Commission Order 25: Raptors

RESIDENT FALCONERS - RAPTOR CAPTURE SEASONS

Open Areas - Statewide as defined in A.R.S.§17-101 including areas closed under R12-4-321, but not any area closed under A.R.S.§17-303, 304, or R12-4-801, 802, 803.

Hunt Number	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Raptor	Annual Permits/ Quota
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2015, 2016 May 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,3)	Statewide.	Eyas American Kestrel, great horned owl, and western screech owl. Eyas or passage Cooper's hawk, prairie falcon, red-tailed hawk, and sharp-shinned hawk.	-
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2015, 2016 Sept 15 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,3)	Statewide.	Passage and adult American kestrel, great horned owl, and western screech owl.	-
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2015, 2016 May 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4,5)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Eyas or passage Harris's hawk.	30
-	Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2015, 2016 Jun 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Eyas or passage northern goshawk.	-
21,001	May 1 – Aug 15, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4,5,6)	Statewide.	Eyas peregrine falcon.	5
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2)	Statewide	Passage merlin.	-
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2)	Statewide except all Units north of the Gila River, excluding Units 25M, and 42~~, 26M, and 47M~~.	Passage ferruginous hawk.	-

Notes:
1. Apprentice falconers are limited to capture of passage raptors, and adult American kestrels, adult western screech owls, and adult great horned owls between Jan 1 to Jan 31 and Sept 15 to Dec 31.
2. A General or Master falconer may take from the wild a raptor that is less than one year of age, including nestlings, provided at least one nestling remains in the nest (R12-4-422.Q.3).
3. In Pima, Pinal, Graham, Santa Cruz, and Cochise counties, Western screech-owls may only be captured in Sonoran Desert habitats below 2,500 ft elevation.
4. Harris's hawks, northern goshawks, and peregrine falcons must be banded after capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). Contact one of the Departments' Regional Falconry Permit Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding.
5. Harris's hawks have a quota of 30 animals and the season will be closed upon public notification (1-855-970-HAWK) by the Department that the quota has been met; peregrine falcons have 5 permit-tag limit.
6. Eyas peregrine falcons may only be taken between 18 and 27 days of age in the nest, and after fledging within the nest area until the season closes.

Live Bag Limit Only: A licensed falconer shall take no more than two raptors from the wild for use in falconry each calendar year (R12-4-422.Q.4).

Possession Limit: Apprentice falconers may possess 1 (one) raptor at a time; General falconers may possess 3 (three) raptors at a time; Master falconers may possess 5 (five) wild caught raptors at a time (R12-4-422.H).

Licenses Required: Any valid hunting or combination license except a Short-term Combination Hunting and Fishing License, and a Sport Falconry License.

Definitions: Eyas means a flightless raptor that is found in the nest or in the nest area and is dependent upon a parent bird for food.
Passage means a raptor which is less than 1 (one) year of age, in immature plumage prior to beginning its first molt, capable of flight, and able to hunt and obtain its own food.

Commission Order 25: Raptors

NONRESIDENT FALCONERS - RAPTOR CAPTURE SEASONS

Open Areas - Statewide as defined in A.R.S.§17-101 including areas closed under R12-4-321, but not any area closed under A.R.S.§17-303, 304, or R12-4-801, 802, 803.

Hunt Number	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Raptor	Annual Permits
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2015, 2016 May 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,3)	Statewide.	Eyas American Kestrel, great horned owl, and western screech owl. Eyas or passage Cooper's hawk, prairie falcon, red-tailed hawk, and sharp-shinned hawk.	-
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2015, 2016 Sept 15 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,3)	Statewide.	Passage and adult American kestrel, great horned owl, and western screech owl.	-
20,002	Jun 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Eyas or passage northern goshawk.	3
21,003	May 1 – Aug 15, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4,5)	Statewide.	Eyas peregrine falcon.	~~3~~1
22,001	May 1 – Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2,4)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Eyas or passage Harris's hawk.	10
-	Jan 1 –Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2)	Statewide	Passage merlin.	-
-	Jan 1 –Dec 31, 2015, 2016	(1,2)	Statewide except all Units north of the Gila River, excluding Units 25M, and 42~~, 26M, and 47M~~.	Passage ferruginous hawk.	-

Notes:
1. Apprentice falconers are limited to capture of passage raptors, and adult American kestrels, adult western screech owls, and adult great horned owls between Jan 1 to Jan 31 and Sept 15 to Dec 31.
2. A General or Master falconer may take from the wild a raptor that is less than one year of age, including nestlings, provided at least one nestling remains in the nest (R12-4-422.Q.3).
3. In Pima, Pinal, Graham, Santa Cruz, and Cochise counties, Western screech-owls may only be captured in Sonoran Desert habitats below 2500 ft elevation.
4. Harris's hawks, northern goshawks, and peregrine falcons must be banded after capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). Contact one of the Departments' Regional Falconry Permit Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding.
5. Eyas peregrine falcons may only be taken between 18 and 27 days of age in the nest, and after fledging within the nest area until the season closes.

Live Bag Limit Only: A licensed falconer shall take no more than two raptors from the wild for use in falconry each calendar year (R12-4-422.Q.4.).

Possession Limit: Apprentice falconers may possess 1 (one) raptor at a time; General falconers may possess 3 (three) raptors at a time; Master falconers may possess 5 (five) wild caught raptors at a time (R12-4-422. H).

Licenses Required: Nonresident Combination hunting license except a Short-term Combination Hunting and Fishing License , and a Falconry License from another State meeting Federal Falconry Standards.

Definitions: Eyas means a flightless raptor that is found in the nest or in the nest area and is dependent upon a parent bird for food.
Passage means a raptor which is less than 1 (one) year of age, in immature plumage prior to beginning its first molt, capable of flight, and able to hunt and obtain its own food

RESIDENT FALCONER
HUNT APPLICATION PROCEDURES
PEREGRINE FALCON (21,001)

Capture of peregrine falcons by resident licensed falconers is allowed with a valid Arizona peregrine falcon hunt permit-tag from May 1 – August 15. Only General and Master falconers are allowed to capture peregrine falcons.

Peregrine falcons must be banded by Department personnel within five days of capture (R12-4-422.R.1). **We request that you contact one of the Department's Regional Falconry Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding. Normal business hours for the Arizona Game & Fish Department Regional Offices are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; please plan your trip, captures, and subsequent banding accordingly.**

Five hunt permit tags (total) will be drawn annually (R12-4-114 and R12-4-104). The odds of being drawn are based on the number of applications received.

2015 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 17, 2015 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 17, 2015. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

2016 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 16, 2016 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 8, 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 15, 2016. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday March 22, 2016.

Use this procedure if you are requesting an Arizona peregrine falcon hunt permit-tag. This procedure does not apply to other raptors that may be legally taken under Commission Order 25. Use Forms 624 and/or 390 (Hunt Permit Application/Application for Hunt License) available at Arizona Game and Fish Department offices or any licensed dealer.

Be sure to: (1) On Form 624, in the box marked FIRST CHOICE HUNT NUMBER write 21,001 for peregrine falcon. (2) Include your Arizona Hunting License Number for year 2015 and/or 2016 as requested, or complete the license request (Form 390) and include the proper fees. **All applicants must have an Arizona Hunting license to be eligible for the draw (R12-4-104).** (3) Fill in your social security number, this is a Federal requirement. (4) Include the application fee with your application. Personal check, certified check, cashier's check or money order must be payable to the Arizona Game and Fish Department. **Cash will not be accepted.** (5) Send the application (Form 624) with a valid license number or a completed license request form (Form 390) with the proper fees in the envelope to P.O. BOX 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052. (6) Use the correct postage.

Complete and proper preparation of an application is the sole responsibility of the applicant. The Department may assist, but cannot inspect applications or guarantee they are correct.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY U.S. MAIL ONLY BY TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 (FOR 2015 PERMITS) OR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 (FOR 2016 PERMITS) AT THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT, PHOENIX OFFICE.

RESIDENT FALCONER
HARVEST QUOTA SYSTEM
HARRIS'S HAWK

Use this procedure if you are a resident falconer harvesting a Harris's hawk in Arizona. This procedure does not apply to nonresident falconers or to other raptors that may be legally taken under Commission Order 25.

The Department has established an annual harvest limit (quota) system for resident falconers harvesting Harris's hawk. This system allows the Department to set an annual harvest limit for a population, while allowing for the flexibility of harvest outside the traditional permit system. The annual harvest limit for resident falconers is **30 Harris's hawks annually** within the season dates and open areas described under Commission Order 25.

Capture of Harris' hawks by resident licensed falconers is allowed with a valid Arizona Sport Falconry License from January 1 –31, May 1 – December 31 or until the annual harvest limit is reached and the season closes. Harris' hawk capture is open in all Game Management Units except those in Yuma and La Paz counties.

Procedures:
Prior to harvesting a Harris's hawk for falconry, a resident falconer **must:**

1. Ensure that they have the proper hunting license and Arizona Sport Falconry License (R12-4-422 (Q)(1)).
2. Ensure that they are within the season dates and open areas eligible for harvest established under Commission Order 25.
3. Ensure that their facilities can house the addition of the raptor (R12-4-422 (M)).
4. Ensure that they are within their two bird per calendar year allocation (R12-4-422 (Q)(4)).
5. Call the Department at **1-855-970-HAWK (4295)** to ensure that the season is still open. Even if a falconer is within the season dates established under Commission Order 25, the season will close and no further harvest will be permitted once the annual harvest limit has been achieved.
6. Ensure the Harris's hawk is banded within five consecutive days of capture (R12-4-422 (R)(1)).

The Department will monitor the number of resident banded Harris's hawks. Once the resident annual harvest limit is reached, the Department will close the season and update the recording at **1-855-970-HAWK (4295)** by Wednesday at 5:00 pm. Harvest after the season is closed is a violation of A.R.S § 17-309 (A)(11).

Harris' hawks must be banded by Department personnel, their representative, or a General or Master licensed falconer within five days of capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). **We request that you contact one of the Department's Regional Falconry Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding. Normal business hours for the Arizona Game & Fish Department Regional Offices are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; please plan your trip, captures, and subsequent banding accordingly.**

NONRESIDENT FALCONER
HUNT APPLICATION PROCEDURES
NORTHERN GOSHAWK (20,002)

Capture of northern goshawks by nonresident licensed falconers is allowed with a valid Arizona northern goshawk hunt permit-tag from June 1 - December 31.

Northern goshawks must be banded by Department personnel, their representative, or a General or Master licensed falconer within five days of capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). **We request that you contact one of the Department's Regional Falconry Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding. Normal business hours for the Arizona Game & Fish Department Regional Offices are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; please plan your trip, captures, and subsequent banding accordingly.**

Three hunt permit tags (total) will be drawn annually (R12-4-114 and R12-4-104). The odds of being drawn are based on the number of applications received.

2015 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 17, 2015 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 17, 2015. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

2016 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 16, 2016 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 8, 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 15, 2016. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday March 22, 2016.

Use this procedure if you are requesting an Arizona northern goshawk hunt permit-tag. This procedure does not apply to other raptors that may be legally taken under Commission Order 25. Use Forms 624 and/or 390 (Hunt Permit Application/Application for Hunt License) available at Arizona Game and Fish Department offices or any licensed dealer.

Be sure to: (1) On Form 624, in the box marked FIRST CHOICE HUNT NUMBER write 20,002 for northern goshawk. (2) Include your Arizona Hunting License Number for year 2015 and/or 2016 as requested, or complete the license request (Form 390) and include the proper fees. **All applicants must have an Arizona Hunting license to be eligible for the draw.** (3) Fill in your social security number, this is a Federal requirement. (4) Include the application fee with your application. Personal check, certified check, cashier's check or money order must be payable to the Arizona Game and Fish Department. **Cash will not be accepted.** (5) Send the application (Form 624) with a valid license number or a completed license request form (Form 390) with the proper fees in the envelope to P.O. BOX 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052. (6) Use the correct postage.

Complete and proper preparation of an application is the sole responsibility of the applicant. The Department may assist, but cannot inspect applications or guarantee they are correct.

You are responsible for knowing the importation rules of your state. Some state's regulations do not allow for some raptor species to be used in falconry.

Northern goshawk capture is closed in all Game Management Units south of the Gila River.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY U.S. MAIL ONLY BY TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 (FOR 2015 PERMITS) OR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 (FOR 2016 PERMITS) AT THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT, PHOENIX OFFICE.

NONRESIDENT FALCONER
HUNT APPLICATION PROCEDURES
HARRIS' HAWK (22,001)

Capture of Harris' hawks by nonresident licensed falconers is allowed with a valid Arizona Harris' hawk hunt permit-tag from May 1 – December 31.

Harris' hawks must be banded by Department personnel, their representative, or a General or Master licensed falconer within five days of capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). **We request that you contact one of the Department's Regional Falconry Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding. Normal business hours for the Arizona Game & Fish Department Regional Offices are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; please plan your trip, captures, and subsequent banding accordingly.**

Ten hunt permit tags (total) will be drawn annually (R12-4-114 and R12-4-104). The odds of being drawn are based on the number of applications received.

2015 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 17, 2015 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 17, 2015. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

2016 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 16, 2016 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 8, 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 15, 2016. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday March 22, 2016.

Use this procedure only to request an Arizona Harris' hawk hunt permit-tag. This procedure does not apply to other raptors that may be legally taken under Commission Order 25. Use Forms 624 and/or 390 (Hunt Permit Application/Application for Hunt License) available at Arizona Game and Fish Department offices or any licensed dealer.

Be sure to: (1) On Form 624, in the box marked FIRST CHOICE HUNT NUMBER write 22,001 for Harris hawks. (2) Include your Arizona Hunting License Number for year 2015, and/or 2016 as requested, or complete the license request (Form 390) and include the proper fees for the license\s requested. **All applicants must have an Arizona Hunting license to be eligible for the draw (R12-4-104).** (3) Fill in your social security number, <u>this is a Federal requirement</u>. (4) Include the application fee with your application. Personal check, certified check, cashier's check or money order must be payable to the Arizona Game and Fish Department. **Cash will not be accepted.** (5) Send the application (Form 624) with a valid license number or a completed license request form (Form 390) with the proper fees in the envelope to P.O. BOX 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052. (6) Use the correct postage.

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You are responsible for knowing the importation rules of your state. Some state's regulations do not allow for some raptor species to be used in falconry.

Harris' hawk capture is open in all Game Management Units except those in Yuma and La Paz counties.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY U.S. MAIL ONLY BY TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 (FOR 2015 PERMITS) OR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 (FOR 2016 PERMITS) AT THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT, PHOENIX OFFICE.

NONRESIDENT FALCONER
HUNT APPLICATION PROCEDURES
PEREGRINE FALCON (21,003)

Capture of peregrine falcons by nonresident licensed falconers is allowed with a valid Arizona peregrine falcon hunt permit-tag from May 1 – August 15. Only General and Master falconers are allowed to capture peregrine falcons.

Peregrine falcons must be banded by Department personnel, their representative, or a General or Master licensed falconer within five days of capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). **We request that you contact one of the Department's Regional Falconry Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding. Normal business hours for the Arizona Game & Fish Department Regional Offices are Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM; please plan your trip, captures, and subsequent banding accordingly.**

One hunt permit tag (total) will be drawn annually (R12-4-114 and R12-4-104). The odds of being drawn are based on the number of applications received.

2015 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 17, 2015 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 17, 2015. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

2016 Hunt Permit-Tag Application Schedule and Procedure: Applications (Forms 624/390) will be accepted on or after Tuesday, February 16, 2016 by U.S. Mail only. The deadline for application receipt is Tuesday, March 8, 2016. No applications will be accepted after this date regardless of the postmark. Hunt permit-tags will be mailed by Tuesday, March 15, 2016. Any unfilled hunt permit tags will be made available on a first-come first-serve basis by U.S. Mail only on Tuesday March 22, 2016.

Use this procedure only to request an Arizona peregrine falcon hunt permit-tag. This procedure does not apply to other raptors that may be legally taken under Commission Order 25. Use Forms 624 and/or 390 (Hunt Permit Application/Application for Hunt License) available at Arizona Game and Fish Department offices or any licensed dealer.

Be sure to: (1) On Form 624, in the box marked FIRST CHOICE HUNT NUMBER write 21,003 for peregrine falcon. (2) Include your Arizona Hunting License Number for year 2015 and/or 2016 as requested, or complete the license request (Form 390) and include the proper fees for the license requested. **All applicants must have an Arizona Hunting license to be eligible for the draw.** (3) Fill in your social security number, <u>this is a Federal requirement</u>. (4) Include the application fee with your application. Personal check, certified check, cashier's check or money order must be payable to the Arizona Game and Fish Department. **Cash will not be accepted.** (5) Send the application (Form 624) with a valid license number or a completed license request form (Form 390) with the proper fees in the envelope to P.O. BOX 74020, Phoenix, AZ 85087-1052. (6) Use the correct postage.

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You are responsible for knowing the importation rules of your state. Some state's regulations do not allow for some raptor species to be used in falconry.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY U.S. MAIL ONLY BY TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015 (FOR 2015 PERMITS) OR TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016 (FOR 2016 PERMITS) AT THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT, PHOENIX OFFICE.