



# 2022 Maine Peregrine Falcon Program Report



Photo by Deb Powers

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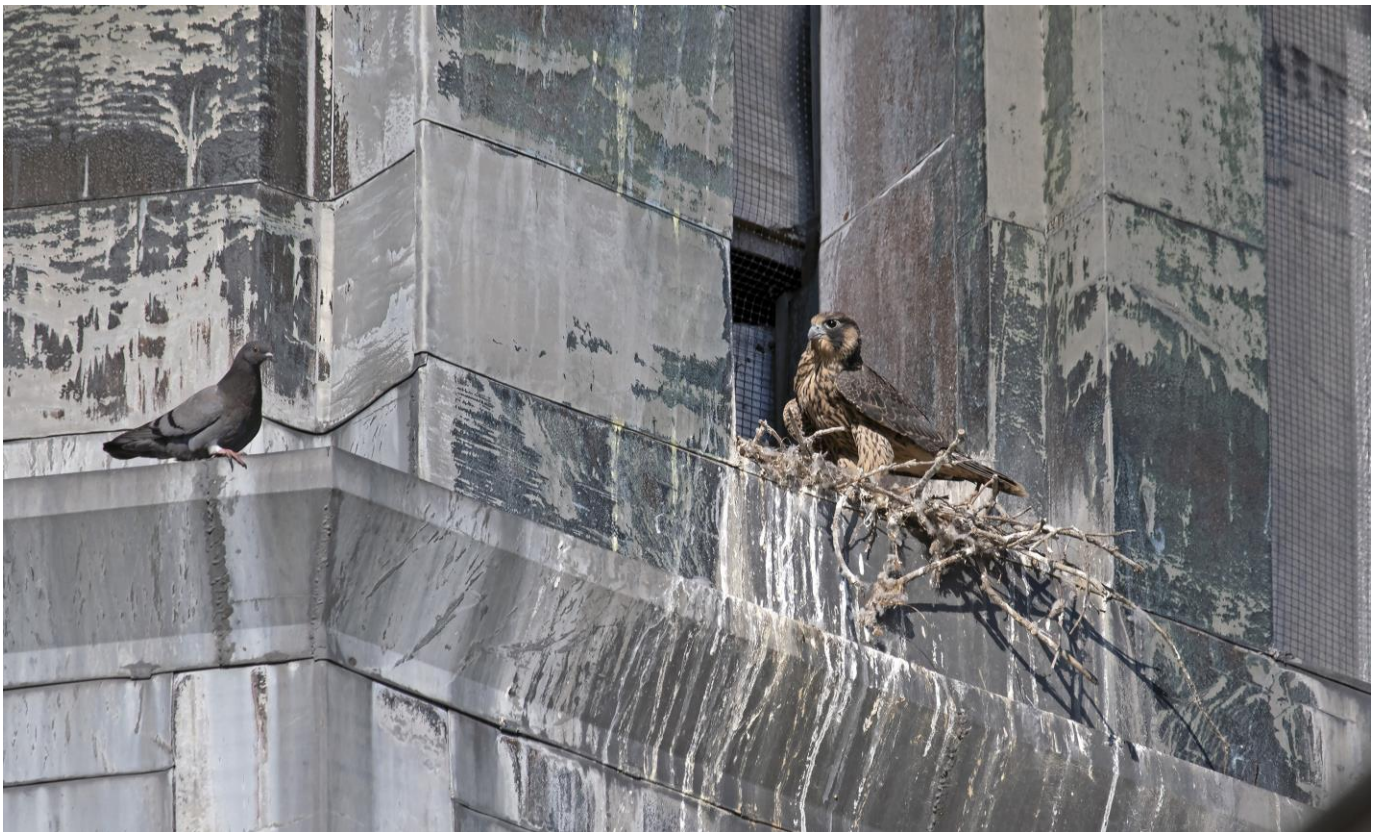


Photo by Deb Powers

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## Executive Summary

By the 1960s, peregrine falcons nearly disappeared across the country due to the widespread use of the pesticide DDT. A ban on this environmental contaminant and species restoration efforts resulted in a resurgence of peregrine numbers. The species was Federally delisted in 1999, however, the Maine breeding population is still considered endangered. Despite the positive trend since reintroduction, the peregrine population is small and continues to benefit from monitoring and management.

Peregrine conservation efforts in Maine continue to focus on directly improving habitat and positively impacting the population throughout the state. This includes working toward the development of a state species conservation plan, connecting with a network of partners associated with urban and cliff-based nest sites, targeting messaging to both the general public and specific groups, participating in professional meetings, monitoring mortality and disease, contributing to regional banding efforts, assimilating current and historical breeding season survey data, and conducting breeding surveys.

To improve efficiency in conducting surveys in 2022, we reduced the number of locations visited compared to the past three years. Between 2019 and 2021, we attempted to survey all locations with a recently confirmed history of peregrine occupation. This created a solid understanding of the status, incorporated intra-annual variability, and helped garner momentum in building partnerships. This year, only locations were visited where knowledge of breeding status could be used to inform onsite practices. Practices might include posting signage or specific information onsite or online, trail closures, adjusting trail maintenance, forestry, or climbing activities at cliff sites, or adjusting timing or locations of non-emergency repairs, maintenance, construction, inspections, or other various activities at urban nests. However, additional locations were surveyed if there were available and interested surveyors.



Photo by Chris Bolduc

Given the more limited scope of survey efforts, the following does not represent a statewide assessment as in 2019 – 2021. In 2022, 32 pairs were observed and in three sites a single peregrine was noted. Of the 32 pairs observed, 25 pairs attempted to nest. Three nest failures were confirmed of the pairs that attempted to nest, one nest fate was unknown, and 21 pairs hatched 53 chicks. Of the 18 nesting pairs that were visited when the young were expected to be 28 days or older, 47 fledglings were documented, and 24 were observed in flight. Of the 21 nesting pairs that produced chicks, 11 were cliff nesters, and of the 10 urban nesters, four were in quarries, two were on bridges, three were on buildings, and one was on an old osprey nest built on top of a transmission tower.

If you have comments or want to join the Maine Peregrine Falcon Program (e.g., conduct standardized surveys, construction or placement of nest structures, etc.) please email, [erynn.call@maine.gov](mailto:erynn.call@maine.gov). Any incidental observations can be reported at [Maine eBird](#). Always feel free to contact MDIFW at (207) 287-8000 or at [maine.gov/ifw](http://maine.gov/ifw).

## Acknowledgments

With help from the following partners, the Maine Peregrine Falcon Program was a resounding success in 2022. Thanks to everyone!

**Peregrine surveyors** - MDIFW staff (Adri Bessenaire, Sarah Boyden, Erynn Call, Steve Dunham, Doug Kane, Lauren McPherson, Josh Matijas, Matt O’Neal), Acadia National Park/National Park Service (Bik Wheeler, Morgan Ingalls), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Linda Welch), Maine Department of Transportation (Justin Sweitzer), Maine Bureau of Public Lands (Sarah Spencer), N.H. Audubon (Chris Martin, Cal Peterka), Biodiversity Research Institute (Mark Burton, Chris DeSorbo), Sappi Somerset Mill Skowhegan (Robin Faulkner, Jamie Swett, Michael Tessier), Patricia Berube, Michael Boardman, Brandy Bridges, Murry Carpenter, Mark Ettinger, Chrystina Gastelum, Bill Hancock, Mac Hunter, Rosy Hust, Gary Inman, Evan Jackson, Jennifer Jones, John Patrick, Marcel Polak, Deb Powers, Steve Mierzykowski, Lesley Rowse, Steve Shepard, and Greg Shute.

**Additional support** – Evan Jackson, [NestStory](#) and the [Little Egg Foundation](#) (Jim Verhagen and staff), MDIFW staff (Brad Allen, Alex Fish, Laura Kintz,, Ryan Robicheau, Courtney Sirois, Kelsey Sullivan), Maine Department of Transportation (Eric Ham, Justin Sweitzer, Ryan Annis, Vincent Miniutti, Richard Desfosses), USDA APHIS Wildlife Services (Adam Vashon, John Wood, Matt Ewing), Acadia National Park/National Park Service (Molly Donlan, Jason Flynn, Adam Gibson), Biodiversity Research Institute (Chris Persico, Ed Jenkins), Grafton Notch State Park (Tim Healy), Camden State Park, Mount Kineo State Park, White Mountain National Forest (William O’Neill), Avian Haven Rehabilitation Center, Center for Wildlife, AT&T Technology Operations Northeast C&E (Rob Dion), Central Maine Power Company (Janet Dyer), City of Biddeford (James Bennett, Brian Phinney), Chinburg Properties (John Fanning, Warren Libby), Consigli (Matthew Tonello), Crooker Construction, Eurovia Northeast Paving (Rich Nichols), Giant Cement Holdings, Inc. (Mike Martunas), Kennebec River Development Park llc (Paul Roy), ND Paper LLC - Old Town (Daniela Delpino), Rock Row Westbrook (Mark Guzzetta, Karen Pollard), Sappi Somerset Mill Skowhegan (Robin Faulkner, Brett Patten, Jamie Swett, Michael Tessier), Bath Iron Works (Deb Nadeau), T-mobile Maine (Matt Lebel), TimberHP by GO Lab (Ralph Tranten, Joe Clark), USGS Bird Banding Lab (Danny Bystrak), Rich Burton (Animal Damage Control Agent), The Access Fund (Mike Morin), Appalachian Trail Conservancy (Brad Brainard, Paige MacGregor, Hawk Metheny, Wendy Weiger and others), Maine Appalachian Trail Club (Brad Deane), Seth Benz (Schoodic Institute), Marek Plater, Stacy Verrell, Craig Hunt, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife (Kathy Clark), Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife (David Paulson, Drew Vitz), Maine Falconry and Raptor Conservancy, and editors Danielle D’Auria, Evan Jackson, and Courtney Sirois.

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Cellular game camera photo courtesy of Linda Welch, USFWS

**In Memory –**

**Mark Fanning**

Mark J. Fanning, 76, husband of Cindy, educator, outdoorsman, biologist, Master Falconer, and mentor to many, passed away unexpectedly in Virginia on Nov. 19, 2022. He worked tirelessly to interpret and secure the federal falconry regulations to be adopted by MDIFW and was ever conscious of maintaining high standards of ethics in the sport of falconry.



**Scott Keniston**

Scott F. Keniston, son of the late Donald Keniston and Doris (Johnson) Keniston, passed away quietly on June 23, 2022, at the age of 75, after a brief illness. He was born November 5, 1946, in Portland, Maine. Scott grew up in Portland and met the love of his life, Vicki (Alward) Keniston, at age 15. He spent 50 years in the sport of falconry where he became one of a small group of Master Falconers in the State of Maine. The sport took him across the country on many hunting adventures with friends. He advocated for the passing of federal falconry regulations, wildlife conservation, and the sport of falconry in legislative hearings at the State House in Augusta regularly.



## Background

The peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*; hereafter peregrine) almost vanished from the continental United States because of the widespread use of the pesticide DDT. The population in the Eastern U.S. was historically rare and thought to be completely gone by 1964 (Enderson et al. 1995). In 1970, the peregrine was declared a Federally Endangered species, and efforts were taken to save it, such as banning DDT and other harmful chemicals and breeding the birds in captivity. These efforts were successful, and in 1999, the peregrine falcon was removed from the Federal list of Endangered species because it met certain criteria, including having a healthy population size, good reproductive performance, and not having environmental contaminants in its eggs or thin eggshells (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1999). Despite the Federal delisting of peregrines, they remain on the Maine state Endangered Species list. Peregrine recovery in Maine and -throughout the Northeast has been a success; however, they continue to benefit from focused monitoring and management due to their small population size and the limited number of successful breeding pairs.

If you see a peregrine falcon in Maine, it is likely either a descendant of birds that were brought back as part of conservation efforts or a member of the Tundra subspecies. The American subspecies of the peregrine falcon used to be found in Maine but disappeared due to DDT. The reintroduced peregrines are a mix of birds from the captive breeding program and don't belong to any specific subspecies or race. A total of 144 of these birds were released in Maine between 1984 and 1997 and they usually stayed in the state to breed and live. On the other hand, the Tundra subspecies don't breed in Maine but migrate through in the spring and fall. This subspecies was removed from the Federal list of endangered species and is not considered Endangered at the state level.

The Maine Peregrine Falcon Program in collaboration with a diverse array of partners is working to help protect and conserve this spectacular bird of prey. The program facilitates conservation actions intended to directly influence statewide peregrine population levels and habitats. These actions include monitoring breeding success, banding, understanding, and addressing potential threats to the population (e.g., causes of mortality, contaminants, disease), long-range species planning, assessing, and resolving issues at nest sites, data management, and extensive collaboration and outreach. The goal is to attain stable peregrine populations in Maine and contribute to metapopulation stability throughout the Northeast.



Photo by Adam Gibson

## Survey Methods

A standardized survey protocol document and a statewide list of breeding sites were created in 2019 and serve as the basis for monitoring. Anyone interested in conducting standardized breeding surveys should reach out for additional details ([erynn.call@maine.gov](mailto:erynn.call@maine.gov)). The peregrine breeding season in Maine generally falls between March 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup> but young birds have been observed at their nest sites late into the fall and like their parents more often do not exhibit migratory behaviors. Visits should generally document the presence (or lack thereof) of a single adult or pair, nest/incubation, the number and age of chicks, the number of young that survive to  $\geq 28$  days, and any young observed at the flying stage. Incidental observations can be reported to [Maine eBird](#) any time of year.

## Nesting Season Summary

### Survey Results

After monitoring sites with a history of peregrine residency for three consecutive years beginning in 2019, survey efforts were scaled back in 2022. Sites were visited if there was a potential management benefit in documenting the breeding status or if the site was able to be monitored easily. Thus, the tally is not indicative of a statewide total. More time and number of visits to a site create more certainty in the accuracy of the breeding status designation.

In 2022, 32 pairs were observed and at three sites a single peregrine was noted. Of the 32 pairs observed, 25 pairs attempted to nest. Of the pairs that attempted to nest, three nest failures were confirmed, one nest fate was unknown, and 21 pairs hatched 53 chicks (Table 1). Of the 18 nesting pairs that were visited when the young were expected to be 28 days or older, 47 fledglings were documented, and 24 were observed in flight. Of the 21 nesting pairs that produced chicks, 11 were cliff nesters, and of the 10 urban nesters, four were in quarries, two were on bridges, two were on buildings, and one was on an old osprey nest on a transmission tower.

Table 1. Site-specific results of peregrine falcon monitoring in Maine, 2022.

Site #	Site Name	Breeding Status	# Chicks	First Survey	Last Survey	Total Effort	# Surveys
006	Mt Kineo	Pair - nesting	1	3/30	7/8	300	2
012	Pine Mtn	Pair - nesting	3	4/30	6/26	217	3
013	Buck's Ledge	None		3/23	4/13	480	2
016	Bald Mtn	Pair - no nesting		4/7	4/7	20	1
017	Mt Megunticook	Pair - no nesting		5/7	6/19	255	4
019	Fletcher Bluff	Pair - no nesting		5/27	6/7	46	2
020	Half Mile	None		3/20	5/27	235	4
022	The Precipice	Pair - nesting	2	2/23	6/24	170	3
024	Beech Cliff	None		4/13	4/13	90	1
025	Valley Cove	Pair - nesting	2	3/9	7/5	190	2

Table 1 continued. Site-specific results of peregrine falcon monitoring in Maine, 2022.

Site #	Site Name	Breeding Status	# Chicks	First Survey Date	Last Survey Date	Total Effort (min)	# Surveys
027	Jordan's Delight	Pair - nesting	2	3/11	7/13	67	8
029	The Brothers	None		6/6	6/6	15	1
030	Grafton Notch	Single		4/16	4/16	25	1
031	Tumbledown Mtn	Single		5/6	5/6	240	1
035	East Royce Mtn: Evans Notch	Pair - nesting	2	5/4	7/10	399	5
043	Barren Mtn	Pair - nesting	1	4/7	7/18	240	2
044	Jordan Pond	Pair - nesting	4	3/18	7/12	322	4
045	Squaredock Mtn	Pair - nesting	2	5/1	6/29	257	3
046	Brimstone Mtn	Pair - no nesting		4/20	7/7	350	3
049	Ironbound Island	Pair - no nesting		5/12	5/12	140	1
051	Bath Iron Works	Pair - no nesting <sup>1</sup>		6/1	6/1	5	1
052	Casco Bay Bridge	Pair - nest failure	0	3/10	6/24	9	5
053	Piscat. River Bridge I-95	Pair - nesting	4	3/18	7/21	476	7
055	Bear Mtn Waterford	Pair - nesting	1	3/29	6/29	90	2
056	Pejepscot Quarry	Pair - nesting	2	4/2	5/20	80	2
057A	Franco Center	Pair - nesting	3	3/11	8/9	1952	11
058B	Westbrook Quarry	Pair - nesting <sup>2</sup>	0	4/5	7/1	560	13
059A	Granite Hill Quarry	Pair - nesting	1	5/5	5/26	180	2
060	395 Bridge	Pair - nesting	3	3/21	6/1	6	2
061	Old Town Mill	Single		7/12	7/26	140	2
062	Winslow Mill	Pair - nest failure	0	4/2	6/14	210	4
063B	Belfast Quarry	Pair - nesting	3	5/20	6/3	35	2
065	Ram Island Ledge Lighthouse	None		7/3	7/3	180	1
066B	St. Andres	Pair - nesting	4	3/15	7/11	716	12
067C	Trans Tower Prospect S	Pair - nesting	4	3/10	7/27	215	6
069	Dragon Fields Quarry	Pair - nesting	3	3/25	8/5	835	17
082	Fourth Debsconeag Lake	Pair - nesting	2	5/11	6/22	122	4
086	Sappi Mill Skowhegan	Pair - nest failure	0	3/23	6/1	85	8
130	Dragon Cement Products	Pair - nesting	4	5/20	6/7	38	3
136	Madison Mill	Pair - no nesting		3/18	5/17	150	4

<sup>1</sup>Information regarding nesting but no standardized surveys conducted (e.g., date, time, photos, etc.).<sup>2</sup>Nest fate unknown, a female was observed incubating during the last survey.



### Survey Effort

A total of 160 surveys were conducted, with 149 hours logged, and 39 sites visited between 2/23/22 and 8/9/22.

With a more limited focus on the sites visited in 2022, there were locations with a recent peregrine residency (i.e., single or pair present from 2019 to 2021) that were not visited in 2022 (Table 2). It will be important to document activity at these locations as opportunities arise to do so.

Table 2. Sites that were visited between 2019 and 2021 where a single or pair of peregrines were documented and not visited in 2022.

Site #	Site Name	Breeding Status	# Chicks	Year
001	Bigelow Mtn - Old Man's Head	Single		2021
002	C Bluff Mtn	Pair - nesting	2	2019
007	Wassataquoik Mtn	Pair – no nesting		2021
009	Horse Mtn	Pair - no nesting		2021
018	Eagle Bluff Mountainy Pond	Pair - nesting	4	2021
029	The Brothers	None		2022*
038	Tumbledown Dick Mtn Peru	Single		2021
041	Rattlesnake Mtn	Single		2019
042	Ragged Jack Mtn	Pair - no nesting		2019
064	Indian Stream Mtn	Pair - nesting	3	2021
065	Ram Island Lighthouse	Pair - nesting	1	2021
124	Slidedown Mtn: W Branch of Sandy Stream	Pair - nesting	1	2021

\*A single 15-minute survey was incidentally conducted.



Cellular game camera photo courtesy of Linda Welch, USFWS

## Banding

When possible, adult or young peregrines are fitted with a United States Geological Survey (USGS) leg band etched with a unique nine-digit number and a bi-colored band with a unique series of colors, letters, and numbers. In the Northeast, peregrines are banded with the colors black over green (see photo on the right). Information from banded birds provides invaluable insights into survival, movements, and how long individuals may stay at a nest site as part of a breeding pair.

A total of 10 hatch-year birds were banded from urban and cliff sites in 2022: 060 395 Bridge Brewer, 066B St. Andres Biddeford, 067C Trans Tower South Prospect, 130 Dragon Cement Thomaston, and 044 Jordan Pond Mt. Desert Island (Table 3).

Four of the urban birds were recovered and successfully treated at avian rehabilitation centers after they were found on the ground near the nest sites (the Center for Wildlife cared for two from the Biddeford nest site and Avian Haven received one from Prospect and one from Thomaston nest sites). Six young were banded at two nest locations in Brewer and Acadia National Park.

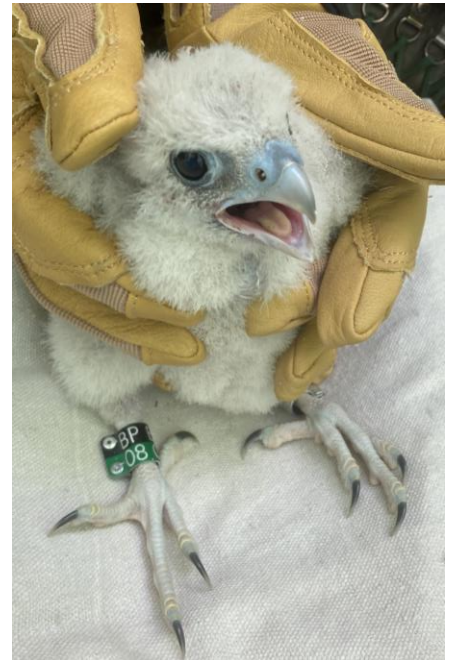


Photo by Erynn Call



From left to right, Chris Persico and Mark Burton (Biodiversity Research Institute), Steve Dunham (MDIFW), Ryan Annis, Nick Fontaine, Isabella West (MDOT). Others assisting in banding were Brad Allen, Kelsey Sullivan (MDIFW), and Justin Sweitzer (MDOT). Photo by Erynn Call.



From left to right, Molly Donlan, Bik Wheeler, Morgan Ingalls, Adam Gibson, and Jason Flynn (Acadia National Park). Photo by Erynn Call.

Table 3. Maine peregrine falcon banding summary, 2022.

Date Encountered	Site/Town	Status	Age	Sex	Color Band	Contact/Partner
6/2	044 Jordan Pond	Banded at nest	HY	F	C/T	Acadia National Park
6/2	044 Jordan Pond	Banded at nest	HY	M	BP/08	Acadia National Park
6/2	044 Jordan Pond	Banded at nest	HY	M	BP/09	Acadia National Park
6/10	060 Bangor/Brewer	Banded at nest	HY	F	BP/60	MDOT
6/10	060 Bangor/Brewer	Banded at nest	HY	M	BP/10	MDOT
6/10	060 Bangor/Brewer	Banded at nest	HY	M	BP/11	MDOT
7/20	066B St. Andres	Treated and released	HY	F	BP/61	Center for Wildlife
7/20	066B St. Andres	Treated and released	HY	F	BP/62	Center for Wildlife
7/27	067C Trans Tower Prospect S	Treated and released	HY	F	BP/63	Avian Haven
7/27	130 Dragon Cement Products	Treated and released	HY	F	BP/64	Avian Haven, Dragon Cement Products



Cellular game camera photos courtesy of Justin Sweitzer, MDOT



Maine hasn't annually banded a significant number of peregrines since the species' reintroduction. Recently, only a handful were banded (2019: 0, 2020: 2, 2021: 5, and 2022: 10). This is limited compared to neighboring states. Between 35 to 55 chicks are consistently banded annually in each of the following states: MA, NJ, NY, PA, and VA. Considering this, it's remarkable how many observations of peregrines banded in Maine were observed this year. It may indicate either banded peregrines are conspicuous or that the population is relatively small.

Observations of banded peregrines in 2022 include:

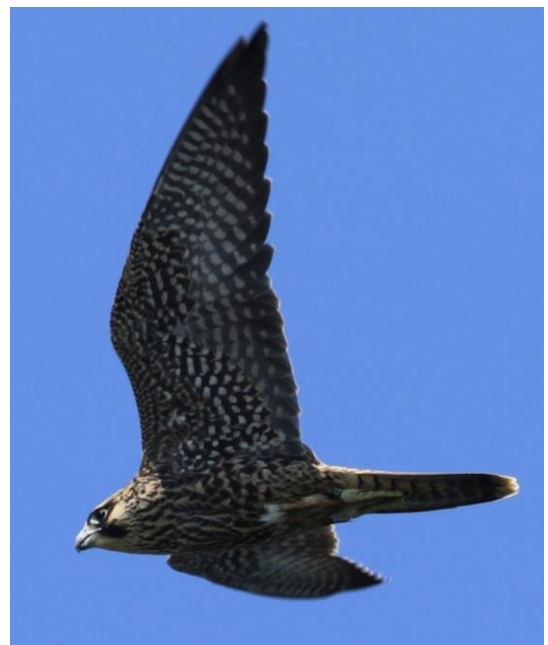
- A returning breeding female was observed at 057A Franco Center Lewiston (color band 49/U, female, age 4, originally banded at 025 Valley Cove in Acadia National Park)
- A returning breeding male was observed at 056 Pejepscoot Quarry (C/B, male, age 15, originally banded at 052 Casco Bay Bridge).
- A hatch-year peregrine that was recovered, treated, [banded, and released](#) from 066B St. Andres Biddeford on 7/20 was observed on 7/28 at Petit Manan Island, ME (BP/62, female, HY).

Peregrine with color leg band C/H. Photo by Chris Bolduc

- A peregrine that was banded on 5/28/21 in the nest at 057B Continental Mill Lewiston was observed in Brattleboro, VT on 10/12/22 (C/N, female, age 1).
- A peregrine that was banded on 5/27/21 in the nest at 136 Madison Mill, Madison, ME was observed in Clinton, ME on 12/18/22 (C/H, female, age 1).

Individuals banded outside of Maine are welcomed to our state as well!

- Using a cellular game camera at 060 395 Bridge Brewer/Bangor we were able to identify an adult that was hatched from an [unprecedentedly large brood](#) at the Verizon Tower in Brockton, MA (64/BU, male, age 3). We suspect he was present on the bridge in 2021 as well.



Peregrine with color leg band BP/62. Photo by Seth Benz

## Mortality

Reports of peregrine mortalities were tracked in 2022 through collaboration with MDIFW staff and various partners. Mortalities included three hatch-year birds (6/12 057A Franco Center, 8/8 022 The Precipice, 10/14 Winslow), five adults (3/16 Bangor, 4/18 Sebago, 6/22 Portland, 7/13 Brewer, 7/24 Bath), and one subadult (4/10 Wells). Note that a nest site is listed only if the bird was confirmed to be affiliated with the location. Because the subadult was exhibiting neurological symptoms, it was tested for [Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza](#). Unfortunately, it tested positive for HPAI and it died within 24 hours after it was found.

## Additional Conservation Actions

The Maine Peregrine Falcon Program works toward promoting a self-sustaining population to restore the peregrine's ecological role and enable the public to enjoy this charismatic species within the state and beyond our borders. We have made great progress and continue to follow initiatives that are made possible through many successful collaborations and partnerships with dedicated federal, state, private, and individuals. In addition to conducting breeding season surveys, banding, and tracking mortality, conservation efforts also include the following:

### Maine Peregrine Falcon Conservation Plan

After reaching out to various peregrine biologists across the Atlantic Flyway in 2020 and learning more about their approaches, it seemed as though a long-range strategic species conservation plan would be beneficial in Maine. This document could synthesize current knowledge and outline goals, objectives, and actions to guide future statewide conservation efforts. Considering non-game species planning had not been pursued by MDIFW for some time, the idea was proposed in the fall of that year to upper-level managers and received support. A subsequent draft plan was submitted a year later in October 2021 for internal review. This plan is on hold while MDIFW revisits the formatting for this content and more broadly considers conservation planning for all other non-game species. This process is pending so stay tuned!



Photo by Deb Powers

## Nest Site Conservation

### Cliff Sites

Achieving optimal breeding outcomes at cliff locations relies upon maintaining and building partnerships and collaborations with various state and federal agencies, nonprofits, landowners, private industry, and individuals. Work involves the coordination of monitoring, mitigating, and addressing disturbances via consideration of closing or rerouting trails. In addition, efforts also include participating in conservation planning, environmental review, development, and effective placement of trail signs and other outreach materials to connect with outdoor enthusiasts such as the hiking and climbing communities. Some accomplishments this year included:

- Posted both broad and specific messaging online related to limiting disturbance at cliff nest sites (see Outreach section below).
- Worked with the climbing community and posted voluntary closure signs in areas where peregrines were suspected to be nesting.
- Replaced kiosk sign at 035 Evans Notch to alert hikers and climbers of nesting peregrines.
- Acadia National Park trail closures at active peregrine nest sites.



Photo by Josh Laskin

### Urban Sites

Like cliff sites, urban locations also require diverse partnerships to address management needs. This involves coordinating breeding monitoring and developing creative solutions to mitigate disturbances at a variety of urban nesting locations, such as adjusting the timing of maintenance and construction activities. Installation of nest boxes occurs at sites where the existing local pair may benefit from safer and better nest conditions. This includes better temperature and moisture conditions for eggs and young due to the drained gravel substrate in the box, better shelter to cope with extreme temperature and storm events associated with climate change (Sumasgutner et al., 2020), and limited disturbance from people or even mammals such as raccoons. Boxes have the added benefit of providing easy access to young for banding, contaminant sampling, and outreach opportunities.

In 2022, urban sites were monitored to help inform any discussions surrounding established or emerging activities that might have the potential to disturb the pair or young. Sites with installed nest structures (e.g., trays or boxes filled with gravel) were monitored to varying degrees (Table 4). While several recently installed structures were not used, it's common for pairs to take several years to “discover” the locations.

Table 4. Artificial nest structure status during the 2022 breeding season in Maine.

Site	Site Name	Town	Structure	Installed	2022 Status
052	Casco Bay Bridge	Portland/S. Po.	tray	2021	Nest failure
053	Piscat. Riv Bridge I-95	Kittery/Portsmouth	box	2019	Nested in beam*
053	Piscat. Riv Bridge I-95	Kittery/Portsmouth	tray	2021	Nested in beam*
060	395 Bridge	Bangor/Brewer	tray	2016	Success
063B	Belfast Quarry	Belfast	box	2019	Nested on adjacent wall
63A	Passag. Bridge	Belfast	tray	2019	Nested at 063B
136	Madison Mill	Madison	box	2021	No confirmed nesting
086	Sappi Mill Skowhegan	Skowhegan	box	2021	Nest failure near box
062	Winslow Mill	Winslow	box	2021	No confirmed nesting
061	Old Town Mill	Old Town	box	2021	No confirmed nesting
57D	Hill Mill	Lewiston	box	2021	Nested at 057A

\*Pair was suspected to nest successfully using an enclosed beam structure on the bridge.



Cellular game camera photos courtesy of Justin Sweitzer, MDOT

## Outreach

Sharing the progress of peregrine falcon conservation efforts, participating in professional meetings, and connecting with various groups are important to achieving the goals of the Maine Peregrine Falcon Program. Some of the outreach work this year included:

- Banding and release of two fledglings from nest site 066B St. Andres that had been cared for at the Center for Wildlife:
  - The Center for Wildlife Instagram [here](#) and Facebook [here](#)
  - The city of Biddeford YouTube [here](#)
  - MDIFW Instagram [here](#) and Facebook [here](#)
- General Maine Peregrine Falcon Program information: MDIFW Region D Facebook post [here](#)
- General breeding season information for hikers and climbers:
  - MDIFW Facebook post for hikers and climbers [here](#) and was also shared with Midcoast Maine Climbers, Maine Climbers, and Friends of the Ledges Facebook groups.
  - MDIFW peregrine breeding season flier posted by Access Fund on [Mountain Project](#).
- Breeding site-specific information:
  - 016 Bald Mtn or “Shagg Crag”: in collaboration with the Access Fund, signs were posted on the trail and online regarding a voluntary spur trail and climbing route closure due to the presence of nesting peregrines. Signs were posted at the Salt Pump Climbing Company gym and on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and updated access information for [Shagg Crag](#) and the [Western Mountain](#) on the Mountain Project website.
  - 055 Bear Mtn: in collaboration with the Access Fund, signs were posted on the trail and [online](#) regarding the presence of nesting peregrines.
  - 043 Barren Mtn: in collaboration with the Access Fund and Appalachian Trail Conservancy posted signs onsite regarding the closure of the spur trail.
- Meetings and Presentations:
  - Participated in [Atlantic Flyway Council](#) Raptor Committee meetings.
  - Attended the [Maine Falconry and Raptor Conservancy](#) annual meeting and picnic.
  - Presented at the Brewer Garden and Bird Club, Merryspring Nature Center, and Woodstock Conservation Commission meetings.





## Data Management

Funding was secured to continue to employ Evan Jackson (2019 and 2021 full-time seasonal peregrine surveyor) in a part-time position. Evan is working toward entering historical breeding survey data dating back to the 1980s. These data will help determine how best to manage and implement conservation efforts for peregrines. This work is also supported by [The Little Egg Foundation](#) and [NestStory](#) software. All 2022 breeding survey data was entered into this helpful software.

## How can you help Maine peregrines?

- Conduct standardized breeding surveys or share your other talents with the program (e.g. carpentry, photography, art), contact: [erynn.call@maine.gov](mailto:erynn.call@maine.gov), or report observations of peregrine falcons to [Maine eBird](#).
- Consider donating to [The Little Egg Foundation](#), [Chickadee Check-off](#), or [Maine Birder Band](#) to support peregrine conservation in Maine.
- Share this report with friends and family!



Photo by Deb Powers

## Literature Cited

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