

**115-14-11. Falconry; general provisions.** (a) Each falconer hunting or trapping raptors in Kansas shall possess any current hunting license, unless exempt pursuant to K.S.A. 32-919 and amendments thereto, and any other state or federal stamp, permit, certificate, or other issuance that may be required for hunting the species that the falconer is hunting. In addition, each nonresident falconer shall possess a current nonresident hunting license while participating in a falconry field trial or a department-approved special event.

(b) Any falconry raptor may kill wildlife, including animals killed outside the established hunting season, if it was not the intent of the falconry permittee to kill the wildlife. The falconry raptor may be allowed to feed on the wildlife, but the permittee shall not take the wildlife, or any part of the wildlife, into possession.

(1) The falconry permittee shall report the take of any federally listed threatened or endangered species to the ecological services field office of the United States fish and wildlife service and provide the location where the take took place.

(2) The falconry permittee shall report the take of any wildlife designated as endangered or threatened in K.A.R. 115-15-1 or as a species in need of conservation as listed in K.A.R. 115-15-2 to the environmental services section of the department and provide the location where the take took place.

(c) Any falconry permittee may take nuisance and depredating birds with a falconry raptor in accordance with K.A.R. 115-16-3 if the permittee is not paid for that individual's services.

(d) Any falconry permittee may conduct commercial abatement activities in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Any master falconer may conduct commercial abatement activities with permitted falconry raptors if the master falconer possesses a special purpose abatement permit issued by the United States fish and wildlife service.

Any master falconer, general falconer, or apprentice falconer may conduct commercial abatement activities as a subpermittee of a properly permitted master falconer.

(2) Any falconry permittee holding a special abatement permit may receive payment for that individual's commercial services.

(e) Feathers molted by a falconry raptor shall be possessed or disposed of in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Any falconry permittee may possess flight feathers for each species of raptor legally possessed or previously held for the duration of time the permittee holds a valid falconry permit.

(A) The permittee may receive feathers for imping from other permitted falconers, wildlife rehabilitators, or propagators in the United States. The permittee may give feathers for imping to other permitted falconers, wildlife rehabilitators, or propagators in the United States.

(B) It shall be unlawful to buy, sell, or barter the feathers.

(2) Any permittee may donate feathers from a falconry raptor, except golden eagle feathers, to any person or institution with a valid permit to possess the feathers issued by the United States fish and wildlife service or to any persons exempted by federal regulation from having the permit.

(3) Except for the primary or the secondary flight feathers and the retrices from a golden eagle, a falconry permittee shall not be required to gather feathers that are molted or otherwise lost by a falconry bird. These feathers may be left where they fall, stored for imping, or destroyed. All molted flight feathers and retrices from a golden eagle shall be collected by the permittee and, if not kept for imping, shall be sent to the national eagle repository.

(4) Each falconry permittee whose permit expires or is revoked shall donate the feathers of any species of falconry raptor, except a golden eagle, to any person or institution exempted from federal possession permit requirements or to any person or institution authorized by federal permit to acquire and possess the feathers. If the feathers cannot be donated, they shall be burned, buried, or otherwise destroyed.

(f) The carcass of each falconry raptor shall be disposed of in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The entire body of each golden eagle, including all feathers, talons, and other parts, shall be sent to the national eagle repository.

(2) The body or feathers of any species of falconry raptor, excluding a golden eagle, may be donated to any person or institution exempted from federal possession permit requirements or to any person or institution authorized by federal permit to acquire and possess the body or feathers.

(3) The body of any falconry raptor, other than a golden eagle, that was banded or was implanted with a microchip before its death may be kept by the falconry permittee in accordance with the following provisions:

(A) The feathers from the body may be used for imping.

(B) The body may be prepared and mounted by a taxidermist. The mounted body may be used by the permittee as part of a conservation education program.

(C) If the raptor was banded, the band shall remain on the body. If the raptor was implanted with a microchip, the microchip shall remain implanted in place.

(4) The body or feathers of any raptor that is not donated or retained by the permittee shall be burned, buried, or otherwise destroyed within 10 days of the death of the bird or after final examination by a veterinarian to determine the cause of death.

(5) The carcass of each euthanized raptor shall be disposed of in a manner that prevents the secondary poisoning of eagles or other scavengers.

(6) For any falconry raptor other than a golden eagle, if the body or feathers are not donated or mounted by a taxidermist as authorized by this subsection, the falconry permittee may possess the raptor for as long as the permittee maintains a valid falconry permit. The falconry permittee shall keep all the paperwork documenting the acquisition and possession of the raptor.

(g) A falconry raptor may be used in conservation education programs presented in public venues in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Any general falconer or master falconer may conduct or participate in such a program without the need for any other type of permit. Any apprentice falconer may conduct or participate in such a program while under the direct supervision of a general falconer or master falconer during the program.

The falconer presenting the program shall be responsible for all liability associated with falconry and conservation education activities for which the falconer is the instructor.

(2) The raptor shall be used primarily for falconry.

(3) A fee may be charged for the presentation of a conservation education program. However, the fee shall not exceed the amount required to recoup the falconer's costs for presenting the program.

(4) The presentation shall address falconry and conservation education. The conservation education portion of the program shall provide information about the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds. However, not all of these topics shall be required to be covered in every presentation.

(h) Falconry raptors may be photographed, filmed, or recorded by similar means for the production of movies or other sources of information on the practice of falconry or on the biology, ecological roles, and conservation needs of raptors and other migratory birds in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Any general falconer or master falconer may conduct or participate in such an activity without the need for any other type of permit. Any apprentice falconer may conduct or participate in such an activity while under the direct supervision of a general falconer or master falconer during the activity.

(2) The falconer shall not receive payment for the falconer's participation.

(3) Falconry raptors shall not be used to make movies or commercials or be used in other commercial ventures that are not related to falconry. Falconry raptors shall not be used for any of the following:

(A) Entertainment;

(B) advertisements, promotion, or endorsement of any products, merchandise, goods, services, meetings, or fairs; or

(C) the representation of any business, company, corporation, or other organization.

(i) Any general falconer or master falconer may assist a permitted migratory bird rehabilitator (“rehabilitator”) to condition raptors in preparation for their release to the wild in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The rehabilitator shall provide the falconer with a letter or form that identifies the bird and explains that the falconer is assisting in the bird’s rehabilitation. The raptor undergoing rehabilitation shall not be transferred to the falconer but shall remain under the permit of the rehabilitator.

(2) The falconer shall not be required to meet the rehabilitator facility standards. The falconer shall maintain that individual’s facilities in accordance with K.A.R. 115-14-13.

(3) The falconer, in coordination with the rehabilitator, shall release all raptors that are able to be released to the wild or shall return any such bird that cannot be permanently released to the wild to the rehabilitator for placement within the 180-day time frame in which the rehabilitator is authorized to possess the bird, unless the rehabilitator receives authorization to retain the bird for longer than the 180-day period. Any rehabilitated bird may be transferred to the falconer in accordance with K.A.R. 115-14-15.

(j) When flown free, a hybrid raptor shall have at least two attached radio transmitters to aid the falconry permittee in tracking and locating the bird. The term “hybrid raptor” shall mean the offspring of two different species of raptor.

(k) The statewide season for taking game birds by falconry shall be September 1 through March 31. Any falconer may possess hen pheasants that are incidentally taken by falconry means during the established falconry game bird season. Each falconer shall possess no more than two hen pheasants per day.

This regulation shall be effective on and after December 31, 2012. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807; effective Dec. 31, 2012.)

**115-14-12. Falconry; permits, applications, and examinations.** (a) Except as provided in this regulation, any individual engaged in falconry who possesses a current Kansas falconry permit or a current falconry permit from another state may engage in falconry activities as authorized by law or regulation. The permittee shall be in the immediate possession of the permit while trapping, transporting, working with, or flying a falconry raptor. Each falconer wanting to capture a raptor from the wild shall comply with K.A.R. 115-14-14. The permittee shall not be required to have immediate possession of the falconry permit while the raptor is located on the permitted premises of the falconry facility but shall produce the permit upon request for inspection by any law enforcement officer authorized to enforce the provisions of this regulation.

(b) Each individual wanting to engage in falconry shall submit an application to the secretary for the appropriate permit, on forms provided by the department. The application shall require at least the following information to be provided:

- (1) The applicant's name;
- (2) the applicant's address;
- (3) the address of the facilities where the raptors are to be kept;
- (4) the species and number of raptors to be permitted in accordance with the limitations specified in this regulation;
- (5) the applicant's date of birth;
- (6) the applicant's social security number;
- (7) the level of falconry permit being applied for; and
- (8) any additional relevant information that may be required for the type of permit as described within this regulation.

(c) Each falconry permit shall be valid from the date of issuance through December 31 in the third calendar year after issuance. A falconry permit may be renewed without the examination otherwise required by this regulation if the permit is renewed before the current permit expires.

(d) Each individual holding a current valid falconry permit from another state, moving to Kansas with the intent to establish residency, and wanting to bring that individual's legally permitted raptors into the state shall meet the following requirements:

(1) The individual shall apply for the appropriate level of Kansas falconry permit within 30 days after moving into the state. The determination of which level of falconry permit is appropriate for the applicant shall be based on the requirements of subsections (j), (k), and (l).

(2) The individual shall not be required to take the department's falconry examination specified in paragraph (j)(3).

(3) The individual shall notify the state where the individual formerly resided of the individual's move, within 30 days of moving to Kansas.

(4) Any falconry birds held by the individual under the former permit may be retained during the permit application and issuance process in Kansas if the birds are kept in an appropriate facility as specified in K.A.R. 115-14-13.

Each permanent facility to house falconry birds possessed under this subsection shall be constructed, inspected, and approved in accordance with K.A.R. 115-14-13 before the issuance of the Kansas falconry permit.

(e) Each individual whose permit has lapsed shall be allowed to reinstate that individual's permit in accordance with this subsection.

(1) Any individual whose Kansas falconry permit has lapsed for fewer than five years may be reinstated at the level previously held if the individual submits a complete application and provides proof of the previous level of certification. Each of the individual's facilities shall pass the inspection requirements in K.A.R. 115-14-13 before the individual may be allowed to possess a falconry raptor.

(2) Each individual whose Kansas falconry permit has lapsed for five years or more shall be required to correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on the department's falconry examination specified in paragraph (j)(3). Upon passing the examination, the individual's falconry permit shall be reinstated at the level previously held. Each of the individual's facilities shall pass the inspection requirements in K.A.R. 115-14-13 before the individual may be allowed to possess a falconry raptor.

(f) Any individual whose falconry permit has been revoked or suspended may apply for that individual's permit to be reinstated after the suspension period or revocation. In addition to submitting a completed application to the department, the individual shall be required to correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on the department's falconry examination specified in paragraph (j)(3). Upon passing the examination, the individual's falconry permit shall be reinstated at the level previously held. Each of the individual's facilities shall pass the inspection requirements in K.A.R. 115-14-13 before the individual may be allowed to possess a falconry raptor.

(g) Any individual residing in Kansas who is not a citizen of the United States, has practiced falconry in the individual's home country, and has not been previously permitted for falconry in another state may apply for a temporary falconry permit. Each temporary falconry permit shall be valid from the date of issuance through December 31 in the third calendar year after issuance. The level of permit issued shall be consistent with the level of permit types specified in subsections (j), (k), and (l). In addition, the applicant shall meet the following provisions:

(1) Any individual covered under this subsection may apply for and receive a temporary falconry permit in accordance with the following provisions:

(A) The individual applying for the temporary permit shall correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on the department's falconry examination specified in paragraph (j)(3).

(B) Upon passing the examination, a temporary permit for the appropriate level shall be issued by the department, based on the individual's documentation of experience and training.

(C) The individual holding the temporary permit may possess raptors for falconry purposes if the individual has falconry facilities approved in accordance with K.A.R. 115-14-13. The individual holding a temporary permit may fly raptors held for falconry by another permitted falconer. The individual holding a temporary permit shall not take raptors from the wild for falconry purposes.

(2) Any individual holding a temporary permit in accordance with this subsection may use any bird for falconry that the individual legally possessed in the individual's country of origin for falconry purposes if the importation of that species of bird into the United States is not prohibited and the individual has met all permitting requirements of the individual's country of origin.

(A) The individual shall comply with all requirements for practicing falconry in the state. The individual shall acquire all permits and comply with all federal laws concerning the importation, exportation, and transportation of falconry birds; the wild bird conservation act; the endangered species act; migratory bird import and export permits; and the endangered species convention.

(B) Each falconry bird imported into the state under this subsection shall be exported from the state by the temporary permittee when the permittee leaves the state, unless a permit is issued allowing the bird to remain in Kansas. If the bird dies while in the state, the permittee shall report the loss to the department before leaving the state.

(C) When flown free, each bird brought into the state under the provisions of this subsection shall have attached to the bird two radio transmitters that allow the permittee to locate the bird.

(h) Each individual who holds a current, valid Kansas falconry permit and resides in another state, territory, or tribal land different from the individual's primary Kansas residence for more than 120 consecutive days shall provide the location of the individual's falconry facilities in the other jurisdiction to the department. This information shall be listed on the individual's Kansas falconry permit.

(i) Falconry permits shall be issued for the following levels of permittees: apprentice falconer, general falconer, and master falconer. Each applicant for a specific level shall meet the requirements of subsection (j), (k), or (l).

(j) An "apprentice falconer" shall mean an individual who is beginning falconry at an entry level, has no prior permitted falconry experience, and meets the following requirements:

(1) The applicant shall be at least 12 years of age. The application of any applicant under 18 years of age shall be signed by a parent or legal guardian, who shall be legally responsible for the applicant's activities.

(2) The applicant shall have secured a written sponsor agreement either from a general falconer with at least two years of falconry experience as a general falconer or from a master falconer, stating that the falconer has agreed to mentor the applicant for the duration of the apprentice permit.

(A) The sponsor agreement shall include a statement from the general falconer or master falconer specifying that the sponsor shall mentor the applicant in learning the husbandry and training of raptors for falconry, learning relevant wildlife laws and regulations concerning the practice of falconry, and deciding what species of raptor is appropriate for the applicant to possess while practicing falconry at the apprentice level.

(B) If the general falconer or master falconer is not able to fulfill the sponsor agreement to mentor the apprentice falconer, the apprentice shall secure a sponsor agreement from another falconer with the necessary qualifications and notify the department within 30 days of the change. The falconer sponsoring the apprentice falconer shall notify the department in writing within 30 days of withdrawing the falconer's mentorship.

(3) Each applicant for an apprentice falconry permit shall be required to correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on the department's falconry examination. The examination shall cover the following topics:

(A) The care and handling of falconry raptors;

(B) federal and state laws and regulations relating to falconry; and

(C) other relevant subject matter relating to falconry, including diseases and general health.

(4) Any applicant failing the examination may reapply after 90 days.

(5) An apprentice falconer shall not possess more than one raptor. Each apprentice falconer shall be restricted to taking not more than one wild-caught raptor from one of the following species:

(A) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*);

(B) red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*); or

(C) red-shouldered hawk (*Buteo lineatus*).

(6) A raptor acquired by an apprentice falconer shall not have been taken from the wild as an eyas or have become imprinted on humans. Any wild-caught raptor may be transferred to the apprentice falconer by another properly permitted falconry permittee.

An apprentice falconer shall not acquire more than one replacement raptor during any 12-month period.

(7) The facilities used to house and keep the raptor shall meet the requirements in K.A.R. 115-14-13.

(k) A "general falconer" shall mean an individual who has been previously permitted as an apprentice falconer and meets the following requirements:

(1) The applicant shall be at least 16 years of age. The application of any applicant under 18 years of age shall be signed by a parent or legal guardian, who shall be legally responsible for the applicant's activities.

(2) Each application shall be accompanied by a letter from general falconer or a master falconer stating that the applicant has practiced falconry with wild raptors at the level of apprentice falconer, or its equivalent, for at least two years, including maintaining, training, flying, and hunting the raptor for at least four months in each year. This time may include the capture and release of falconry raptors. A school or education program in falconry shall not be substituted to shorten the required two years of experience at the level of apprentice falconer.

(3) A general falconer may take and use any species of *Accipitriform*, *Falconiform*, or *Strigiform*, including wild or captive-bred raptors and hybrid raptors, as defined in K.A.R. 115-14-11, for falconry, with the following exceptions:

(A) Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*);

(B) bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*);

(C) white-tailed eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*); and

(D) Steller's sea eagle (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*).

(4) A general falconer shall possess no more than three raptors at any one time, regardless of the number of state, tribal, or territorial falconry permits the general falconer possesses.

(1) A “master falconer” shall mean an individual who has been previously permitted at the level of general falconer and meets the following requirements:

(1) The applicant shall have practiced falconry with that individual’s own raptor as a general falconer for at least five years.

(2) A master falconer may take and use any species of *Accipitriform*, *Falconiform*, or *Strigiform*, including wild or captive-bred raptors and hybrid raptors for falconry, with the following exceptions:

(A) A bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) shall not be possessed.

(B) Golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*), white-tailed eagles (*Haliaeetus albicilla*), or Steller’s sea eagles (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*) may be possessed if the permittee meets the following requirements:

(i) The permittee shall not possess more than three raptors of the species listed in paragraph (1)(2)(B).

(ii) The permittee shall provide documentation to the department of the permittee’s experience in handling large raptors, including information about the species handled and the type and duration of the activity in which the experience was gained.

(iii) The permittee shall provide the department with at least two letters of reference from people with experience in handling or flying large raptors including eagles, ferruginous hawks (*Buteo regalis*), goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*), or great horned owls (*Bubo virginianus*). Each letter shall contain a concise history of the author’s experience with large raptors, which may include the handling of raptors held by zoos, rehabilitating large raptors, or scientific studies involving large raptors. Each letter shall also assess the permittee’s ability to care for eagles and fly them for falconry purposes.

(C) The possession of a golden eagle, white-tailed eagle, or Steller’s sea eagle shall count as one of the wild raptors that the permittee is allowed to possess.

(D) A master falconer may possess wild or captive-bred raptors or hybrid raptors of the species allowed by this subsection.

(E) A master falconer shall possess no more than five wild-caught raptors, including golden eagles, regardless of the number of state, tribal, or territorial falconry permits the falconer possesses.

(F) A master falconer may possess any number of captive-bred raptors. However, the raptors shall be trained to pursue wild game and shall be used for hunting.

(m) A falconry permit may be denied, suspended, or revoked by the secretary for any of the following reasons:

(1) The application is incomplete or contains false information.

(2) The applicant does not meet the qualifications specified in this regulation.

(3) The applicant has failed to maintain or to submit required reports.

(4) The applicant has been convicted of violating department laws or regulations relating to hunting or the practice of falconry or has had any other department license or permit denied, suspended, or revoked.

(5) Issuance of the permit would not be in the best interests of the public, for reasons including complaints or inappropriate conduct while holding a previous falconry permit.

This regulation shall be effective on and after December 31, 2012. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807; effective De. 31, 2012.)

**115-14-13. Falconry; facilities, equipment, care requirements, and inspections.** (a) Each individual keeping raptors shall maintain the facilities in accordance with this regulation.

(1) "Primary facility" shall mean the principal place and structures where the raptor is normally provided care and housing. This term shall include indoor facilities and outdoor facilities.

(2) "Temporary facility" shall mean a place and structure where a raptor is kept during the raptor's time away from the primary facility, including during transportation and while hunting or attending an event. This term shall include a place and structure where a raptor is kept for a limited time period while the primary facility is not available.

(b) All primary facilities used to house and keep raptors shall be inspected and approved by the department before the issuance of a Kansas falconry permit. Thereafter, all primary facilities used to house and keep raptors shall be inspected and approved before the issuance or renewal of a Kansas falconry permit. All primary facilities shall meet the following standards:

(1) All indoor areas of the primary facility, which are also known as "mews," and all outdoor areas of the primary facility, which are also known as "weathering areas," shall protect raptors from the environment, predators, and domestic animals.

(2) The indoor area of the primary facility shall have a perch for each raptor and at least one opening for sunlight.

(3) Two or more raptors may be housed together and untethered if the birds are compatible with each other. Each raptor shall have an area large enough to allow the raptor to fly if it is untethered or, if tethered, to fully extend its wings to bate or attempt to fly while tethered without damaging its feathers or contacting other raptors.

(4) Each raptor shall have a pan of clean water available.

(5) Each indoor area of the primary facility shall be large enough to allow easy access for the care and feeding of the raptors kept there.

(6) Each indoor area of the primary facility housing untethered raptors shall have either solid walls or walls made with vertical bars spaced narrower than the width of the body of the smallest raptor being housed, heavy-duty netting, or other similar materials covering the walls and roof of the facility. All windows shall be protected on the inside by vertical bars, spaced at intervals narrower than the width of the raptor's body.

(7) The floor of the indoor area of the primary facility shall consist of material that is easily cleaned and well drained.

(8) Each indoor area of the primary facility shall include shelf-perch enclosures where raptors are tethered side by side. Other housing systems shall be acceptable if they afford the enclosed raptors with protection and maintain healthy feathers.

(9) A falconry raptor, or raptors, may be kept inside the permittee's residence if a suitable perch, or perches, are provided. Windows and other openings in the residence structure shall not be required to be modified. All raptors kept in the residence shall be tethered when the raptors are not being moved into or out of the location where they are kept.

(10) Each outdoor area of the primary facility shall be totally enclosed and shall be made of heavy-gauge wire, heavy-duty plastic mesh, slats, pipe, wood, or other suitable material.

(11) Each outdoor area of the primary facility shall be covered and have at least a covered perch to protect a raptor held in the facility from predators and weather. Each outdoor area of the primary facility shall be large enough to ensure that all the raptors held inside cannot strike the enclosure when flying from the perch.

(12) Any new design of primary facility may be used if the primary facility meets the requirements of this subsection and is approved in writing by the department.

(c) Falconry raptors may be kept outside, including in a weathering yard at a falconry meet, if the raptors are under watch by the permittee or a designated individual.

(d) The permittee may transport any permitted raptor if the bird is provided with a suitable perch and is protected from extreme temperatures, wind, and excessive disturbance. A giant hood or similar container may be used for transporting the bird or for housing it while away from the primary facility.

(e) The permittee shall inform the department of any change of location of the primary facility within five business days of the move to the new location.



(f) The property where the primary facility is located may be owned by the permittee or another person and may be at the residence of the permittee or at a different location.

The permittee shall submit to the department a signed and dated statement showing that the permittee agrees that the primary facility, equipment, all falconry-related facilities, equipment, records, and raptors may be inspected without advance notice by department authorities at any reasonable time on any day of the week if the inspections are in the presence of the permittee. If the property is not owned by the permittee, the actual property owner shall also sign the statement acknowledging the inspection allowance.

(g) The permittee shall provide and maintain the following equipment during the term of the permit:

(1) At least one pair of Aylmeri jesses, or jesses of a similar type, constructed of pliable, high-quality leather or a suitable synthetic material. The jesses shall be used when any raptor is flown free. Traditional one-piece jesses may be used on raptors when not being flown;

(2) at least one flexible, weather-resistant leash and one strong swivel of acceptable falconry design;

(3) at least one suitable bath container for each raptor. Each container shall be at least two to six inches deep and wider than the length of the raptor; and

(4) a reliable scale or balance that is suitable for weighing the raptors and is graduated to increments of not more than ½ ounce (15 grams).

(h) A permittee may house a raptor in temporary facilities for no more than 120 consecutive days if the bird is provided with a suitable perch and protection from predators, domestic animals, extreme temperatures, wind, and excessive disturbance.

(i) A permittee may allow a raptor to be temporarily cared for and possessed by another falconry permittee in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) The raptor shall be kept at the permittee's primary facility or at the permitted primary facility of the other permittee.

(2) The raptor shall be cared for by the other permittee for no more than 120 consecutive days, unless the department provides a written extension of time for extenuating circumstances that may include illness, military service, or a family emergency. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the secretary on a case-by-case basis.

(3) The permittee shall provide the other permittee with a signed, dated statement authorizing the temporary possession. The statement shall include information specifying the time period during which the temporary care and possession are allowed and what activity is allowed. The permittee providing the temporary care may fly the raptor as authorized in the statement, including hunting, if the permittee providing the temporary care holds the appropriate level of falconry permit. The raptors being provided temporary care shall not count against the possession limit of the permittee providing the care.

(4) The permittee shall provide a copy of the United States fish and wildlife service form 3-186A showing that permittee as the possessor of the raptor to the other permittee providing the temporary care.

(j) Any permittee may allow a raptor to be temporarily cared for by an individual who does not possess a falconry permit in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The raptor shall not be removed from the permittee's facility during the time of temporary care. The person caring for the raptor shall not fly the raptor for any reason.

(2) The raptor may be cared for by another person for no more than 45 consecutive days, unless the department provides a written extension of time for extenuating circumstances that may include illness, military service, or a family emergency. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the secretary on a case-by-case basis.

(3) The raptor shall remain on the permittee's falconry permit.

(k) Falconry raptors may be trained or conditioned in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Equipment or techniques acceptable for falconry practices including or similar to any of the following may be used:

- (A) Tethered flying, which is also known as flying with a creance;
- (B) lures made from animal parts;
- (C) balloons;
- (D) kites; or
- (E) remote-control airplanes.

(2) The following species of live wildlife may be used:

- (A) Rock dove or domestic pigeon;
- (B) European starling;
- (C) house sparrow;
- (D) Hungarian partridge;
- (E) Chukar partridge; and

(F) any small game, as defined by K.S.A. 32-701 and amendments thereto, during the established hunting seasons for the small game.

(l) All facilities and equipment shall be properly maintained and cleaned during the term of the permit.

(m) Mistreatment of any raptor shall be grounds for revocation of the falconer's permit and for confiscation of any raptors in possession of the falconer. "Mistreatment" shall be defined as any of the following:

(1) Having physical custody of a raptor and failing to provide food, potable water, protection from the elements, opportunity for exercise, and other care as is needed for the health and well-being of the raptor;

(2) abandoning or leaving any raptor in any place without making provisions for its proper care;

or

(3) failing to meet the requirements of this regulation.

This regulation shall be effective on and after December 31, 2012. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807; effective Dec. 31, 2012.)

**115-14-14. Falconry; taking, banding, transporting, and possessing raptors.** (a) Each person taking a raptor from the wild for falconry purposes shall possess a current, valid hunting license pursuant to K.S.A. 32-919, and amendments thereto, and meet the requirements for hunter education certification pursuant to K.S.A. 32-920, and amendments thereto.

(b) Each falconer shall apply for and receive a permit from the department before attempting to take a raptor from the wild in Kansas.

(c) Each capture device used to capture raptors shall have a tag attached showing the permittee's name, address, and current falconry permit number.

(d) The permittee shall acquire permission from the landowner or the person controlling any private land before taking or attempting to take any wild raptor for falconry purposes.

(e) Wild raptors may be taken for falconry purposes if the species is approved by the department to be taken by the permittee and is allowed under the level of falconry permit possessed by the permittee in accordance with K.A.R. 115-14-12.

(1) A permittee shall not intentionally take a raptor species that the permittee is prohibited from possessing by the permittee's classification level.

(2) If a permittee captures a prohibited bird, the permittee shall immediately release it.

(f) A permittee shall take no more than two raptors from the wild each year to use in falconry in accordance with the permit level limitations specified in K.A.R. 115-14-12. The take shall be further restricted by the following provisions:

(1) Passage and haggard raptors may be taken by apprentice falconers, general falconers, and master falconers year-round.

(2) Raptors less than one year of age may be taken only by a general falconer or master falconer and may be taken year-round.

(3) No more than two eyases may be taken by a general falconer or a master falconer per calendar year. At least one eyas shall be left in the nest when an eyas is taken.

An apprentice falconer shall not take an eyas raptor from the wild.

(4) The following raptors may be taken from the wild, but only during the specified stages of development:

(A) Red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) in the eyas and passage stages;

(B) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) in all stages; and

(C) great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*) in all stages.

(5) Any other species of raptor in the eyas or passage stage of development may be taken by general falconers and master falconers.

(6) The recapture of a falconry bird that has been lost by a falconry permittee shall not be considered to be the capture of a wild raptor to be counted against the annual limit.

(g) Except as provided by this subsection, no species designated by the United States or in K.A.R. 115-15-1 as endangered or threatened shall be taken from the wild.

(1) A general falconer or master falconer may obtain a permit to take one wild raptor listed by federal law as threatened for falconry purposes.

(2) (A) The permittee shall submit an application and receive a federal endangered species permit before taking the bird.

(B) The permittee shall submit an application and receive approval and a permit from the department before taking the bird.

(h) Each raptor taken from the wild shall always be considered a wild bird.

(i) Each raptor taken from the wild in a calendar year by a permittee and then transferred to a second permittee shall count as one of the raptors allowed to be taken by the first permittee who took the raptor from the wild. The raptor transferred to the receiving permittee shall not count against the limit of wild raptors that may be taken in the calendar year by the receiving permittee.

(j) Each raptor taken from the wild shall be reported as follows:

(1) The permittee who is present and takes possession of a wild raptor at the capture site shall file the required report information within 10 calendar days of the capture by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(2) Any permittee may enlist the assistance of another person to take a wild raptor if the permittee is at the exact location of the capture and takes immediate possession of the bird.

(3) Any permittee who does not take immediate possession of a wild raptor at the exact location of the capture may acquire a wild raptor from a general falconer or master falconer, as defined in K.A.R. 115-14-12, in accordance with the following reporting requirements:

(A) The general falconer or master falconer who takes the raptor from the wild shall report the capture in accordance with paragraph (j)(1).

(B) The permittee receiving the wild raptor from the general falconer or master falconer shall report the transfer of the bird within 10 calendar days of the transfer by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(4) Any permittee who has a long-term or permanent physical impairment that prevents the individual from being present at the exact location of the capture and taking immediate possession of a wild raptor that may be used by the permittee for falconry purposes may acquire a bird by the following means:

(A) Any general falconer or master falconer, as defined by K.A.R. 115-14-12, may capture the wild raptor.

This capture shall not count against the general falconer's or master falconer's calendar-year limit for the take of wild raptors. However, this capture shall count against the calendar-year limit for wild raptors of the permittee with the long-term or permanent physical impairment.

(B) The permittee with the long-term or permanent physical impairment shall file the capture report in accordance with paragraph (j)(1).

(C) The permittee with the long-term or permanent physical impairment shall confirm the presence of the impairment and the need to report in accordance with this subsection at the time of application for the capture permit.

(k) A master falconer may be authorized by permit to possess not more than three eagles, including golden eagles, white-tailed eagles, or Steller's sea eagles, for falconry in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Each eagle possessed shall count against the possession limit for the permittee.

(2) A golden eagle may be taken in a location declared by the wildlife services of the United States department of agriculture or in an area within a state that has been established as a livestock depredation area in accordance with the following provisions:

(A) An immature or a subadult golden eagle may be taken in a livestock depredation area while the depredation area is in effect.

(B) A nesting adult golden eagle, or an eyas from its nest, may be taken in a livestock depredation area if a biologist that represents the agency responsible for establishing the depredation area has determined that the adult eagle is preying on livestock.

(C) The permittee shall notify the regional law enforcement office of the United States fish and wildlife service of the capture plan before any trapping activity begins. Notification shall be submitted in person, in writing, or by facsimile or electronic mail at least three business days before the start of trapping.

(1) Any raptor wearing falconry equipment or any captive-bred raptor may be recaptured at any time by any permittee in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The permittee may recapture the raptor whether or not the permittee is allowed to possess that species.

(2) The recaptured bird shall not count against the permittee's possession limit. This take from the wild shall not count against the capture limit for the calendar year.

(3) The permittee shall report the recapture to the department within five working days of the recapture.

(4) The disposition of any recaptured bird shall be as follows:

(A) The bird shall be returned to the person who lost it, if that person may legally possess the bird and chooses to do so. If the person who lost the bird either is prohibited from taking or chooses not to take the bird, the permittee who captured the bird may take possession of the bird if the permittee holds the necessary qualifications for the species and does not exceed the permittee's possession limit.

(B) The disposition of a recaptured bird whose legal ownership cannot be ascertained shall be determined by the department.

(m) Each goshawk, Harris's hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), or gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) taken from the wild or acquired from a rehabilitator by a falconry permittee shall be identified by one or more of the following means:

(1) The bird shall be banded with a black nylon, permanent, nonreusable, numbered falconry registration leg band from the United States fish and wildlife service. The bands shall be made available through the department. Any permittee may request an appropriate band before any effort to capture a raptor.

(2) In addition to the band specified in paragraph (m)(1), the permittee may purchase and have implanted in the bird a 134.2 kHz microchip that is compliant with the requirements of an international organization for standardization. All costs associated with the implantation of a microchip shall be the responsibility of the permittee.

(3) The permittee shall report the take of any bird within 10 days of the take by submitting the required information, including the band number or the microchip information, or both, to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(4) The permittee shall report to the department the loss or removal of any black nylon, nonreusable leg band within five days of the removal or notice of loss.

(A)(i) When submitting the report, the permittee shall submit a request for a black, nylon, nonreusable leg band to the United States fish and wildlife service.

(ii) The permittee may purchase and implant a 134.2 kHz microchip that is compliant with the requirements of an international organization for standardization, in addition to using the black, nylon, nonreusable leg band for rebanding.

(B) The permittee shall immediately submit the required information relating to the re-banding or the implanting of a microchip by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(n) Each raptor bred in captivity either shall be banded with a seamless metal falconry registration band provided by the United States fish and wildlife service or shall have implanted a 134.2 kHz microchip that is compliant with the requirements of an international organization for standardization.

The permittee shall report to the department the loss or removal of any seamless band within 10 days of the removal or notice of loss.

(1)(A) When submitting the report, the permittee shall submit a request for a yellow, nylon, nonreusable leg band to the United States fish and wildlife service.

(B) The permittee may purchase and implant a 134.2 kHz microchip that is compliant with the requirements of an international organization for standardization, in addition to using the seamless leg band for rebanding.

(2) The permittee shall immediately submit the required information relating to the re-banding or the implanting of a microchip by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(o) A falconry registration band shall not be altered, defaced, or counterfeited. However, the rear tab on a falconry registration band used to identify a raptor taken from the wild may be removed and any imperfect surface may be smoothed if the integrity of the band and the numbering on the band are not affected.

(p) The falconry registration band requirement may be waived by the secretary and the removal of a registration band may be allowed in order to address a documented health or injury problem caused to a raptor by the registration band in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) The permittee shall be required to carry a copy of the exemption paperwork at all times while transporting or flying the raptor.

(2) A microchip compliant with the requirements of an international organization for standardization and provided by the United States fish and wildlife service shall be used to replace the registration band causing the health or injury problem on a wild-caught goshawk, Harris's hawk, peregrine falcon, or gyrfalcon.

(q) A wild-caught falcon shall not be banded with a seamless numbered band.

(r) Any permittee, with prior authorization, may take a wild raptor, including a wild raptor that has been banded with an aluminum band from the federal bird-banding laboratory of the United States fish and wildlife service, during the legal season using legal methods and equipment, in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) Each captured raptor that has any band, research marker, or transmitter attached to it shall be immediately reported to the federal bird-banding laboratory of the United States fish and wildlife service. The reported information shall include any identifying numbers, the date and location of capture, and any other relevant information.

(2) A peregrine falcon that is banded with a research band or has a research marking attached to the bird shall not be taken from the wild and shall be immediately released.

(3) A captured peregrine falcon that has a research transmitter attached to the bird may be kept by the permittee not more than 30 days if the federal bird-banding laboratory of the United States fish and wildlife service is immediately contacted after the capture. The disposition of the captured peregrine falcon shall be in accordance with the directions provided by the federal bird-banding laboratory or its designee.

(4) Any raptor, other than a peregrine falcon, that has a transmitter attached to it may be possessed by the permittee who captured the bird for not more than 30 days in order to contact the researcher, or the researcher's designee, to determine if the transmitter should be replaced.

(A) The temporary, 30-day possession of the bird shall not count against the permittee's possession limit for falconry raptors.

(B) If the permittee who captured the raptor wishes to possess the bird for falconry purposes, the disposition of the bird shall be at the discretion of the researcher and the secretary if the species of the bird is allowable under the classification level of the permittee and the permittee's possession of the captured bird does not exceed the established possession limit.

(s) Each raptor, including a peregrine falcon, that is captured and found with a seamless metal band, a transmitter, or any other item identifying it as a falconry bird attached to it shall be reported to the department within five days of capture.

(1) Each such falconry raptor shall be returned to the person who lost the raptor.

(2) If the person who lost the bird is prohibited from possessing the bird or does not wish to possess the bird, the permittee who captured the bird may keep the bird if the permittee holds the necessary qualifications for the species and does not exceed the permittee's possession limit.

(3) If the permittee who captured the bird is prohibited from possessing the bird, the disposition of the bird shall be at the discretion of the secretary.

(4) The recaptured falconry bird shall not count against the possession limit or the calendar-year limit of wild birds that may be taken by the permittee during the time the recaptured bird is being held pending final disposition.

(t) Each raptor that is injured during trapping activities shall be handled in accordance with the provisions of this subsection. It shall be the permittee's responsibility to address any injury occurring to a raptor during trapping activities in one of the following ways:

(1) The permittee may take the raptor into possession and apply it to the permittee's possession limit if the raptor is of a species allowed to be possessed and the permittee's possession limit is not exceeded.

(A) The take shall be reported in accordance with subsection (j).

(B) The raptor shall be treated by a veterinarian or a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. The cost for the care and treatment of the raptor shall be the responsibility of the permittee.

(2) The raptor may be turned over directly to a veterinarian, a permitted wildlife rehabilitator, or a department employee, and the raptor shall not be counted against the permittee's allowable take or possession limit. The permittee shall be responsible for the costs relating to the care and rehabilitation of the bird.

(u)(1) The permittee shall report each raptor that dies or is acquired, transferred, rebanded, implanted with a microchip, lost to the wild and not recovered within 30 calendar days, or stolen by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(2) In addition to submitting the report required in paragraph (u)(1), the permittee shall file a report of the theft of a raptor with the department and the appropriate regional law enforcement office of the United States fish and wildlife service within 10 calendar days of the theft.

(3) The permittee shall keep copies of all electronic database submissions documenting the take, transfer, loss, theft, rebanding, or implanting of microchips of each falconry raptor for at least five years after the bird has been transferred, released to the wild, or lost, or has died.

(v) The intentional release to the wild of any falconry raptor shall be in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) A species of raptor that is not native to Kansas shall not be released to the wild. Any such bird may be transferred to another falconry permittee if the permittee receiving the bird is authorized to possess the age and species of raptor and the transfer does not exceed the possession limit of the permittee receiving the bird.

(2) Any species of raptor that is native to Kansas and is captive-bred may be released to the wild according to the following requirements:

(A) The permittee shall obtain the department's permission to release the bird to the wild before the actual release. The time of year and the location where the release shall take place shall be specified by the department.

(i) The release of a raptor on department lands or waters shall meet the requirements of K.A.R. 115-8-12.

(ii) The permittee shall acquire verbal permission from the landowner or person in control of the private land before the release of the raptor.

(B) The permittee shall remove any tag, transmitter, or nonreusable falconry band, if present, before release. All falconry identification bands, tags, or markers shall then be surrendered to the department within 10 calendar days of the release.

(C) The permittee shall report the release of the bird within 10 calendar days of the release by submitting the required information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(3) Any species of raptor that is native to Kansas and was taken from the wild may be released to the wild according to the following requirements:

(A) The permittee may release the bird to the wild year-round.

(i) Each release of a raptor on department lands or waters shall meet the requirements of K.A.R. 115-8-12.

(ii) The permittee shall acquire verbal permission from the landowner or person in control the private land before the release of the raptor.

(B) The permittee shall remove any tag, transmitter, or nonreusable falconry band, if present, before the release. All falconry identification bands, tags, or markers shall then be surrendered to the department within 10 calendar days of the release.

(C) The permittee shall report the release of the bird within 10 calendar days of the release by submitting the required information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(4) No hybrid raptor, as defined in K.A.R. 115-14-11, shall be intentionally released to the wild permanently.

(5) Hacking, which means temporarily releasing a falconry raptor to the wild for conditioning, shall be permissible.

This regulation shall be effective on and after December 31, 2012. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807; effective Dec. 31, 2012.)



**115-14-15. Falconry; transfers, trading, and sale of raptors.** (a) The number of transactions transferring a falconry raptor between permittees shall not be restricted if the permittee taking possession of the raptor does not exceed the possession limit in K.A.R. 115-14-12.

(b) Upon the death of a falconry permittee, the surviving spouse, executor, administrator, or other legal representative of the deceased falconry permittee may transfer any raptor held by the permittee to another authorized permittee within 90 days. After 90 days, the disposition of any raptor held under the permit shall be at the discretion of the secretary.

(c) No wild-caught raptor shall be sold or purchased, bartered, or traded, whether or not the raptor has been transferred or held in captivity for any period.

(d) A wild-caught raptor may be transferred to another falconry permit holder in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) The transferor shall report the transfer within 10 calendar days by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(2) Upon transfer to another properly permitted falconer, the raptor shall not count toward the number of wild raptors that may be taken from the wild by the receiving falconer.

(e) A wild-caught raptor may be transferred to the holder of a raptor propagation permit in accordance with the following provisions:

(1) A falconry raptor shall be transferred to a properly permitted captive propagation permittee if the raptor is used for propagation purposes for more than eight months.

(A) The individual holding the raptor propagation permit may be the same individual holding the falconry permit or a different person.

(B) Each raptor that is transferred shall have been used for falconry for at least two calendar years, except that the following raptor species shall have been used for falconry for at least one calendar year:

(i) Sharp-shinned hawk (*Accipiter striatus*);

(ii) Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*);

(iii) merlin (*Falco columbarius*); and

(iv) American kestrel (*Falco sparverius*).

(C) The falconry permittee shall report the transfer within 10 calendar days by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(D) The transferred bird shall be banded with a black nylon, nonreusable, numbered band issued by the United States fish and wildlife service.

(2) A falconry raptor may be temporarily transferred to a permitted captive propagation permittee for propagation purposes in accordance with the following provisions:

(A) The individual holding the raptor propagation permit may be the same individual holding the falconry permit or a different person.

(B) A falconry raptor shall not be used for captive propagation for more than eight months in a calendar year.

(C) The permittee shall notify the department in writing of the dates on which the bird begins and ends captive propagation activity.

(3) A falconry raptor may be permanently transferred to the holder of a permit type other than a falconry permit or captive propagation permit in accordance with the following provisions:

(A) The transfer may occur regardless of the time during which the wild-caught bird has been used for falconry purposes.

(B) The bird shall have been injured and a veterinarian or wildlife rehabilitator shall have determined that the bird shall no longer be flown for falconry.

(C) The falconry permittee shall report the transfer within 10 calendar days by submitting the information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service. The falconry permittee shall also provide a copy of the certification from the veterinarian or wildlife rehabilitator stating that the bird cannot be used for falconry to the regional migratory bird permit office of the United States fish and wildlife service within 10 calendar days of the transfer.

(f) Any captive-bred falconry raptor may be transferred to another falconry permit holder. The transferor shall report the transfer within 10 calendar days by submitting the transfer report to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(g) A captive-bred falconry raptor may be transferred to the holder of a permit type other than falconry. The transferor shall report the transfer within 10 calendar days to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

(h) Any permittee may acquire a raptor for falconry purposes from a permitted rehabilitator if all of the following requirements are met:

(1) The raptor shall be of an age and species allowed under the permittee's classification level.

(2) The acquisition shall not place the permittee in excess of the possession limit.

(3) The transfer from the rehabilitator to the permittee shall be at the discretion of the rehabilitator.

(4) Each raptor acquired by transfer from a rehabilitator shall count as one of the raptors that the permittee is allowed to take from the wild for that calendar year.

(5) The permittee shall report each raptor acquired by transfer from a rehabilitator within 10 days of the transfer by submitting the required information to the electronic database of the United States fish and wildlife service.

This regulation shall be effective on and after December 31, 2012. (Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 32-807; effective Dec. 31, 2012.)

**115-18-2. Raptor propagation permit; application, reporting and general provisions. (a)**

Any person desiring to possess raptors for propagation purposes shall submit a copy of the person's application for a federal raptor propagation permit to the secretary. A letter of approval issued by the secretary shall satisfy the department's raptor propagation permit requirement, but shall not be effective until the applicant has been issued a federal raptor propagation permit by the U. S. fish and wildlife service.

(b) Each person issued a federal raptor propagation permit shall submit to the department a copy of the approved federal permit and copies of all reports required by the federal permit.

(c) Each permittee shall allow for inspection of the permittee's raptor propagation facilities and records by department officials. (Authorized by 1989 HB 2005, section 9; implementing 1989 HB 2005, sections 9 and 114; effective Oct. 30, 1989.)