

HAWK MIGRATION 1974
GENERAL

- PROJECT : To establish a hawk watch around points of known concentration. Recording the number, movement, and time of hawks passing through.
- AREA : The area to be covered will be western Massachusetts, Connecticut, Southern Vermont and New Hampshire, and the eastern portions of New York.
- METHOD : The selection of three weekends, April 20-21, September 14-15, and October 26-27, to man pre-selected sites along flight paths. The first two dates will occur during the major Broad-winged movement and the third will be during the major Red-tailed movement.
- MANNING : Again, local Bird Clubs will be asked to encourage their membership to volunteer as observers. Other interested persons are asked to contact the nearest Bird Club or the Project Coordinators.
- SUPPORT : Observation sites will be chosen based upon known factors effecting migrants and past sightings. A uniform report sheet will be supplied. Each observer will receive one of these sheets. All information will be analyzed and a formal report will be made to all participants and clubs.
- YIELD : Information gathered is expected to further define migratory flight paths. The rate of movement should be better understood. Location of possible banding sites may be realized. Succeeding yearly observations will contribute to relative population studies. Large individual participation should lead to better identification and understanding of hawks.

AREA LEADERS INSTRUCTION

- LEADERS : Each club will be asked to designate an area leader to coordinate the selection of sites, recruitment, and assignment of observers.
- SITES : Leaders will be asked to see that last year's sites are manned. If possible, additional sites should be manned to extend coverage. Please forward the list of sites in your area with a description of the location so they can be located on topographic maps.
- WEATHER : Under marginal conditions sites should be manned. Check your local forecast.
- COVERAGE : It is hoped that sites will be manned for both days of each weekend. You should encourage those whose circumstances allow, to get out prior to and after the chosen dates. Their reports should also be sent in.
- SUPPORT : Instruction sheets and report forms will be sent to the area leaders for distribution.
- EXTRAS : Should a large flight of hawks occur prior to the Hawk Watch dates, record time, weather, location, number, etc., and call collect 1-203-688-4119. Any additional observations made during the migration period would be appreciated.

OBSERVERS INSTRUCTION

- PERSONNEL : Each site should have at least 2 people, 3 or 4 would be ideal. This would allow relief time for eating, etc. A lot of birds can get by one person. Any last minute changes or cancellations can be compensated for if you will call the area leader.
- TIME : April 20-21, September 14-15, October 26-27, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Each site should be manned for the entire day.
- WEATHER : Hawks will fly in widely variable weather conditions. If in doubt check your area leader. If still in doubt, our suggestion is to man your site.
- SITE : In most cases the area leader will supply you with instructions on how to reach the site. Please respect the owner's property.
- EQUIPMENT : Binoculars, watch, compass, report form, field guide, and clipboard. Camp stool, food, drink, scratch pad, and brightly colored clothes for October, when there are hunters.
- SIGHTINGS : The hawks you are unable to confirm, mark in the unidentified column, this is very important. Note the direction of movement and the distance on the compass rose. Any split in hawk flights should also be noted on the compass rose with an estimate of percentage following the secondary line.
- REPORT : Fill in top portion of the report as soon as you arrive. Orient yourself with a compass. Make tallies on a scratch pad for each time unit before filling in report. Note wind direction and strength.
- CONCLUSION : Make sure all information has been completed on the report. Detach original, fold, seal, stamp and mail immediately. Your comment would be most helpful.
- CONTACTS : Project Coordinators
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HAWK MIGRATION COMMITTEE

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