



STATE OF NEVADA

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE

Wildlife Diversity Division

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MEMORANDUM

October 8, 2020

To: Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, County Advisory Boards to Manage Wildlife, and Interested Publics

From: Jennifer Newmark, Administrator, Wildlife Diversity Division

Title: **Commission Regulation 21-01, Taking of Raptors for Falconry for 2021-2022 – For Possible Action/Public Comment Allowed**

Description: The Commission will consider and may take action to approve the 2021-2022 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, applications, procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry.

Presenter: Diversity Division Administrator Jennifer Newmark

Agenda No: 6A

Summary:

The Commission will consider adopting the 2021-2022 season dates, species, quotas, limits, closed areas, application procedures and deadlines, and take of raptors for falconry.

As in the past, the Department is recommending a limit of one raptor per permit of not more than one of any species (Exception: Under the authority of the second capture permit, a person may take another raptor of the same species to replace a bird, captured in the same year, which died or was lost).

Species open to falconry statewide continue to be Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, prairie falcon, merlin, American kestrel, red-tailed hawk, ferruginous hawk, and great-horned owl; and northern goshawk statewide except Elko County north of I-80, which is closed. It is recommended that seasons remain the same, with the eyas season March 1 through August 31 of each year, until a quota is met, and the Passage season from January 1 through December 31 of each year, until a quota is met.

Further, the Department is recommending the continued take restriction of one eyas must be left in every nest from which raptors are captured and no eyas may be removed prior to 10 days of age. Additionally, an aerie may not be entered when young are 28 days or more of age. These restrictions prevent the inadvertent forcing of fledglings or the abandonment of a nest.

The Department is recommending the following quota for the total number of a given species that are allowed to be removed each year:

- For Species of Conservation Priority as designated in the Department's Wildlife Action plan, the number of permits issued remain unlimited, but the season will be closed if 50 individuals are taken in a given year for that species. This includes passage northern goshawk and prairie falcon.
- For other allowable species, including Cooper's hawk, sharp-shinned hawk, merlin, American kestrel, red-tailed hawk, and great-horned owl, the number of permits issued remain unlimited, but the season will be closed if 50 individuals are taken in a given year for that species.
- Eyas northern goshawk and Ferruginous Hawk remain at current limits of 10 and 5 respectively.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that the Commission VOTE TO ADOPT THE 2021-2022 SEASONS AND QUOTAS FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY AS PRESENTED.

STATE OF NEVADA

BOARD OF WILDLIFE COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Wildlife Commissioners under the authority of Title 45 of the Nevada Revised Statutes, NAC 503.300, and NAC 503.305, does hereby adopt the following regulations for the management of raptors:

Commission Regulation 21-01 2021 and 2022 SEASONS AND PERMIT QUOTAS FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY

LIMIT: A person is allowed a single raptor per permit, with a maximum number of two permits issued to any one person per calendar year. NRS 503.583, NAC 503.300.

SPECIES LIMITS: Not more than one of any species.
Exception: Under the authority of the second capture permit, a person may take another raptor of the same species to replace a bird, captured in the same year, which died or was lost. NAC 503.228

TAKE RESTRICTION: One Eyas must be left in every nest from which raptors are captured. An eyas may not be removed from its nest prior to 10 days of age. Nests may not be entered when young are 28 days or more of age. NAC 503.305

HOURS: Raptors may be taken any time of the day or night during the open season

AREA: Statewide for all authorized species except Northern Goshawks. The take of Northern Goshawk is closed in Elko County north of I-80.

SEASON: All seasons are open during the following specified period or until a species quota is met.

2021 season - Eyas season: March 1 through August 31, 2021

Passage season: January 1 through December 31, 2021

2022 season - Eyas season: March 1 through August 31, 2022

Passage season: January 1 through December 31, 2022.

Deadline for Acceptance of Application/Drawing

Applications for permits to take raptors for falconry will become available the first weekday of December.

The deadline for the receipt of permit applications is 5:00 p.m. on the second Monday of January. Applications must be mailed through a postal service to the address listed on the application.

A drawing will be conducted by the Department if there is an over-subscription of applications for any raptor species for which a permit quota has been established. After the drawing, any quota remaining will be available by application. Applications after the drawing will be processed in the order of receipt until the quota is filled or the close of the season.

Resident applicants will apply for a species in accordance with the instructions on the application. Nonresident applicants may only apply for **one** (1) species per application.

The number of applications for residents is unlimited, however there is a quota for the number of birds that can be taken. Once the Department records that a species quota has been filled, permittees will be notified of the species closure.

**2021 and 2022 SEASONS AND PERMIT QUOTAS
FOR TAKING RAPTORS FOR FALCONRY**

Species	Permit Quotas		Species Quotas
	Resident	Nonresident	
Goshawk (Eyas – March 1- August 31;)	10	3	10
Goshawk (Passage January 1- December 31)	Unlimited		15
Cooper's Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Prairie Falcon	Unlimited	3	15
Merlin	Unlimited	3	50
American Kestrel	Unlimited	3	50
Red-tailed Hawk	Unlimited	3	50
Ferruginous Hawk	5	1	5
Great Horned Owl	Unlimited	3	50

THE CAPTURE SEASON IS CLOSED FOR ALL RAPTOR SPECIES NOT LISTED.