

WISCONSIN FALCONWATCH 2003 NESTING SEASON REPORT

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As noted in our last update, with 20 active nests this year, Wisconsin has achieved its recovery goal. We have also produced a record total of 63 young this spring, all of which have been banded.

LAKEFRONT NEST SITES

-Milwaukee: Miller Brewery

The adult female is “**Traveler**” (b/g) **8/*C**, a 2000 wpr falcon from the Green Bay, Pulliam site. The ad. male is her older brother “**Swede**” (b/g) **P/Z**, a '99 wpr falcon from the same nest site.

NOTE: On June 23, I rec'd a call from plant staff that they captured a downed/injured falcon and had dropped it off at the WI Humane Society (WHS). I drove to the WHS and retrieved the shaken but uninjured youngster, “**Hops**” (b/g) **58/M** and returned him to the roof just beneath the nest box.

Eggs: 3 Laid between April 7 – 11

Projected Hatch Dates: May 14 – 16

Eggs Hatched: 2 Between May 14 – 16

Banded & Bled: 2 Males on June 6

-Milwaukee: Landmark on the Lake

“Alice” (b/r) U/X who had developed the habit of striking people is not present this spring. Both ends of her former nest ledge are now covered with chicken wire to dissuade here from nesting at this site. I've not seen a falcon here all spring. **NOTE:** During mid-May, window washers were attacked by a falcon at this site. On May 30, I was also attacked by “Alice” while inspecting the old nest ledge. Although she's still in the area, we know of no nest.

-Milwaukee: Froedtert Malt Complex

I believe "Leopold" (b/r) C/D, a captive-produced peregrine released at Pleasant Prairie, WI in '92, and present at this site since '94, is once again paired with female "Raynie" (b/r) A/*H, a '95 wild-produced female from Chicago. This is Raynie's 7th year at this site. NOTE: Heavy snow buried the nest on April 7. On April 9, I found the nest abandoned and the eggs covered with snow. They were salvaged 2 days later.

First Nesting Attempt: Failed

Eggs: 4 Laid between April 1 - 7

Eggs Salvaged: 4 on April 11

Second Nesting

Eggs: 5 Laid between April 24 – May 2

Projected Hatch Dates: May 31 – June 4

Eggs Hatched: 3 Between June 1-3

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 1 female on June 24

-Milwaukee: We Energies Valley Power Plant

"Daisy"*Y/3 who nested here last year was found dead last November. The new female at this site is "Nova" (b/g) 3/*1. She was hatched in 2000 at the First Merit Bank in Akron, OH. The ad. male here has not yet been identified.

Eggs: 4 Laid between April 16 - 22

Projected Hatch Dates: May 23 – 25

Eggs Hatched: 4 Between May 24 -25

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 2 females on June 13

-Oak Creek: We Energies Power Plant

The adults at this site are once again: "Griffin" 5/*D, a '94 wpr tiercel born atop Milwaukee's Landmark on the Lake apartment building site; and "Atlanta" L/*C a '96 wpr falcon from the Green Bay WPS Pulliam site.

Eggs: Incubation underway since April

Projected Hatch Dates: May 5 - 7

Eggs Hatched: 3 Between May 5 - 7

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 1 female on May 28

-Port Washington: We Energies Power Plant

The male here is “**Flaps**” (b/r) **8/*T**, a '98 Green Bay wpr falcon. The female here is “**Whitney**” (b/g) **6/*E**, a '99 MKE Froedtert-produced youngster. This is the 4th year at this site for both.

NOTE: The south smoke stack at this site was demolished in late March as this plant converts to natural gas. After the nesting season, the nest box on the north stack will be moved to the roof of the plant.

NOTE: On the evening of June 14 I received a call from site staff employee Lance Billman re. a downed falcon. I drove to the site, captured the youngster “**Natalie**” (b/g) **79/A** and returned her to the rooftop.

Eggs: 4 Laid between March 30 – April 8

Projected Hatch Dates: May 2 – 9

Eggs Hatched: 4 Between May 2 – 9

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 2 females on May 30

-Sheboygan: Edgewater Generating Station

The adult female at this site appears to be “**Liberty**” (b/r) **E/*D**. This is her 4th year at this site. The ad. male has an old very faded b/r band on his right leg. I got another partial look at the band and the top letter appears to be an “R”. If this is the case, he could be “**Rhino**” (b/r) **R/*8** who was produced in Ft. Wayne, IN in '97.

Eggs: 5 Laid between April 6 - 14

Projected Hatch Dates: May 13 - 17

Eggs Hatched: 5 Between May 13 – 17

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 2 females on June 6

-Manitowoc: Busch Agricultural Resources

The female here is (b/r) ***G/*9** a '99 wpr falcon from the NIPSCO Bailly Power Plant in Porter, IN. The adult male is not banded.

Eggs: 4 Laid between April 2 – 8

Projected Hatch Dates: May 8 – 10

Eggs Hatched: 4 Between May 8 – 10

Banded & Bled: 3 Males & 1 female on May 29

-Kewaunee: Kewaunee Nuclear Power Plant

The adult female at this site is “**Sheila**” (b/g) **6/*H**, the same female that nested here last year. The ad. male has not been identified.

Eggs: At least 3 laid in mid-April

Eggs Hatched: 3 on May 15 (estimated)

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 1 female on June 11

-Green Bay: WPS Pulliam Power Plant

The adult female at this site (b) ***H/2** who has nested here since 1999. No ID yet on ad. male.

Eggs: 4 Laid in mid-late March

Projected Hatch Dates: Early May

Eggs Hatched: 3 Between May 7 - 9

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 1 female on May 29

-Pleasant Prairie: We Energies Power Plant

The ad. female here is “**Breezer**” (b/r) ***R/*2** produced in ‘98 at the U.S. Steel site in Gary, IN. No ID yet on the ad. male.

Eggs: 5 Laid between March 25 and April 3

Projected Hatch Dates: May 1 – 3

Eggs Hatched: 4 Between May 7 – 9

Banded & Bled: 3 Males & 1 female on May 30

-Racine: County Courthouse

A pair of falcons were on territory at this site all spring. The adult male is “**Scott**” (b/g) **M/Y** a wpr falcon produced in 2000 at the Froedtert Malt Complex in West Allis, WI and the female is “**Lily**” (b/g) **56/A**, the same falcon that nested here as a juvenile last spring.

NOTE: While banding I was able to capture the ad. female here and take a throat culture for the frounce study.

Eggs: 4 Laid between April 2 - 9

Projected Hatch Dates: May 10 - 12

Eggs Hatched: 1 Between May 10- 12

Banded & Bled: 1 Female on June 2

MISSISSIPPI RIVER NEST SITES

-Alma: Dairyland Power Coop

John Thiel and Bob Anderson report the ad. male here is “**Zak**”, (b/g) **78/H**, a 2001 MKE Landmark produced falcon that was transferred to and fledged from the Genoa site the same spring. The female here is new. She is (b/g) **R/A**, a wpr falcon hatched at the Norwest Financial Center in Bloomington, MN in 2000.

Banded & Bled: 1 Male & 3 females on June 20

-Genoa: Dairyland Power Coop

Bob Anderson reports the female at this site is again “**Scooter**” **U/W**, a ‘96 wpr falcon from the Green Bay WPS Pulliam site. The ad. male is (b/g) **02/H** who was hatched from a cliff site @ Dubuque, IA in 2000

Projected Hatch Date: May 13

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 2 females on June 5

-Cassville: Alliant Nelson Dewey Power Plant

Bob Anderson reports the following:

Banded & Bled: 4 Females on May 30

-Crawford County: Lynxville

Bob Anderson reports that on April 9th, Dave Kester found two adult falcons on a cliff 2.7 miles north of Lynxville, Wisconsin. The ad. female is banded with a b/g project band on her left leg and a purple USFWS band on her right leg.

Banded & Bled: 2 Males & 2 females on June 19

-Pierce County: Maiden Rock

Bob Anderson reports an adult pair at this cliff site on March 24th. The falcons were observed courting and visiting a ledge. The ad. male is “**Gunnar** “ (b/g) **D/E**. No ID yet on the female.

Projected Hatch Date: May 16

Banded & Bled: 1 Male & 2 females on June 16

-Buffalo County: Maassen Bluff

On April 29th, Bob Anderson and Gary Grunwald reported an adult pair at this site using the same nest ledge as last year. The ad. female is banded with a b/g project band on her left leg and a purple USFWS band on her right leg.

Projected Hatch Date: May 20
Banded & Bled: 4 Females on June 20

-Buffalo County: Castle Rock

Bob Anderson reports an adult pair present at this site.

Banded & Bled: 1 Male & 3 females on June 17

OTHER SITES IN WISCONSIN

Douglas County, WI: Bong Bridge

The ad. female at this site is banded on her right leg with an upside down, silver USFWS band.

Banded & Bled: 1 Female on June 9

For additional information on the Peregrine Falcon Recovery
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