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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: December 14, 2014
RESUBMITTED: January 20, 2015

A P P R O V E D <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> _____, 20____ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/> (ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Falconry and Raptor Capture Regulations
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 1 of 2015

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

In keeping with efforts to stabilize falconry and raptor capture regulations by using a triennial cycle, the Department is recommending that the following changes remain in place until 2018. The proposed changes are intended to standardize and simplify some regulations and to allow for a limited amount of additional opportunity for wild raptor capture for falconry purposes.

Modification of Existing Regulations:

The current definition of “raptor” includes non-native species, both wild and captive bred. The Department does not regulate the capture of species not known to be in the United States. The Department recommends modifying the definition of “raptor” to restrict it to native migratory raptor species as defined by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

There has been some confusion about the procedure in relation to the transfer of raptors into and out of falconry possession. The Department recommends the following clarification of procedures and conditions for transfer of raptors held for falconry:

- Allowing a wild raptor to be transferred to a permitted falconer or raptor propagator or to be released into the wild, if the permittee submits a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report to the Department. A raptor captured from the wild or hatched from an egg taken from the wild cannot be purchased, sold, or bartered.
- Allowing captive-bred or permanently injured raptors unable to survive in the wild to be transferred to a properly permitted falconer, raptor propagator, wildlife educator, or zoological park accredited by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. The permitted falconer transferring the injured raptor must submit a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report to the Department.

The Department recommends the following changes regarding lands:

- Allowing for the capture of raptors, where trapping is permitted, from state park and recreation areas. This change will align the capture of raptors from within state park and recreation areas with trapping activities permitted on public lands.
- Updating the language regarding recreational trespass with existing statute and recreational trespass compliance used for other wildlife-based recreation (e.g. hunting, trapping).

Currently, the Department allows the capture of northern goshawks by non-residents to be no more than one (1) per calendar year, but due to the low demand by resident falconers applying for these limited capture permits, the Department recommends allowing the capture of goshawks by non-residents to be increased from a maximum of one (1) to a maximum of two (2) goshawks per calendar year.

Neighboring States

The Department polled natural resources professionals in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin regarding similar falconry regulations. The results were the following:

- Illinois: The definition of “raptor” does not differentiate between a native and non-native raptor. If the raptor has been injured and can no longer be flown for falconry, it may be transferred to another permit type. Within 10 days of transferring, the permittee must submit a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report to the Department.
- Indiana: The definition of “wild raptor” means a raptor that was originally captured from the wild, regardless of how long it is held in captivity or transferred to another license holder or permit/license type. The definition does not differentiate between a native or non-native raptor. To allow a wild raptor transfer to a permitted falconer, the permittee must submit a federal migratory bird acquisition and disposition report. To allow the release of raptors into the wild, the permittee must have approval from the Department. An injured raptor may be transferred to the holder of another permit type if the license holder submits a certification from the veterinarian or wild animal rehabilitator.
- Minnesota: The definition of “raptor” does not differentiate between a native or non-native raptor. Capturing or releasing of wild raptors must be reported within 5 days of the transfer and the permittee must submit the federal migratory bird acquisition and disposition report.
- Wisconsin: The definition of “raptor” does not differentiate between a native or non-native raptor. A permittee transferring a wild raptor to another license holder must submit a report to the bureau within 10 days of the transfer. A permittee must have permission from the bureau to release a raptor back into the wild.

Biological

Possession of wild non-native species of raptors for falconry in Michigan is uncommon, and possession of captive bred non-native raptors for falconry poses minimal risks to native raptor populations.

There is no evidence that the limited capture of raptors associated with falconry practices has a biological effect on any of the species native to Michigan. Allowing for the capture of raptors, where trapping is permitted, from state park and recreation areas, provides consistency in regulations. For appropriate federal regulations, rules, ordinances, or restrictions on federal lands, the permitted falconer should contact the local federal office.

In addition, the transfer of a live raptor to an accredited organization or permitted individual is in line with federal regulations, and the Department finds this practice to help limit health risks to the animal.

Social

The Department recommends that public land regulations be as consistent as possible in order to reduce confusion and maximize recreational use. The Michigan Hawking Club is supportive of this change. The Department has received no letters of opposition. Federal agencies may promulgate more restrictive regulations if they deem it appropriate.

Economical

The Department does not expect any economic impacts.

Temporary Care:

The Department recommends providing notification of temporary care of falconry raptors by a nonfalconer. Written notification requirements would parallel the written notification requirements for temporary care by another falconer. This provides additional protection for falconers and DNR law enforcement staff, as a written record will exist if a complaint is received in regards to temporary care of raptors by a nonfalconer.

Neighboring States

The Department polled natural resources professionals in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin regarding similar falconry regulations. The results were the following:

- Illinois: All requests for care of raptors by another person in excess of 45 days must have prior approval by the Department.
- Indiana: A license holder may allow an individual to temporarily care for a raptor showing a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report and a signed and dated statement authorizing the temporary possession, duration, and specifying what the caregiver is authorized to do with the raptor. An unlicensed caregiver can only provide care for the animal for a maximum of 45 consecutive days.

- Minnesota: A permitted raptor may be temporarily held by a person other than the permittee according to federal regulations. The permittee must inform the commissioner, in writing, within 10 days of the transfer, specifying where the raptor is being held, the reason for the transfer, who is to care for the raptor, what that person is allowed to do with the raptor, and approximately how many days the raptor is expected to be in the care of the person. If the person caring for the raptor is a permitted falconer or propagator, the raptor must be reported as a loan or transfer with appropriate paperwork submitted within 10 days.
- Ohio: A raptor held under authority of a falconry permit may be held in temporary facilities or held temporarily by a person other than the permittee, if that person is authorized to possess raptors. The period of care shall not exceed 30 days and the division of wildlife shall be notified in writing prior to the transfer. Notice shall include the location the raptor will be held, who will be caring for the raptor and the approximate duration the raptor will be held at the temporary facility.
- Wisconsin: A non-permittee may care for falcons at the permittee's facilities for up to 45 consecutive days. The person providing care shall have a signed and dated statement (time period and activities authorized) from the permittee authorizing the temporary possession and completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report. This copy must be set to the bureau within 10 days of possession.

Biological

The Department does not expect any biological impacts.

Social

We have not received formal feedback from the Michigan Audubon Society. The Michigan Hawking Club is supportive of this change.

Economical

The Department does not expect any economic impacts.

Opening of Take:

There are currently no restrictions in federal regulations on the number of days annually that raptors can be captured from the wild for falconry. The Department recommends opening the spring season on the first of January rather than the first of February. The capture of great horned owls and snowy owls is hindered by the closure in January.

Neighboring States

The Department polled natural resources professionals in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin to see what the states capture regulations are regarding season dates. The results were the following:

- Illinois: The capture of any eyas raptor in Illinois shall be permitted between February 1 and August 1. Haggard American kestrels and great horned owls may be captured between September 1 and January 1. Immature passage raptors may be captured from September 1 until March 1.
- Indiana: Eyasses may be captured from the wild only by the holder of a general or master class falconry license from January 1 through August 31 of each year. A license holder may capture passage birds from September 1 through the last day of February of the following.
- Minnesota: Eyasses may be captured from the wild from May 27 through July 31 only. Passage raptors may be captured from the wild from August 21 through February 28 only.
- Ohio: It shall be unlawful for any person to trap a raptor except from August first through March first of the following year.
- Wisconsin: A general or master falconer may capture eyasses annually during the periods of March 1 to April 5 and May 7 to July 15; no more than 2 eyasses may be captured by the same general or master falconer permittee during the specified season. First-year (passage or immature) raptors may be taken from August 21 to January 31.

Biological

The US Fish and Wildlife Service does not restrict the total number of raptors that can be captured annually for most species beyond imposing a limit for individual falconers who may not capture more than two (2) birds from the wild annually. The Wildlife Conservation Order provides a cap on the total number of raptors that may be captured in Michigan annually for falconry. A resident may not capture more than two (2) great horned owls and no more than one (1) snowy owl. A non-resident may not capture more than one (1) great horned owl and may not capture snowy owls. This will not increase the total number of raptors captured by all falconers and it is not expected that there will be an increase level of capture for other species in January.

Social

An earlier opening date was requested by the Michigan Hawking Club. There are approximately 188 licensed falconers in Michigan. The Michigan Hawking Club is supportive of this change and we have not received formal feedback from the Michigan Audubon Society.

Economical

The Department does not expect any economic impacts.

Increasing Non-Resident Take of Goshawks:

The Department has identified that there is a low demand by resident falconers applying for these limited raptor capture permits; the Department recommends the maximum capture of goshawks by non-residents to be increased from one (1) to two (2) per calendar year.

Neighboring States

The Department polled natural resources professionals in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin to see what the states falconry regulations are regarding the capture of goshawks. The results were the following:

- Illinois does not limit the number of goshawks captured by non-residents; the number of goshawks that can be captured by non-residents is the same for residents.
- Indiana does not limit the number of goshawks captured by non-residents; the number of goshawks that can be captured by non-residents is the same for residents.
- Minnesota does not limit the number of goshawks captured by non-residents; the number of goshawks that can be captured by non-residents is the same for residents.
- Ohio does not limit the number of goshawks captured by non-residents; the number of goshawks that can be captured by non-residents is the same for residents.
- Wisconsin does not limit the number of goshawks captured by non-residents; the number of goshawks that can be captured by non-residents is the same for residents.

Biological

The Department does not expect any biological impacts.

Social

There are approximately 188 licensed falconers in Michigan. This year, three (3) residents received a limited raptor capture permit for goshawks and one (1) non-resident received a limited raptor capture permit for goshawks. Two (2) residents applied for a limited raptor capture permit for snowy owl, but only one permit was issued. Zero (0) non-residents applied for a limited raptor capture permit for snowy owl. The Michigan Hawking Club is supportive of this change and the Department has not received formal feedback from the Michigan Audubon Society.

Economical

The Department does not expect any economic impacts.

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information on January 15, 2015, at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appeared on the Department's December 2014 calendar and may be eligible for approval on February 12, 2015.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



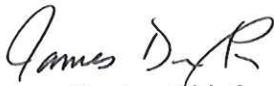
Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



Bill O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Keith Creagh, Director

Date

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 1 of 2015

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by sections 40107 and 40113a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40107 and 324.40113a, it is ordered that effective February 13, 2015, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

10.2 Definitions.

Sec 10.2 (1) "Eyasses" means young birds not yet capable of flight.

(2) "Falconer" means an individual possessing a valid falconry permit.

(3) "Falconry" means the sport of taking game and unprotected species by means of a trained raptor.

(4) "Falconry hacking" means the temporary release of a raptor held for falconry to the wild to survive on its own.

(5) "Falconry permit" means a document which authorizes the holder to practice falconry.

(6) "Federally protected raptor" means any raptor species in 50 CFR 10.13.

(7) "Federal regulations" means the United States fish and wildlife service regulations and standards.

(8) "Hybrid raptor" means offspring of birds listed as two or more distinct species in 50 CFR 10.13.

(9) "Imping" means the repair of a broken feather on a raptor by attaching a molted feather or feather from another bird to the stub of the damaged feather.

(10) "Imprinted raptor" means a raptor that is hand-raised in isolation from the sight of other raptors from 2 weeks of age until it has fledged.

(11) "Marker" means the federal identification device bearing a serial number or ISO-compliant (134.2 kHz) microchip which must be attached to a raptor used in the sport of falconry.

(12) "Mew" means the building or room in which raptors are held and sheltered.

(13) "Service" means the United States fish and wildlife service of the department of the interior.

(14) "Passage" means a flighted raptor less than 1 year of age.

(15) "Weathering area" means an outdoor facility in which raptors are held and sheltered.

(16) "Wild raptor" means a raptor captured from the wild.

10.3 Falconry permit; application; examination; unlawful acts.

Sec 10.3 (1) An applicant shall be required to answer correctly at least 80 percent of the questions on a supervised examination approved by the service and administered by the department. The examination shall relate to basic biology, care and handling of raptors, pertinent literature, laws and regulations, or other appropriate subject matter. Upon passing the falconry examination, the applicant is eligible to become an apprentice falconer.

(2) A Michigan resident may possess, transport, and use raptors for falconry purposes provided the individual obtains a falconry permit from the wildlife division permit specialist. Applications shall be made on forms provided by the wildlife division permit specialist. Applications made by falconers under the age of 18 must be cosigned by a parent or legal guardian who is legally responsible for the activities of the falconer.

(3) A nonresident may possess, transport, and use raptors for falconry purposes provided the individual possesses a federally recognized falconry permit. A nonresident may obtain a falconry permit from the wildlife division permit

specialist upon successful completion of a department supervised examination or documentation of prior falconry experience, and inspection of the applicant's falconry facilities. Applications made by falconers under the age of 18 must be cosigned by a parent or legal guardian who is legally responsible for the activities of the falconer.

(4) There shall be 3 classes of falconry permits. They shall be known as apprentice falconer, general falconer, and master falconer permits. The qualifications for each class of permits are:

(a) Apprentice falconer permit:

(i) An apprentice falconer shall be at least 14 years old.

(ii) An apprentice falconer, regardless of age, must have a sponsor, who is a general or master falconer with at least 2 years' experience at the general falconer level.

(iii) An apprentice must provide a current sponsorship agreement to the wildlife division permit specialist.

(iv) A sponsor shall not have more than 3 apprentices at any one time.

(v) An apprentice falconer shall not possess more than 1 federally protected raptor and shall not obtain more than 2 federally protected raptors for replacement during any 12-month period beginning January 1 of each year.

(vi) An apprentice falconer shall possess only an American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) or a red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) which must be taken from the wild in a state where lawful. An apprentice falconer shall not possess an imprinted raptor.

(vii) An apprentice falconer shall not import or possess eyasses.

(b) General falconer permit:

(i) A general falconer shall be at least 16 years old.

(ii) A general falconer shall have at least 24 months of falconry experience as an apprentice, or the equivalent of 24 months of falconry experience as an apprentice if obtained prior to the year 1977, or the equivalent of 24 months of falconry experience as an apprentice if obtained in a foreign country.

(iii) An apprentice falconer, upon meeting the qualifications for a general falconer permit, must make a written request to the wildlife division permit specialist for a change in classification. This request must include a document from a general or master falconer stating that the applicant has practiced falconry with wild raptors as an apprentice falconer or equivalent for at least 24 months, including maintaining, training, flying, and hunting the raptor(s).

(iv) A general falconer shall not possess more than 3 federally protected raptors and shall not obtain more than 2 federally protected raptors taken from the wild for replacement during any 12-month period beginning January 1 of each year.

(v) A general falconer may not transport or possess a golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), or steller's sea eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*).

(c) Master falconer permit:

(i) A master falconer shall have at least 5 years of falconry experience as a general falconer, or the equivalent of 5 years of falconry experience as a general falconer if obtained prior to the year 1977, or the equivalent of 5 years of falconry experience as a general falconer if obtained in a foreign country.

(ii) A general falconer, upon meeting the qualifications for a master falconer permit, must make a written request to the wildlife division permit specialist for a change in classification.

(iii) A master falconer shall not possess more than 10 federally protected raptors, of which no more than 5 may be wild federally protected raptors, and shall not obtain more than 2 federally protected raptors taken from the wild for

replacement during any 12-month period beginning January 1 of each year. A master falconer may not possess more than 3 golden eagles taken from the wild.

(iv) A master falconer must make a written application on a form provided by the wildlife division permit specialist prior to possessing a golden eagle, white-tailed eagle, or stellar's sea eagle.

(5) As provided by part 435, hunting and fishing licensing, natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.43501 to 324.43561 an individual taking an animal with the use of a raptor is required to have a license for that species.

(6) A general or master falconer shall not transport or possess, any species not defined as a raptor, or any species listed as threatened or endangered by the department or service, for falconry purposes, except as provided by appropriate federal falconry regulations and by part 365, endangered species protection, of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.36501 to 324.36507.

(7) A falconry permit may be valid for 3 years, or from issue date through the third June 30 after issue. Falconers may request renewal of permit upon expiration without a facility inspection or test, except that renewal of a permit which has lapsed for 3 or more years requires inspection of the falconer's facilities and renewal of a permit which has lapsed for 5 or more years requires that the falconer take and pass the basic falconry exam as specified in section 10.3(1) of this order.

10.4 Sources of raptors; retrapping; reporting requirements.

Sec. 10.4 (1) A falconer may acquire a raptor only from the following sources:

- (a) Lawful importation as provided by section 4.2 of this order.
 - (b) Lawful purchase or barter as provided by section 4.3 of this order.
 - (c) A gift or donation of a lawfully possessed raptor.
 - (d) Lawful capture as provided in section 10.10 of this chapter.
 - (e) Lawful taking of threatened or endangered species by permit issued by the department endangered species specialist.
 - (f) Lawful taking under a damage and nuisance animal control permit issued by the department.
- (2) A raptor marked as specified in section 10.7 may be retrapped at any time.
- (3) Any change in a permittee's live bird inventory shall be reported to the wildlife division permit specialist within 5 days of the change. Dead raptors must be reported by submitting the completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report. Live raptors may only be removed from a permittee's inventory in the following ways:
- (a) Wild indigenous raptors may be transferred to a properly permitted falconer or raptor propagator, subject to sections 4.2 and 4.3 of this order, or released to the wild by submitting a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report to the department.
 - (b) Captive-bred and permanently injured raptors unable to survive in the wild may be transferred to a properly permitted falconer, raptor propagator, wildlife educator, or zoological park approved or accredited by the American zoo and aquarium association. The licensed falconer shall submit a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report to the department.

10.6 Transport, possession, temporary care and holding.

Sec 10.6 (1) A raptor may be transported or held in a temporary facility which shall be provided with an adequate perch and protected from predators, domestic animals, extreme temperatures, wind, and excessive disturbance for a period not to exceed 120 days. The temporary facility must be suitable for the total number of raptors held, as required in sections 10.5 and 10.6 of this order.

(2) An individual otherwise authorized to possess raptors may care for the raptor of a falconer for up to 120 consecutive calendar days if the raptor is accompanied at all times by a completed copy of the current bird acquisition and disposition report, designating the falconer as the possessor of record, and accompanied by a signed and dated statement from the falconer authorizing the temporary possession. The temporary facility must be suitable for the total number of raptors held, as required in sections 10.5 and 10.6 of this order. The falconer shall inform the wildlife division permit specialist in writing of this action within 3 days of the transfer and shall provide the following information:

- (i) The location where the raptor is being held.
- (ii) The reason for the transfer.
- (iii) The name of the individual caring for the raptor.
- (iv) Approximately how many days the raptor will be in the temporary care of the individual named above.

(3) An individual not authorized to possess raptors may care for the raptor of a falconer at the falconer's facility or up to 45 consecutive calendar days. An individual not authorized to possess raptors may not fly the raptors for any reason. The raptors may not leave the facilities. The temporary facility must be suitable for the total number of raptors held, as required in sections 10.5 and 10.6. A falconer shall inform the department's wildlife permit specialist in writing of this action within 3 days of the initiation of this care and shall provide the following information:

- (i) The location where the raptor is being held.
- (ii) The reason for the temporary care.
- (iii) The name of the individual caring for the raptor.
- (iv) The approximate number of days the raptor will be in the temporary care of the individual named above.

(4) Any location at which a raptor is held for more than 120 days must be inspected and approved as required in section 10.5 of this order.

(5) A falconer may transport or export a raptor under their ownership to another state without obtaining a veterinarian's certificate of health, provided the importation requirements of that state are met, pursuant to section 31 of the animal industry act, 1988 PA 466, MCL 287.731(4).

10.10 Raptor Capture

Sec. 10.10 (1) Except as provided in section 10.4 of this order, a licensed falconer shall not capture any raptor from the wild in the state of Michigan without first applying for and receiving either a general raptor capture permit or a limited raptor capture permit from the wildlife division permit specialist. Permits will be issued subject to all of the following requirements and conditions:

(a) The total number of raptors captured by all falconers, both resident and nonresident, in any one calendar year shall not exceed 87 and shall be limited to the following numbers and species:

(i) No more than 80 raptors in any combination of American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*), Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*); red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*); sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*), and rough-legged hawk (*Buteo lagopus*). No more than ten American kestrels and ten rough-legged hawks may be captured.

- (ii) No more than 4 northern goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*).
- (iii) No more than 2 great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*).
- (iv) No more than 1 snowy owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*).

(b) The total number of all raptors captured by nonresident falconers in any one calendar year shall not exceed 10, which may include no more than 2 goshawks and 1 great horned owl. Non-residents shall not capture snowy owls.

(c) Raptors shall not be captured except for use in falconry.

(d) An individual who is not a licensed falconer shall not apply for a permit to capture a wild raptor.

(e) There shall be 2 separate seasons open to capturing raptors statewide. A spring season will run from January 1 through July 19. A fall season will run from September 12 through December 31. Snowy owls may only be captured in the Upper Peninsula.

(f) Catching devices used to capture a passage raptor must have the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan driver license number of the user or individual possessing the device permanently etched in the catching device, or there shall be securely fastened to each catching device a metallic plate or tag bearing the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan driver license number of the user or individual possessing the catching device.

(g) Only American kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) and great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*) may be captured when over 1 year old.

(h) Capturing raptors on state park and recreation areas shall take place only in areas where trapping is allowed as described in Chapter VII of this order.

(i) Only licensed falconers may have direct contact with a raptor nest.

(j) Licensed falconers must be in compliance with section 73102 of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.73102, when taking a raptor from the wild in the state of Michigan.

(k) An eyas may be captured only if at least 2 healthy young raptors are left in the nest.

(l) A licensed falconer shall make written application for a general raptor capture permit and the following provisions apply:

(i) A licensed falconer may not possess more than one raptor capture permit to take a bird from the following list of species during any of the raptor seasons:

(1) American kestrel.

(2) Cooper's hawk.

(3) Red-tailed hawk.

(4) Sharp-shinned hawk.

(5) Rough-legged hawk.

(ii) General raptor capture permits for the calendar year shall not be issued between December 24 and December 31.

(iii) A licensed falconer is responsible to maintain current contact information with the wildlife division permit specialist.

(iv) A falconer who has legally captured a raptor may obtain another general raptor capture permit after submitting the used capture permit to the wildlife division permit specialist with the date of capture, species taken, and permittee's signature.

(v) Unused general raptor capture permits may be revoked by the department after the total capture of raptors has reached 80 statewide and any catching device used under the authority of the permit shall be made inoperable and removed from the field within 24 hours of notification by the department.

(m) A licensed falconer shall make written application for a limited raptor capture permit and the following provisions apply:

(i) Limited raptor capture permits will be available for 4 northern goshawks, 2 great horned owls, and 1 snowy owl.

(ii) Permit applications must be submitted to the wildlife division permit specialist prior to January 15. A drawing will be used to identify successful applicants for the northern goshawk, great horned owl, and snowy owl capture permits. Successful applicants will be contacted by the wildlife division permit specialist.

(n) A licensed falconer shall report the capture of a raptor to the wildlife division permit specialist within 24 hours after the raptor is taken. A licensed falconer shall submit their used permit to the wildlife division permit specialist within 5 business days after the raptor is captured.

(o) A licensed falconer shall report the nest location from which an eyas is taken by county, township, range, and section, to the wildlife division permit specialist within 5 business days after the raptor is captured.

Issued on this 12th day of February, 2015.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

John Matonich, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Keith Creagh
Director