

# Urban Revival

The “peregrine” in peregrine falcons’ name means *traveler* or *wanderer*, and these birds nearly wandered out of existence in the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. They were never as numerous as other birds of prey, and after DDT and other pesticides nearly wiped out the species over several decades, the population was estimated at 12 percent of its original number. All of these birds in the eastern United States disappeared.

Another problem was the natural hunting behaviors of peregrine falcons. They nest high on cliffs and drop down to pick off smaller birds. But people like to build homes and other buildings high on cliffs—ones that used to belong to peregrine falcons.

## Towering Achievement

Existing federal protection of peregrine falcons and their habitats increased significantly after the species was placed on the Endangered Species List. Scientists and volunteers began collaborating to staff breeding facilities for these birds, and falconers even offered birds for breeding purposes. Many urban residents now make nest boxes for peregrine falcons on skyscrapers in cities, where a plentiful supply of pigeons makes a great food source for these birds of prey.

Since 1999, peregrine falcons have been off the federal list of endangered species, but many states have their own laws protecting these birds.

¡HOLA!

## Refugios oportunos

Durante varias décadas, la química DDT y otros pesticidas redujeron la población de halcones peregrinos a un 12%. Además, la gente empezó a construir sus casas y otros edificios en los acantilados donde estos halcones suelen cazar. Después, los científicos y algunos voluntarios ayudaron en la cría de las aves. Ahora más personas en áreas urbanas también hacen su parte y les construyen nidos para que puedan recuperar su población.

## ¡Aporta tu ayuda!

Repelentes son peligrosos para los halcones y las mascotas.

Utiliza otros tipos de repelentes como el aceite de menta. Es natural y buen repelente para las alimañas.



## You Can Help!

## Try poison-free rodent control around your house.

Rat poisons are risky to falcons and other wildlife, as well as pets. Peppermint oil is an all-natural prevention for rodents.



**Peregrine Falcon**  
*Falco peregrinus*

