

*J Raptor Res.* 21(4):160

© 1987 The Raptor Research Foundation, Inc.

## NORTHERN CARDINAL HEAD ATTACHED TO THE TOE OF A SHARP-SHINNED HAWK

THOMAS W. CARPENTER AND ARTHUR L. CARPENTER

On 16 May 1986 while using mist nets to capture and band migrant hawks at Whitefish Point, Chippewa County, Michigan, we captured an immature male Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) with the head of a Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) attached to its left hallux (hind toe). The cardinal had apparently clamped its beak tightly on the hawk's toe. Both the head and toe broke off together when we untangled the hawk. The head was very necrotid and evidently had been attached to the hawk's toe for a considerable length of time.

The hawk was in average condition (wt = 101.2 g). Average weight of 184 immature male Sharp-shinned Hawks we banded at Whitefish Point during the springs of 1985–87 was 100.2 g (range = 75.7–125.9 g; Carpenter

and Carpenter, pers. obs.). Unusual injuries have been previously reported for the Sharp-shinned (Kelley and Kelley, *Wilson Bull.* 81:209–210, 1969; Evans, *Auk* 94: 585–586, 1977) but none of the type just described.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Edward H. Burt, Jr., Jimmie R. Parrish and three anonymous reviewers made many helpful suggestions on an earlier version of the manuscript. This note is a contribution of the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory.

3646 S. John Hix, Wayne, MI 48184.

Received 25 June 1987; accepted 20 September 1987

**Non-releasable Animal Placement Program (NAPP)**—The Non-releasable Animal Placement Program is a computer-based information system for non-releasable species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. The purpose of the program is to maintain a clearinghouse for wildlife professionals who deal with non-releasable, permanently injured or imprinted animals and placement of surplus animals into various wildlife programs throughout North America. A monthly report is published listing all available and requested animals. Subscription fee for the NAPP is \$10.00/yr. There is no charge to list or request an animal. For additional information contact **NAPP, Animal Rehabilitation Center, Inc., 449 Edgefield Lane, Midlothian, Texas 76065.**