

DUTLINE FOR MIGRATION STUDY
1971

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PROJECT: To establish a hawk watch around points of known concentration. Recording the number, movement, and time of hawks passing through.

Areas of Study

- (1) Pelham-Mt. Tom-Cobble Mountain.
- (2) Sharon-Newtown-Watertown.
- (3) Greenwich-Lighthouse Point-Hammonasset-Bluff Point.

METHOD: Selection of two weekends, September 18, 19, and October 23, 24, to man pre-selected sites along flight paths. The first date will cover the Broadwings and the second, Redtailed flights. Sightings, time, and direction at each will be recorded. All reports will be analyzed to determine the rate and direction of movement.

MANNING: Local bird clubs will be contacted and asked for their endorsement (without obligation), to solicit from their membership volunteer observers and reporters.

SUPPORT: Observation sites will be chosen based upon known factors effecting migrants and past sightings. A uniform reporting sheet will be supplied. All information will be analyzed and a formal report made to all participants and clubs. Each observer will receive a site map and identification aid.

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.

PROMOTION: Any club which wishes to participate may have a speaker to present the plan to its membership.

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OBSERVER INSTRUCTION SHEET

PERSONNEL:

Each site should have at least 2 people, 3 or 4 would be ideal. This would allow relief for eating, etc. A lot of birds could get by one person. Any last minute changes or cancellations can be compensated for if you will call the area leader.

TIME:

September 18, 19 and October 23, 24, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00. Each site should, if possible, be manned for the entire day.

RAIN:

In the event of rain on Saturday, Sunday will be the primary day. Should it rain on Sunday also, the following week-end will become the days for observation.

SITE:

The site map and a road map will provide enough information to reach the site. Note the information on the site map. Respect the owners property.

EQUIPMENT:

Binoculars, watch, compass, report form, field guide, and clipboard. Camp stool, food, drink, scratch pad, and bright colored clothes for October, when there are hunters.

SIGHTINGS:

The hawks you are unable to confirm, mark in the unidentified column, this is just as important. Note the direction of movement and 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.

HAWKS:

<u>Buteos</u>- tend to circle up high, then go into long glides.

<u>Accipiters and Falcons</u> - do less circling, flap and glide at low altitudes.

<u>Osprey</u> - Does less circling and glides at higher altitudes.

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.

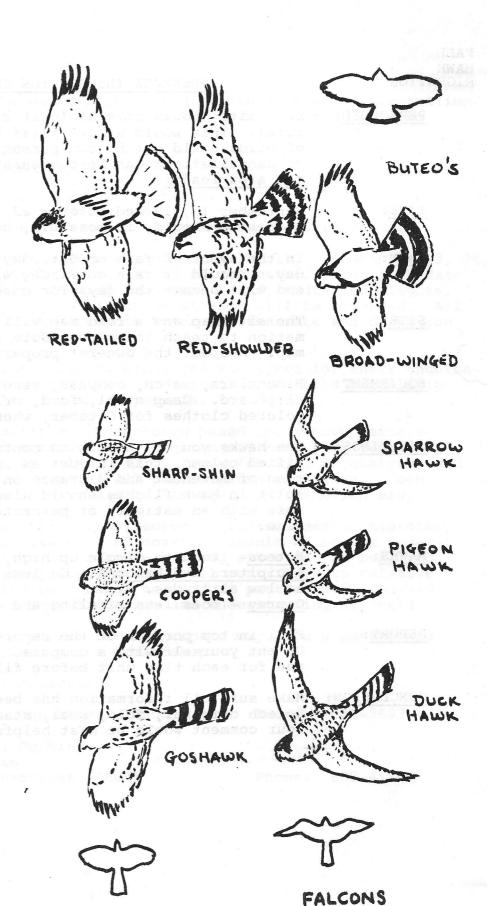
CONCLUSION:

Make sure all information has been completed on the report. Detach original, fold, seal, stamp, and mail immediately. Your comment would be most helpful.

FALL HAWK MIGRATION







ACCIPITERS