

last year's productivity might have been lost.

The Raptor Center reports distribution of Midwest nest sites as follows: buildings 56%, cliffs 30%, smokestacks 7%, and bridges 7%. With only 30% of the nesting peregrines in the Midwest residing in historic cliff eyries, a high proportion of the population utilizing artificial structures becomes jeopardized. The majority of the existing Midwest population is relying on humans in some manner for breeding success.

The formal proposal to delist the peregrine reports a significant proportion of the success resulted from the banning of certain organochlorines, such as DDT, in the U.S. The proposal does not respond to the issue of peregrines that feed upon migrant birds which winter in countries that still use DDT. Chicago's lakefront is part of a migration route for millions of birds, and the urban peregrines readily feed on them. With the relative young age of the peregrines in the

Chicago area, it may be too early to determine what impact these potentially contaminated prey species will have. Peregrines also prey on shorebirds that can ingest PCBs from feeding along Lake Michigan.

What does this proposed delisting mean for Chicago? No immediate changes are forthcoming for CPRR. Personnel will continue to watch over the Chicagoland peregrines; tracking the falcons, banding young, and doing everything possible to ensure the successful breeding of the birds.

The CPRR has recommended to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service that the peregrine be reclassified to Threatened status instead of immediate delisting. Reclassification to Threatened status has several advantages. While the peregrines benefit from the continued additional protection, funding becomes available for endangered species in more immediate jeopardy. Secondly, it allows for time in which areas that have not reached target peregrine

populations numbers to do so including historic sites. Finally, it also provides additional time to assess the long-term impacts of possible pesticide contamination.

One issue everyone can agree upon; peregrine populations are enjoying a resurgence in the Chicago area and the Midwest. The hope is that this effort continues and realizes additional future success.

For more information on the Peregrine Falcon and the Chicago Peregrine Release & Restoration Program contact: The Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago Peregrine Release & Restoration Program, 2060 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60614, (312) 549-0606 x2037 or (312) 477-HAWK.

For more information on the history of the Peregrine Falcon in Illinois, see *Meadowlark*, Vol. 2 No. 2.

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Table 1: Peregrine Productivity in the Chicagoland Area 1987-1995.

Site	# of years territory occupied (# breeding)	1995 Adult Identity	1995 Productivity	Total Productivity to date
125 S. Wacker Chicago, IL	10 (9)	Jingles (M,86-IL) Harriet (F,85-IL)	4 eggs laid 4 hatched 3 fledged	34 eggs laid 21 hatched 15 fledged
Hyde Park Chicago, IL	5 (2)	Orion (M,90-WI) Magnolia (F,91-WI)	4 eggs laid 3 hatched 2 fledged	7 eggs laid 4 hatched 3 fledged
Broadway Chicago, IL	2 (2)	Franklin (M,90-IA) Eleanor (F,93-WI)	4 eggs laid 4 hatched 3 fledged	7 eggs laid 6 fledged 5 fledged
River Birds Chicago, IL	2 (2)	male (blk band ???) female (blk band ?2V)	2 eggs laid 0 hatched	5 eggs laid 0 hatched
Irving Park Chicago, IL	8	unknown	0	
Lakeview Chicago, IL	2	unknown	0	
Madison Bldg Chicago, IL	1 last occupied 1992		? eggs laid 0 hatch	? eggs laid 0 hatch
Brit Centre Chicago, IL	1 last occupied 1991		1 egg laid 0 hatch	1 egg laid 0 hatch
Evanston, IL	1 last occupied 1990		? eggs laid ? hatch 2 or 3 fledge	? eggs laid ? hatch 2 or 3 fledge