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Table 1. Average, Minimum, and Maximum annual counts (1999-2006) for the eight common species of diurnal raptors at Curry Hammock State Park, Florida, for which population trend analyses will be performed.

Species	Scientific name	Average	Min.	Max.
Osprey	<i>Pandion halliaetus</i>	1,141	925	1,657
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	536	332	786
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	2,953	1,001	4,741
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	520	289	1,036
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	3,611	2,727	5,237
American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	2,439	1,270	4,338
Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	493	271	834
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1,833	1,344	2,858



Systematic monitoring of peregrine falcons and seven other species of migratory raptors at Curry Hammock State Park, Florida

Introduction:

During the breeding season, many raptors occupy remote habitats, making their populations difficult and costly to monitor. In contrast, large flights of migrating raptors pass through the Florida Keys enroute to southern wintering grounds. Since 1999, HawkWatch International has conducted daily counts of fall migrant raptors in the Florida Keys to document population trends. Counts in the Keys are comparable to other major raptor migration sites in the US such as Hawk Mountain, PA or Cape May, NJ. More Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) are counted in the Keys than at any other location in North America. Since no other concentrations of

migratory raptors occur in the southeastern US, long-term counts in the Keys will be an important component of integrated monitoring for North American raptor population trends.

Objectives:

1. Conduct daily counts of migrating raptors each fall;
2. Contribute data to continental-scale analyses of raptor population trends;
3. Share results with agencies and land managers.

Approach:

A daily count of all raptor species is conducted between Sept. 15 and Oct. 30. Count data are then contributed to the Raptor Population Index for population trend analyses (<http://www.rpi-project.org/>). Preliminary analyses are shown here for four of eight common species counted in the Keys.

Benefits:

This project, as a key contributor to the Raptor Population Index, will provide agencies and land managers across North America with regular updates on raptor population status and trends. This will help to document that recently de-listed populations, such as Peregrine Falcons, remain stable or increase, and that populations such as eastern American Kestrels (which have declining counts at several eastern migration sites) receive appropriate conservation attention.

Location:

Curry Hammock State Park (near Marathon, FL).

Contact:

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