliance with state and federal regulations under the terms of a permit issued ~~jointly~~ by the Commissioner of ~~the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)~~. The following species of raptors described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13), including all subspecies thereof, are authorized for falconry in Alaska: turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*); osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*); bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*); white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*); Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*); northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*); Asiatic sparrow hawk (*Accipiter gularis*); sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*); Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*); northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*); Harris's hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*); Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*); red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*); ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*); rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*); golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*); Eurasian kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*); American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*); merlin (*Falco columbarius*); aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis*); peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*); gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*); prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*); western screech-owl (*Otus kennicottii*); great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*); snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*); northern hawk-owl (*Surnia ulula*); northern pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*); barred owl (*Strix varia*); great gray owl (*Strix nebulosa*); long-eared owl (*Asio otus*); short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*); boreal owl (*Aegolius funereus*); northern saw-whet owl (*Aegolius acadicus*); and hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders. ~~There are eleven species of raptors authorized for falconry in Alaska: sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), merlin (*Falco columbarius*), gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*), American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*), arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*), Peale's peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus pealei*), great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), and hybrids of these species produced by a raptor breeder.~~ Alaska regulations require that anyone taking, holding, or possessing one or more raptors of these ~~raptor~~ species for falconry must first obtain a falconry permit. A person may not practice falconry in Alaska with a raptor of a species not covered by federal and state falconry regulations without first obtaining an Alaska falconry permit.

State falconry regulations were adopted by the Alaska Board of Game to assist in the management of raptor populations and to maintain standards for the care of birds legally held for falconry purposes. This manual includes regulations that pertain to the taking, holding and possession of raptors for falconry and issuance of falconry permits. Whether ~~you are~~ a novice falconer or an experienced falconer ~~who is~~ new to Alaska, the application and reporting procedures may seem complex and are summarized for ~~your~~ convenience below. More detailed information is contained in the Standards section of this manual and is not repeated here; please refer to the Standards section before conducting ~~your~~ falconry activities. Statewide provisions for issuing falconry permits and promulgating regulations are contained in 5 AAC 92.037 and AS 16.05.255. Federal regulations on falconry can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 21 (~~50 CFR §21.28 and 50 CFR §21.29~~).



705

706 **Falconry Permits**

707

708 A falconry permit, ~~which must always~~ be accompanied by a ~~current~~ valid, current Alaska
709 hunting license, authorizes ~~a permittee~~ you to hunt game with ~~your raptor~~ falcon in compliance
710 with applicable seasons, bag limits, and other provisions of law. Special or written permission is
711 not required for falconry activities on public lands where it is authorized, but a permittee must
712 comply with all applicable federal, state, territorial, or tribal laws regarding falconry activities,
713 including hunting. A falconry permit does not authorize capture or release of a raptor or the
714 practice of falconry on public lands if prohibited on those lands, or on private property, without
715 permission from the landowner or custodian. A permittee must have his or her permit or a legible
716 copy of it in his or her immediate possession if not at the location of the permittee's falconry
717 facilities and he or she is trapping, transporting, working with, or flying a falconry raptor. You
718 permittee is ~~are~~ responsible for the actions of ~~his or her~~ your raptor while ~~it is~~ hunting. If ~~a~~
719 permittee's ~~your~~ bird takes ~~quarry~~ game illegally, he or
720 she ~~you~~ must leave the dead ~~quarry~~ game where it lies, although ~~the~~ your raptor may feed on the
721 ~~quarry~~ game before leaving the kill site. A permittee must report take of any federally listed
722 endangered or threatened species to the USFWS Ecological Services Field Office for the location
723 in which the take occurred. With a falconry bird, a permittee may take any bird species listed in
724 50 CFR §21.43, 21.44, 21.45, or 21.46 for which a depredation order is in place at any time in
725 accordance with the conditions of the applicable depredation order, as long as a permittee is not
726 paid for doing so.

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728

729 Falconry permits are valid from the date issued through January 31 of the third calendar year
730 following the year of issue (e.g., a permit issued on February 4, 2010~~38~~
731 2016), unless a shorter period is prescribed on the permit. ~~Not later than January 10 of each~~
732 ~~calendar year, a permittee must submit an annual report (Appendix B) to the ADF&G Permit~~
733 ~~Section.~~

734

735

736 ~~A r~~ Raptors legally possessed under ~~an an~~ Alaska falconry permit may ~~not~~ be bred in captivity
737 only if authorized by captive propagation permit. A band ~~birds~~ taken from the wild under
738 authority of ~~a a~~ falconry permit may not be sold or bartered. ~~Permanent~~ Temporary transfer of ~~a~~
739 ~~raptors~~ between falconers requires proper notification of state ~~and federal~~ authorities using Form
740 3-186A. Prior notification ~~A permit from of~~ the ADF&G Permit Section is required to import ~~a a~~
741 ~~raptor~~ into or ~~permanently~~ export ~~a a~~ raptor from the state of Alaska. ~~All~~ raptors imported into
742 Alaska must be accompanied by a health certificate and meet disease testing, vaccination, and
743 other requirements as specified by the state veterinarian and/or ADF&G. A permittee ~~You~~ may
744 not temporarily or permanently export ~~aa r~~ raptor taken from the wild in Alaska unless the
745 permittee ~~you~~ has ~~ve~~ 1) legally possessed the bird in the state for at least one year, or 2)
746 maintained continuous Alaska residency for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to
747 the date of export.

748

749 There are three classes of falconry permits issued depending on a permittee's ~~your~~ experience:
750 apprentice (new falconers); general (at least two years experience as ~~a a~~ practicing falconer); and



751 master (at least five years experience as a practicing falconer at the general class level). A
 752 permittee ~~You~~ must have a bird in possession to be considered a practicing falconer. Falconry
 753 school or educational program experience may not be substituted for active falconry experience
 754 for purposes of advancing to general or master class permits.

755
 756 -The table below summarizes the permit conditions for each class of falconer:
 757

Permit Condition	Apprentice	General	Master
Maximum number of falconry birds in possession	<u>one</u>	<u>three</u>	<u>five wild-taken, including up to three eagles; no limit on captive-bred birds, but all raptors must be trained in the pursuit of wild game and used in hunting.</u>
Maximum number of birds (including replacements) that may be obtained from all sources during any 12-month period	<u>two</u>	<u>two</u>	No limit
Maximum number of birds that may be taken from the wild during any 12-month period	<u>two</u>	<u>two</u>	<u>two</u>
Authorized species	<u>All except bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>), white-tailed eagle (<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>), Steller's sea-eagle (<i>Haliaeetus pelagicus</i>), northern harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), Swainson's hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>), ferruginous hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>), golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>), peregrine falcon (<i>Falco</i></u>	<u>All except bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>), white-tailed eagle (<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>), Steller's sea-eagle (<i>Haliaeetus pelagicus</i>), and golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>). <u>eagles (but only falconers with more than 2 yrs. experience at the general</u></u>	<u>All except bald eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>).</u>

	<u>peregrinus</u>), <u>prairie falcon</u> <u>(Falco</u> <u>mexicanus)</u> , and <u>short-eared owl</u> <u>(Asio flammeus)</u> . American kestrel northern goshawk red-tailed hawk Harlan's hawk	class level may take a peregrine falcon from the wild)	
Possession of hybrids allowed?	<u>Yes</u> No	Yes	Yes

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Application Procedures

~~An applicant who is If you a resident of Alaska and has~~ never held a a falconry permit in Alaska ~~before, the basic application procedures are the same whether you are a new (apprentice) falconer or transferring a permit from another state. To apply, you~~ must: (1) pass the Alaska falconry examination; (2) have his or her raptor facilities and equipment inspected and approved by ADF&G; ~~and~~ (3) submit an application form to the ADF&G Permit Section; ~~and~~ (4) pay any applicable ~~(new falconers must also include the application fee). Permits may be renewed by checking the renewal box on the annual report form and paying the application fee. Please contact the ADF&G Permits Section or USFWS for the current fee schedule. The application fee may be submitted with the application or mailed directly to the USFWS. Please make checks or money orders (no cash) payable to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.~~

~~If you are transferring a permit from another state, you must submit photocopies of your current falconry permit, along with copies of your annual reports to document the requisite years of experience at the class level for which you are applying.~~

To be eligible for an apprentice class permit, an applicant you must be at least 14 years of age and submit a letter of be sponsored from by a general or master class falconer who is at least 18 years of age and holds a valid, current Alaska falconry permit. A general class falconer must be at least 16 years of age. A (a falconer may not sponsor more than three apprentices at one time). ~~An applicant under 18 years of age must have a parent or legal guardian sign his or her application, stating the parent or guardian is legally responsible for the applicant's activities. A s~~ Your sponsor will provide help and guidance to get started, but the apprentice you should expect to invest considerable ~~amounts of~~ time on his or her own, learning about raptors and falconry by reading and observing raptors in the wild. An applicant who If you does not know a any falconers who can serve as his or her a sponsor should; contact his or her regional falconry representative for recommendations or a list of active falconers in the applicant's your area. An apprentice You may have to travel long distances to meet with his or her sponsor. This sponsorship requirement will not be waived under any circumstances, even if there are no falconers nearby who are willing and qualified to serve as a your sponsor.



A falconer transferring a permit from another state must submit a photocopy of his or her valid, current falconry permit, along with copies of annual reports or other documentation of the requisite years of experience at the class level for which he or she is applying. An applicant holding a valid, current permit from another state must pass the Alaska falconry examination, unless he or she previously held an Alaska falconry permit.

A permit may be renewed by requesting renewal and paying any applicable fee. A request for renewal must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of the existing permit. Contact the ADF&G Permits Section for the current fee schedule. The application fee may be submitted with the application or mailed directly to ADF&G. Make a check or a money order payable to the State of Alaska; cash will not be accepted.

Falconry Examination

All new (apprentice) falconers ~~and falconers who are transferring a permit from another state~~ must take the Alaska falconry examination. This is to ensure ~~he or she is~~that you are familiar with Alaska's falconry regulations and standards and ~~is~~are knowledgeable about caring for raptors in Alaska's extreme climate conditions. The falconry examination is designed to test ~~your~~ knowledge of raptor identification, natural history of Alaska raptors, care of raptors in captivity, and Alaska falconry rules and regulations. The test will take a maximum of two hours, and ~~it will~~ be a supervised, closed book examination. An applicant is~~You are~~ required to answer correctly at least 80 percent of the questions to pass the test. An applicant~~person~~ who fails the examination may retake it after waiting at least 30 days, but ~~an applicant~~ may not take the examination more than twice during any six-month period. An applicant~~When you are~~ ready to take the test should, contact ~~his or her~~your regional falconry representative to make the necessary arrangements.

To prepare for the examination, an applicant should carefully study the falconry standards included in this manual ~~carefully~~. An applicant~~You~~ must 1) have a thorough understanding of Alaska falconry regulations and standards, 2) b. Become familiar with the natural history, care, and training of raptors and the art of falconry, and 3) .-Be sure you know how to care properly for raptors in extreme cold and/or wet conditions. References available at libraries or bookstores will acquaint an applicant~~you~~ with caring for a raptor and explain how to train a bird for falconry. Suggested references on falconry and the natural history of raptors are listed below.

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Beebe, F. L. and H. M. Webster. 1994. *North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks*, 7th edition. North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks, Denver, Colorado.

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Evans, H. 1960. *Falconry for You*. John Gifford, Ltd., London.

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892 Poole, A. and F. Gill, eds. 1992-2001. *The Birds of North America*. American Ornithologists'
893 Union, Washington, DC and Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.
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895 Weidensaul, S. 2000. *The Raptor Almanac: A Comprehensive Guide to Eagles, Hawks,*
896 *Falcons, and Vultures*. Lyons Press, Guilford, Conn.
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898 Wheeler, B. K. and W. S. Clark. 1999. *A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*.
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900

901 **Facilities and Equipment**

902
903 A permittee is ~~You are~~ required to provide adequate facilities for holding a ~~a~~ raptor in captivity in
904 humane and healthful conditions. A permittee is ~~You are~~ also required to possess proper
905 equipment for practicing falconry before a ~~falconry a~~ permit will be issued. ~~Facilities and~~
906 equipment must be inspected and approved by the department before a permittee may obtain a
907 raptor to use in falconry. An applicant ~~Your facilities and equipment must meet the federal~~
908 standards set forth in 50 CFR §21.29; these standards are summarized for your convenience
909 below. ~~You~~ should contact ~~his or her~~ your regional falconry representative to make arrangements
910 to have ~~your~~ raptor housing facilities and equipment inspected and approved before submitting
911 any ~~your~~ application.

912
913 The department has not established specifications for raptor housing facilities ~~hawk houses or~~
914 mews. Specifications are readily available in reliable falconry texts if a ~~a~~ falconer wishes
915 to construct such facilities. ~~A r~~Raptors ~~may~~ean be retained in captivity and properly cared for
916 without recourse to construction of ~~permanent~~ mews. ~~Outdoor facilities are required. A~~Some
917 falconers ~~may~~ house ~~at their birds raptor~~ in ~~his or her the~~ home and/or garage and use ~~utilize~~ his or
918 her ~~the back~~yard to meet the needs of ~~his or her the~~ raptors. Consequently, this manual provides
919 only a general description as to what constitutes adequate or inadequate facilities, leaving final
920 judgment to those who conduct the ~~inspections~~.

921
922 A permittee is responsible for the maintenance and security of the raptor(s) possessed. Whether
923 indoors (a “mews”), ~~–~~outdoors (a “weathering area”), or temporary facilities while traveling or
924 hunting away from permanent housing, facilities must protect raptors from the elements,
925 predators, domestic animals, and other dangers.

926
927 Poor physical condition of raptors (e.g., excessive broken tail and wing feathers, damage to ceres
928 and heads, dirty appearance) is symptomatic of inadequate care. Examples of inadequate housing
929 are:

- bird cages of the pet store variety;
- housing constructed of chicken wire, hardware cloth, or with exposed, sharp obstructions;
- housing with excessive exposure to the elements; or
- unsanitary housing, such as unclean chicken houses or pigeon lofts.

Indoor Facilities

Indoor facilities must be large enough to allow easy access for the care and feeding of a raptor kept therein. Acceptable indoor facilities include shelf perch enclosures where multiple raptors are tethered side by side. Other innovative housing systems are acceptable, provided they offer the enclosed raptor(s) with adequate protection and allow the maintenance of healthy plumage.

If mews are constructed for untethered raptors, the following general specifications should apply:

- _____ Loft, house, pen or enclosure size:
- _____ Large.....8' x 8' x 7'
- _____ (Gyrfalcon, goshawk, red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon)
- _____ Small.....6' x 6' x 7'
- _____ (American kestrel, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk)

A mews shall provide a healthy environment for a raptor inside; each must have at least one opening for sunlight, window protected on the inside by vertical bars (dowels, tubing, etc.), spaced narrower than the width of the bird's body. Chicken wire or hardware cloth is unacceptable for covering windows. If an untethered raptor is housed therein, all walls that are not solid must be protected on the inside in the same fashion as windows, although heavy duty netting or similar material may be used to cover the roof and/or walls of the enclosure. The doors must be secure and easily closed. Artificial or (plastic) grass (such as AstroTurf®) is recommended for the perching surfaces of blocks used for falcons; uncovered blocks are not recommended. Straw, or sawdust, or wood chips are not suitable for the floors of a mews due to the potential for harboring aspergillosis Aspergillus spores or other pathogens. Artificial or (plastic) grass is easily cleaned and has proven to be good floor covering for a mews.

A mews must have at least one suitable perch for each raptor. Multiple untethered raptors may be housed together if they are compatible. An untethered raptor must have sufficient space to fully extend its wings and fly. Each raptor must have a suitable container of clean water available for drinking and bathing.

If mews are constructed for untethered raptors, the following general specifications should apply:

- _____ Loft, house, pen or enclosure size:
- _____ Large.....8' x 8' x 7'
- _____ (Gyrfalcon, goshawk, red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon)
- _____ Small.....6' x 6' x 7'
- _____ (American kestrel, merlin, sharp-shinned hawk)

976 A permittee may keep a falconry raptor inside his or her place of residence provided the bird has
977 at least one suitable perch. If a raptor is kept in a permittee's home, windows and other openings
978 of the structure need not be modified, but the raptor must be tethered when not being moved into
979 or out of locations where it is kept.
980

981
982 Outdoor Facilities

983
984 Outdoor facilities are required and must be fully enclosed, and may be made of heavy-gauge
985 wire, heavy-duty plastic mesh, slats, pipe, wood, or other suitable materials. Facilities must be
986 covered and have at least one covered perch for each raptor, providing protection from predators
987 and weather. Facilities must be large enough to insure the birds cannot strike the enclosure when
988 attempting to fly from perches to which they are tethered. New or innovative types of housing
989 facilities and/or husbandry practices may be used as long as they satisfy the requirements above.

990
991 A weathering area or other enclosure containing a tethered raptor must should be provided with
992 it a suitable, preferably a padded, perch. When placed out-of-doors, a raptor should be protected
993 from cats, dogs, and wild predators, and other dangers, as well as excessive exposure to wind,
994 rain, snow or sun. A tethered raptor must be able to fully extend its wings or bate (attempt to fly
995 while tethered) without damaging its feathers or contacting other raptors. Each raptor must have
996 a suitable container of, and provided with clean water available for drinking and bathing.

997
998 A falconry raptor may be kept outside in the open as long as it is under watch, such as by a
999 permittee or a permittee's family member at any location or, for instance, by a designated
1000 individual in a weathering yard at a falconry meet.

1001
1002
1003 A poor physical condition of raptors (e.g., excessive broken tail and wing feathers, damage to
1004 ere and head, dirty appearance) is a sign/symptom of inadequate care. Examples of inadequate
1005 housing are:

- 1006
- 1007 •bird cage of the pet store variety;
- 1008 •housing constructed of chicken wire, hardware cloth, or with exposed, sharp obstructions;
- 1009 •housing with exposure to the elements; or
- 1010 •unsanitary housing such as unclean chicken houses or pigeon lofts.

1011 ermittee's facilities may be located on property owned by another person where a permittee
1012 resides, or at a different location. Regardless of location, facilities must meet the standards
1013 above and any additional conditions the department may require. For facilities on property not
1014 owned by a permittee, the permittee must provide the department with a signed and dated
1015 statement demonstrating the property owner's agreement that facilities, equipment, and raptor(s)
1016 may be inspected by a state official, necessarily in the permittee's presence, at a time mutually
1017 agreed upon by the permittee and the state.

1018
1019 A permittee must notify the department within five business days of changing the location of
1020 permanent falconry facilities.
1021



1022 Temporary Facilities

1023
1024 When transporting a raptor or hunting away from home facilities, a permittee must provide the
1025 raptor with a suitable perch and protection from predators and other dangers, the elements, and
1026 excessive disturbance. A so-called giant hood or similar container is acceptable housing for a
1027 raptor when transporting it or hunting away from home. A permittee may house a raptor in
1028 temporary facilities for no more than 120 consecutive days.

1029
1030 An ~~an~~ applicant must possess the following falconry equipment before ~~a~~ permit will be issued:

- 1031
- 1032 1. Jesses, leashes, and swivels—At least ~~one~~ pair of Aylmeri or similar type jesses
1033 constructed of pliable, high-quality leather or suitable synthetic material must be used
1034 when any raptor is flown free. Traditional ~~one~~-piece jesses may be used on ~~a~~ raptor
1035 when ~~it they are is~~ not being flown. At least ~~one~~ flexible and weather-resistant leash and
1036 ~~one~~ strong swivel of acceptable falconry design (e.g., Sampo or falconry swivel);
1037
 - 1038 2. Bath container—For each raptor, at least ~~one~~ container suitable for drinking and
1039 bathing, ~~two~~ to ~~six~~ inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor; ~~and~~
 - 1040
1041 3. Weighing device—A reliable scale or balance suitable for weighing ~~a the~~ raptor(s) and
1042 graduated into increments of not more than 1/2 ounce (15 grams).

1043
1044 An applicants should have spare materials and the tools necessary to make additional leashes,
1045 jesses, ~~grommets,~~ etc. The size, strength, and type of equipment and facilities should be
1046 appropriate for the size and type of ~~each~~ raptor ~~being~~ held.

1047
1048 **Records and Reporting**

1049
1050 Falconry permits are issued with a number of reporting conditions. Failure to comply with these
1051 conditions constitutes ~~a~~-violation of ~~your~~ permit ~~conditions~~ and may result in ~~a falconer's your~~
1052 permit being revoked or ~~your~~ renewal ~~being~~ denied. ~~A permittee must n~~You are required to file a
1053 report annually by January 10 that details the status of all falconry birds in your possession at
1054 any point during the preceding calendar year. Report forms are mailed to falconers in November.
1055 Please notify the ADF&G Permits Section if ~~he or she you~~ changes ~~his or her you~~ mailing
1056 address. ~~You are required to file an annual report even if you do not receive a report form in the~~
1057 ~~mail. Report forms are available on the ADF&G website or from the Permits Section. Please be~~
1058 ~~sure to fill out all the requested information completely; reports with missing information will be~~
1059 ~~returned to the falconer.~~

1060
1061
1062 A permittee ~~If you~~ intending to take ~~a~~ raptor from the wild, ~~you~~ must first notify both the
1063 regional falconry representative and the nearest department office in the ~~intended take~~-area of
1064 ~~your~~ planned taking activities (including the species, location, and dates) at least 10 days prior to
1065 the intended take. Within ~~105~~ days of taking any raptor, ~~a permittee you~~ must notify the regional
1066 falconry representative in the take area of ~~your~~ completed taking activities, including the specific
1067 location and date of take, and the species, age (if known) and sex (if known) of the raptor taken,

1068 | along with any other information required by the department. ~~There are additional notification~~
1069 | ~~and reporting requirements for peregrine falcons; these are detailed in the Falconry Standards~~
1070 | ~~section (page 18). In addition, within 105 days of taking any raptor, a you permittee~~ must
1071 | submit USFWS Form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the ADF&G
1072 | Permits Section ~~and the USFWS~~. Form 3-186A is also used to inform the department ~~and the~~
1073 | ~~USFWS~~ in writing of any transfer, release, escape, loss, or death of ~~a a~~ raptor within 10 days five
1074 | days of such occurrence.

1075 |
1076 | A permittee ~~You~~ should always keep a a ~~copyy~~ of ~~your~~ falconry permits, annual reports, 3-
1077 | 186As, ~~import and export permits~~ and all other falconry-related records. A permittee must retain
1078 | a copy of all electronic database submissions documenting take, transfer, loss, rebanding, or
1079 | implanting a microchip in a falconry raptor until five years after transferring or losing the raptor,
1080 | or it has died.

1082 | **Markers**

1083 |
1084 | Before taking a raptor, a you permittee must possess a a valid falconry permit and, if required, an
1085 | an appropriate USFWS ~~or ADF&G~~ marker (band) issued in the permittee's your name. A
1086 | permittee should r ~~USFWS markers are black in color, and department markers are red. Requests~~
1087 | a for marker bands should be made in writing from to the ADF&G USFWS Migratory Birds
1088 | Permits Section ~~(black bands)~~ or to your ADF&G regional falconry representative (red bands)
1089 | well in advance of the date the permittee you anticipates needing i them.

1090 |
1091 | Immediately upon taking a a raptor of a species requiring a marker band, the permittee you must
1092 | attach an the appropriate marker band (see Banding section below). Federal markers (black
1093 | bands) are used on only two species in Alaska; peregrine falcons and gyrfalcons. Department
1094 | markers (red bands) are used on all other species (sharp-shinned hawk, northern goshawk, red-
1095 | tailed or Harlan's hawk, American kestrel, merlin, golden eagle or great horned owl). Once
1096 | attached, a the marker band must not be removed, except that the rear tab may be trimmed and
1097 | any imperfections on the surface may be smoothed, provided that the integrity of the marker
1098 | band and numbering are not affected. A permittee may not alter, deface, or counterfeit a marker
1099 | band, nor attach it to a raptor other than the individual to which the marker band was initially
1100 | attached.

1101 |
1102 | A permittee may implant an ISO (International Organization for Standardization)-compliant (i.e.,
1103 | 134.2 kHz) microchip in a raptor in addition to banding. A permittee must report the marker
1104 | band number and/or microchip information when reporting acquisition of a raptor.

1105 |
1106 | If a permittee documents health or injury problems for a raptor he or she possesses caused by a
1107 | marker band, the state may provide an exemption to the banding requirement for the raptor.
1108 | A permittee must carry a copy of exemption paperwork when flying an exempted raptor. For an
1109 | exempted wild-origin goshawk, peregrine falcon, gyrfalcon, or Harris's hawk, the marker band
1110 | must be replaced by an ISO-compliant microchip. In such a case, the USFWS will provide a
1111 | suitable microchip.

1112 |
1113 |

1114 A ~~H~~ marker ~~bands (black and red)~~ from a dead or released raptors must be surrendered to the
 1115 department within 15 days of death or release. A marker band that must be removed or a marker
 1116 band lost from a raptor in a permittee's possession must be reported to the department within five
 1117 days of the removal or loss.
 1118

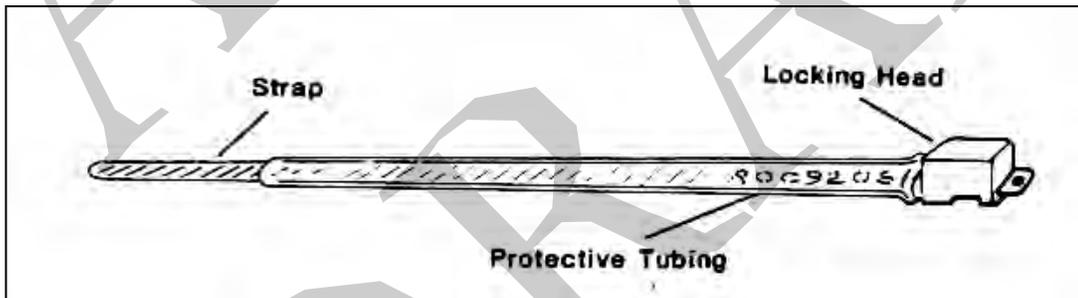
1119 **Banding**

1120
 1121 Applying a falconry marker ~~band~~ to a raptor may be challenging, even to ~~an~~ experienced
 1122 falconer. The paramount consideration in banding a ~~any~~ bird is to ensure a ~~the~~ marker ~~fitss~~
 1123 properly on the tarsus
 1124 and ~~is~~ applied without injuring or causing undue stress to the raptor. The following guidelines
 1125 and illustrations are provided to assist a ~~permitteeyou~~ in accomplishing this important task.
 1126

1127 1. Record ~~the the~~ marker number in ~~the permittee's your~~ personal banding diary and on
 1128 USFWS Form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report).

1129 **Note:** In Alaska, USFWS markers are used only on gyrfalcons and peregrine falcons.
 1130 All other raptors require ADF&G markers.
 1131

1132 2. Outfit ~~the the~~ marker ~~band~~ with protective tubing (figure 1). The installation of clear, plastic
 1133 tubing over a raptor marker ~~bands~~ serves to lessen the risk of injury to a raptors by reducing marker
 1134 abrasion to the tarsus and preventing accidental closure of the marker. Plastic tubing also protects
 1135 ~~the the~~ marker ~~band's's~~ identification number. The best choice of clear, plastic tubing is AWG
 1136 Size #10 with standard 0.016" wall thickness, commonly used for electrical wire installation. It is
 1137 usually available from the ADF&G USFWS (inquire when requesting a marker ~~bands from~~
 1138 USFWS) or may be purchased from a hardware ~~orand~~ electrical supply stores.
 1139



1140 Figure 1

1141
 1142 The length of protective tubing placed on a ~~the~~ marker ~~band~~ is very important since ~~it~~ tubing limits
 1143 how tightly a marker a-band may be closed on the tarsus. Use the following table to determine
 1144 the length of tubing to apply to a ~~the~~ marker ~~band~~:
 1145

Species (typical applications)	Length of Tubing (inches)	
	Male	Female
sharp-shinned hawk	3/4	7/8
goshawk	1-3/8	1-1/2
American kestrel	7/8	7/8

merlin	7/8	15/16
peregrine falcon	1-3/8	1-1/2
gyrfalcon	1-7/8	1-7/8
red-tailedHarlan's hawk	1-7/8	1-7/8

1146
 1147 Cut ~~the the~~ tubing to length, ensuring the ends are square. Insert ~~the the~~ marker band strap into ~~the~~
 1148 tubing ~~byas follows:-~~ holding the tubinge against a flat surface, pushing ~~the the~~ strap through the
 1149 tubinge until the tip ~~i~~ is exposed, and grasping the strap tip and slidinge the tubinge solidly against
 1150 the locking head. Do not lubricate ~~the~~ strap or tubinge. Pliers are useful for longer tubinges. ~~The~~
 1151 ~~m~~The marker band, fitted with protective tubing, ~~is~~ is now ready to be placed on ~~the the~~ raptor.

1152
 1153 3. Attach the marker band. Warm ~~the the~~ marker band in ~~theyour~~ hand while bending ~~it~~ it into a
 1154 circular form. Position ~~the the~~ marker band on the tarsus above the jess (figure 2). ~~The m~~The
 1155 marker band should be placed on the raptor's left leg with ~~the the~~ serial number right side up.
 1156 This ~~will~~ tends to center the locking head in an outboard position if ~~a a~~ nametag or bell ~~is is~~
 1157 attached to ~~the the~~ rear tab.

1158
 1159 Insert the end of the strap through the locking head box (figure 3). Use pliers to pull the strap
 1160 through and about an inch beyond the locking head. Slowly close ~~the the~~ marker band to ~~the the~~
 1161 appropriate size by pulling ~~the the~~ strap through the locking head. It should not be necessary to
 1162 use pliers.

1163

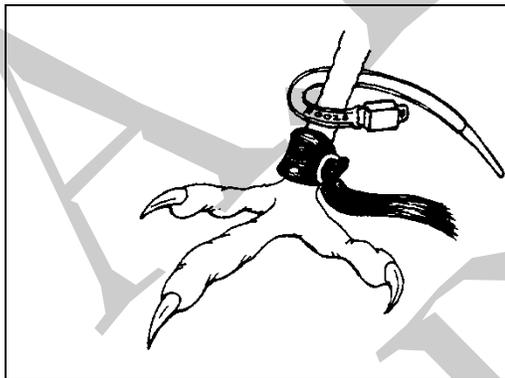


Figure 2

1164

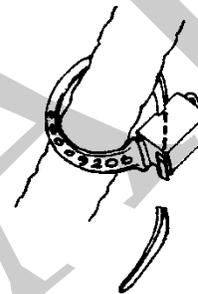


Figure 3

1165
 1166 —Use a fingernail clippers or scissors to cut off the excess strap ~~that~~ extendings beyond the locking
 1167 head. It is important ~~that~~ the strap be cut flush with the surface of the locking head to prevent a
 1168 ~~raptor~~the bird from pulling at ~~it~~ it.

1169
 1170 —**Note:-** A pA properly fitted marker band will move freely on a raptor's ~~the~~ leg but be tight
 1171 enough to prevent removal from an an unjessed raptor.

1172

1173 **Captive PropagationBreeding**

1174

1175 Captive ~~breeding or~~ propagation of raptors may only be conducted by a qualified falconers under
 1176 the terms of a special propagation permits issued by ~~both~~ the ADF&G Permits Section ~~and the~~

1177 ~~USFWS~~. For additional information about captive breeding of raptors in Alaska, or to apply for
1178 ~~a propagation permits~~, contact the ADF&G, ~~Permits~~ Section ~~and the USFWS, Migratory Birds~~
1179 ~~Permit Section~~.

1180 Conservation Education

1181
1182
1183 A permittee may use a falconry raptor in a conservation program presented in a public venue, but
1184 the raptor must be used primarily for falconry. A permittee must present information about
1185 falconry and the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory
1186 birds, although not all topics must be addressed in every presentation. A permittee may not
1187 present a program that does not address falconry and conservation education. A permittee may
1188 charge a fee for presentation of a conservation education program, but the fee may not exceed
1189 the amount to recoup costs. An apprentice class permittee may present a conservation program
1190 only under the supervision of a general or master falconer. A permittee is responsible for any
1191 liability associated with conservation education activities undertaken.

1192
1193 A permittee may allow photography, filming, video recording, or other such uses of a falconry
1194 raptor to make a movie or another source of information on the practice of falconry or on the
1195 biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, but may
1196 not be paid for such activities. A falconry raptor may not be used in a commercial venture not
1197 related to falconry or conservation education, nor used for entertainment, advertisement,
1198 promotion, or endorsement of any product, merchandise, good, service, meeting, exhibition, or
1199 fair, or as a representation of any business, company, corporation, or organization.

1200 Rehabilitation

1201
1202
1203 A general or master class falconry permittee may assist a permitted migratory bird rehabilitator
1204 to condition a raptor in preparation for its release to the wild. A falconer may keep a bird he or
1205 she is helping to rehabilitate in his or her facilities.

- 1206
1207 a. A rehabilitator must provide the falconer with a letter or form identifying the
1208 raptor and explaining that the falconer is assisting in its rehabilitation.
1209
1210 b. A falconer need not meet rehabilitation facility standards, only the facility
1211 standards for a falconry permit; a falconry permittee's facilities are not subject to
1212 inspection for compliance with rehabilitation facility standards.
1213
1214 c. A raptor possessed for rehabilitation purposes need not be added to a falconer's
1215 permit; it remains under the rehabilitator's permit.
1216
1217 d. Through coordination with a rehabilitator, a falconer must release the raptor to
1218 the wild or return it to the rehabilitator for release within the 180-day timeframe
1219 in which a rehabilitator is authorized to possess a bird, unless the issuing office
1220 authorizes retention and conditioning for longer than 180 days, or unless the
1221 rehabilitator permanently transfers the bird to the falconer under his or her
1222 falconry permit.

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e. A raptor that cannot be released to the wild must be returned to the rehabilitator for placement within the 180-day timeframe in which the rehabilitator is authorized to possess the raptor, unless the issuing office authorizes retention for longer than 180 days.

Abatement

A master class falconry permittee may conduct abatement activities with a raptor possessed for falconry only if he or she holds a federal Special Purpose Abatement permit. A general class falconry permittee may conduct abatement activities only as a subpermittee of a Special Purpose abatement permit holder. Only a Special Purpose Abatement permittee may receive payment for abatement services.

ABATEMENT



FALCONRY REGULATIONS

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5 AAC 92.029. Permits for possessing live game.

...

(f) ... the following species may be temporarily released for the purpose of hunting dog or ~~raptor~~~~falcon~~ training, field trials, and tests:

- (1) Pigeon (*Columba livia* Var.);
- (2) Pheasant, Junglefowl, or *Coturnix* (Subfamily Phasianinae);
- (3) any Guineafowl species (Subfamily Numidinae);
- (4) any New World Quail species, including *Colinus*, [i.e., Bobwhite] (Subfamily Odontophorinae);
- (5) any duck, goose, swan, or other migratory waterfowl which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined does not require a federal permit for private ownership;
- (6) Chukar partridge (*Alectoris chukar*).

(g) A person using live game listed in (f) of this section for the purpose of hunting dog or ~~raptor~~~~falcon~~ training, field trials, or tests

- (1) may release the game only on the day of use and shall make reasonable efforts to capture, kill, or recover the temporarily released live game;
- (2) may take the live game in connection with hunting dog or ~~raptor~~~~falcon~~ training, field trial, and test activities; and
- (3) must legally acquire, hold, and dispose of the live game in accordance with all other applicable state statutes and regulations.

...

5 AAC 92.037. Permits for falconry. (a) A permit ~~jointly~~ issued by the department ~~and a valid, current Alaska hunting license and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service~~ is required for taking, transporting, or possessing a raptor for falconry or for practicing falconry in this state. The permit will be issued under standards, procedures, and conditions set out in the Falconry Standards section of the Alaska Falconry Manual No. 98, dated July 1, 2012~~08~~; that section of the falconry manual is hereby adopted by reference. Only a bird defined in (g) of this section as a raptor may be taken, transported, imported, exported, held, or possessed for falconry.

1281 (b) A permittee must have the permit or a legible copy of it in his or her immediate possession
1282 if not at the location of his or her falconry facilities and is trapping, transporting, working with,
1283 or flying a falconry raptor.

1284
1285 (c) A falconry permit must always be accompanied by a valid, current Alaska hunting license.
1286

1287 (db)- A person may not temporarily or permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in this
1288 state unless the person has legally possessed that raptor under an Alaska falconry permit in this
1289 state for at least one year, except a raptor held less than one full year may be exported
1290 temporarily or permanently if the falconer holding it has maintained Alaska residency
1291 continuously for at least two years immediately prior to the date of export. Prior oral, electronic,
1292 or written notification written approval of the department commissioner is required before a raptor
1293 may be exported from or imported into this state, except including as follows:

1294
1295 –(1) a raptor legally possessed by an Alaska falconer may be temporarily exported from
1296 this state for a period not to exceed 12 months. A permittee shall notify the regional
1297 falconry representative of the temporary export of a raptor at least 10 days before leaving
1298 Alaska, shall provide the date of departure and anticipated date of return, and shall notify
1299 the department’s regional falconry representative within 10 days after returning the raptor
1300 to Alaska; and

1301
1302 –(2) an individual with a valid, current permit for falconry in another state or province
1303 may temporarily import a raptor, and use it for falconry for up to 60 days under the terms
1304 of Alaska Falconry Manual No. 9a temporary permit issued by the commissioner; an
1305 individual moving into this state may import an allowed raptor species under authority of
1306 a current falconry temporary permit from the home state, but must notify the department
1307 at least 30 days before the date of import and apply for an Alaska falconry permit in this
1308 state within 30 days after the raptor arrives in this state. Upon approval, the falconry
1309 permit becomes valid with a valid, current Alaska hunting license. Conditions for the
1310 import of the raptor shall be determined by the department as specified in Alaska
1311 Falconry Manual No. 9.

1312
1313 (ee) A falconer is liable for the actions of the raptor with respect to seasons, bag limits, and
1314 other applicable regulations. If a falconry bird takes quarry game that may not be taken under
1315 established regulations, the falconer must leave the dead quarry game where it lies, except that
1316 the raptor may feed upon the game before leaving the kill site. A falconer must report take of
1317 any federally listed endangered or threatened species to the USFWS Ecological Services Field
1318 Office for the location in which the take occurred. With a falconry bird, a falconer may take any
1319 bird species listed in 50 CFR §21, 50 CFR §43, 50 CFR §44, 50 CFR §45, or 50 CFR §46 for
1320 which a depredation order is in place at any time in accordance with the conditions of the
1321 applicable depredation order, but may not be paid for doing so.

1322
1323
1324 (fd) The commissioner may impose additional permit conditions as necessary.
1325

1326 ~~(e) Before taking American or arctic peregrine falcons for the practice of falconry, a permittee~~
1327 ~~must possess either an Alaska master class falconry permit or an Alaska general class falconry~~
1328 ~~permit and have more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class~~
1329 ~~level.~~

1330
1331 (gf) In this section, "raptor" means a bird of any Accipitriform, Falconiform, or Strigiform
1332 species described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title
1333 50, Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13), including all subspecies thereof, including:

- 1334 (1) turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*);
- 1335 (2) osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*);
- 1336 (3) bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);
- 1337 (4) white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*);
- 1338 (5) Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*);
- 1339 (6) northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*);
- 1340 (7) Asiatic sparrow hawk (*Accipiter gularis*);
- 1341 (8) sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*);
- 1342 (9) Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*);
- 1343 (10) northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*);
- 1344 (11) Harris's hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*);
- 1345 (12) Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*);
- 1346 (13) red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*);
- 1347 (14) ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*);
- 1348 (15) rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*);
- 1349 (16) golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);
- 1350 (17) Eurasian kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*);
- 1351 (18) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*);
- 1352 (19) merlin (*Falco columbarius*);
- 1353 (20) aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis*);
- 1354 (21) peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*);
- 1355 (22) gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*);
- 1356 (23) prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*);
- 1357 (24) western screech-owl (*Otus kennicottii*);
- 1358 (25) great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*);
- 1359 (26) snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*);
- 1360 (27) northern hawk-owl (*Surnia ulula*);
- 1361 (28) northern pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*);
- 1362 (29) barred owl (*Strix varia*);
- 1363 (30) great gray owl (*Strix nebulosa*);
- 1364 (31) long-eared owl (*Asio otus*);
- 1365 (32) short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*);
- 1366 (33) boreal owl (*Aegolius funereus*);
- 1367 (34) northern saw-whet owl (*Aegolius acadicus*); and
- 1368 (35) hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders.

1369 ~~bird of the following species:~~
1370
1371

- 1372 ~~— (1) sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*);~~
- 1373 ~~— (2) northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*);~~
- 1374 ~~— (3) red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*);~~
- 1375 ~~— (4) golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);~~
- 1376 ~~— (5) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*);~~
- 1377 ~~— (6) merlin (*Falco columbarius*);~~
- 1378 ~~— (7) gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*);~~
- 1379 ~~— (8) American peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*);~~
- 1380 ~~— (9) arctic peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus tundrius*);~~
- 1381 ~~— (10) Peale's peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus pealei*);~~
- 1382 ~~— (11) great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*);~~
- 1383 ~~— (12) a hybrid of the species in this subsection that is produced by a raptor breeder.~~

1384
1385 Note: For regulations governing hunting of small game and migratory birds, including special
1386 seasons and/or restrictions for falconry (5 AAC 85.065), refer to the current Alaska State
1387 Hunting Regulations or Alaska Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations.

ALASKA FALCONRY STANDARDS

Definitions

1. For the purpose of the falconry standards:

a. "Falconry" means the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game by means of a trained raptors.

b. "Take" means to trap or capture, or attempt to trap or capture any raptor.

c. ~~e.~~ "Raptor" means any bird of the following species described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13), including all subspecies thereof: turkey vulture (Cathartes aura); osprey (Pandion haliaetus); bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus); white-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla); Steller's sea-eagle (Haliaeetus pelagicus); northern harrier (Circus cyaneus); Asiatic sparrow hawk (Accipiter gularis); sharp-shinned hawk (Accipiter striatus); Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii); northern goshawk (Accipiter gentilis); Harris's hawk (Parabuteo unicinctus); Swainson's hawk (Buteo swainsoni); red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis); ferruginous hawk (Buteo regalis); rough-legged hawk (Buteo lagopus); golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos); Eurasian kestrel (Falco tinnunculus); American kestrel (Falco sparverius); merlin (Falco columbarius); aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis); peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus); gyrfalcon (Falco rusticolus); prairie falcon (Falco mexicanus); western screech-owl (Otus kennicottii); great horned owl (Bubo virginianus); snowy owl (Bubo scandiacus); northern hawk-owl (Surnia ulula); northern pygmy-owl (Glaucidium gnoma); barred owl (Strix varia); great gray owl (Strix nebulosa); long-eared owl (Asio otus); short-eared owl (Asio flammeus); boreal owl (Aegolius funereus); northern saw-whet owl (Aegolius acadicus); and hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders. ~~any bird of the following species: sharp-shinned hawk (Accipiter striatus), northern goshawk (Accipiter gentilis), red-tailed or Harlan's hawk (Buteo jamaicensis), golden eagle (Aquila chrysaetos), American kestrel (Falco sparverius), merlin (Falco columbarius), gyrfalcon (Falco rusticolus), American peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus anatum), arctic peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus tundrius), Peale's peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus pealei), great horned owl (Bubo virginianus), and hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders.~~

d. "Eyas" means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is not yet capable of flight.

e. "Passage bird" means a raptor from the wild in its first year that is capable of sustained flight.

1433 f. “Permittee” means a person who holds a valid, current Alaska falconry permit and a
1434 valid, current Alaska hunting license, or who takes, transports, or possesses a raptor
1435 for ~~falconry or for~~ the practice of falconry under a falconry permit issued in
1436 accordance with the falconry standards in this section of this manual.

1437
1438 g. “Resident” means a person (including an alien) who is physically present in Alaska
1439 with the intent to remain indefinitely and make a home in Alaska, has maintained that
1440 person’s domicile in Alaska for the 12 consecutive months immediately preceding
1441 application for a license, and is not claiming residency or obtaining benefits under a
1442 claim of residency in another state, territory, or country; or a member of the military
1443 service or U.S. Coast Guard who has been stationed in Alaska for the 12 consecutive
1444 months immediately preceding application for a license; or a dependent of a resident
1445 member of the military service or U.S. Coast Guard who has lived in Alaska for the
1446 12 consecutive months immediately preceding application for a license. A person
1447 who does not otherwise qualify as a resident may not qualify by virtue of an interest
1448 in an Alaska business.

1449
1450 g.h. “Transfer of raptor” means to transfer or change the possession of a raptor from one
1451 permittee to another permittee; transfers ~~does not~~ include the sale, barter, or exchange
1452 of a raptor for anything of value.

1453
1454 i. “Year” means any 12-month period defined by the state for determining possession
1455 and take of raptors for falconry.

1456 **Falconry Permits**

1457
1458
1459 2. A person may not take, transport, or possess a raptor -, including Accipitriform,
1460 Falconiform, and Strigiform birds not identified as raptors in these standards, for falconry
1461 or for the practice of falconry in Alaska without possessing a valid, current falconry
1462 permit -. A falconry permit shall be issued jointly by the department and a valid, current
1463 Alaska hunting license and a representative of the Alaska office of the U.S. Fish and
1464 Wildlife Service. A raptor held under a falconry permit must be trained in the pursuit of
1465 wild game and used in hunting.

1466
1467 3. A falconry permit is nontransferable. When accompanied by a current valid, current
1468 Alaska hunting license issued to the permittee, a falconry permit authorizes the permittee
1469 to hunt game in compliance with seasons, bag limits, and other provisions of law. Special
1470 or written permission is not required for falconry activities on public lands where it is
1471 authorized, but a permittee must comply with all applicable federal, state, territorial or
1472 tribal laws regarding falconry activities, including hunting. A falconry permit does not
1473 authorize capture or release of a raptor or the practice of falconry on public lands if
1474 prohibited on those lands, or on private property, without permission from the landowner
1475 or custodian.

- 1477 4. A falconry permit is valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January of the
 1478 third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies a shorter
 1479 period on the permit.
 1480
- 1481 5. ~~A rA~~ representative of the department may, during business hours on any day of the
 1482 week, at a time mutually agreed upon by the state and a permittee, and only in the
 1483 presence of the permittee, inspect falconry raptor(s), facilities, equipment, and records. ~~at~~
 1484 ~~a time mutually agreed upon by the permittee and the department, inspect a permittee's~~
 1485 ~~raptor and raptor facilities.~~ If ~~an~~ inspection reveals ~~as that a~~ raptor is in poor condition as
 1486 a result of ~~the permittee~~ permittee's negligence, if facilities are determined ~~to be~~
 1487 inadequate ~~under federal standards in 50 CFR §21.29~~, or if ~~a the~~ permittee violates ~~ss any~~
 1488 ~~other~~ provision of the falconry standards in this section of this manual, the department
 1489 may revoke ~~a the~~ permit.
 1490
- 1491 6. Falconry permits are issued for apprentice, general, and master class falconers.
 1492
- 1493 a. Apprentice class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 1494
- 1495 (1) A permittee may not possess more than one raptor at any time, may not take a
 1496 nestling raptor from the wild, nor obtain more than one raptor for replacement
 1497 during any 12-month period; ~~and~~
 1498
- 1499 (2) (2)A permittee may take, transport, or possess all authorized only the following
 1500 species, except bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), white-tailed eagle
 1501 (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*), northern harrier
 1502 (*Circus cyaneus*), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*), ferruginous hawk (*Buteo*
 1503 *regalis*), golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*),
 1504 prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*), short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), and hybrids of
 1505 these species produced by raptor breeders; and ~~which must be taken from the wild:~~
 1506 ~~American kestrel, northern goshawk, and red-tailed or Harlan's hawk~~
 1507
- 1508 (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor or raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska may
 1509 not be flown free unless the permittee first attaches to the bird at least two radio
 1510 transmitters designed to track the bird if it is lost.
 1511
 1512 =
- 1513
- 1514 b. General class permits are issued with the following conditions:
 1515
- 1516 (1) A permittee may not possess more than ~~three~~ two raptors at any time nor obtain
 1517 more than two raptors, whether for initial stocking or for replacement of raptors
 1518 already possessed under a permit, during any 12-month period;
 1519
- 1520 (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess ~~all authorized only the following~~
 1521 species except bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), white-tailed eagle
 1522 (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*), and golden eagle

1523 ~~(*Aquila chrysaetos*): American kestrel, merlin, northern goshawk, sharp-shinned~~
1524 ~~hawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, gyrfalcon, captive-bred peregrine falcon,~~
1525 ~~great-horned owl, and hybrid raptor. A permittee with more than two years of~~
1526 ~~experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level may also take,~~
1527 ~~transport, or possess a Peale's peregrine falcon, American peregrine falcon and~~
1528 ~~arctic peregrine falcon; and~~

- 1529
1530 (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor or raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska must
1531 be surgically sterilized and may not be flown free unless the permittee first
1532 attaches to the bird at least twone radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it
1533 is lost.

1534
1535 c. Master class permits are issued with the following conditions:

- 1536
1537 (1) A permittee may not possess more than five wild-taken~~three~~ raptors at any time,
1538 three of which may be eagles, but may possess any number of captive-bred
1539 raptors. During any 12-month period, a permittee may not obtain more than two
1540 raptors taken from the wild. ~~At any time, a permittee may replace a lawfully~~
1541 ~~possessed raptor with a captive-bred raptor bearing a seamless band;~~

- 1542
1543 (2) A permittee may take, transport, or possess all authorized~~only the following~~
1544 species ~~except bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*): American kestrel, merlin,~~
1545 ~~northern goshawk, sharp-shinned hawk, red-tailed or Harlan's hawk, gyrfalcon,~~
1546 ~~Peale's peregrine falcon, American peregrine falcon, arctic peregrine falcon,~~
1547 ~~golden eagle (federal regulations contain additional provisions and restrictions for~~
1548 ~~golden eagles), great-horned owl, and hybrid raptor; and~~

- 1549
1550 (3) An interspecific hybrid raptor or raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska must
1551 be surgically sterilized and may not be flown free unless the permittee first
1552 attaches to the bird at least twone radio transmitters designed to track the bird if it
1553 is lost.

1554
1555 7. Federal regulations contain additional provisions and restrictions for eagles:

1556
1557 a. A master falconer may possess up to three eagles of the following species:
1558 white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), Steller's sea-eagle (*Haliaeetus*
1559 pelagicus), and golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*).

1560
1561 b. The department must document the following before approving requests to
1562 possess eagles for use in falconry:

1563
1564 1) an applicant's experience in handling large raptors, including information
1565 about the species handled and the type and duration of the activity claimed
1566 as pertinent experience; and
1567

1568 2) at least two letters of reference from people with experience handling
1569 and/or flying large raptors such as eagles, ferruginous hawks (*Buteo*
1570 *regalis*), goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*), or great horned owls (*Bubo*
1571 *virginianus*). Each letter must contain a concise history of the author’s
1572 experience with large raptors which may include, but is not limited to,
1573 rehabilitating large raptors, scientific studies involving large raptors, or
1574 handling of raptors held by zoos and/or rehabilitation operations. Each
1575 letter must also assess the applicant’s ability to care for eagles and fly them
1576 in falconry.

1577
1578 c. White-tailed eagles, Steller’s sea-eagles, or golden eagles count as wild-taken
1579 raptors a permittee may possess.

1580
1581 d. A master falconer authorized to possess golden eagles may take one or two
1582 immature or sub-adult golden eagles from the wild as provided in 50 CFR 22.23
1583 and 22.24.

1584
1585 e. A permittee must send the entire body of a falconry golden eagle that dies,
1586 including all feathers, talons, and other parts, to the National Eagle Repository.

1587
1588 8. A permittee must ensure falconry activities do not cause the take of federally listed
1589 threatened or endangered wildlife. “Take” under the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR
1590 §3(18)) means “to harass, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or
1591 attempt to engage in any such conduct.” Within this definition, to “harass” means any act
1592 that may injure wildlife by disrupting normal behavior, including breeding, feeding, or
1593 sheltering. To “harm” means an act that actually kills or injures wildlife (50 CFR §17.3).
1594 Contact the department to obtain information about endangered or threatened species in
1595 Alaska or on lands where a permittee wishes to practice falconry; contact the USFWS for
1596 information on federally listed species.

1597
1598 9. Hacking, or temporary release to the wild, is an allowable method of conditioning a
1599 raptor for falconry. Only a general or master class falconer may hack a raptor.

1600
1601 a. A raptor at hack counts against a permittee’s possession limit.

1602
1603 b. An interspecific hybrid raptor or a raptor of a species not indigenous to Alaska
1604 must have attached at least two functioning radio transmitters during hacking.

1605
1606 c. A permittee may not hack a falconry raptor near nesting areas of federally
1607 designated threatened or endangered bird species, or in other locations where
1608 raptors are likely to disturb, harm, or take federally listed threatened or
1609 endangered animal species. A permittee should contact the department and/or
1610 the USFWS regional office before hacking a falconry bird to prevent adverse
1611 encounters with listed wildlife.

1612

1613 10. A permittee may use acceptable falconry practices such as, but not limited to, the use of
1614 creance (tethered) flying, a lure, a balloon, or a kite in training and conditioning a
1615 falconry raptor. A permittee may fly a falconry raptor at any bird species not protected
1616 by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and at captive-raised animals.

1617
1618 7.11. The commissioner may add to a permit other conditions ~~that~~ the commissioner
1619 determines are necessary under the circumstances in order to protect raptors that are to be
1620 taken, transported, or possessed under the permit.

1622 **Falconry Permit Requirements and Application Procedures**

1623
1624 12. A falconer must:

1625
1626 a. complete and submit an application form from the department, co-signed by a parent
1627 or legal guardian if the applicant is under 18 years of age;

1628
1629 b. prove he or she has either passed the falconry examination administered by the
1630 department or has previously held an Alaska falconry permit at the sought level.

1631
1632 c. present an original, signed certification of particular familiarity with 50 CFR §10.13
1633 (the list of migratory bird species to which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act applies, 50
1634 CFR §13 (general permit regulations), 50 CFR §21 (migratory bird permits), and 50
1635 CFR §22 (eagle permits). This certification is incorporated into the department's
1636 application form and is worded as follows:

1637
1638 *I certify that I have read and am familiar with*
1639 *the regulations in title 50, part 13, of the Code*
1640 *of Federal Regulations and the other*
1641 *applicable parts in subchapter B of chapter 1*
1642 *of title 50, and that the information I have*
1643 *submitted is complete and accurate to the best*
1644 *of my knowledge and belief. I understand that*
1645 *any false statement herein may subject me to*
1646 *the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.*

1647
1648 d. have his or her raptor housing facilities and equipment inspected by the ADF&G
1649 falconry representative for that region and certified as meeting the standards set forth
1650 in this manual; and

1651
1652 e. submit a falconry permit application and pay any applicable fee to the ADF&G
1653 Permits Section. An application form is included in the Alaska Falconry Manual;
1654 forms are also available from the Permits Section and the regional offices of the
1655 department.

1656
1657 138. A nRequirements and procedures for new (apprentice) falconers must:

- 1659 | a. ~~An applicant must~~ be at least 124 years of age;
- 1660 |
- 1661 | b. ~~An applicant must~~ be sponsored by a general or master class falconer who is at least
- 1662 | 18 years old and has at least two years' experience at the general falconer level;
- 1663 |
- 1664 | c. ~~An applicant must~~ answer correctly at least 80% of the questions on a supervised
- 1665 | examination administered by ADF&G staff (~~an a; an applicant who fails failing~~ the
- 1666 | examination may retake a similar test after waiting at least 30 days, but an an
- 1667 | applicant may not take the examination more than twice during any six-month
- 1668 | period); and
- 1669 |
- 1670 | d. provide a letter from a master or general class falconer 18 years of age or older stating
- 1671 | he or she has agreed to assist the applicant in learning about the husbandry and
- 1672 | training of raptors held for falconry and about relevant wildlife laws and regulations,
- 1673 | and in deciding what species of raptor is appropriate to possess while an apprentice.
- 1674 |
- 1675 |
- 1676 |
- 1677 | ~~d.—An applicant's raptor housing facilities and equipment must be inspected by the~~
- 1678 | ~~ADF&G falconry representative for that region and be certified as meeting the federal~~
- 1679 | ~~standards set forth in 50 CFR §21.29; and~~
- 1680 |
- 1681 | ~~e.—An applicant must submit a falconry permit application and any applicable fees to the~~
- 1682 | ~~ADF&G Permits Section. An application form is included in the Alaska Falconry~~
- 1683 | ~~Manual and forms are also available from the Permits Section or the regional offices~~
- 1684 | ~~of the department.~~
- 1685 |

1686 | 149. Requirements and procedures for renewing a permit:

1687 |

- 1688 | a. To renew a falconry permit, a permittee must ~~check the "Are you requesting renewal~~
- 1689 | ~~?" box on the annual report form and pay anyH applicable fees; a request for renewal~~
- 1690 | ~~must be submitted at least 20 days prior to expiration of the current permit; (please~~
- 1691 | ~~check with ADF&G Permits Section for a current fee schedule).~~ A permit will not be
- 1692 | renewed unless the permittee has complied with all reporting requirements and other
- 1693 | provisions of the falconry standards in this manual.
- 1694 |
- 1695 | b. ~~A r~~Renewal permit ~~is are~~ valid from the date issued through the 31st day of January
- 1696 | of the third calendar year following the year of issue, unless the department specifies
- 1697 | a shorter period on the permit.
- 1698 |

1699 | 15. Requirements and procedures for reinstating a lapsed permit:

1700 |

- 1701 | a. If a permit has lapsed for fewer than five years, it may be reinstated at the level an
- 1702 | applicant held previously with proof of certification at that level.
- 1703 |

1704 b. If a permit has lapsed for five years or longer, an applicant must correctly answer at
1705 least 80 percent of the questions on an examination administered by the department.
1706 If the applicant passes the exam, the permit may be reinstated at the level previously
1707 held. An applicant's facilities must pass department inspection before a permittee
1708 may possess a falconry bird.

1709
1710 c. If a permit has been revoked, the department may restore the person's permit at the
1711 end of the revocation period upon request of the person whose permit was revoked.
1712

1713 **160.** Requirements and procedures for upgrading a permit:
1714

1715 a. To upgrade a falconry permit, a permittee must presentsubmit a written request for an
1716 upgrade to the ADF&G Permits Section. The request must specify the number of
1717 months of experience the applicant has in the practice of falconry and provide written
1718 documentation (~~annual reports~~) to support the request (only time with a bird in
1719 possession counts as experience). Documentation must include a summary of species
1720 held and how long each bird was held. An apprentice falconers must also
1721 presentobtain a letter of recommendation from his or hertheir sponsor supporting the
1722 upgrade and attesting the applicant has practiced falconry with a raptor(s) taken from
1723 the wild at the apprentice level for at least two years, including maintaining, training,
1724 flying, and hunting the raptor(s) for an average of six months per year. A general
1725 class falconer must be at least 16 years of age. An applicant seeking upgrade to
1726 master class must attest to having practiced falconry at the general level for at least
1727 five years.
1728

1729 b. A rA rrequest for ~~an~~ upgrade will be granted at the discretion of the department. A rA
1730 rrequest may be denied due to failure to comply with permit conditions and reporting
1731 requirements, substandard raptor housing facilities, birds that are in poor condition, or
1732 loss or deaths of raptors in the applicant's care.
1733

1734 c. An uAn uupgrade may be requested at any time and there is no fee to upgrade an
1735 existing permit. If the upgrade is approved, tThe existing permit will be re-issued at
1736 the higher class level and will retain the original expiration date.
1737

1738 **171.** Requirements and procedures to transfer ~~a~~ falconry permits from ~~an~~ other states or
1739 countries:
1740 ÷
1741

1742 a. The procedures for transferring a a-permit from an another state is-are the same as for
1743 a new falconers, except that no sponsor is-is required for a general or master class
1744 permittee, and a the falconer must presentsubmit a a copy of his or her his or her
1745 currentvalid, current falconry permit along with his or her the application. A
1746 permittee from another state who previously held an Alaska falconry permit need not
1747 pass the Alaska falconry examination.;
1748

- 1749 b. ~~An~~ Alaska falconry permit issued to ~~a~~ falconer from ~~an~~ other ~~state~~ will be
1750 issued at the apprentice class level unless ~~the~~ falconer ~~can present~~ provide copies
1751 of ~~annual falconry reports~~ documentation ~~establishing~~ the requisite experience to
1752 qualify at ~~a~~ higher class level.
1753

1754 18. Requirements and procedures for visitors practicing falconry in Alaska:
1755

- 1756 a. A U.S. visitor to Alaska may qualify for a temporary falconry permit appropriate to
1757 his or her level of experience.
1758
1759 i. A temporary falconry permit may be valid for any period specified by the
1760 department.
1761
1762 ii. To demonstrate knowledge of Alaska falconry laws and regulations, a U.S. visitor
1763 must correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on a supervised
1764 examination for falconers administered by the department. If a U.S. visitor passes
1765 the examination, the department will determine the level of permit for which the
1766 visitor is qualified, based on the visitor's documentation of his or her falconry
1767 experience.
1768
1769 iii. A person holding a temporary falconry permit may possess a raptor for falconry if
1770 he or she has approved falconry facilities and may fly a raptor held for falconry
1771 by a permitted falconer.
1772
1773 iv. A person holding a temporary falconry permit may not take a bird from the wild
1774 to use in falconry.
1775
1776 b. For the duration of his or her temporary falconry permit, a U.S. visitor may use any
1777 birds for falconry he or she possesses legally in his or her state of residence for that
1778 purpose, provided import of those species to Alaska is not prohibited, and provided
1779 he or she has met all permitting requirements of his or her state of residence.
1780
1781 i. A U.S. visitor must comply with the provisions of this Manual, the state of
1782 Alaska, and all states, territories, provinces, and other jurisdictions through which
1783 he or she travels with a falconry raptor.
1784
1785 ii. A U.S. visitor may transport a registered raptor. See 50 CFR §14 (importation,
1786 exportation, and transportation of wildlife), 50 CFR §15 (Wild Bird Conservation
1787 Act), 50 CFR §17 (endangered and threatened species), 50 CFR §21 (migratory
1788 bird import and export permits), and 50 CFR §23 (endangered species
1789 convention) for details.
1790
1791 iii. Unless a U.S. visitor has the necessary permit to bring a raptor into Alaska and
1792 leave it here, he or she must take the raptor brought into the state for falconry out
1793 of Alaska when he or she leaves. If a raptor brought into Alaska dies or is lost

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while in this state, a U.S. visitor must document the loss before leaving Alaska by reporting said loss to the department.

iv. When flown free, a falconry raptor brought to Alaska temporarily must wear two functioning radio transmitters designed to track the bird if lost.

v. The commissioner may impose additional restrictions on U.S. residents practicing falconry or importing a raptor for falconry.

c. A non-U.S. visitor to Alaska may qualify for a temporary falconry permit appropriate to his or her level of experience.

i. A temporary falconry permit may be valid for any period specified by the department.

ii. To demonstrate knowledge of U.S. and Alaska falconry laws and regulations, a non-U.S. visitor must correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on a supervised examination for falconers administered by the department. If a non-U.S. visitor passes the examination, the department will determine the level of permit for which the non-U.S. visitor is qualified, based on the non-U.S. visitor's documentation of his or her falconry experience.

iii. A non-U.S. visitor holding a temporary falconry permit may possess a raptor for falconry if he or she has approved falconry facilities and may fly a raptor held for falconry by a permitted falconer.

iv. A non-U.S. visitor holding a temporary falconry permit may not take a bird from the wild to use in falconry.

d. For the duration of his or her temporary falconry permit, a non-U.S. visitor may use any birds for falconry he or she possesses legally in his or her country of residence for that purpose, provided import of those species to the U.S. and Alaska is not prohibited, and provided he or she has met all permitting requirements of his or her country of residence.

i. A non-U.S. visitor must comply with the provisions of this Manual, the state of Alaska, and all states, territories, provinces, and other jurisdictions through which he or she travels with a falconry raptor.

ii. A non-U.S. visitor may transport a registered raptor; a non-U.S. visitor may need one or more additional permits to bring a raptor into Alaska and the U.S. or to return home with it. See 50 CFR §14 (importation, exportation, and transportation of wildlife), 50 CFR §15 (Wild Bird Conservation Act), 50 CFR §17 (endangered and threatened species), 50 CFR §21 (migratory bird import and export permits), and 50 CFR §23 (endangered species convention) for details.

1840 iii. Unless a non-U.S. visitor has the necessary permit to bring a raptor into Alaska
1841 and the U.S. and leave it here, he or she must take the raptor brought into the
1842 country for falconry out of the country when he or she leaves. If a raptor brought
1843 into the U.S. dies or is lost while in this country, a non-U.S. visitor must
1844 document the loss before leaving the U.S. by reporting said loss to the
1845 department.

1846
1847 iv. When flown free, a falconry raptor brought to Alaska and the U.S. temporarily
1848 must wear two functioning radio transmitters designed to track the birds if lost.

1849
1850 v. The commissioner may impose additional restrictions on non-U.S. residents
1851 practicing falconry or importing a raptor for falconry.

1852
1853 19. Updating a falconry permit after a move:

1854
1855 a. If an Alaska permittee moves to a new state or outside the jurisdiction of the
1856 department and takes a falconry raptor along, the permittee must inform the
1857 department and the permitting authority for the new place of residence of the address
1858 change. To obtain a new falconry permit, a permittee must follow the permit
1859 application procedures of the authority under which the permittee wishes to acquire a
1860 new permit. A permittee may keep a falconry raptor held while applying for a new
1861 falconry permit, although the new jurisdiction into which the permittee moves may
1862 place restrictions on possession of falconry raptors until the permittee meets local
1863 residency requirements.

1864
1865 **Temporary Facilities**

1866
1867 2012. A permittee shall provide all raptors being transported or held in a temporary facility with
1868 safe, humane housing and shall protect the raptors from extreme temperatures and
1869 excessive disturbance. A person may not hold a raptor in a temporary facility for longer
1870 than 4530 days.

1871
1872 **Annual Report**

1873
1874 ~~13. — No later than January 10 of each year, a permittee shall submit to the ADF&G Permits~~
1875 ~~Section an annual report that lists all raptors in the permittee's possession and all raptors~~
1876 ~~held during the previous year. For each raptor, the permittee shall indicate the species,~~
1877 ~~marker number, sex (if known), age (if known), date and location of acquisition, manner~~
1878 ~~(escaped, released, or died) and date of disposition, location of escape or release or cause~~
1879 ~~of death, and other information relating to the permittee's falconry activities, as required~~
1880 ~~by the department.~~

1881
1882
1883 **Markers**

1884

1885 2114. Beforea. Before takingtaking a goshawk, Harris's hawk, peregrine falcon, or gyrfalcon
1886 from the wildraptor, or acquiring one from a rehabilitator, a permittee shall obtain a U.S.
1887 Fish and Wildlife Service or ADF&G marker band issued by the department in the
1888 permittee's name. Upon taking a goshawk, Harris's hawk, peregrine falcon or gyrfalcon,
1889 a permittee shall immediately attach the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service marker band to
1890 the raptor. ~~Upon taking a sharp-shinned hawk, northern goshawk, red-tailed or Harlan's~~
1891 ~~hawk, American kestrel, merlin, golden eagle, or great horned owl, a permittee shall~~
1892 ~~immediately attach the ADF&G marker to the raptor.~~ The marker band may not be
1893 removed, except that the rear tab may be removed and any imperfections on the surface
1894 may be smoothed if the integrity of the marker and numbering are not affected.

1895
1896 b. A permittee may purchase and implant an ISO (International Organization for
1897 Standardization) -compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip in a bird in addition to banding. A
1898 permittee must report the band number and any microchip information when reporting
1899 acquisition of a bird.

1900
1901 c. A raptor bred in captivity must be banded with a seamless metal USFWS marker band
1902 or carry an implanted ISO-compliant microchip. If a permittee must remove a seamless
1903 band or if it is lost, the permittee must report it and request a replacement USFWS non-
1904 reusable marker, or implant an ISO-compliant microchip. A wild-origin raptor may not
1905 be banded with seamless metal USFWS marker bands.

1906
1907 d. If a marker band must be removed or is lost from a raptor in a permittee's possession, a
1908 permittee must notify the department Permits Section within five days, and request a
1909 USFWS non-reusable marker band from the department. The permittee must submit the
1910 required information immediately upon re-banding the raptor at
1911 <http://permits.fws.gov/186A> or by submitting a paper form 3-186A to the department.
1912 The permittee may purchase and implant an ISO-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip in the
1913 raptor in addition to banding and report the microchip information at
1914 <http://permits.fws.gov/186A> or by submitting a paper form 3-186A to the department.

1915
1916 e. A permittee may not alter, deface, or counterfeit a marker band, nor attach it to a raptor
1917 other than the individual to which the marker band was initially attached.

1918 **Taking of Raptors**

1919
1920
1921 2215. Take of any raptor species must be in compliance with these standards. Only an Alaska
1922 resident holding a valid, current falconry permit and a valid, current Alaska hunting
1923 license may take a raptor from the wild in Alaska. An eAn-eyas or passage bird may be
1924 taken any day of the yearonly from May 26 through August 5. A passage bird, adult
1925 American kestrel, or adult great horned owl may be taken only from August 15 through
1926 November 30. Except for American kestrels and great -horned owls, a-raptors-that is over
1927 one year of age may not be taken. Actively breeding birds, including those in immature
1928 plumage, may not be taken. An eAn-eyas may be taken only by a general or master class
1929 falconer; no more than two-eyases may be taken during the specified period; and, at least
1930 one nestling must be left in any nest or eyrie from which a bird is removed. A permittee

1931 may not intentionally capture a raptor of a species not allowed by his or her classification
1932 for possession for falconry. A permittee unintentionally or otherwise capturing a raptor
1933 not allowed must release it immediately.

1934
1935
1936 a. A permittee may take no more than two raptors from the wild each year for use in
1937 falconry.

1938
1939 b. If a permittee transfers a raptor taken from the wild to another permittee in the same
1940 year in which it was taken, that bird will count as a raptor the permittee is allowed to take
1941 from the wild that year; it will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee, but will
1942 always be considered a wild-origin bird. No matter how long a wild-taken raptor is held
1943 in captivity or whether it is transferred to another permittee or permittees or permit types,
1944 it is always considered a wild-taken bird. Such a bird is considered taken from the wild
1945 only by the permittee who originally captured it, not by any subsequent permittee or
1946 permittees to whom it is legally transferred.

1947
1948 c. A permittee taking possession of a raptor for falconry purposes, who is present at the
1949 capture site, even if another person captures the raptor, is considered the person who
1950 removes the bird from the wild and is responsible for reporting that take.

1951
1952 d. If a permittee seeking possession of a falconry raptor is not at the immediate location
1953 where a raptor is taken from the wild, the person who removes the bird from the wild
1954 must be a general or master class permittee, and must report take of the bird, even if it is
1955 promptly transferred to the recipient permittee. When that person transfers the raptor to
1956 the absent permittee, both must report the transfer. The bird will count as one of the two
1957 raptors the permittee who took it from the wild is allowed to capture in any one year.
1958 The raptor will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee.

1959
1960 e. If a permittee has a long-term physical impairment (i.e., a permittee who provides the
1961 department with either 1) written proof that the person receives at least 70 percent
1962 disability compensation from a government agency for a physical disability or 2) an
1963 affidavit signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the state, stating that the
1964 person is at least 70 percent disabled) preventing direct capture of a species allowed for
1965 falconry use by that permittee, a general or master class permittee may take a raptor for
1966 that person. When a raptor is taken from the wild, the recipient permittee is then
1967 responsible for reporting the take, and the bird will count as one of the two raptors he or
1968 she is allowed to capture in any one year.

1969
1970 f. A general or master class permittee may take no more than one raptor of a threatened
1971 species from the wild each year if 1) federal regulations allow take, 2) the permittee
1972 obtains federal endangered species permits to do so, and 3) the permittee complies with
1973 applicable state, territorial, or tribal conditions regarding take of a listed species.

1974 a. — Peregrine falcon take requirements:
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~~(1) An Alaska master class permittee, and an Alaska general class permittee with more than two years of experience in the practice of falconry at the general class level may take peregrine falcons; and~~

~~(2) Peregrine falcons may not be taken from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Colville River, beginning at the mouth of the Etivluk River and extending downstream to Ocean Point, nor from a corridor extending one-half mile on either side of the Yukon River, beginning at the Alaska/Canada border and extending downstream to Circle, Alaska.~~

~~(3) The department may restrict the take of peregrine falcons from specific sites or general areas.~~

2316. A permittees must comply with the following notification requirements when taking a raptors for falconry:

a. Regional falconry representatives and department offices where the permittees must report his or her~~their~~ planned and completed taking activities:

(1) Game Management Units 1 - 5: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region I, ~~803 3rd Street~~, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 998~~1124~~-0024;

(2) Game Management Units 6, 7, 8, 14(C), and 15—17: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region II, 333 Raspberry Road, Anchorage, AK 99518-~~159965~~;

(3) Game Management Units 12, 19, 20—, 21, 24, 25, 26B, and 26C: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region III, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701-15~~5199~~;

(4) Game Management Units 9, 10, 11, 13, 14(A), 14(B), 16, and 17: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region IV, 1800 Glenn Highway Suite 4, Palmer, AK 99645-6736;

~~(4)~~(5) Game Management Units 18, 22, 23 and 26A: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region V, Pouch 1148, Nome, AK 99762; and

~~(5)~~ State copy of form 3-186A: ADF&G, Permits Section, Division of Wildlife Conservation, ~~1255 West 8th Street~~, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526; and

~~(6) Federal copy of form 3-186A: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Migratory Birds Permit Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503.~~

b. At least 10 days ~~b~~efore taking any raptor from the wild, a permittee must notify:

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(1) the department regional falconry representative in the intended area of take of the permittee’s planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take; and

(2) the nearest department office in the intended area of take of the permittee’s planned taking activities, including the area, species, and timing of take.

c. Within ~~10~~five days after taking any raptor, ~~excluding an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon,~~ a permittee must:

(1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee’s completed taking activities, including the specific location, date, species, age (if known) and sex (if known) of take; ~~and~~

~~(2) presentsubmit~~ other information related to the taking, as requested by the department.; ~~and~~

~~(3) submit a completed federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/ Disposition Report) to the ADF&G Permits Section.~~

24. A permittee may recapture a raptor wearing a seamless metal band, transmitter, falconry equipment, or any other item identifying it as a falconry or captive-bred bird at any time, even if he or she is not allowed to possess the species. Such a bird will not count against a permittee’s possession limit, nor will its take count against a permittee’s annual wild take limit. A recapture must be reported to the state no more than five business days after the occurrence. A permittee must return a recaptured falconry raptor to the permittee who lost it, if that person may legally possess it. Disposition of a raptor whose legal possession cannot be determined will be at the discretion of the department. While a permittee is keeping a bird for return to the permittee who lost it, that bird will neither count against the permittee’s possession limit nor the limit on take of raptors from the wild, but the permittee must report possession of such a raptor to the department within five business days.

25. A permittee may take a raptor he or she is authorized to possess from the wild if the bird is banded with a Federal Bird Banding Laboratory aluminum band, except a permittee may not take a banded peregrine falcon from the wild.

a. A permittee capturing a peregrine falcon marked with a research band or another research marking must immediately release it, except a falcon wearing a transmitter may be held for up to 30 days in order to contact the researcher to determine if a transmitter or battery warrants replacement. A researcher may choose to replace a transmitter or battery, or remove a transmitter. A researcher, his or her designee, or a falconry permittee authorized by the researcher may conduct this work. If the researcher chooses, a transmitter may be removed and the falcon transferred to the permittee, who may keep such a bird if captured in circumstances allowing capture of a wild peregrine.



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b. If a captured raptor has a band, research marking, or transmitter attached, a permittee must promptly report the band number and all relevant information to the Federal Bird Banding Laboratory at 1-800-327-2263.

i. A permittee may contact the researcher to determine if he or she wishes to replace a transmitter or battery on a captured bird. If so, a permittee is authorized to possess such a raptor for up to 30 days until the researcher, his or her designee(s), or authorized permittee completes the replacement. Disposition of such a raptor will be at the discretion of the researcher and the department.

ii. Such a bird held temporarily will not count against a permittee's possession or annual wild take limits for falconry raptors.

26. A permittee is responsible for costs of care and rehabilitation of a raptor injured by his or her trapping efforts.

a. A permittee may place a raptor injured by trapping efforts on his or her falconry permit, and must report take to the department within 10 days using federal form 3-186A. After reporting, a permittee may have a bird treated by a veterinarian or permitted wildlife rehabilitator. Such a bird counts against a permittee's possession and annual wild take limits.

b. A permittee may give a raptor injured by trapping efforts directly to a veterinarian, permitted wildlife rehabilitator, or appropriate wildlife agency employee. Such a bird does not count against possession or annual wild take limits.

27. A permittee may acquire a raptor of any age of a species he or she is allowed to possess directly from a rehabilitator, provided the raptor is capable of being flown at wild quarry. Transfer to a falconry permittee is at the discretion of the rehabilitator.

a. A permittee must report an acquisition from a rehabilitator within 10 days of the transaction using federal form 3-186A.

b. A raptor acquired from a rehabilitator counts against possession and annual wild take limits.

~~d. Within five days after taking an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon from the wild, a permittee must:~~

~~(1) notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the permittee's completed taking activities, including the specific location of taking, date, species, age (if~~

2113 | ~~known), sex (if known), and the number of young in the nest at the time of taking (when eyes~~
2114 | ~~birds are taken);~~

2115 |
2116 | ~~(2)notify the department regional falconry representative in the area of take of the specific~~
2117 | ~~location of all American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon nests visited, the number of~~
2118 | ~~young in each nest visited, and other information requested by the department; and~~

2119 |
2120 | ~~(3)submit to the department regional falconry representative in the area of take any leg band~~
2121 | ~~retrieved from an American peregrine falcon or arctic peregrine falcon removed from a nest.~~

2122 |
2123 | ~~e. Within five days after taking any raptor, a permittee must submit copies of federal form~~
2124 | ~~3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to the following locations:~~

2125 |
2126 | ~~(1)ADF&G Permits Section; and~~

2127 |
2128 | ~~(2)U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Birds Permit Office.~~

2129 |

2130 | **Import/Export**

2131 |
2132 | ~~2817. A permittee~~ Except for the temporary export of a raptor possessed under an Alaska
2133 | ~~falconry permit, a person shall notify~~ obtain prior written approval from the ADF&G
2134 | Permits Section at least 10 days before exporting a raptor from or at least 30 days before
2135 | importing a raptor into Alaska except notification must be given at least 10 days before
2136 | the return of a raptor of Alaska origin from temporary export. -A person may not
2137 | temporarily or permanently export a raptor taken from the wild in Alaska unless that
2138 | person has legally possessed that raptor in Alaska for at least one year and, in the case of
2139 | permanent export, retains possession of the raptor at his or her new place of residence,
2140 | except a raptor held less than one full year may be exported temporarily or permanently if
2141 | the falconer holding it has maintained Alaska residency continuously for at least two
2142 | years immediately prior to the date of export.- If the department determines it ~~to be~~
2143 | necessary to conserve or protect raptors in the state, or if the person desiring to import or
2144 | export a raptor has not fully complied with the conditions or requirements of the falconry
2145 | standards in this ~~section of this~~ manual, the department may disapprove the import or
2146 | export of a raptor.

2147 |
2148 | ~~2918.~~ A person ~~holding with~~ an Alaska falconry permit who legally possesses a raptor may
2149 | temporarily export the raptor from Alaska for a period of not longer than 12 months. A
2150 | permittee shall notify the regional falconry representative of the temporary export of a
2151 | raptor at least ~~10~~ five days before leaving Alaska, shall provide the date of departure and
2152 | anticipated date of return, and shall notify the department's regional falconry
2153 | representative within ~~10~~ five days after returning the raptor to Alaska.

2154 |
2155 | ~~30.~~ An Alaska falconry permit authorizes a permittee who legally possesses a raptor for
2156 | falconry to export and then import such a raptor to and from another country to use in
2157 | falconry without an additional migratory bird import/export permit issued under 50 CFR
2158 | §21.21, providing the permittee:

- 2159
2160 a. meets any requirements in 50 CFR §14 subpart B;
2161
2162 b. holds necessary additional permits to take a bird from the U.S. or return home with it
2163 (see 50 CFR §15 (Wild Bird Conservation Act), 50 CFR §17 (endangered and
2164 threatened species, and 50 CFR §23 (endangered species convention));
2165
2166 c. brings any raptor taken out of the country for falconry back to the U.S. when he or
2167 she returns, unless he or she holds the necessary permit(s) to permanently export a
2168 raptor;
2169
2170 d. covers each raptor with a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
2171 (CITES) certificate of ownership issued under 50 CFR §23, holds full documentation
2172 of lawful origin of each raptor (e.g., a copy of a propagation report or federal form 3-
2173 186A), and identifies each raptor with a seamless numbered band, a permanent non-
2174 reusable, numbered USFWS leg band, or implanted microchip; and
2175
2176 e. reports death or loss of a raptor immediately upon return to the U.S. and in the
2177 manner required by the department and in accordance with conditions of the CITES
2178 certificate. The permittee need not bring back the body of a dead raptor.
2179

2180 3149. A person possessing a valid falconry permit issued by Alaska, another U.S. state, U.S.
2181 territory, or tribe may possess and transport for falconry purposes a lawfully possessed
2182 raptor through Alaska, other states, and U.S. or tribal territories. Any state, territory, or
2183 tribe may further regulate such transport. A person with a permit for falconry in another
2184 state ~~or province~~ may temporarily import a raptor into Alaska and use it for falconry for
2185 up to 630 days after the date of import under that falconry permit and an Alaska
2186 temporary falconry permit. If a person who temporarily imports a raptor intends to keep
2187 the raptor in Alaska longer than 630 days after the date of import, the person must, within
2188 ~~the 30_ days of the date of import period~~, apply for an Alaska falconry permit, deliver to
2189 the department any falconry permit issued for the raptor by another state ~~or province~~, and
2190 certify in writing that the person intends to become a resident of Alaska.
2191

2192 **Transfer of Raptors**

2193
2194 3220. A person may not sell, barter ~~for~~, or exchange ~~for~~ anything of value ~~for~~ a wild-taken
2195 raptor held under a falconry permit. A permittee may sell, purchase, barter for, or
2196 exchange anything of value for, or offer to sell, purchase, barter for, or exchange
2197 anything of value for a captive-bred raptor marked with a seamless band to another
2198 permittee authorized to possess it. A permittee shall notify the regional falconry
2199 representative not less than 10five days before permanently transferring a raptor to
2200 another permittee. There is no restriction on the number of wild-taken or captive-bred
2201 raptors transferred to a permittee, except a permittee may not exceed possession or annual
2202 wild take limits. A person who acquires or disposes of a raptor shall submit ~~copies of~~
2203 federal form 3-186A (Migratory Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to ~~both~~ the
2204 ADF&G Permits Section ~~and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service~~ within 10five days after

2205 the acquisition or disposal. A person may not permanently transfer possession of a raptor
2206 originally taken from the wild in Alaska to a person located outside of Alaska.

2207
2208 33. Under some circumstances, a permittee may transfer a raptor to another permit type if the
2209 recipient permittee holds the necessary permit for the other activities and is authorized to
2210 possess the bird. A transfer must be reported within 10 days to the department using
2211 federal form 3-186A.

2212
2213 a. A permittee may transfer a wild-taken falconry bird to a raptor propagation permit
2214 after the bird has been used in falconry for at least two years, or at least one year for a
2215 sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, merlin, or American kestrel. When transferring
2216 such a bird, a permittee must provide a copy of the federal form 3-186A documenting
2217 acquisition of the bird by the propagator to the federal migratory bird permit office
2218 administering the propagation permit.

2219
2220 b. A permittee may transfer a wild-taken raptor to another permit type in less than two
2221 years, or less than one year for a sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, merlin, or
2222 American kestrel, if the bird has been injured and a veterinarian or permitted wildlife
2223 rehabilitator has determined the bird can no longer be flown in falconry.

2224
2225 i. When transferring such a bird, the permittee must provide a copy of the federal
2226 form 3-186A documenting acquisition of the bird to the federal migratory bird
2227 permit office administering the propagation permit.

2228
2229 ii. When transferring such a bird, the permittee must provide a copy of the
2230 certification from the veterinarian or permitted wildlife rehabilitator who
2231 determined the bird can no longer be flown in falconry to the federal migratory
2232 bird permit office administering the propagation permit.

2233
2234 c. A permittee may transfer a captive-bred falconry raptor to a holder of another permit
2235 type if the recipient permittee is authorized to possess the bird.

2236
2237 3421. A person may care for a permittee's raptor if, during the time of care, the person holds a
2238 written authorization signed by the permittee. The raptor must remain on the permittee's
2239 falconry permit and remain in the permittee's facilities. Care may be extended
2240 indefinitely in extenuated circumstances such as illness, family emergency, and military
2241 service. The person providing care may not fly permitted raptors for any reason. If the
2242 period of care will exceed ~~45~~30 days, the permittee shall notify the regional falconry
2243 representative in writing within ~~10~~three days after transferring the raptor. The permittee
2244 shall inform the regional falconry representative of the location where the raptor will be
2245 held, the reason for the transfer, the name of the person who is caring for the raptor, and
2246 how many days the raptor will be in the transferee's care.

2247
2248 35. A surviving spouse, executor, administrator, or other legal representative of a deceased
2249 falconry permittee may transfer any bird held by the permittee to another authorized

2250 permittee within 90 days of the death of the falconry permittee. After 90 days,
2251 disposition of any bird held under the permit is at the discretion of the department.
2252

2253 **Release, Loss or Death of Raptors**

2254
2255 3622. Only a raptor originally taken from the wild in Alaska may be intentionally released to
2256 the wild in Alaska. At least five days before intentionally releasing a raptor to the wild,
2257 a permittee must ~~notify~~notify the regional falconry representative and must remove the
2258 USFWS ~~or ADF&G~~ marker band from the raptor immediately prior to release. A
2259 permittee may release a bird back to the wild only at an appropriate time of year and in an
2260 appropriate location. A permittee must submit ~~copies of~~ federal form 3-186A (Migratory
2261 Bird Acquisition/Disposition Report) to ~~both~~ the ADF&G Permits Section ~~and the~~
2262 ~~USFWS~~ upon any loss, escape, release, or death of the permittee's raptor within ~~10~~five
2263 days after that event. A permittee must deliver the marker band from a dead or released
2264 raptor to the regional falconry representative within 15 days after the death or release of
2265 the raptor to the wild, except a dead raptor preserved by taxidermy shall permanently
2266 retain its marker band.
2267

2268 3723. A permittee may retrap a marked raptor that is lost to the wild through accident at any
2269 time and within five days after its loss, without notifying the regional falconry
2270 representative. If the permittee intends to retrap the raptor more than five days after its
2271 loss, the permittee must notify the regional falconry representative that the raptor has
2272 been lost and that the permittee intends to recapture it. If a permittee recaptures ~~at~~the
2273 raptor, previously reported to the department as lost, the permittee must notify the
2274 department within ~~105~~ days after the recapture. Recapturing a marked raptor is not
2275 considered take of a bird from the wild.
2276

2277 38. If a permittee acquires a raptor; transfers, rebands, or implants a microchip in a raptor; if
2278 a permittee's raptor is stolen; if a raptor lost to the wild is not recovered within 30 days;
2279 or if a raptor possessed for falconry dies; the permittee must report to the department
2280 within 10 days using federal form 3-186A. Theft of a raptor must be reported to the
2281 department and the USFWS regional law enforcement office within 10 days of the
2282 occurrence. A permittee must retain copies of all electronic database submissions
2283 documenting take, transfer, loss, rebanding, or implanting a microchip in a falconry
2284 raptor until five years after transferring or losing the raptor, or it has died.
2285

2286 39. For a falconry raptor that dies, a permittee may donate the body or feathers of any species
2287 to a person or institution authorized by permit to acquire and possess such parts or
2288 feathers or to a person or institution exempt under 50 CFR §21.12, except a falconry
2289 golden eagle, the body, feathers, talons, and other parts of which must be sent to the
2290 National Eagle Repository.
2291

2292 a. A permittee may keep the body of a raptor banded or implanted with a microchip
2293 prior to death, except that of a golden eagle. A body may be kept so feathers are
2294 available for imping. A body may be mounted by a taxidermist for use in presenting
2295 conservation education programs. A marker band must remain in place on the body of



2296 a mounted bird that was banded; a microchip must remain in place in a bird with an
2297 implanted microchip.

2298
2299 b. A permittee not wishing to donate a bird body or keep it himself or herself must
2300 burn, bury, or otherwise destroy it within 10 days of death or after final veterinary
2301 examination to determine cause of death. Because a carcass of a euthanized raptor
2302 could pose a risk of secondary poisoning to eagles and other scavengers, a permittee
2303 must take appropriate precautions to avoid such poisonings.

2304
2305 c. A permittee may possess flight feathers of a falconry raptor that dies for as long as
2306 he or she holds a valid, current falconry permit. A permittee may not buy, sell, or
2307 barter such feathers and must keep paperwork documenting the acquisition of the bird
2308 from which they came.

2309
2310 **Imping**

2311
2312 **4024.** A permittee may retain or exchange feathers that are molted or feathers from raptors that
2313 die in captivity ~~only~~ for imping purposes: under the following conditions:

2314
2315 a. a permittee may possess flight feathers for each species of raptor he or she possesses
2316 or previously held for as long as he or she holds a valid, current falconry permit;

2317
2318 b. a permittee may receive feathers for imping from another permitted falconer, wildlife
2319 rehabilitator, or raptor propagator in the United States, and may give feathers to such
2320 individuals;

2321
2322 c. a permittee may not buy, sell, or barter imping feathers;

2323
2324 d. a permittee may donate feathers from a falconry bird, except golden eagle feathers, to
2325 any person or institution holding a valid, current permit to have them, or to anyone
2326 exempt from the permit requirement under 50 CFR §21.12;

2327
2328 e. except for primary or secondary flight feathers or rectrices from a golden eagle, a
2329 permittee is not required to gather feathers molted or otherwise lost by a falconry
2330 bird. A permittee may leave such feathers where they fall, store them for imping, or
2331 destroy them;

2332
2333 f. a permittee must collect molted primary and secondary flight feathers and rectrices
2334 from a golden eagle possessed for falconry;

2335
2336 g. molted primary and secondary flight feathers and rectrices from a golden eagle not
2337 kept for imping must be sent to the National Eagle Repository at this address: U.S.
2338 Fish and Wildlife Service, National Eagle Repository, Rocky Mountain Arsenal,
2339 Building 128, Commerce City, CO 80022. The telephone number at the Repository is
2340 303-287-2110;

2342 h. a permittee is asked but not required to send all other feathers, including body feathers,
2343 collected from a falconry golden eagle and not needed for imping, to the National
2344 Eagle Repository; and

2346 i. if his or her falconry permit expires, is relinquished, or revoked, a permittee must
2347 properly dispose of feathers of any species of falconry raptor except golden eagle,
2348 either by donating them to any person or institution authorized by permit to acquire
2349 and possess the feathers, or are exempt from the permit requirement under 50 CFR
2350 §21.12, or by burning, burying, or otherwise destroying them.

2351
2352
2353
2354 **Captive PropagationBreeding**

2355
2356 **4125.** Unless a person holds a propagation permit issued by the department, the person may not
2357 breed raptors in captivity for falconry. Propagation permits are issued under the following
2358 conditions:

2359
2360
2361 a. The department may issue a propagation permit only to a person who:

2362
2363 1) holds a federal raptor propagation permit;[;]

2364
2365 2) holds a valid, current Alaska master class falconry permit;[;] and

2366
2367 3) passes an inspection of facilities with the following guidelines:

2368
2369 ~~i) .~~ adequate chamber size;[;]

2370
2371 ~~ii) .~~ double-door access to prevent escape;[;]

2372
2373 ~~iii) .~~ any window protected on the inside with vertical bars;[;]

2374
2375 ~~iv) .~~ adequate padded perches;[;]

2376
2377 ~~v) .~~ adequate roof covering of chain-link or welded wire material;[;]

2378
2379 ~~vi) .~~ adequate floor covering (straw and/or sawdust are not suitable);[;] and

2380
2381 ~~vii) .~~ adequate protection from the elements.

2382
2383 b. A propagation permittee may ~~acquire~~have no more ~~than four individual raptors that~~
2384 ~~originated from the wild; no more~~ than two wild-origin birds ~~may be acquired~~ within
2385 a calendar year. A propagation permittee may have no more than 12 birds for
2386 breeding that include first-generation captive progeny and wild-origin birds. A
2387 propagation permittee will have no limit on the number of second or later generation

2388 captive-bred progeny held in captive propagation. A raptor held under a propagation
2389 permit does not count as one of the ~~three~~ raptors that may be held under a falconry
2390 permit.

2391
2392 c. A raptor possessed for falconry may be used in captive propagation only in Alaska
2393 and if the falconry permittee or permitted raptor propagator holds the necessary
2394 permits. A falconry raptor need not be transferred to a propagation permit if used in
2395 captive propagation fewer than eight months in a year, but must be transferred if
2396 permanently used in captive propagation.

2397
2398 ~~e.d. A propagation permittee may not sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value~~
2399 ~~first generation captive-bred progeny of raptors and may only transfer first generation~~
2400 ~~captive-bred progeny to a person in Alaska who holds an Alaska falconry permit or to~~
2401 ~~a person who holds an Alaska propagation permit. The propagation permittee may~~
2402 sell, barter, or exchange for anything of value ~~first~~second or later generation captive-
2403 bred progeny to any person holding a falconry license or raptor propagation permit
2404 within Alaska or outside of Alaska. ~~The propagation permittee must dispose of~~
2405 ~~captive-bred progeny within one year after hatching.~~ Captive-bred progeny not sold
2406 or transferred as described in this subsection may be transferred or otherwise disposed
2407 of only with the written approval of the department.

2408
2409 ~~d.e. A propagation permittee may not possess a raptor produced by interspecific~~
2410 ~~hybridization unless the raptor has been surgically sterilized.~~

2411
2412 A raptor that originated from the wild in Alaska and ~~is~~ held under a propagation permit
2413 may not be exported from the state unless the propagation permittee is moving from
2414 the state and has legally possessed that raptor in Alaska for at least one year and
2415 retains possession of the raptor at his or her new place of residence, except a raptor
2416 held less than one full year may be exported permanently if the propagation permittee
2417 holding it has maintained Alaska residency continuously for at least two years
2418 immediately prior to the date of export. A propagation permittee shall notify the
2419 ADF&G Permits Section at least 10 days before exporting a raptor from Alaska. If
2420 the department determines it necessary to conserve or protect raptors in the state, or if
2421 the propagation permittee desiring to export a raptor has not fully complied with the
2422 conditions or requirements of the falconry standards in this manual, the department
2423 may disapprove the import or export of a raptor.

2424 e-

2425 Conservation Education

2426
2427
2428 42. A permittee may use a falconry raptor in a conservation program presented in a public
2429 venue, under the following conditions:

2430
2431 a. the raptor must be used primarily for falconry;
2432

- 2433 b. a permittee must present information about falconry and the biology, ecological roles,
2434 and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds, although not all topics
2435 must be addressed in every presentation;
- 2436
- 2437 c. a permittee may not present a program that does not address falconry and
2438 conservation education;
- 2439
- 2440 d. an apprentice class permittee may present a conservation program only under the
2441 supervision of a general or master falconer when doing so;
- 2442
- 2443 e. a permittee may charge a fee for presentation of a conservation education program,
2444 but the fee may not exceed the amount to recoup costs; and
- 2445
- 2446 f. a permittee is responsible for all liability associated with conservation education
2447 activities undertaken.
- 2448

2449 43. A permittee may allow photography, filming, video recording, or other such uses of a
2450 falconry raptor to make a movie or another source of information on the practice of falconry or
2451 on the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds,
2452 under the following conditions:

- 2453
- 2454 a. a permittee may not be paid for such activities;
- 2455
- 2456 b. a falconry raptor may not be used to make a movie or commercial, or in another
2457 commercial venture not related to falconry or conservation education; and
- 2458
- 2459 c. a falconry raptor may not be used for entertainment, advertisement, promotion or
2460 endorsement of any product, merchandise, good, service, meeting, exhibition, or fair,
2461 or as a representation of any business, company, corporation, or organization.
- 2462

Rehabilitation

2463

2464

2465 44. A general or master class falconry permittee may assist a permitted migratory bird
2466 rehabilitator to condition a raptor in preparation for release to the wild and may keep a bird he or
2467 she is helping to rehabilitate in his or her facilities, under the following conditions:

- 2468
- 2469 a. a rehabilitator must provide a falconer with a letter or form identifying the bird
2470 and explaining the falconer is assisting in the bird's rehabilitation;
- 2471
- 2472 b. a falconry permittee need not meet rehabilitation facility standards, only the
2473 facility standards for falconry permits; a falconry permittee's facilities are not
2474 subject to inspection for compliance with rehabilitation facility standards;
- 2475
- 2476 c. a raptor possessed for rehabilitation purposes need not be added to a falconer's
2477 permit; the bird remains under the rehabilitator's permit;
- 2478

- 2479 d. through coordination with a rehabilitator, a falconer must release a raptor to the
2480 wild or return it to the rehabilitator for release within the 180-day time frame in
2481 which a rehabilitator is authorized to possess the bird, unless the issuing office
2482 authorizes retention and conditioning for longer than 180 days, or unless the
2483 rehabilitator permanently transfers a bird to a falconer under his or her falconry
2484 permit; and
2485
2486 e. a raptor that cannot be released to the wild must be returned to a rehabilitator for
2487 placement within the 180-day time frame in which the rehabilitator is authorized
2488 to possess the bird, unless the issuing office authorizes retention for longer than
2489 180 days.

2490
2491 **Abatement**

2492
2493 45. A master class falconry permittee may conduct abatement activities with a raptor possessed
2494 for falconry only if he or she holds a federal Special Purpose Abatement permit. A general class
2495 falconry permittee may conduct abatement activities only as a subpermittee of a Special Purpose
2496 Abatement permit holder. Only a Special Purpose Abatement permittee may receive payment for
2497 abatement services.

STATE OF ALASKA ALASKA FALCONRY PERMIT APPLICATION

1. NAME

Last	First	M.I.
------	-------	------

2. MAILING ADDRESS

Street or P.O. Box		
City	State	Zip

3. TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Home	Business or Message
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4. EMAIL ADDRESS

--

5. ALASKA RESIDENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Since _____
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6. DATE OF BIRTH

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7. LOCATION OF FACILITIES

Street	City
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8. DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER

State	Number
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9. RAPTORS IN POSSESSION

Species	Sex	Age	Band Number	Date Acquired	Source (wild or captive-bred)

10A. PERMIT CLASS

<input type="checkbox"/> Apprentice	<input type="checkbox"/> General*
<input type="checkbox"/> Mast	

	er*
--	-----

10B. APPRENTICE'S SPONSOR

Last Name	First	Telephone
Address	Class	

11. FALCONRY EXAMINATION/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Examination Passed	Approved By _____	Date _____
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12. MEWS INSPECTION/APPROVAL

<input type="checkbox"/> Mews Inspected	Approved By _____	Date _____
-----------------------------------------	-------------------	------------

13. CERTIFICATION

I have read and understand the Alaska Falconry Standards. ~~Furthermore, I hereby certify that all information made on or in connection with this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I certify that I have read and am familiar with the regulations in title 50, part 13, of the Code of Federal Regulations and the other applicable parts in subchapter B of chapter 1 of title 50, and that the information I have submitted is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement herein may subject me to the criminal penalties of 18 U.S.C. 1001.~~

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

*An applicant requesting a general or master class permit must submit a photocopy of the most recently held permit/license issued from any state ~~or province~~ **AND annual falconry reports.**

Please mail application **and fees** to:

ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526

APPROPRIATE



ALASKA FALCONRY REPORT

Name: _____ State Permit No.: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip _____

Telephone No.: (home) _____ (work) _____

Email: _____ Location of Facilities: _____

Class (check one) Apprentice General Master

Permit expiration date: _____ Are you requesting renewal? Yes No

ANNUAL REPORT for _____ (year)

RAPTORS ON HAND AT BEGINNING OF PERMIT YEAR (January 1)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained	Date Obtained month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___

RAPTORS ACQUIRED DURING 12 MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31

(Raptors acquired from the wild or another person)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Where (GMU subunit) or From Whom Obtained	Date Obtained month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___

RAPTORS NO LONGER IN POSSESSION

(since previous annual report)

Species	Marker Number	Sex	Year Hatched	Disposition*	Disposition Date month/day/year
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	___/___/___

*Disposition (lost, transferred, died, released, stolen): Provide complete details, i.e., where lost or released, to whom transferred, cause of death, etc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Annual falconry reports are due by January 10. Please mail this report to:
ADF&G Wildlife Conservation, Permits Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526**



CONTACT INFORMATION

General requests for information about falconry, appointments to take the falconry examination, or have ~~your~~ facilities inspected, applications for a falconry permit, requests for state markers (bands), and notification of take or intent to take a raptor from the wild are handled by the regional falconry representative at a regional office of the Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Division of Wildlife Conservation.

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[P.O. Box 115526](#)
[Juneau, AK 99811-5526](#)
[Phone \(907\) 465-4190](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[P.O. Box 240020](#)
[Douglas, AK 99824-0020](#)
[Phone \(907\) 465-4265](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[333 Raspberry Road](#)
[Anchorage, AK 99518-1599](#)
[Phone \(907\) 267-2257](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[1300 College Road](#)
[Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599](#)
[Phone \(907\) 459-7213](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[1800 Glenn Highway, Suite 4](#)
[Palmer, AK 99645-6736](#)
[Phone \(907\) 745-6300](#)
[ADF&G/Wildlife](#)
[333 Raspberry Road](#)
[Anchorage, AK 99518-1599](#)
[Phone \(907\) 267-2257](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife Conservation](#)
[P.O. Box 1148](#)
[Nome, AK 99762-1148](#)
[Phone \(907\) 443-2271](#)
[ADF&G/Wildlife](#)
[1300 College Road](#)
[Fairbanks, AK 99701-1599](#)
[Phone \(907\) 459-7213](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife](#)
[P.O. Box 240020](#)
[Douglas, AK 99824-0020](#)
[Phone \(907\) 465-4265](#)

[ADF&G/Wildlife](#)
[P.O. Box 1148](#)
[Nome, AK 99762-1148](#)
[Phone \(907\) 443-2271](#)

Processing of falconry and state raptor propagation permits, submission of ~~annual reports and~~ 3-186A forms, and requests to import or temporarily or permanently export a raptor are handled by the ADF&G Permit Section.

ADF&G/Wildlife Permit Section
P.O. Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526
Phone: (907) 465-4148
Email: dfg.dwc.permits@alaska.gov

For information about health certification, ~~and~~ disease testing, vaccination, and other requirements for the importation of raptors, contact the state veterinarian.

Office of the State Veterinarian
Department of Environmental Conservation
500 S. Alaska, Suite A
Palmer, AK 99501
Phone (907) 375-8215

~~Phone (907) 786-3693~~



