

# First Report on Saskatchewan Falconry Association Banding Program

by **Glen A. Fox**, Kindersley

It would seem appropriate, after pleas for assistance and co-operation in our banding program, that the Saskatchewan Falconry Association should publish a preliminary report.

The author has been banding for the Association since 1960. During 1960 I banded on a sub-permit under Dr. Stuart Houston. In 1961 I was granted a permit of my own. In 1962 Spencer G. Sealy was also granted a permit, and rather late in the season, three other members of the Association were granted sub-permits under me.

As you well know, raptors do not nest in large numbers in easily accessible places, but rather in varied habitats over a vast area, different parts of which vary in accessibility. Many hours have been spent in the field searching for nests and in the banding of nestlings as well as in efforts to road-trap adults. I feel that 7,000 miles is a conservative estimate of the Association's travels, the expenses of which have all been defrayed by the members. Rain and the resulting mud have caused many memorable but grueling experiences. However, it is our feeling that the results have certainly justified the effort, and will continue to do so.

Our field methods are improving constantly. We are perfecting new trapping techniques. An elaborate filing system has been established which will contain detailed reports on each nest and each adult bird banded, and any other notes on raptors observed in the field. These

records will be used, when sufficient are available for a significant sample, in studies of all aspects of the life history of the raptors. We now collect blood samples from all individuals for virus and disease studies being carried out by Dr. R. Connell of the Veterinary Science Dept. of the University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.

Below is a list of all bandings carried out under my supervision as director of the banding program. Banding under the supervision of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History is not included. Snowy Owl bandings will be reported elsewhere.

Species	No. of Young	No. of Adult
Red-tailed Hawk	29	0
Swainson's Hawk	7	1
Ferruginous Hawk	6	0
Golden Eagle	1	0
Marsh Hawk	43	0
Prairie Falcon	12	1
Peregrine Falcon	0	2
Merlin (Pigeon Hawk)	12	0
Kestrel (Sparrow Hawk)	5	4
Great Horned Owl	39	0
Burrowing Owl	2	0
Long-eared Owl	12	1
11 Species . . .	168 young	+9 adults
	= 177 Raptors	

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## Fifth Annual Report of the Prairie Nest Records Scheme

by **Elmer L. Fox**, Regina

Statistics compiled for our five years of operation reveal that well over 5,000 cards have been turned in recording breeding information on 208 species of birds in the Prairie Provinces and the territory to the north. In 1962, 28 contributors for-

warded 561 cards on 129 species. Relatively speaking, the number of cards submitted was rather small. A number of our regular contributors have so far (January 15) not sent in their returns. We earnestly request that they do so immediately as the