

ATTACHMENT SS2

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: (Scientific Name/Common Name/National Code for Plants – USDA PLANTS) <i>Falco peregrinus/ Peregrine Falcon</i>			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
<p>1 Distribution within R2</p>	<p>A</p>	<p>This species was delisted by the USFWS in August 1999 and is considered recovered from endangered status in many areas. Current data from monitoring projects in R2 states suggest that this species distribution is very patchy and that it is absent from some areas resulting in large gaps in its distribution. This species state status is listed as imperiled in CO, critically imperiled in WY and KS, very rare and locally distributed in NE, and extirpated from SD. This is a species of concern in CO and WY and listed as a state endangered species in SD, NE, and KS. This indicates that the species is perhaps recovering more quickly in the western half of the R2 area than in the eastern half. Overall, this species distribution is still very limited in the R2 despite recovery efforts.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <u>High</u> or Medium or Low</p>	<p>Cade, T. J., et al., eds. 1988. Peregrine falcon populations: their management and recovery. The Peregrine Fund, Inc., Boise, Idaho.</p> <p>Peakall, D. B. 1990. Prospects for the peregrine falcon, FALCO PEREGRINUS, in the nineties. Can. Field-Nat. 104:168-173.</p> <p>Peterson, R.A. 1995. The South Dakota breeding bird atlas. South Dakota ornithological union. Aberdeen, SD, USA.</p> <p>B. Luce, A. Cerovski, B. Oakleaf, J. Priday, and L. Van Fleet. 1999. Atlas of birds, Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians in Wyoming. Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Lander, WY, USA.</p> <p>Van Dusen, Beth. 2001. Colorado Natural Heritage Database. Pers. comm..</p>

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<p>2 Distribution outside R2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>This species distribution is nearly cosmopolitan; breeds on every continent except Antarctica; absent from high mountains, desert regions of Africa, Asia, and Australia, and from most tropical forests; occasionally reaches Hawaii. This species distribution outside the R2 area is increasing and its status nationally and globally is considered to be apparently secure in both breeding and non-breeding areas. Large scale captive breeding programs have produced many birds for reintroduction.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <u>High</u> or Medium or Low</p>	<p>Cade, T. J., et al., eds. 1988. Peregrine falcon populations: their management and recovery. The Peregrine Fund, Inc., Boise, Idaho.</p> <p>Johnsgard, P. A. 1990. Hawks, eagles, and falcons of North America. Smithsonian Inst. Press, Washington, D.C. xvi + 403 pp.</p> <p>Peakall, D. B. 1990. Prospects for the peregrine falcon, FALCO PEREGRINUS, in the nineties. Can. Field-Nat. 104:168-173.</p> <p>NatureServe: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.4. Arlington, Virginia, USA: Association for Biodiversity Information. Available: http://www.natureserve.org/.</p>
<p>3 Dispersal Capability</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>This is a highly mobile species capable of long distance movements across unsuitable habitats during seasonal migrations.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <u>High</u> or Medium or Low</p>	<p>Johnsgard, P. A. 1990. Hawks, eagles, and falcons of North America. Smithsonian Inst. Press, Washington, D.C. xvi + 403 pp.</p> <p>Ehrlich, P. R., D. S. Dobkin, and D. Wheye. 1988. The birder's handbook[:] a field guide to the natural history of North American birds. Simon & Schuster, New York. xxx + 785 pp.</p>

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<p>4 Abundance in R2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>This species is listed as being present in low relative abundance in the Northern Rockies and Badlands and Prairies habitat regions within R2. This suggests that this species population in the R2 area is small enough that environmental disturbance and demographic stochasticity could result in population declines.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <u>High</u> or Medium or Low</p>	<p>Peterson, R.A. 1995. The South Dakota breeding bird atlas. South Dakota ornithological union. Aberdeen, SD, USA.</p> <p>B. Luce, A. Cerovski, B. Oakleaf, J. Priday, and L. Van Fleet. 1999. Atlas of birds, Mammals, Reptiles and Amphibians in Wyoming. Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Lander, WY, USA.</p> <p>Partners in Flight. 2001. Rocky Mountain Observatory Data. www.rmbo.org/</p>
<p>5 Population Trend in R2</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>Information from the Partners in Flight database suggests that the population trend for this species in the R2 is unknown at this time. Evidence from the states suggests that this species may be increasing in some areas and decreasing in others.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or <u>Medium</u> or Low</p>	<p>Partners in Flight. 2001. Rocky Mountain Observatory Data. www.rmbo.org/</p>

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<p>6 Habitat Trend in R2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Information from the Partners in Flight database suggests that habitat quality and quantity is probably stable in the R2 area. Breeding habitats for nesting are typically restricted to cliffs at heights greater than 200 ft or bridges and buildings that provide similar structure or nests. The mountains and canyons in R2 are the main habitats suitable for nesting. There are very few areas in the prairies and badlands that provide suitable nesting habitat but non-breeding birds do use these areas occasionally. Open flat agricultural areas provided very limited opportunities for nesting on private lands. Urban areas with high rise buildings and bridges have been increasingly used by this species over the past few decades.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank <u>High</u> or <u>Medium</u> or <u>Low</u></p>	<p>Partners in Flight. 2001. Rocky Mountain Observatory Data. www.rmbo.org/</p>

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<p>7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification</p>	B	<p>This species habitat is somewhat vulnerable to human disturbances, especially around nest sites. Recreational climbing or other activities on R2 land that take place near nest sites could disrupt/displace nesting individuals and their young. Efforts to restrict access/activities in potential/known nesting habitat during the nesting season. Agricultural and industrial use of pesticides has caused a worldwide decline of peregrine falcons. Pesticide use is closely regulated in Canada and the U.S. but not in Latin America where peregrines winter. This species is Moderately threatened range-wide, habitat or community lends itself to alternate use Threats include loss of wetland habitat of primary prey, poachers robbing nests, shooting by hunters, and food chain contamination from use of persistent pesticides. Pesticide-caused reproductive failure now apparently is rare or absent in northern populations, though organochlorine levels in the environment are still high in some areas (e.g., New Mexico, Panama, Venezuela, and Mexico). Also, eggshell thickness in New Jersey declined in the 1980s, suggesting that falcons continue to be exposed to environmental contaminants. Reintroduced populations in some areas of the eastern U.S. (e.g., barrier islands of the mid-Atlantic states) may be threatened by increasing human disturbance and use of nesting habitat.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low</p>	<p>NatureServe: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. 2001. Version 1.4. Arlington, Virginia, USA: Association for Biodiversity Information. Available: http://www.natureserve.org/.</p>
<p>8 Life History and Demographics</p>	B	<p>This species has a relatively high reproductive rate. It's population has been severely impacted by pesticide use in the past, so this is still a potential problem for this species in some areas of its distribution outside the U.S.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or <u>Medium</u> or Low</p>	<p>Ehrlich, P. R., D. S. Dobkin, and D. Wheye. 1988. The birder's handbook[:] a field guide to the natural history of North American birds. Simon & Schuster, New York. xxx + 785 pp.</p>
<p>Evaluator(s): Stan Anderson and Matt McGee</p>			<p>Date: 7-6-01</p>

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National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY (L)¹ to occur:

<u>Colorado NF/NG</u>		<u>Kansas NF/NG</u>		<u>Nebraska NF/NG</u>		<u>South Dakota NF/NG</u>		<u>Wyoming NF/NG</u>	
Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely	Known	Likely
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF	*	Cimmaron NG		Samuel R.McKelvie NF		Black Hills NF	*	Shoshone NF	*
White River NF	*			Halsey NF		Buffalo Gap NG		Bighorn NF	*
Routt NF	*			Nebraska NF		Ft. Pierre NG		Black Hills NF	*
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF	*			Ogalala NG				Medicine Bow NF	*
San Juan NF	*							Thunder Basin NG	
Rio Grande NF	*								
Pike-San Isabel NF	*								
Comanche NG									

¹ Likely is defined as more likely to occur than not occur on the National Forest or Grassland. This generally can be thought of as having a 50% chance or greater of appearing on NFS lands.