Species At Risk in Canadian wildlife poison use zones:

Sensitive Raptors

Paregrine Falcon – Falco peregrinus

Federal Status: SPECIAL CONCERN / Provincial Status:

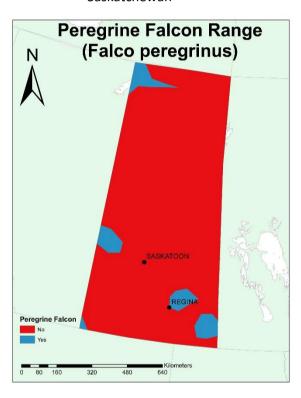
Alberta

Sensitive Raptor Range

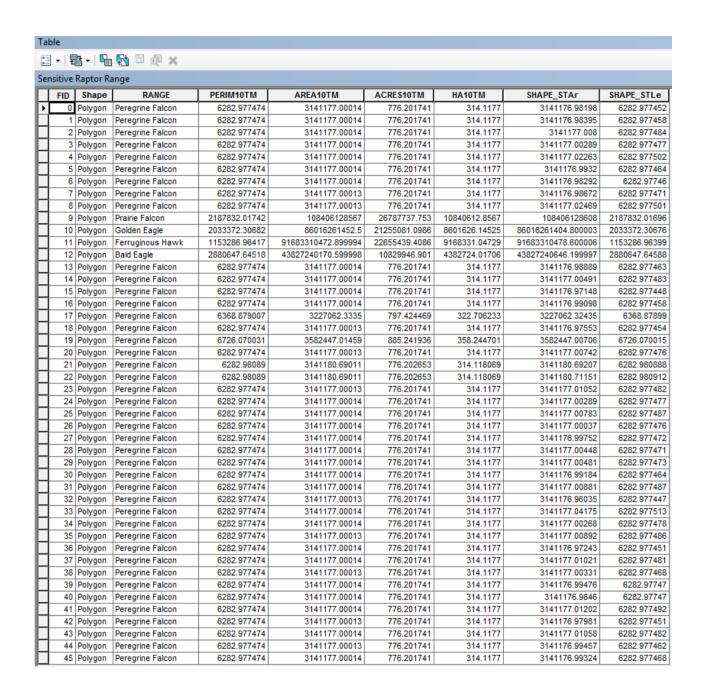


Map showing distribution of Sensitive Raptors in Alberta, including Peregrine Falcon

Saskatchewan



Map showing distribution of the Peregrine Falcon in Saskatchewan. Source:



Information below has been copied from species ports provided by COSEWIC, as well as a publication from the Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PACR2005-08).

Source:

Pest Management Regulatory Agency – Health Canada. (2005). Re-evaluation of Strychnine. Proposed Acceptability for Continuing Registration: PACR2005-08

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2.4.3 Terrestrial Assessment - Birds

...To reach the no observed effect level (NOEL), carnivorous birds would need to consume contaminated intestinal tissues for 0.1 day and contaminated muscle for 0.8 day. As the number of feeding days for an adverse effect is less than one, there is an acute risk to carnivorous birds consuming contaminated carcasses or prey items.

...On a chronic basis, the most sensitive endpoint in birds was the testes size. The risk quotients (Estimated Environmental Concentration

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2.4.6 Incident Reports

Canadian incident reports of strychnine poisoning are not available. However, the PMRA requested incident reports of strychnine poisonings from the USEPA. The American incident reports span from 1966 to 2001 and they are divided into categories according to the legality of the use. Incidents that were clear cases of intentional misuse are not considered here.

Over the 20 year period spanning from 1968 to 1988, when above ground use (which include the used pattern for ground squirrel control) were permitted, the USEPA reported a total of 39 incidents. During the 12 year period spanning from 1989 to 2001, when above ground uses were banned, a total of 17 incidents were reported. The majority of reported incidents involved birds and included a large number of incidents involving predatory species. For non-predatory species, the number of individuals killed per incident ranged from as low as one individual to an incident involving thousands of starlings, and includes small species (e.g. songbirds) as well as larger species (e.g. geese). Incidents involving predatory species, such as eagles and other raptors, usually involved only a few individuals per report. Of particular interest is the observation that after above ground uses of strychnine were banned in the United States, the number of reported incidents involving predatory bird species fell to zero.

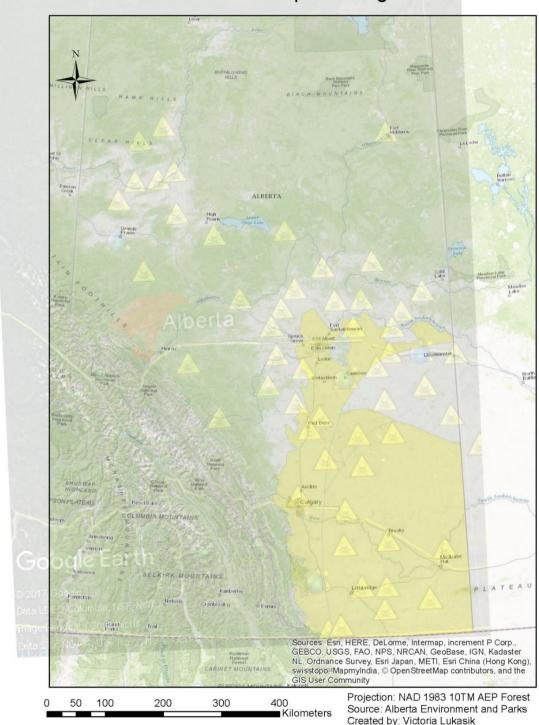
Incident reports are not necessarily predictive of the magnitude of non-target mortality resulting from strychnine use because the number of unreported incidents is unknown. However these reports do support the conclusion of this risk assessment as they indicate that the use of strychnine does result in primary and secondary poisoning of non-target species.

The US Department of Agriculture has documented the strychnine-caused death of the following endangered species: Attwaters' greater prairie chickens, burrowing owls, whooping cranes, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, northern aplomado falcons, jagurundi, ocelots and wolves¹.

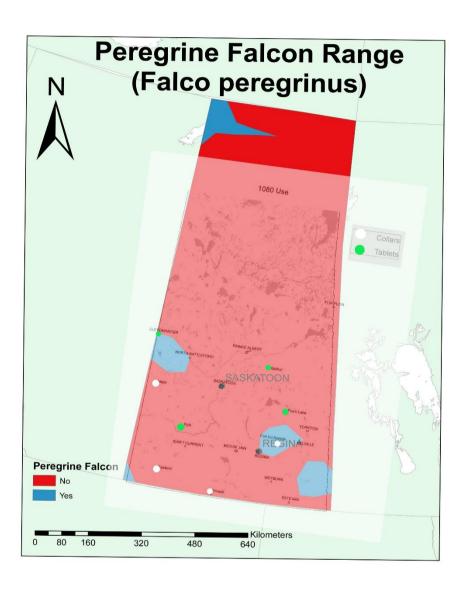
The maps below have been put together to demonstrate that compound 1080 is currently being used in areas too close to Burrowing owls and their range. We are not able to show where liquid strychnine is being used, but this use also causes great concern.

¹ U.S. Department of Agriculture – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service – Animal Damage Control. 1994. Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Sensitive Raptor Range



Source: Alberta Environment and Parks Created by: Victoria Lukasik Date: April 4, 2017



Ferruginous Hawk

Ferruginous Hawk – Buteo regalis

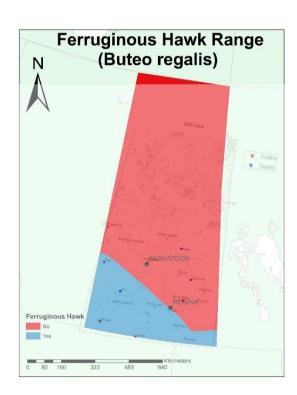
Federal Status: THREATENED / Provincial Status: Alberta: AT RISK (2015) Saskatchewan: XXXXX

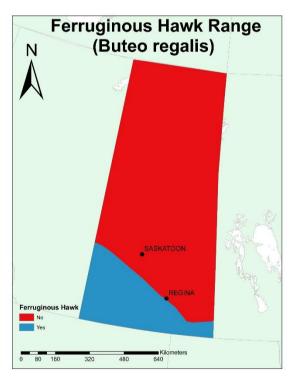
Figure 1 Golden Eagle photo

Source: Government of Alberta. 2017. Alberta Wild Species General Status Listing - 2015. 24pp. http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/species-at-risk/albertas-species-at-risk-strategy/general-status-of-alberta-wild-species/documents/SAR-2015WildSpeciesGeneralStatusList-Mar2017.pdf Accessed January 5, 2018

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Fewer than 700 pairs estimated in Alberta. Dramatic declines and range reduction have occurred as a result of human disturbance and habitat alteration. Research on ground squirrel prey base required. Designated as "Threatened" under the Wildlife Act.





Bald Eagle

Golden Eagle – Aquila chrysaetos

Federal Status: NOT AT RISK (Last assessment 1996)/Provincial Status: Alberta: SENSITIVE (2015) Saskatchewan:
No evaluation

Figure 2 Golden Eagle photo

Source: Government of Alberta. 2017. Alberta Wild Species General Status Listing - 2015. 24pp. http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/species-at-risk/albertas-species-at-risk-strategy/general-status-of-alberta-wild-species/documents/SAR-2015WildSpeciesGeneralStatusList-Mar2017.pdf Accessed January 5, 2018

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Most recent estimate suggests 100 - 250 breeding pairs in Alberta. Disturbance from human-related activities is greatest threat. Because of its low population and dispersal over a large area, nest site protection and inventory are necessary.

Poisoning

Between 2005 – 2012, there was 1 golden eagle death recorded from strychnine poisoning in Alberta's Little Smoky caribou range, reported as a non-target death^{2,3}. There is no way of knowing if more golden eagles were buried by snow and never retrieved.

It should be noted that in Alberta, livestock producers have access to 2% liquid strychnine concentrate, thereby increasing the opportunity for off-label use and stockpiling⁴.

² Alberta Environment and Parks. 2017. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Request E17-G-1191

³ Hervieux, D., M. Hebblewhite, D. Stepnisky, M. Bacon, and S. Boutin. 2014. Managing wolves (Canis lupus) to recover threatened woodland caribou (Rangifer tarandus caribou) in Alberta. Canadian Journal of Zoology. 92:1029 - 1037 [supplementary data]

⁴ COSEWIC Assessment and Status Report on the Swift Fox Vulpes velox in Canada. 2009