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6 April 2021

**Sarah Riley, Implementation Aide**  
**Jay Osenkowski, Deputy Chief, Wildlife**  
**David Kalb, Ph.D., Supervising Biologist, Wildlife**

State of Rhode Island  
Department of Environmental Management  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Great Swamp Field Headquarters  
West Kingston, RI 02892

**Re: Regulation amendment for take of migrant northern peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) from the wild for use in falconry**

To Whom It May Concern;

On behalf of the Rhode Island falconers, I am requesting an amendment to Rhode Island's regulations allowing a peregrine take for master class falconers. Currently, due to current regulations that have not been updated since 2006, peregrine falcons are not allowed for use in falconry.

However, it should be noted that the Atlantic Flyway Council has currently allocated Rhode Island two permits for a peregrine take for master class falconers. Rhode Island falconers would be trapping first-year, passage peregrine falcons in their migration. These birds are migrating from Canada, Greenland, and Arctic regions.

In essence, an amendment to current falconry regulations and how they pertain to Rhode Island falconers, would allow master class falconers the ultimate complement; hunting with a passage peregrine falcon, which was delisted off the Endangered Species list in 1999. Many states, from Maine to Florida, since 2009 have allowed falconers this highly regarded privilege.

If needed, I have additional letters that can further enhance my request. The information I have spent countless hours researching and consolidating, is included. I am hopeful that Rhode Island can become a state that allows a peregrine falcon take. It should be noted: Rhode Island state officials within the RI Division of Fish and Wildlife have been extremely helpful and open to the idea of Rhode Island falconers having a peregrine take.

Sincerely,

Jim Gwiazdzinski and the Rhode Island falconers