



Falconry Rule Amendments

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

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Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive Species
Coordinator





PURPOSE

- Amend Division 55 Falconry Rules and compliance with Federal Regulations





Outline

- Reordering sections of the current rule
- Additional Definitions
- Allows further flexibility in conditions of peregrine and goshawk 'take' for falconry
- Establishes rules for federal golden eagle allocation
- Authorizes a new species for falconry
- Makes administrative corrections



Background

Legal basis for Falconry

Migratory Bird Treaty Act 1918

Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act



Oregon History of Falconry Permitting

Rules first adopted by the Commission in 1977; amended 1990 & 2002; annual amendments for peregrine falcon take 2008-14

Incorporates Federal falconry regulations codified in 50 CFR §21.3 & §21.29 - by reference

Federal Compliance

USFWS determined in 2011 Oregon's program met requirements and standards in 50 CFR § 21.29

National Flyway Council

Golden Eagle Allocation Procedure 2019

Number of Licensed Falconers in each Class (2020)



Apprentice	General	Master
35	29	80



Number of Capture Permits Issued & Number of Raptors taken from the Wild. (2010 to 2020)



Year	Capture Permits Issued	Total Taken
2010-11	64	34
2011-12	61	14
2012-13	60	19
2013-14	62	21
2014-15	67	22
2015-16	76	22
2016-17	79	25
2017-18	66	23
2018-19	73	29
2019-20	63	15

(as of 1-31-20)

Definitions

Amendments to 635-055-0002:

- “Capture Season”
- “Hacking”
- “Passage”



Limitations: Species Captured and Held



Amendments to 635-055-0030:

- Clarifies previous practice - taking raptors less than one year old
- Adds Northern Harrier
- Allows General Class Falconers to take and hold peregrine falcon



Capture and Transport of Raptors

Amendments to 635-055-0035:

- Clarifies previous permit requirements and conditions



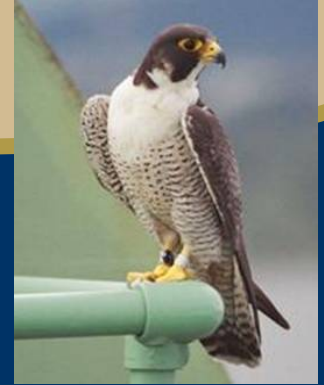
Golden Eagles



Addition of 635-055-0036:

- Establishes new procedures and conditions for master class falconers to obtain Golden Eagles for falconry
- Addresses Federal process and allocation for qualified falconers
- Provides process and conditions that ODFW requires for master falconers to qualify for eagle permit validation.
- Provides facility requirements to hold golden eagles
- Unless approved by ODFW, authorized master class may not transfer a legally held bird nor release into the wild

Peregrine Falcon Capture Permit



Amendments to 635-055-0037:

- Up to **10** nestlings or fledglings may be taken for falconry.
- Simplifies previous conditions/requirements that authorize capture & holding birds
- Monitoring and reporting requirements are incorporated in the permit conditions and includes other special permit conditions ODFW considers necessary
- Clarifies requirements for qualified resident & nonresident permit holders
- Provides resident permit holders instructions whenever maximum allowable peregrine take might occur

Additional species for take



Background:

- Currently, 12 raptor species may be taken for falconry in Oregon
- Federal regulations allow for additional species to be taken
- Oregon Falconers Association requested two additional species:
 - Northern Harrier and Ferruginous Hawk



Additional species for take: Northern Harrier



Amendments to 635-055-0030:

- Up to 5 Northern Harriers will be permitted for Resident General and Master class falconers
- Birds taken will include those individual birds taken from lawful conservation management purposes



Additional species for take: Ferruginous Hawk



Ferruginous Hawk:

- State Sensitive Species – Critical
- Oregon Conservation Strategy Species
- Potential negative impacts from development pressures in their native habitat
- Vulnerable to human disturbance
- Lack of data on population size and trend

Proposal:

- Gather more population information before considering possible future take for falconry

Public Involvement

- Oregon Falconers Association
- Other falconers
- Audubon Society of Portland
- Correspondence





Recommendation



- Adopt amendments to the Division 55 falconry rules, as recommended by staff





Questions

