

(19) GENETIC CHARACTERISTICS OF GOSHAWKS (*ACCIPITER GENTILIS*) OF SOUTHEASTERN COASTAL ALASKA

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Goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) inhabiting coastal habitats of southeastern Alaska are considered to represent the subspecies *A. g. laingi*, the Queen Charlotte Goshawk. Meristic data collected from goshawks throughout North America suggest goshawks from this region are morphologically differentiated from goshawks elsewhere. However, earlier genetic studies using dominant markers indicate little differentiation among populations, or subspecies, across North America, including southeastern Alaska. We have developed molecular markers that differ in mode and rate of inheritance to examine genetic relationships among goshawks in southeastern Alaska relative to populations elsewhere. These include 9 autosomal microsatellite markers, and markers on the maternally-inherited mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). We discuss preliminary data from markers assayed from goshawks inhabiting the southeastern coastal habitats of Alaska, coastal British Columbia, interior Alaska and British Columbia, and Utah. We also present future research directions.

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