### HWI's American Kestrel Studies



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HAWK WATCH

The mission of HawkWatch International is to conserve the environment through education, long-term monitoring, and scientific research on raptors as indicators of ecosystem health.

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# HWI's Fall Migration Network:

Site	Since
Bonney Butte	1994
Chelan Ridge	1997
Bridger Mts	1991
Commissary Ridge	2001
Goshute Mts	1983
Grand Canyon	1997
Manzano, Mts	1985
Corpus Christi	1997

HAWK WATCH

Conserving Raptors and Our Shared Environment





Kestrel declines across most of HWI's Migration Monitoring Network have led to focused research geared towards understanding causes.









Network can identify trends in regional populations and highlight the need for focused research, as in the case of the American Kestrel











#### **American Kestrel**

1994-2004 RPI trend summary:

- 20 total sites
- Zero increasing (+3 ns)
- 8 declining (+8 ns)

2004-2014 RPI trend summary:

- 41 total sites
- 8 increasing (+2 ns)
- 6 declining (+5 ns)



### HWI's Kestrel Efforts in N. Utah

•Started in 2013 and has grown each year since

•Engage citizen scientists in science and conservation efforts (35+ annually)

Partner with local stakeholders

•Plans to expand

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# Kestrel demographics in different Landscapes across an Urban Gradient

~300 Boxes along the front at the moment

More to come: partnerships w/ SL County and SL City Open Space, Odgen area, Logan Area, Wasatch "Back", Eagle Mt





Boxes checked every 7-14 days from mid-March thru mid-July

Goal is to document all nesting attempts, and nest metrics

**Combination of ladder and camera checks** 









### Datasheets:

Fill out a nest form for any occupied box (even nonkestrels).

We are interested in how competition for nest sites might influence the cavity nesting community (plus conservation of other native cavity users, so this is useful information



#### **HWI Active Nest Form**

Incubation: AMKE 30 d, EUST 11d, MOBL 13 d, HOWR 13d, NOFL 11d, WESO 30d

Nestling: AMKE 28d, EUST 21d, MOBL 20d, HOWR 18d, NOFL 24d, WESO 30d

Box ID#

\_\_\_\_\_ Observers

General Description of Nest Box location:

Species:

Kestrel (AMKE), Starling (EUST), Western Bluebird (WEBL)

Date found:

Status found (if known):

#### ARE ADULTS BANDED?

ub = unb anded

m = metal USGS band

? = not seen/unsure

Female Male

Left	Right	Left	Right

P, B, R = purple, blue, red ; then code Blue K over N would be B K/N

Visit	Date	Status	Comments
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

#### Summary Nest Metrics:



Clutch	Brood	# Fledged	



## Does nest success vary by landscape?





# Do clutches, broods, or number of fledglings vary by landscape?





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# Banding efforts

•Allow identification of individuals without need to recapture

•Enable documentation of:

- •Movements & fidelity (territory and mate)
- •Winter turnover

•Survival



# •Breeding season effort to determine band status of kestrels within their nestbox clusters

•Seasonal colorband resight surveys across area

2017



#### JP1 BS Cav1 02/CM 6/2/15 UF115 E 1300 S WH-01 02/CM 1/7/16 A/60 5/25/15 TP Cav1 TP2 EB408 EB-09 UF113 (89) GP1 CRP2CRP1 CRP3 East Milcreek (171)-8 5 Millcreek BCP5 OH2 -Untitled Placemar OH1 E 4430 S OH3 BCP6 BCP1 S 50h W=1500 8 266 UF83 Sunrise cav1 BCP3 Murray 📮 Holladay 2 2EB7 5 4800 S 71 EB6 EB-01 EB-05 UF103 E 5300 S 173 EB-02 EH . Cav2 8 A/60 6/26/13 5600 S Cottonwood West PP01 EB-11 EB=03 200 2



We do our best to keep tabs on non-box nests when possible

ST

Open pipes on sides of buildingsFlicker holes on structuresTree hollows

•Open ends of steel power poles



Liberty

Wells

02/CM 1/7/16

Sugar House





# Engaging the public





Outreach events: Nestbox building event w/ Mark Miller Subaru.

Engage scout troops, high school students in box building, monitoring efforts while delivering information about climate change and conservation of Kestrels, cavity nesters in general, and other wildlife





**Future plans:** 

Gradient of urban intensity and size

Professional development opportunities for young conservation professionals

Smaller projects nested w/ overall study



# Thanks to our citizen scientists, partners, and donors!!

- The Nature Conservancy
- Salt Lake County Parks and Open Spaces
- Salt Lake City Parks
- The University of Utah
- Antelope Island State Park
- Rocky Mtn Power
- Heber Power and Light
- Mark Miller Subaru
- Boise State University
- UCLA





