

**Banding Recoveries of Peregrine Falcons
Banded in Maine through 1999**

Acadia National Park Natural Resources Report 99-03

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**Acadia National Park
P.O. Box 177
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609**

**Prepared by: Elsa M. Alvear, SCEP Trainee, Acadia National Park
Edited by: Bruce Connery, Acadia National Park**

I. Summary

From 1984 through 1986, Acadia National Park (ANP) "hacked" (artificially raised) twenty-three Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) chicks in an effort to re-introduce this endangered species to the area; others were hacked in other parts of Maine. From 1991 through 1999, forty-two chicks have been naturally hatched in ANP. Of these, each hacked chick and twenty-seven of the free-born chicks were banded with United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) bands, to assist in monitoring information about individual health and migration. This report examines some of the known fates of these birds of prey after they left the nest.

A "band recovery" occurs when someone reports the banded bird to a database maintained by the Bird Banding Laboratory (BBL) of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (PWRC), MD. The term "recovery" is used whether the bird was alive or dead, and whether or not the band was left on. From this database, a file of all banding recoveries from birds originally banded in Maine through June 1999 reveals the following results. Although BBL database reports do not report whether or not the falcon was attending a nest, this information is sometimes reported to ANP through other sources.

Of the twenty Peregrine Falcons with BBL-listed banding recoveries, only five were originally banded in ANP. Of these five, three were seen in other states (MA, NH, and MD) at two, three, and one years of age, respectively. In the case of the MA and NH sightings, we know from other sources that the falcons were attending nests. Sadly, the remaining two are deceased: one was found dead in Maine at four years of age, and the other was shot in Cuba at seven months of age. Also, though not yet reported to the Bird Banding Laboratory, one male banded in 1986 actively nested in ANP from 1991 through 1998, and another bird banded in 1986 actively nested in 1997 in Staten Island, NY.

Of the other fifteen Maine-banded falcons with banding recoveries, four living falcons have been identified by sight in four states (MA, ME, NJ, and NY). Most of these were identified one to three years after banding but one was alternately sighted or trapped and released over the next nine years in two states (NJ and MA). Other sources state that some years this particular falcon was attending its own nest. Three falcons have been trapped and released (in MD, NJ, and Venezuela); all within one year of banding. One falcon was caught less than one year because it was injured; this bird was subsequently kept in captivity. Seven falcons are reported dead from six states (MA, NJ, NY, RI, SC, and VT). Of these, four survived less than one year and one survived over seven years.

It may be concluded that the efforts of ANP and the State of Maine have been successful in helping the ongoing species recovery of Peregrine Falcons not just on a statewide basis per season, but on a regional basis in successive seasons as well. In addition, falcons banded in ANP and other parts of Maine are now proven to migrate within the U.S.A. and internationally, benefiting the species diversity of the entire eastern seaboard and abroad.

II. Banding Recovery Results Interpreted

Section III of this report is an interpretation of a list of banding recoveries provided by Mary Gustafson of the USFWS on 06/15/99. All interpretation was done using the electronic version of the North American Bird Banding Manual (<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/manual/enc.htm>), downloaded 06/24/1999. This list is arranged by banding year and band number. Some internal information, such as whether the recovery information was transmitted via letter or 1-800 number, has been deleted for brevity. In addition, the database reports latitude and longitude as a ten-minute "block" – interpreted in this report as either a Maine county, or, in the case of ANP bandings, as a particular nest site.

The phrase "as a young bird" is short for "as a young bird incapable of sustained flight." The phrase "agency personnel" refers to employees or representatives of any local, state, or federal government agency. The word "civilian" refers to a person who is neither an agency employee nor a bird bander.

III. Band Recovery Results by Year of Banding

Recoveries of 1984 Bands

081667431

Banded 06/12/1984 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 44'5x N, longitude 068'3x W (Penobscot County).

- Found dead 02/01/1985 in South Carolina by agency personnel, latitude 33'2x N, longitude 079'0x W.

081667432

Banded 06/15/1984 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 46'0x N, longitude 068'4x W (northern Penobscot County).

- Sight record in Maine by color band 06/15/1985 by a bird bander, latitude 46'0x N, longitude 068'4x W.

Recoveries of 1985 Bands

081667496

Banded 06/09/1985 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 44'5x N, longitude 068'3x W (Penobscot County).

- Caught by hand in Venezuela 10/27/1985 by a civilian, released, latitude 11'5x N, longitude 067'3x W.

III. Band Recovery Results by Year of Banding, cont'd.

Recoveries of 1986 Bands

098782369

Banded 07/07/1986 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 44'5x N, longitude 068'3x W (Penobscot County).

- Sight record in New York 04/1989, reported by a bird bander, latitude 40'4x N, longitude 073'5x W (Long Island, Huntington Station).

098782373

Banded 07/07/1986 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 44'5x N, longitude 068'3x W (Penobscot County).

- Dead; caught due to striking a stationary object in Massachusetts 11/26/86, reported by a bird bander, latitude 42'2x N, longitude 071'0x W.

081675370

Banded 07/18/1986 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 43'3x N, longitude 070'1x W (Portland area, Cumberland County).

- Trapped and released in New Jersey on 10/10/1986 by a bird bander during banding operations in latitude 38'5x N, longitude 074'5x W.
- Sight record in Massachusetts on 11/05/1987 by bird bander, latitude 42'2x N, longitude 071'0x W.
- Trapped and released in Massachusetts on 02/20/1988 by a bird bander during banding operations, same location.
- Sight record in Massachusetts on 04/1989 by bird bander, same location.
- Sight record in Massachusetts on 04/04/1994 by bird bander, same location.
- Sight record in Massachusetts in 1995 by agency personnel, same location.

Recoveries of 1987 Bands

081693512

Banded 07/11/1987 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 44'4x N, longitude 070'3x' W (Oxford/Franklin County area).

- Found dead in New Jersey on 01/28/1992 by agency personnel, latitude 39'2x N, longitude 074'3x W.

Recoveries of 1990 Bands

081693646

Banded 07/16/1990 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 45'2x' N, longitude 069'2x W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Found dead on highway in New York on 02/10/1998 by agency personnel, in latitude 41'0x N, longitude 073'5x W.

III. Band Recovery Results by Year of Banding, cont'd.

Recoveries of 1991 Bands

081693588

Banded 08/03/1991 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 45'2x N, longitude 069'2x' W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Caught due to an injury in Connecticut on 09/14/1991 by agency personnel; now alive in captivity; in latitude 41'2x' N, longitude 072'0x' W.

180700284

Banded 08/03/1991 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 45'2x N, longitude 069'2x' W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Sight record in Massachusetts on 03/31/1994 by agency personnel, in latitude 42'2x N, longitude 071'0x' W.
- Sight record in Massachusetts on 04/04/1994 by agency personnel, in latitude 42'2x N, longitude 071'0x' W.

Recoveries of 1992 Bands

098763728

Banded 07/31/1992 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 45'2x N, longitude 069'2x' W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Trapped and released during other banding operations in New Jersey on 10/29/1992 by a bird bander, in latitude 38'5x' N, longitude 074'5x' W.

Recoveries of 1993 Bands

081690589

Banded 06/12/1993 as a young bird, sex unknown, in Acadia National Park, in latitude 44'2x' N, longitude 068'1x' W (Precipice Trail site).

- Found dead in Maine on 07/1997 by a civilian, in latitude 44'3x' N, longitude 068'4x' W.

III. Band Recovery Results by Year of Banding, cont'd.

Recoveries of 1994 Bands

220625976

Banded 06/07/1994 as a young male, in latitude 45'2x' N, longitude 069'2x' W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Found dead due to avian control operations Rhode Island on 12/03/97 by agency employees, in latitude 41'3x' N longitude 071'2x' W.

098763743

Banded 06/13/1994 as a young bird, sex unknown, in Acadia National Park, latitude 44'2x'N, longitude 068'1x' W (Precipice Trail site).

- Sight record in Massachusetts on 06/14/1996 by agency officials, in latitude 42'2x' N, longitude 071'0x' W (Boston area).

098763744

Banded 06/13/1994 as a young female, in Acadia National Park, in latitude 44'2x' N longitude 068'1x' W (Precipice Trail site).

- Sight record in New Hampshire on 05/04/1997 by agency personnel, in latitude 44'4x'N, longitude 071'7x' W (Devil's Slide, Stark area).

Recoveries of 1995 Bands

220625989

Banded 07/10/1995 as a young male, in latitude 45'2x' N, longitude 069'2x' W (southern Piscataquis County).

- Found dead in building or enclosure in Vermont on 09/04/1995 by a civilian, in latitude 43'5x' N, longitude 073'1x' W.

Recoveries of 1996 Bands

180738856

Banded 07/24/1996 as a young female, in latitude 46'0x' N, longitude 068'4x' W (northern Penobscot County).

- Trapped and released during other banding operations in Maryland by a bird bander, in latitude 38'1x' N, longitude 075'0x' W.

III. Band Recovery Results by Year of Banding, cont'd.

Recoveries of 1997 Bands

180738860

Banded 06/12/1997 as a young female in Acadia National Park, in latitude 44'2x' N, longitude 068'1x' W (Precipice Trail site).

- Sight record in Maryland on 02/10/1998 by an unnamed source, in latitude 42'5x' N, longitude 071'2x' W.

220640674

Banded 06/13/1997 as a young male in Acadia National Park, in latitude 44'2x' N, longitude 068'1x' W (Jordan Cliffs site).

- Shot in Cuba on 01/24/1998, in latitude 21'2x' N, 077'5x' W.

180704124

Banded 07/31/1997 as a young bird, sex unknown, in latitude 45'5x' N, longitude 068'5x' W (northern Penobscot County).

- Found dead 12/27/1997 in Massachusetts by a civilian, in latitude 41'1x' N, longitude 070'0x' W.

IV. Band information for Peregrine Falcon chicks hacked in Acadia National Park at Jordan Cliffs (updated from 1997 Peregrine Falcon Report, Acadia National Park).

Nickname	Year	Left Band Number	Right Band Number	Sex	Status	Source of Info
Homer	1984	Yellow "28"	Black anodized "816-67427"	M		
Cirus	1984	Black anodized "816-67428"	Yellow "29"	M		
Althea	1984	Yellow "68"	Black anodized "987-73345"	F		
Maggie	1984	Black anodized "987-73346"	Yellow "90"	F		
Betty	1984	Yellow "91"	Black anodized "987-73347"	F		
Jan	1984	Black anodized "987-73348" (Green Tape)	Yellow "92"	F		
Gapper	1984	Yellow "93"	Black anodized "987-73349" (blue tape)			
Tundra	1985	Blue "23"	Metal "816-67485" (green tape)	F	Found dead 8/9/85-Boothbay Harbor, ME	Patuxent Wildlife Research Center
Tiny	1985	Metal "816-67486"	Blue "24"	M		
Arrow	1985	Metal "816-67487"	Blue "25"	M		
#87	1985	Blue "87"	Metal "617-22677"	F		
Flee	1985	Metal "617-22678" (orange tape)	Blue "151"	F		
CAC	1985	Blue "152"	Metal "617-22674" (orange tape)	F		
Rush	1986	Black anodized No. "B57B"	Metal "987-82362" (black tape)	F		
Rory	1986	Metal "987-82368" (pink tape)	Black anodized No. "B29B"	F	Cornell Medical Building- Staten Island. Actively nesting in 1997.	New York City Parks Department
Rita	1986	Black anodized No. "B58B"	Metal "987-82369" (orange tape)	F	Seen alive 4/89-Long Island, Huntingdon Station.	FWS/BBL
Champ	1986	Metal "987-82370" (lime tape)	Black anodized No. "B50B"	F		
Flee	1986	Metal "816-75237" (white tape)	Black anodized No. "A62A"	M		
Ganesh	1986	Black anodized No. "A59A"	Metal "816-75238" (pink tape)	M	Actively nesting in ANP from 1991 - 1998.	Direct observation.
Shiva	1986	Metal "816-75239"	Black anodized No. "A65A"	M		
Curly	1986	Black anodized No. "A71A"	Metal "816-75240" (lime tape)	M		
Lary	1986	Black anodized No. "A72A"	Metal "816-75241"	M		
Mo	1986	Metal "816-75242"	Black anodized No "A63A"	M		

FWS/BBL = United States Fish and Wildlife Service / Patuxent WRC Bird Banding Laboratory database.

V. Band information for Peregrine Falcon chicks naturally hatched in Acadia National Park (updated from 1997 Peregrine Falcon Report, Acadia National Park).

Location	Year	Left Band Number	Right Band Number	Sex	Status	Source of Info
Precipice	1991	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1991	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1991	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1992	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1992	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1992	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1993*	Black "O" over Red "T"	Metal "987-63733"	F		
Precipice	1993	Black "O" over Red "S"	Metal "987-63734"	F (?)		
Precipice	1993	Black "D" over Red "O"	Metal "816-90588"	M		
Precipice	1993	Black "U" over Red "O"	Metal "816-90589"	M	Found dead in the Bucksport area, Maine, in 07/1997	FWS/BBL
Precipice	1994	Black "V" over Red "9"	Metal "2206-25977"	M		
Precipice	1994	Black "G" over Red "O"	Metal "2206-25978"	M		
Precipice	1994	Black "I" over Red "H"	Metal "987-63743"	F	1996 & 1997: Nesting at Christian Science Church Admn. Bldg., Boston MA	Mike Amaral
Precipice	1994	Black "I" over Red K"	Metal "987-63744"	F	1997 (possibly 1996), Nesting at Devil's Slide, Stark, NH.	Mike Amaral
Precipice	1995	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1995	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1995	Not banded	Not banded			
Beech Cliffs	1995	Not banded	Not banded			
Precipice	1996	Black "6 or 7" over Red "9"	Metal "987-63766"	F		
Precipice	1996	Black "9" over Red "A"	Metal "987-63767"	F		
Precipice	1996	Black "D" over Red "9"	Metal "2206-40660"	M		
Beech Cliffs	1996	Not banded	Not banded			

FWS/BBL = United States Fish and Wildlife Service / Patuxent WRC Bird Banding Laboratory database.

V. Band information for Peregrine Falcon chicks naturally hatched in Acadia National Park (updated from 1997 Peregrine Falcon Report, Acadia National Park), cont'd.

Location	Year	Left Band Number	Right Band Number	Sex	Status	Source of Info
Precipice	1997	Black sideways "U" over Red "8"	Metal "2206-40671"	M		
Precipice	1997	Black sideways "V" over Red "8"	Metal "2206-62600"	M		
Precipice	1997	Black E over Red sideways "X"	Metal "1807-38860"	F	Seen in Maryland on 02/10/1998	FWS/BBL
Beech Cliffs	1997	Not banded	Not banded			
Beech Cliffs	1997	Not banded	Not banded			
Beech Cliffs	1997	Not banded	Not banded			
Jordan Cliffs	1997	Black sideways "Y" over Red "C"	Metal "2206-40674"	M	Shot in Cuba on 01/24/1998	FWS/BBL
Jordan Cliffs	1997	Black sideways "Y" over Red "D"	Metal "2206-40675"	M		
Jordan Cliffs	1997	Not banded	Not banded	M	Mortality at 18 days, during banding effort	
Precipice	1998	Red "S" over black sideways "X"	Metal "1807-38876"	F		
Precipice	1998	Red "K" over black sideways "X"	Metal "1807-38877"	F	Mortality within ten days after banding effort	
Precipice	1998	Red sideways "Y" over black "8"	Metal "2206-40691"	M		
Precipice	1998	Red sideways "Y" over black "Y"	Metal "2206-40692"	M		
Jordan Cliffs	1998	Red sideways "V" over black "X"	Metal "2206-40693"	M	One of this nest died at least one day after banding; never identified	
Jordan Cliffs	1998	Red sideways "V" over black "W"	Metal "2206-40694"	M	One of this nest died at least one day after banding; never identified	
Precipice	1999	Black "N" over red "E"	Metal "816-68953"	M		
Jordan Cliffs	1999	Black "M" over red "V"	Metal "1807-38881"	F		
Jordan Cliffs	1999	Black "N" over red "G"	Metal "816-68954"	M		
Jordan Cliffs	1999	Black "N" over red "R"	Metal "816-68955"	M		
Jordan Cliffs	1999	Black "N" over red "S"	Metal "816-68956"	M		

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