

## Peregrine Falcon

(*Falco peregrinus tundrius/anatum*)

- Adult Peregrine Falcons are crow-sized birds that weigh approximately 1 kg.
- They have a black stripe below their eye, bluish-grey upper parts, and buff/brown bars on their sides and thighs and as spots on their abdomen.
- They prey primarily on other birds and small mammals.
- Recent research suggests the two subspecies are genetically identical.



### Provincial Distribution



### Habitat/ Range

Peregrine Falcons nest on cliff ledges on the coast and along a number of major rivers in Labrador. They have high breeding site fidelity and are known to reuse the same nest site for decades. One nest in Labrador has been used regularly for the last 145 years!

### Population Trends

Over the past decade, there has been an upward trend in the population nationally, resulting in these subspecies being down-listed from threatened. However, population decreases in some inland Labrador sites have been recorded since the 1990s. About 60-70 nests sites have been recorded within the Province.

### Limiting Factors and Threats

The Canadian ban on specific pesticides (i.e. DDT) has allowed these subspecies to recovery; however, pesticide use on their wintering grounds (South and Central America) continues to be a problem. Human disturbance of nests, illegal harvest for falconry, and a lack of suitable nest sites and prey limits their recovery.

### Special Significance

Peregrine Falcons fly extremely fast and migrate great distances. Young peregrine falcons banded in Labrador have been recovered in Brazil, Peru, and the USA.

### You can help protect the Peregrine Falcon:

- Report any sightings to the Wildlife Division.
- Learn something new about a species at risk in Newfoundland and Labrador and tell a friend!
- Support habitat protection for all our rare species.

Department of Environment & Conservation

## Wildlife Division

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

(709) 637-2026

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