

Raptors: Commission Order 25

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.

RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT FALCONERS - RAPTOR CAPTURE SEASONS

Hunt Number	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Raptor	Annual Permits
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,3,4)	Statewide.	Eyas American Kestrel, Cooper's hawk, great horned owl, prairie falcon, and western screech owl. Eyas or passage red-tailed hawk, and sharp-shinned hawk.	-
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2021 May 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,4)	Statewide.	Passage Cooper's hawk and prairie falcon.	-
-	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2021 Sept 15 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,3,4)	Statewide.	Passage and adult American kestrel, great horned owl, and western screech owl.	-
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,4)	Statewide	Passage merlin.	-
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,4)	Statewide except all Units north of the Gila River, excluding Units 25M, and 42.	Passage ferruginous hawk.	-
23,001	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,4)	Statewide.	Eyas or passage gray hawk.	1

RESIDENT FALCONERS - RAPTOR CAPTURE SEASONS

Hunt Number	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Raptor	Annual Permits/ Quota
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,5,6)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Eyas Harris's hawk.	30
	Jan 1 – Jan 31, 2021 May 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,5,6)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Passage Harris's hawk.	
-	Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,5)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Eyas northern goshawk.	-
-	Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2021 Jun 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,5)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Passage northern goshawk.	-
21,001	April 1 – Aug 31, 2021	(1,2,5,7)	Statewide.	Eyas peregrine falcon.	5

NONRESIDENT FALCONERS - RAPTOR CAPTURE SEASONS					
Hunt Number	Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Raptor	Annual Permits
20,002	January 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,4,5)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Eyas northern goshawk.	3
	Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2021 Jun 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,4,5)	Statewide except all Units south of the Gila River.	Passage northern goshawk.	
21,003	April 1 – Aug 31, 2021	(1,2,4,5,7)	Statewide.	Eyas peregrine falcon.	2
22,001	January 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(1,2,4,5)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Eyas Harris's hawk.	10
	January 1 – January 31, 2021 May 1 – Dec 31, 2021	(2,4,5)	Statewide except Yuma and La Paz counties.	Passage Harris's hawk.	

Notes:

- Apprentice falconers are limited to capture of passage raptors, adult American kestrels, adult western screech owls, and adult great horned owls (R12-4-422.Q.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).
- 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.
- Nonresident falconers are responsible for knowing the importation rules of resident state. Some state's regulations do not allow for some raptor species to be used in falconry.
- Harris's hawks, northern goshawks, and peregrine falcons must be banded after capture (R12-4-422.R.1.). Non-Resident Falconers, Contact one of the Departments' Regional Falconry Permit Coordinators prior to your hunt to schedule an appointment for banding.
- 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. Prior to harvesting a Harris's hawk for falconry, a resident falconer must call the Department at 1-855-970-HAWK (4295) to ensure that the season is still open. 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. 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.
- Only General and Master falconers are allowed to capture peregrine falcons. 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: Resident – Any valid hunting or combination license except a Short-term Combination Hunting and Fishing License, and a Sport Falconry License. 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, capable of flight, and able to hunt and obtain its own food (typically raptors less than 1 (one) year old have no more than 50% adult tail feathers).