

**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

10 **CONTENTS**

11 **General Information**

12 Purpose 1
13 Falconry Permits..... 2
14 Application Procedures 4
15 Falconry Examination 5
16 Facilities and Equipment 7
17 Records and Reporting 9
18 Markers..... 10
19 Banding 10
20 Captive Propagation 12
21 Conservation Education 12
22 Rehabilitation 13
23 Abatement 13

25 **Falconry Regulations**

26 5 AAC 92.029..... 14
27 5 AAC 92.037..... 14

29 **Falconry Standards**

30 Definitions 17
31 Falconry Permits..... 17
32 Falconry Permit Requirements and Application Procedures 20
33 New (apprentice) falconers..... 21
34 Renewing a permit 21
35 Reinstating a lapsed permit..... 21
36 Upgrading a permit 22
37 Transferring a permit from another state 22
38 Non-U.S. visitors practicing falconry in Alaska 22
39 Updating a permit after a move 23
40 Temporary Facilities..... 23
41 Markers..... 23
42 Taking of Raptors 24
43 Import/Export 28
44 Transfer of Raptors..... 29
45 Release, Loss or Death of Raptors 30
46 Imping 31
47 Captive Propagation 32
48 Conservation Education 33
49 Rehabilitation 33
50 Abatement 34

52 Appendix A: Application Form 35

53 Appendix B: Annual Report Form..... 36

55 Contact Information Inside Back Cover

56 GENERAL INFORMATION

57
58 Purpose

59 Falconry is the sport of pursuing, capturing, or killing game using trained raptors. Falconry is a
60 lawful hunting method when practiced in compliance with state and federal regulations under the
61 terms of a permit issued by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The
62 following species listed in Table 1 are authorized for falconry in Alaska and are a subset of the
63 species described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50,
64 Part 10 (50 CFR §10.12 and 50 CFR §10.13).
65

66
67 **Table 1. Species authorized for falconry in Alaska.**

- 68 northern harrier (*Circus cyaneus*),
- 69 sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*),
- 70 Cooper’s hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*),
- 71 northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*),
- 72 Harris' hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*),
- 73 Swainson’s hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*),
- 74 red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*),
- 75 ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*),
- 76 rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*),
- 77 golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*),
- 78 American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*),
- 79 merlin (*Falco columbarius*),
- 80 peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*),
- 81 gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*),
- 82 prairie falcon (*Falco mexicanus*),
- 83 Aplomado falcon (*Falco femoral is*),
- 84 great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*),
- 85 snowy owl (*Bubo scandiacus*),
- 86 northern hawk-owl (*Surnia ulula*),
- 87 barred owl (*Strix varia*),
- 88 great gray owl (*Strix nebulosa*),
- 89 any nonindigenous subspecies of northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) requires sterilization,
- 90 except *Accipiter gentilis atricapillus* or *A.g. laingi*.
- 91 and
- 92 hybrids of these species produced by raptor breeders. [NOTE: There are no breeding populations
- 93 of Cooper’s hawk, Harris' hawk, Swainson’s hawk, ferruginous hawk, or prairie falcons in
- 94 Alaska.]

95
96 Alaska regulations require that anyone taking, holding, or possessing one or more of these raptor
97 species for falconry must first obtain a falconry permit.

98
99 State falconry regulations were adopted by the Alaska Board of Game to assist in the management of
100 raptor populations and to maintain standards for the care of birds legally held for falconry purposes.
101 This manual includes regulations that pertain to the taking, holding and possession of raptors for
102 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
--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182
183
184
185
186
187
188
189
190
191
192
193
194
195
196
197
198
199
200
201
202
203
204
205

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

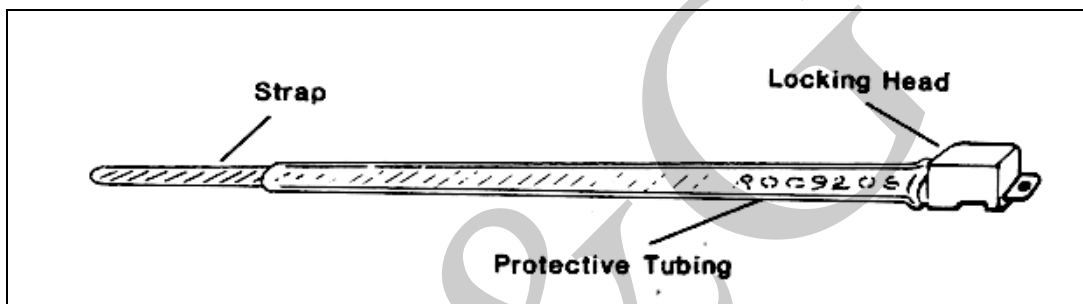
469 All marker bands from dead or released raptors must be surrendered to the department Regional
470 Falconry Representative within 15 days of death or release. Marker bands that must be removed or
471 marker bands lost from raptors in permittees' possession must be reported to the department within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

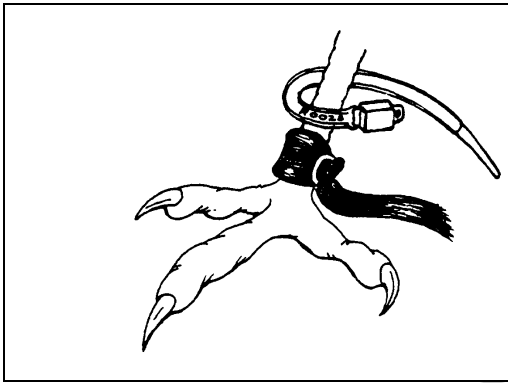


Figure 2

516

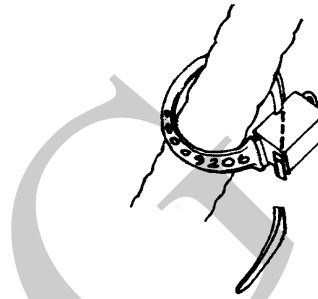


Figure 3

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

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**

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

533 **Conservation Education**

535

536

537

538

539

540

541

542

543

544

545

546

547

548

549

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.

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

585
586
587
588
589
590
591
592
593
594
595
596
597
598
599
600
601
602
603
604
605
606
607
608
609
610
611
612
613
614
615
616
617
618
619
620
621
622
623
624
625
626
627
628
629
630

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 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.

728
729
730
731
732
733
734
735
736
737
738
739
740
741
742
743
744
745
746
747
748
749
750
751
752
753
754
755
756
757
758
759
760
761
762
763
764
765
766
767
768
769
770
771
772
773

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
1057
1058
1059
1060
1061
1062
1063
1064
1065
1066
1067
1068
1069
1070
1071
1072
1073
1074
1075
1076
1077
1078
1079
1080
1081
1082
1083
1084
1085
1086
1087
1088
1089
1090
1091
1092
1093
1094
1095
1096
1097
1098
1099
1100
- b. If a permittee transfers a raptor taken from the wild to another permittee in the same year in which the raptor was taken, that bird will count as a raptor the permittee took from the wild that year. It will not count as a raptor taken from the wild by the recipient permittee, but it will always be considered a wild-origin bird. No matter how long wild-taken raptors are held in captivity or whether they are transferred to other permittees or permit types, they are always considered as wild-taken birds. Such birds are considered taken from the wild only by the permittees who originally captured them, not by any subsequent permittees to whom they are legally transferred.
- c. A permittee taking possession of a raptor for falconry purposes, who is present at the capture site, even if another person captures the raptor, is considered the person who removes the bird from the wild and is responsible for reporting that take.
- d. If a permittee seeking possession of a falconry raptor is not at the immediate location where a raptor is taken from the wild, the person who removes the bird from the wild must be a general or master class permittee, and must report take of the bird, even if it is promptly transferred to the recipient permittee. When the permittee capturing the raptor transfers it to the absent permittee, both must report the transfer. The bird will count as one of the two raptors the permittee who took it from the wild is allowed to capture in any one year. The raptor will not count as a capture by the recipient permittee.
- e. A permittee with a long-term physical disability preventing direct capture of a species allowed for falconry by that permittee may designate a general or master class falconer to take a raptor on their behalf. When a raptor is taken from the wild, the disabled permittee is responsible for reporting the take, and the bird will count as one of the two raptors he/she is allowed to capture in any one year.
- f. General or master class permittees may take no more than one raptor of a threatened species from the wild each year as long as; 1) federal regulations allow take, 2) the permittee obtains a federal endangered species permit to do so, and 3) the permittee complies with applicable state, territorial, or tribal regulations regarding take of that species.
23. 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:
- a) **Region I**, Game Management Units 1 - 5: ADF&G, Division of Wildlife Conservation, Region I, P.O. Box 110024, Douglas, AK 99811-0024;
(i) **Regional Falconry Rep**: Rich Lowell, ADF&G, P.O. Box 667 Petersburg, AK 99833, (907) 772-5235.
- b) **Region II**, Game Management Units 6, 7, 8, 14(C), and 15: ADF&G, Division of 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.

- 1148
1149 24. Permittees may recapture raptors wearing seamless metal bands, transmitters, falconry
1150 equipment, or other items identifying them as falconry or captive-bred birds at any time,
1151 even if they are not allowed to possess the species. Birds will not count against permittees'
1152 possession limits, nor will their take count against permittees' annual wild take limits.
1153 Recaptures must be reported to the state no more than five business days after the recapture.
1154 Permittees must return recaptured falconry raptors to the permittees who lost them, if those
1155 people may legally possess them. Disposition of raptors whose legal possession cannot be
1156 determined will be at the discretion of the department. While permittees keeping birds for
1157 return to the permittees who lost them, those birds will neither count against permittees'
1158 possession limits nor limits on take of raptors from the wild, but permittees must report
1159 possession of such raptors to the department within five business days.
1160
- 1161 25. Permittees may take from the wild raptors of species they are authorized to possess that are
1162 banded with Federal Bird Banding Laboratory aluminum bands. However, permittees may
1163 not take banded peregrine falcons from the wild.
1164
- 1165 a. Permittees capturing peregrine falcons marked with research bands or research
1166 markings must immediately release them, except falcons wearing transmitters may be
1167 held for up to 30 days in order to contact researchers to determine if transmitters or
1168 batteries warrant replacement. Researchers may choose to replace transmitters or
1169 batteries, or remove transmitters. Researchers, their designees, or falconry
1170 permittees authorized by researchers may conduct this work. If researchers choose,
1171 transmitters may be removed and falcons transferred to permittees, who may keep
1172 such birds if captured in circumstances allowing capture of wild peregrines.
- 1173 b. If captured raptors have bands, research markings, or transmitters attached,
1174 permittees must promptly report band numbers and all relevant information to the
1175 Federal Bird Banding Laboratory at 1-800-327-2263.
- 1176 c. Permittees may contact researchers to determine if they wish to replace transmitters
1177 or batteries on captured birds. If so, permittees are authorized to possess such raptors
1178 for up to 30 days until the researchers, their designees, or authorized permittees
1179 completes the replacements. Disposition of such raptors will be at the discretion of
1180 the researchers and the department.
- 1181 d. Such birds held temporarily will not count against permittees' possession or annual
1182 wild take limits for falconry raptors.
1183
- 1184 26. Permittees are responsible for costs of care and rehabilitation of raptors injured by their
1185 trapping efforts.
1186
- 1187 a. Permittees may place raptors injured by trapping efforts on their falconry permits, and
1188 must report take to the department within 10 days using federal form 3-186A. After
1189 reporting, permittees may have birds treated by veterinarians or permitted wildlife
1190 rehabilitators. Such birds count against possession and annual wild take limits.
1191
- 1192 b. Permittees may give raptors injured by trapping efforts directly to veterinarians,
1193 permitted wildlife rehabilitators, or appropriate wildlife agency employees. Such birds
1194 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.

1335
1336
1337
1338
1339
1340
1341
1342
1343
1344
1345
1346
1347
1348
1349
1350
1351
1352
1353
1354
1355
1356
1357
1358
1359
1360
1361
1362
1363
1364
1365
1366
1367
1368
1369
1370
1371
1372
1373
1374
1375
1376
1377
1378
1379
1380
1381

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.

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)

<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 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