

## THE 1969 NAFA PEREGRINE FALCON SYMPOSIUM

### Summary by Lee Eberly

This report is a brief summary of the Symposium held under the auspices of the North American Falconers' Association at Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colorado, on November 26 to 28, 1969. A complete account will be published by NAFA.

1. Background. J. Enderson presented to the participants a list of materials including:

A tape of the Cornell Conference

A compendium of private efforts to breed captive raptors  
Olendorff's letter to NAFA and Dr. Cade's reply to that letter

Enderson's ideas on plans to remove Peregrines from the wild

Public Law 89-6996; the Endangered Species Act

House Bill 11363; the current act regulating importation of endangered species

A list of rare and endangered species as given by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service

A summary of the Cornell Conference prepared by RRF.

2. Texas Coast Migration Data. J. Enderson compared data from 1969 with that of 1964 for Peregrines. Total numbers of Peregrines per 100 miles remained relatively unchanged (4.71 and 4.94 respectively). Ratios of adults to immatures decreased, however, from 1:1.38 to 1:0.64.

D. Stowe (by G. Hunt) gave east coast migration data. From observing 12 migrations, he could not say whether Peregrines are declining or not. He noted that weather affects migration to a great degree since birds concentrate just before the arrival of a cold front and then slack off as it comes in. Consequently, the number of sightings per day (1964-66=3.2; 1967-69=2.7) was not considered statistically conclusive.

B. Watson reported on the east coast Corpus Christi and San Padre areas. He quoted Col. Meredith to the effect that there was no appreciable decrease in Peregrines on the Texas coast from 1935 to 1964. Sight observations for a four day period during 1964 were given. Watson felt that Peregrines were not as rare as his data indicated.

3. East Coast Migration Data. A. Nye (by Olendorff) reported on Assateague Island for the years 1938-1947. R. Berry (by Maj. Dick Graham) on Assateague Island estimated immature to adult Peregrine ratio for 1969 to be 10:1. Adult males were observed to be least abundant. He felt that severe snowfall in the high Arctic may have affected the 1969-70 Peregrine population.