

Status Investigation

of the

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)



Rationale for Investigation

- Still listed as “threatened” by NM
- Removed from list of federally threatened and endangered species in August 1999
- Public interest in status of the species
- Lot of information from years of monitoring
- 17-2-40 NMSA 1978 provides mechanism for reviewing listed species



Status History

- From late 1940s to mid 1960s population declined 80-90% in the west and were eliminated from the east
- 1970 peregrine falcons listed as endangered under Endangered Species Conservation Act
- 1974 began releasing captive bred peregrine falcons
- August 1999 removed from list of threatened and endangered species
- 2003 post delisting monitoring surveys begin



Federal Delisting Criteria/ 1998 Status

- Number of Pairs in the Rocky Mts./Southwest:
 - Goal: 183 (actual pairs = 535)
 - New Mexico's goal 23 (USFWS)
 - NM – monitoring 32 pairs/territories since 2003



Wildlife Conservation Act Requirements

Director - conduct an investigation to support listing or delisting of a species with the advice and **consent** of the commission.

Director - select a researcher to conduct an investigation & request the appointment of a peer review panel.

Director – upon completion of the investigation shall make written recommendations to the commission on the status of species.



Commission Comments

Suggested Motion:

“Move to approve the Director to conduct an investigation on the status of peregrine falcons in New Mexico.”

