



## INSTRUCTIONS PERMIT TO TAKE A RAPTOR FOR FALCONRY

<b>Fees:</b>	<b>Resident</b>	<b>\$20</b>
	<b>Nonresident</b>	<b>\$125</b>

Fees listed above include the \$5 nonrefundable processing fee for each application

**LEGAL AUTHORITY:**            **NRS 503.582; 503.583**  
   **NAC 503.205; 503.215; 503.220; 503.230; 503.250; 503.300-503.310;**  
   **503.320-503.345**

### **PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:**

Any person who takes or attempts to take a raptor from the wild shall first obtain a permit from the Department.

“Take” means to trap or capture, or attempt to trap or capture, a raptor for the purpose of falconry.

The Commission may establish a resident and nonresident quota for raptors that may be taken from the wild under a permit. A holder of a permit may obtain from the wild only the number of raptors permitted, but in no event more than two raptors per year. An applicant must possess a valid falconry license from this state or another state at the time that he applies for a permit to take raptors. Nonresidents must enclose a copy of their valid falconry license with the application for a permit.

**WHERE TO OBTAIN APPLICATION:** An application for a permit may be obtained from the headquarters of the Nevada Department of Wildlife located in Reno, or from regional offices located in Elko, Fallon, and Las Vegas or on the website at [www.ndow.org](http://www.ndow.org) under the License Office section.

**DRAWING:** A drawing will be conducted by the Department if there is an over-subscription of applications for any raptor species for which a quota has been established. Applications after the drawing will be processed in the order of receipt until the quota is filled or the close of the season. An incomplete application will be returned without action.

**DENIAL OF APPLICATION:** Whenever an application is denied, the Department shall notify the applicant in writing of the reason for the denial.

## **PERTINENT STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

### **NAC 503.220 Introduction into or removal from State of raptors.**

1. It is unlawful, except by the written consent and approval of the Department, for any person at any time to receive, bring, or have brought or shipped into the State of Nevada, or to remove from one portion of this State to any other portion or to any other state, any raptor or any eggs or young of any raptor.

2. Any falconry licensee whose license lists the raptors in his or her possession may bring into this State or remove to any other state any raptor listed on the license without having a permit for importation or exportation if a seamless leg band or a permanent, nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the Department, as appropriate, is attached to the raptor.

3. A falconry licensee who:

- (a) Is a resident of this State;
- (b) Possesses a raptor pursuant to his or her license; and
- (c) Moves to another state and brings the raptor to the other state pursuant to subsection 2,

shall, not later than 30 days after the move, notify the Department of the move and provide to the Department his or her current residential address.

4. A person who is not a resident of this State and who holds a valid falconry license issued by the appropriate agency of the jurisdiction in which the person resides may bring into or remove from this State a raptor in his or her possession under the authority of that falconry license without having a permit for the importation or exportation of a raptor issued by the Department if a seamless leg band or a permanent, nonreusable and numbered leg band which is supplied by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the appropriate agency of the jurisdiction which issued the license if required, as appropriate, is attached to the raptor.

5. A person who:

- (a) Moves to this State with the intent to make this State his or her permanent residence; and
- (b) Brings a raptor into this State pursuant to subsection 4,

may continue to possess the raptor for not more than 30 days after becoming a resident of this State pursuant to [NRS 502.015](#) before he or she must obtain a falconry license from the Department.

6. A raptor taken from the wild in Nevada by a resident of this State may not be permanently removed from this State unless the:

(a) Resident holds a valid license issued by the Department pursuant to [NRS 503.583](#) and leaves this State to establish his or her domicile in another state; or

(b) Raptor has been held for at least 1 year.

**NAC 503.305 Permit to capture raptors: Conditions.** A holder of a permit to capture raptors is subject to the following conditions:

1 Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, a general or master falconry licensee may take only raptors less than 1 year of age and only during the period specified by the Commission. No more than two eyasses may be taken by a holder of a permit to take raptors during that period.

2. At least one eyas must be left in each nest or aerie from which any eyas is taken.

3. The physical characteristics of a nest or aerie from which any eyas is taken may not be altered.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, passage birds may be taken only during the period specified by the Commission.

5. The only raptors over 1 year of age which may be taken are the American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) and the great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*), except that under a depredation (special purpose) permit which was jointly authorized by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department, any raptor other than raptors of threatened or endangered species may be taken for falconry purposes by a general or master falconry licensee.

6. An apprentice falconry licensee may take only passage birds of the species specified on the falconry license of the apprentice falconry licensee.

7. Except as otherwise provided in [NAC 503.370](#), peregrine falcons may not be taken in Nevada. A peregrine falcon that is legally obtained may be imported and possessed under the terms and conditions of a falconry license issued by the Department.

8. Birds of the following species may not be taken, transported, possessed or used in the practice of falconry:

(a) Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);

(b) Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*);

(c) White-tailed kite (*Elanus leucurus*);

(d) Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);

(e) White-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*);

(f) Stellar's sea eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*);

(g) Any owl except the great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*); and

(h) Any species listed as endangered or threatened pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.

9. Except as otherwise provided in [NAC 503.350](#) to [503.370](#), inclusive, if the holder takes a raptor that the holder is not authorized to possess, the holder shall release the raptor immediately.

10. Permits to take raptors are not transferable.

**NAC 503.310 Use of traps or bird nets to take raptors.**

1. A raptor may be taken by a trap or bird net which is humane in its operation and use. All traps must be attended at all times. Raptors may not be taken by means of a steel-jawed trap or jump-trap. Apprentice falconry licensees may use only bal-chatri, harness or bow net traps in acquiring raptors.

2. As used in subsection 1:

(a) "Bal-chatri" means a hemispherical cage on which many nooses are tied baited with a bird or mammal and placed in view of a wild raptor to serve as a trap in which neither raptor nor bait is injured.

(b) "Bow net" means a circular hoop hinged in the middle and covered with netting. It is usually attached to the ground so one side can swing freely.

(c) "Harness" means a light leather or cloth saddle covered with nooses which is placed on tethered bait.

**NAC 503.320 Taking of raptors for falconry: Attachment of raptor band; validation of permit; transportation of raptor from State.** A holder of a permit to take raptors who is successful in taking a raptor shall immediately attach the leg band obtained pursuant to [NAC 503.212](#) and personally present the raptor to a representative of the Department for validation of the permit no later than 72 hours after the raptor is taken. No raptor may be transported from this State until a nonreusable and numbered leg band is attached and the person transporting it has had the permit validated by the Department.

**NAC 503.325 Taking of raptors for falconry: Return of unused permit and raptor band.** A holder of a permit to take raptors who has not taken a raptor shall return the unused permit and leg band to the Department for cancellation within 5 days after the close of the season.

**NAC 503.330 Taking of raptors for falconry: Grounds for denial of permit; reinstatement of privilege; administrative fine.**

1. If a holder of a permit to take raptors has submitted any false statement on his or her application for the permit or fails to return the permit and leg band for cancellation or validation within the period specified, the Department shall deny him or her a permit to take raptors for the following year.

2. Any person who has been denied a permit to take raptors pursuant to the provisions of this section may have the privilege reinstated if the person pays to the Department an administrative fine of \$50.

## **WHERE TO SEND APPLICATION AND FEES**

The completed application and fee must be submitted to:

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
License Office – Raptor Capture  
6980 Sierra Center Parkway, Ste-120  
Reno, NV 89511

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