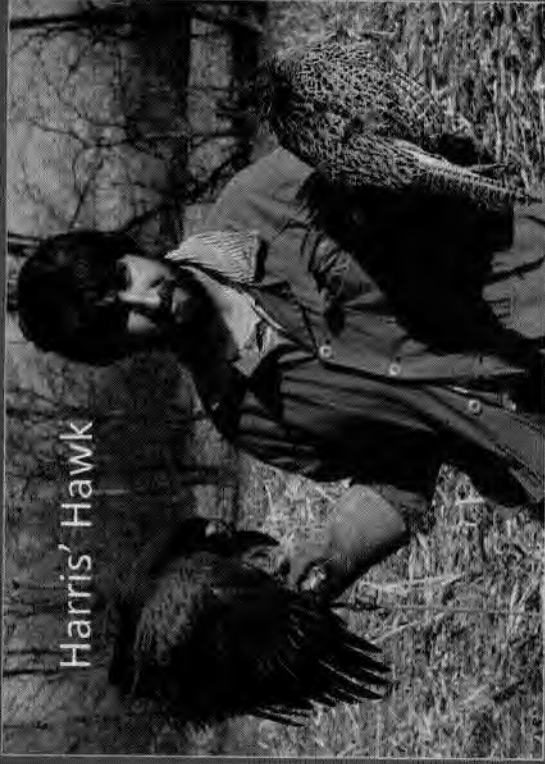


Falconry

Staff Report January 2012

Alaska Board of Game

- Objectives
 - What is falconry?
 - Current regulations
 - Background, numbers
 - Why is this before BOG?
 - New Federal framework



Harris' Hawk

- Proposed falconry regulations
 - Falconry/permits/take
 - Facilities
 - Export/import
 - Differences between proposals
 - Nonresident take



Peregrine Falcon

Falconry

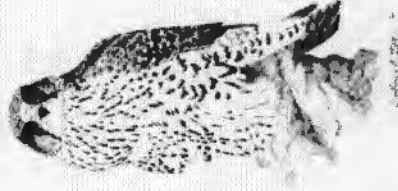
- Taking of wild quarry in its natural state and habitat by means of a trained raptor – NAFA
- 5 AAC 92.990 (18) – means the sport of taking game by means of a trained raptor



Current Regulations

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Joint Federal State Permit
- State Regulation 5 AAC 92.037 Permits for falconry
- Alaska Falconry Manual No. 8 – 2008 – standards adopted by reference

ALASKA
FALCONRY MANUAL
NO. 8



Alaska Board of Game
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
July 1, 2008

Current combined regulations

- Complicated
- Federal & state reporting
 - “moving” birds
- Classes
 - Apprentice
 - General
 - Master

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Falconry Regulations

5 AAC 92.029	10
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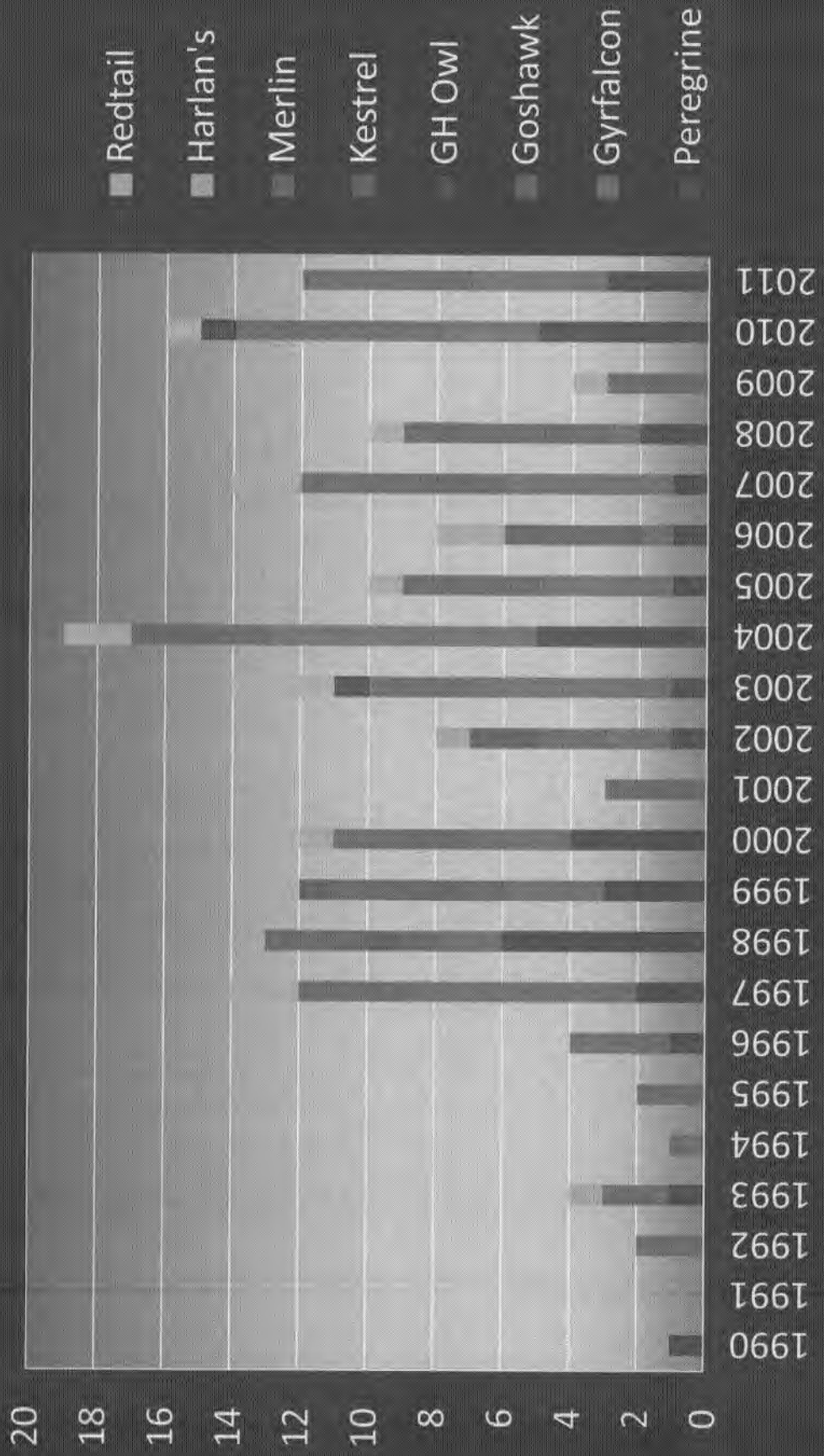
Contact Information	Inside Back Cover
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Number of Alaska Falconers

- 40 to 50
- January 2012 - about 39



Falconry birds taken from the wild by year



Gyrfalcons and Peregrine falcons taken from the wild by year



New Federal Framework

- Federal species list very broad
- Essentially all hawks, falcons, owls and eagles that occur in the USA



New Federal/State Framework

- Elimination of Federal Permit - *however*
 - Migratory Bird Treaty Act still requires federal oversight
 - No Federal permit fee (\$100)
 - Federal bird reporting still required
 - Form 3-186 a form to track birds
 - New federal electronic tracking system
- States must have approved regulations by January 1, 2014
- New ADF&G regulation and manual
 - Most of current regulation/manual already compliant
- Like waterfowl, states can be similar to or more strict

Highlights or proposals before BOG

- Falconry permits & take
 - Need hunting license and state falconry permit to be valid
 - Must be Alaska resident to take falconry birds in Alaska
 - No fee
 - Federal bird reporting required - Form 3-186a
- Classes of falconers (largely unchanged)
 - Apprentice – 2 years experience
 - General – after 2 years as Apprentice
 - Master – at least 5 years as practicing falconer

Highlights of proposals before BOG

– Facilities



Highlights of proposals before BOG

- Various complex regulations
 - Alaska more strict than most other states
 - Have highly valued species
 - Strict residency requirements (similar to hunting)
 - No nonresident take
 - West Nile Virus Testing
 - Must have bird taken from the wild in possession for 1 year or more to export it out of state

Alaska Falconers Association & ADF&G

- Worked with Alaska Falconers Association to
 1. Discuss many details of Falconry Manual
 2. Facilitate temporary Export and Import
 3. Resolve permanent export issues
 4. Close "loopholes"



Differences between Alaska Falconers Assoc & ADF&G Proposal

- Few, most issues resolved
- 1. Species List
 - AFA – includes nearly all of Federal List
 - ADF&G – species actually used in falconry and some non-Alaska species
 - Hybrids allowed under both proposals
- 2. Annual Report
 - AFA suggests NO annual report (not required under federal framework)
 - ADF&G suggests continuing annual report, at least until federal tracking system is known to work (2-3 more years)

Nonresident take of wild raptors from Alaska

- Most states in West allow nonresident take
 - Few birds taken from wild by residents
 - Sustained yield
 - Permitting and allocation
 - Alaska has falconry species not available elsewhere
- Nesting Gyrfalcon

