

FIELD NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE _____

MAINE-RELEASED PEREGRINE FALCON RECOVERED IN CONNECTICUT

On September 16, 1991, barge personnel at the Electric Boat Shipyard in Groton, Connecticut, recovered a juvenile male Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), which had been superficially injured in a collision with the barge. The falcon had a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band, number 816-93588, on its left leg. Banding records indicated that the bird had been released at Borestone Mountain, Elliottsville Plantation, Maine, on July 25, 1991, and was last observed at the release site on September 5. After successful treatment by a local rehabilitator, the falcon was released at Griswold Point, Old Lyme, Connecticut, on September 20, 1991.

This recovery is the eighth recovery of a Maine-released Peregrine Falcon, but the only one for which all details are known. Another Peregrine, released in 1989, collided with a commercial airliner at Kennedy International Airport, New York, in the fall of 1989. The details of this recovery are sketchy. Other Maine-released Peregrines have been recovered in South Carolina (October), Venezuela (October), Boston (September), Sullivan, Maine (September), and Bangor, Maine (October). Another Maine-released Peregrine Falcon, a subadult in its second or third spring, was recovered in Atlantic City, New Jersey (C. Todd, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, personal communication). The recovery reported here is notable because the bird was captured and its band reported, supplying more details on its recovery. We now have some indication that juvenile Peregrines released in Maine are migrating toward Long Island Sound after dispersing from the release site.

Peregrine Falcons are regularly observed at Fishers Island, New York, eleven kilometers south of Electric Boat Shipyard (Slack, R.S., and C.B. Slack, 1981, Fall Migration of Peregrine Falcons Along the Rhode Island Coast, *Journal of Field Ornithology* 52:60-61; Ferguson, A.L., and H.L. Ferguson, 1922, The Fall Migration of Hawks as Observed at Fishers Island, New York, *Auk* 39:488-496). It is interesting that the above noted recovery in Groton was in the vicinity of Fishers Island.

Knowledge of the migratory pathways of birds is important for designing monitoring schemes for species. Such pathways are often traditional and may be vulnerable to human activities. We should continue to accumulate data on migratory movements of released Peregrine Falcons.

We wish to thank Charles Todd for unpublished information on Peregrine recoveries and, along with George Matula, for helpful suggestions on improving this note. Our background research is a contribution of Maine's Nongame Checkoff, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Maine Department of

Roger D. Applegate, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife,
Bangor, Maine, and Julie Victoria, Connecticut Wildlife Division, North
Franklin, Connecticut

AMERICAN ROBIN ALLOPARENTING AT A HOUSE SPARROW NEST

Alloparenting and cooperative breeding behavior has been described by Brown (*Helping and Communal Breeding in Birds*, 1987, Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press), who with Skutch (*Helpers at Bird Nests: A World Wide Survey of Cooperative Breeding and Related Behavior*, 1987, Iowa City, Iowa: University of Iowa Press) reviewed and identified all known references of this behavior in birds. Neither authority documented alloparenting behavior between the American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) and House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). This note describes alloparenting behavior, where an American Robin provided food for nestling House Sparrows at a nest in Beacon Falls, New Haven County, Connecticut.

Both species nested in a Japanese maple planted as an ornamental and about five meters in height. The American Robin nest was at a height of about four meters, in the upper canopy of the tree. The House Sparrow nest, about two meters from the ground and four meters from the American Robin nest, was in a nest box attached to the main trunk. The nest box opening faced toward the American Robin nest.

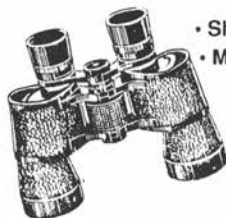
Alloparenting occurred after the failure of the American Robin nest on June 8, 1990. The American Robin pair abandoned their nest site and did not attempt re-nesting. On June 9, at 6:00 PM, an American Robin was in the tree near the House Sparrow's nest box. House Sparrow nestlings, calling for food, were visible at the entrance. The American Robin responded to the begging calls by flying to the nest and feeding the young. As the American Robin fed the nestlings, an adult House Sparrow carrying food to the young watched from a branch perch about 0.6 meter from its nest. When the American Robin departed, the House Sparrow attended the nest. The American Robin and House Sparrow alternated in attending the nest for two additional rotations, until the birds were disturbed by human activity at approximately 6:06 PM, following which we did not see any further alloparenting behavior.

Arnold Devine and Dwight G. Smith, New Haven, Connecticut

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