

PROPOSAL 21 – 5 AAC 92.037. Permits for falconry. Require raptors taken under nonresident capture permits be implanted with microchips as follows:

Add a new section that reads:

Prior to exporting a raptor from Alaska that was taken by a nonresident falconer under the terms of a nonresident capture permit, the raptor must be implanted with a microchip by a licensed veterinarian. Documentation of the procedure and registration must be presented to ADF&G during the check-out process.

What is the issue you would like the board to address and why? The Alaska Falconers Association is requesting the Board of Game to require nonresident falconers who successfully draw a nonresident capture permit and trap a raptor in Alaska to have a microchip implanted in the raptor prior to exporting the raptor from the State of Alaska.

Airline companies require a health certificate, issued by a veterinarian, to be obtained for the raptor prior to shipment for export from Alaska. The bird can be microchipped by the vet at the same time the bird is examined for the required health certificate. Microchip identification can assist biologists, law enforcement, and state wildlife agencies keep track of wild origin birds that must stay in state falconry programs. These birds cannot be sold or transferred out of the United States. Implanting a microchip, a simple minimally evasive and inexpensive process, will go a long way in permanently identifying a wild-taken Alaska raptor once it has left the State of Alaska.

Highly prized raptors such as Alaska passage gyrfalcons and peregrine falcons have been traded and sold illegally in the past. ADF&G has documented one gyrfalcon that was trapped on the Yukon Delta as part of a scientific research study that was subsequently re-identified in the Middle East. We believe that implanting a microchip in each raptor that is trapped by a nonresident and subsequently exported from the state will aid in the proper use of that bird as a falconry bird and assist in tracking that bird through its life time.

PROPOSED BY: Alaska Falconers Association

(EG-F17-065)
