

Abstract
No. 36

PEREGRINE FALCONS IN NORTON SOUND, ALASKA

John M. Wright (Nongame Wildlife Program, Division of Wildlife Conservation, ADF&G, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, AK 99701)

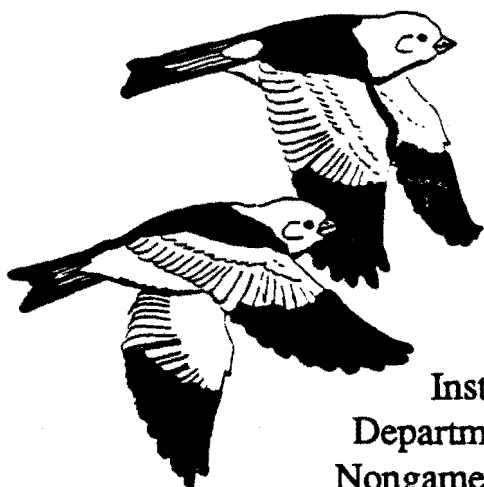
The coast of western Alaska from southern Norton Sound to Cape Prince of Wales was surveyed for nesting peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) in 1987 and 1988. A boat survey in July 1987 found 6 sites occupied, with 4 successful pairs producing 12 young. In 1988, helicopter surveys in June and July found 20 occupied sites. The average straight-line distance between sites was 29 km (18 miles). Thirteen successful pairs reared an average of 2.6 young. Thirty-seven nestlings were banded in the two years. Adults were visually identified as similar to *F. p. anatum* or *F. p. tundrius*, and a recapture of a 1987-banded bird at Padre Island, Texas confirms they belong to one of these endangered subtaxa. Impending expansion of offshore dredge mining and other human activities in the region may impact this previously undocumented population of peregrines.

Keywords: Peregrine falcon, Norton Sound, *Falco peregrinus anatum*, *Falco peregrinus tundrius*, nesting

Alaska Bird Conference and Workshop

20 - 22 March 1989

Wood Center
University of Alaska, Fairbanks



Sponsored by
Institute of Arctic Biology, UAF
Department of Biology and Wildlife, UAF
Nongame Wildlife Program, DWC, ADF&G
Alaska Biological Research, Inc.
University of Alaska Museum
Arctic Audubon Society
Fairbanks Bird Club

Local Organizing Committee
Edward C. Murphy, Chairman
John Wright, co-Chairman
Robert H. Day, Treasurer
Tina Freer, Brian E. Lawhead, Philip D. Martin,
Pierre DeViche, Daniel D. Gibson, Betty A. Anderson,
Ray Hadley, Brina Kessel, Tom Brown