



Soaring Past COVID

Raptors of Washington

Lecture 2 - Buteos

Thomas Bancroft & Danielle Graham

Fall 2020



Please Join the Google Classroom for this Class – We will post lots of good information!

- To access this course:
- Navigate to classroom.google.com
- Log in to your Google account. (You'll need a free Google account if you don't have one already.)
- Select the + symbol on the top right and select "Join class"
- Enter the class code: **2i7aqap**
- Click "Classwork" at the top of your screen

Overview of Course

- Lectures
 - Key Characteristics
 - Buteos
 - Harriers & Accipiters & Review
 - Falcons & Review
 - Eagles, Vultures, Kites, & Review
- Homework
 - Review



- 20 species in Washington

- Goals

- Learn to identify raptors
- Know what characteristics to check
- Have some understanding of behavior, ecology, & distribution
- Have Fun! Lots of it!

- Thomas Bancroft –
gtbancroft@gmail.com
 - Cell phone – 202 297 8501



Rules for Identifying

- One bird at a time
- Identify a bird to a broad category
 - Then narrow to a smaller group, then to species
- Look for 3 or more clues to identify the bird
- Remember everyone makes mistakes, that is okay, learn from them.



How to Identify Raptors

- Shape & Size
- Color Patterns (Markings)
- Behavior
- Habitat & Distribution
- Calls



Break Them Down into Smaller Groups

- Vultures



- Eagles & Osprey



- Buteos



- Accipiters



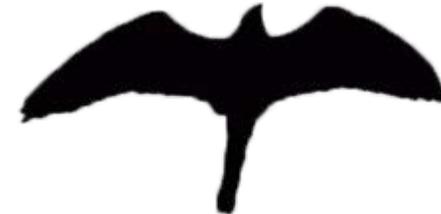
- Falcons



- Harriers



- Kites



- Others



Buteos



Swainson's Hawk

© Jay W. McGowan



Ferruginous Hawk

© Brian L. Sullivan



Rough-legged Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Red-tailed Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Broad-winged hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Harris's Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Gray Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Red-shouldered Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Zone-tailed Hawk

© Brian L. Sullivan



Common Black Hawk

© Brian L. Sullivan



White-tailed Hawk

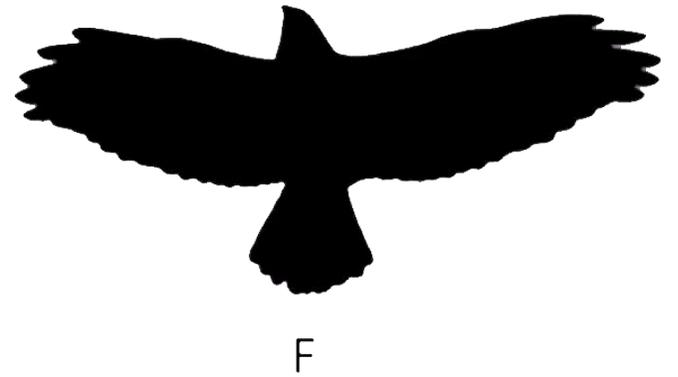
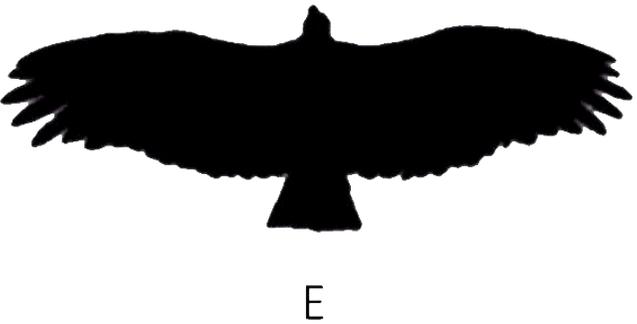
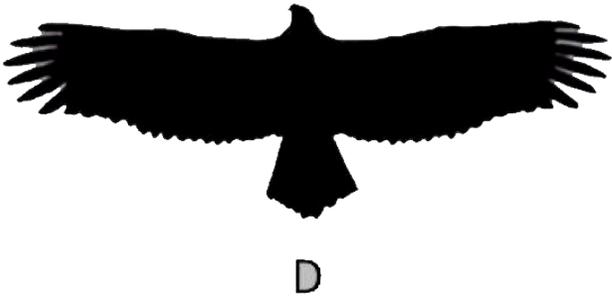
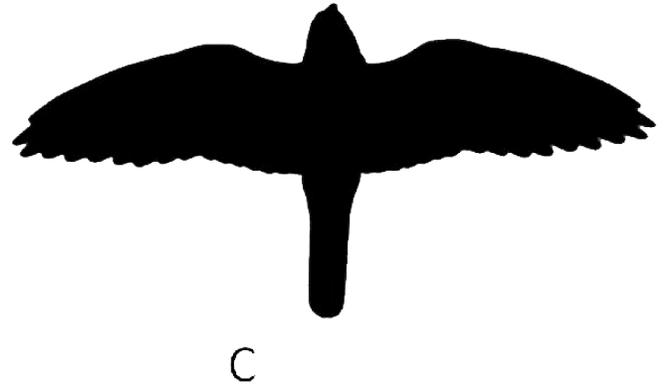
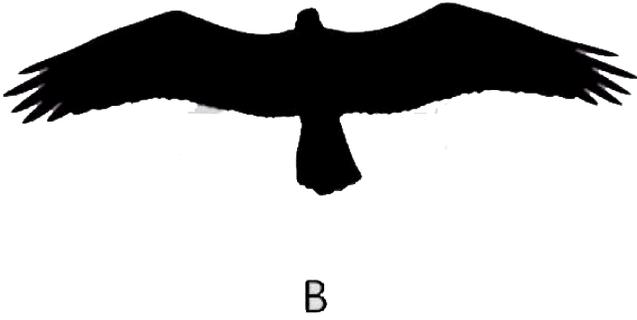
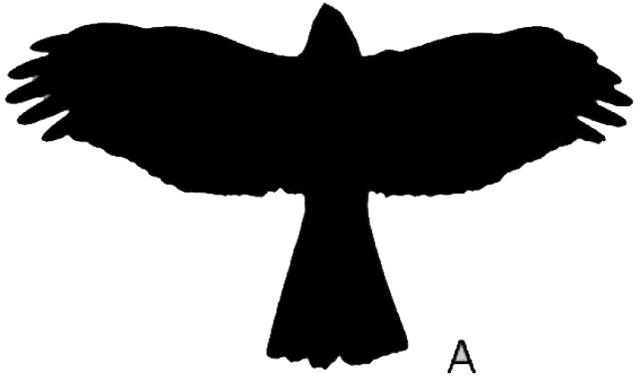
© Kevin J. McGowan



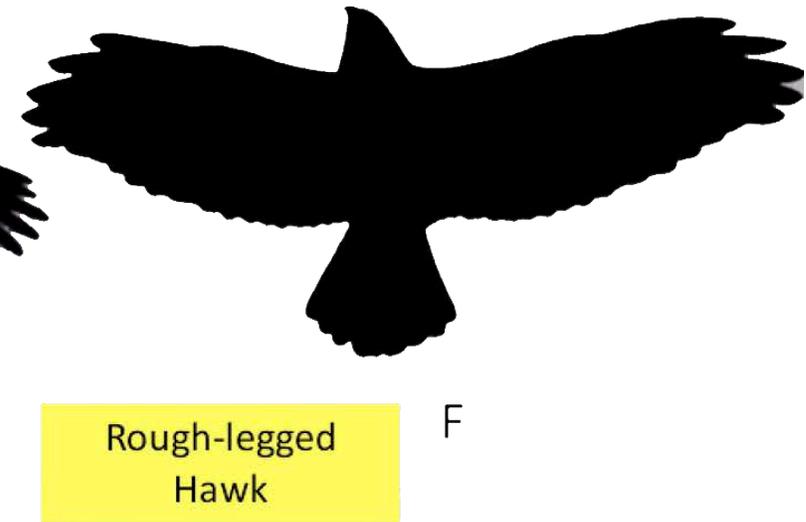
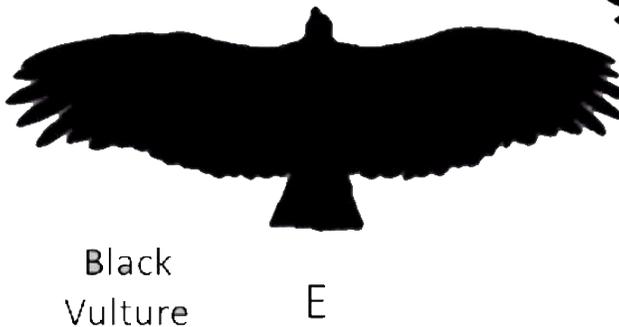
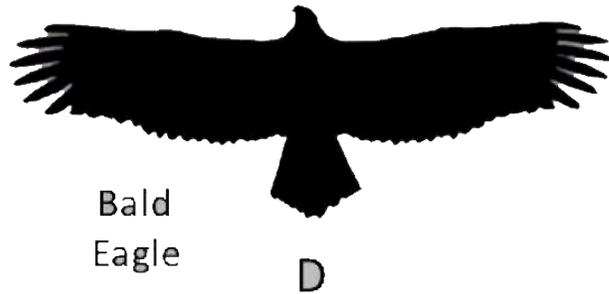
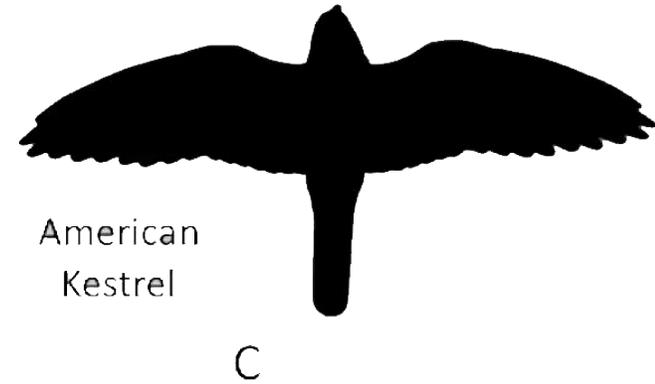
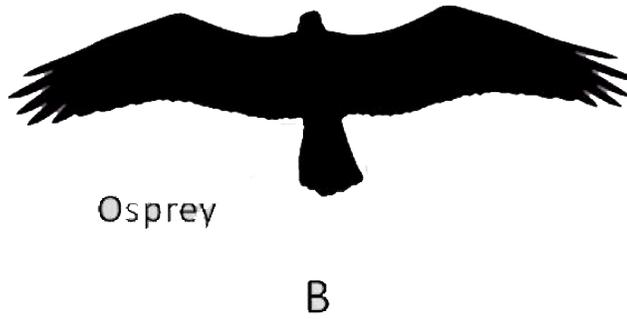
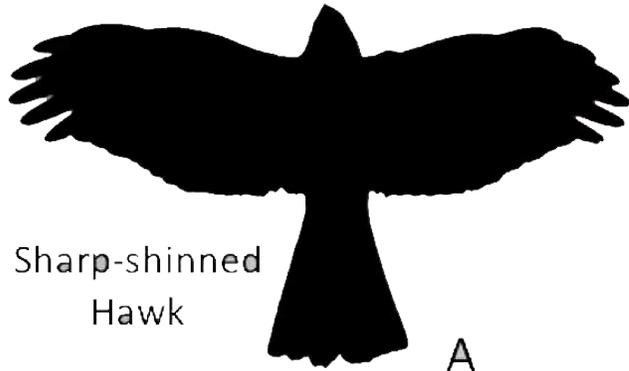
Short-tailed Hawk

© Jay W. McGowan

Which is the buteo?



Which is the buteo?



Buteos



Swainson's Hawk



Rough-legged Hawk



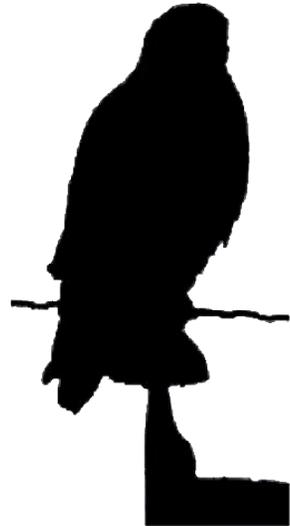
Broad-winged hawk



Red-tailed Hawk



Red-shouldered Hawk

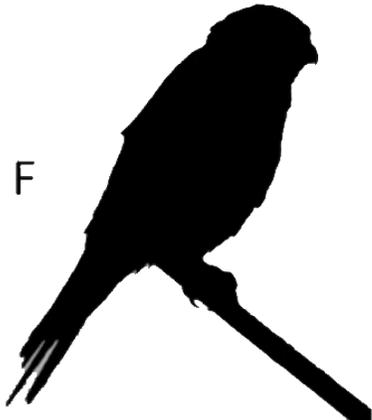
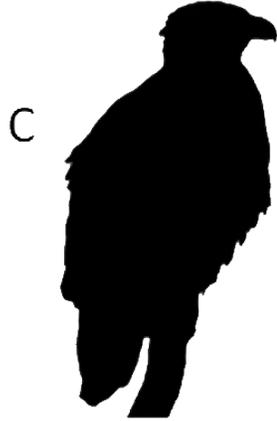
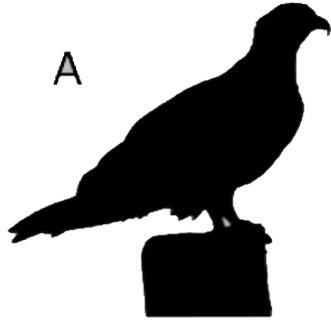


Ferruginous Hawk



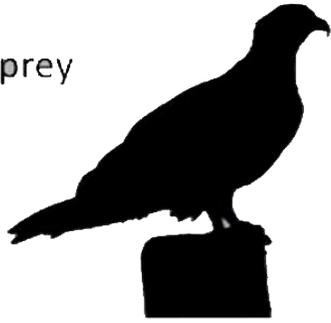
Harris's Hawk

Which are buteos?



Which are buteos?

Osprey



Bald Eagle



White-tailed Kite



Red-tailed Hawk



Turkey Vulture



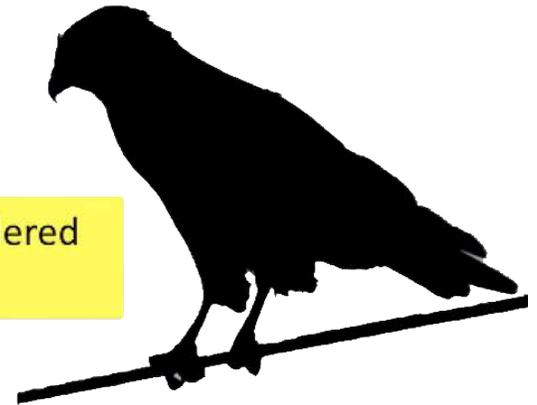
American Kestrel

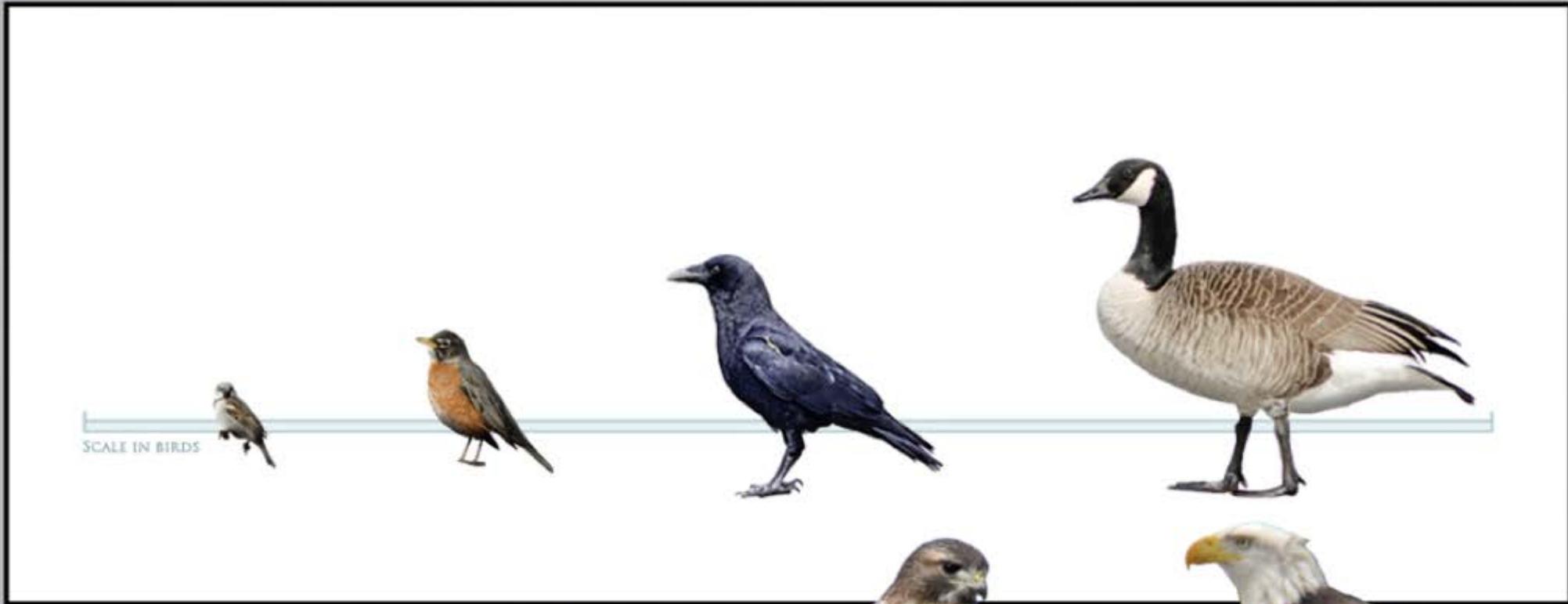


Cooper's Hawk



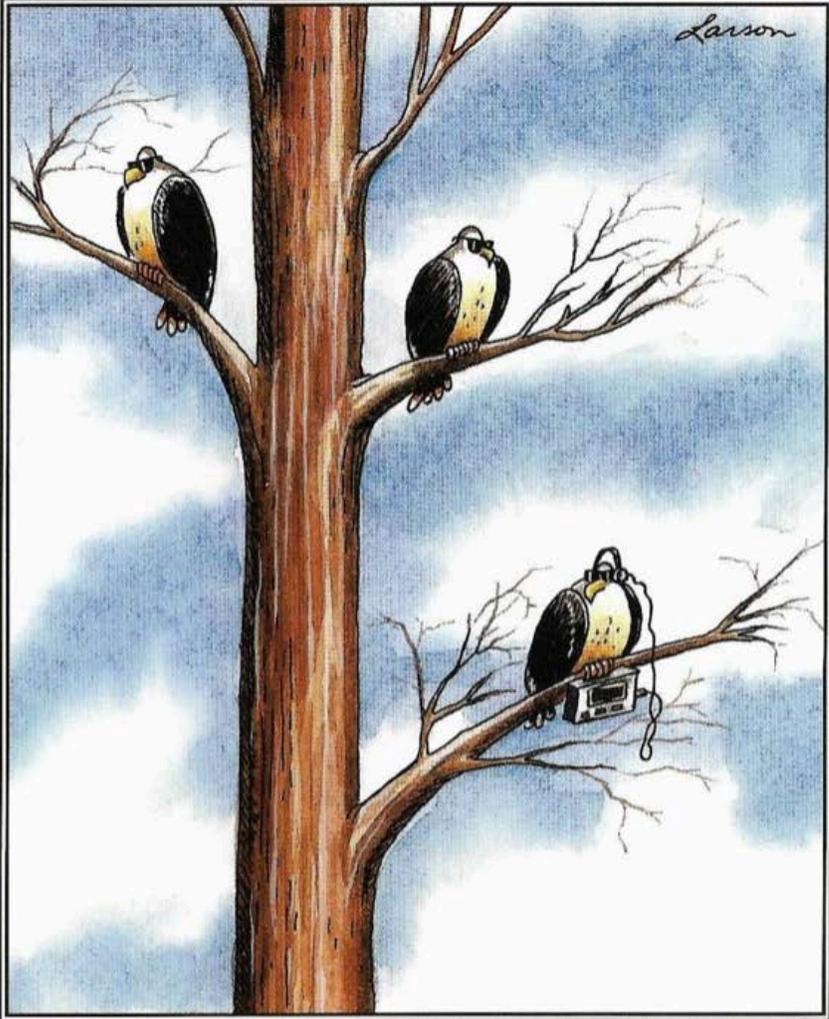
Red-shouldered Hawk





2/14/85

Larson



Birds of prey know they're cool.

Questions?

- Email me
- gtbancroft@gmail.com
- www.thomasbancroft.org

Common Buteos in Washington



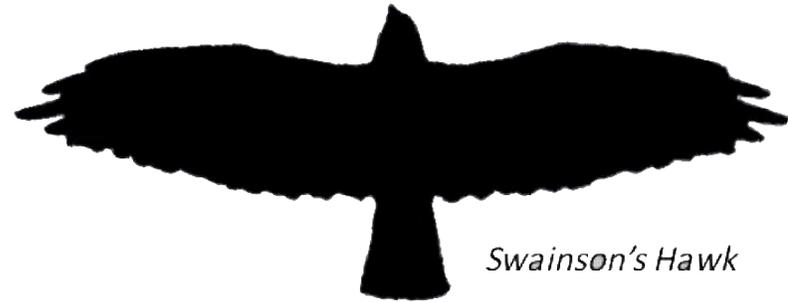
Red-tailed Hawk



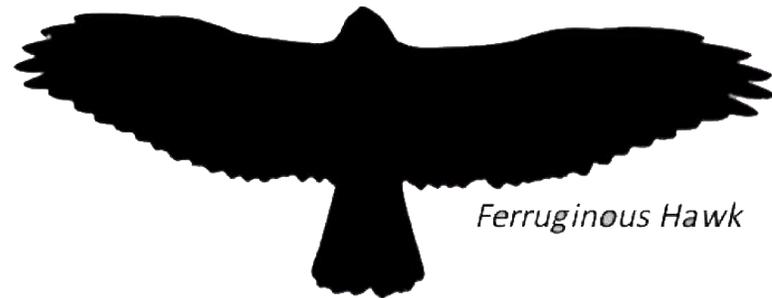
Red-shouldered Hawk



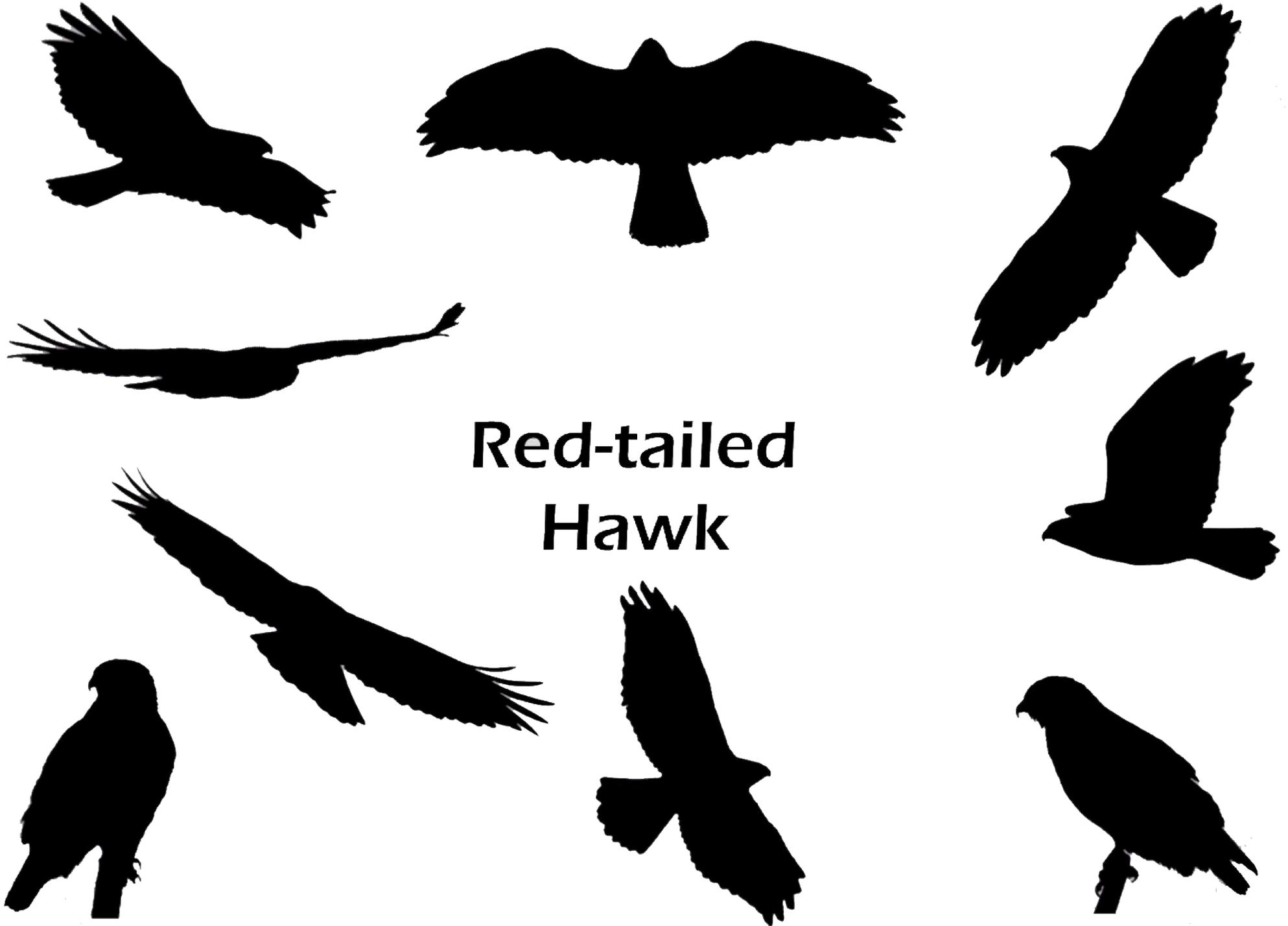
Rough-legged Hawk



Swainson's Hawk



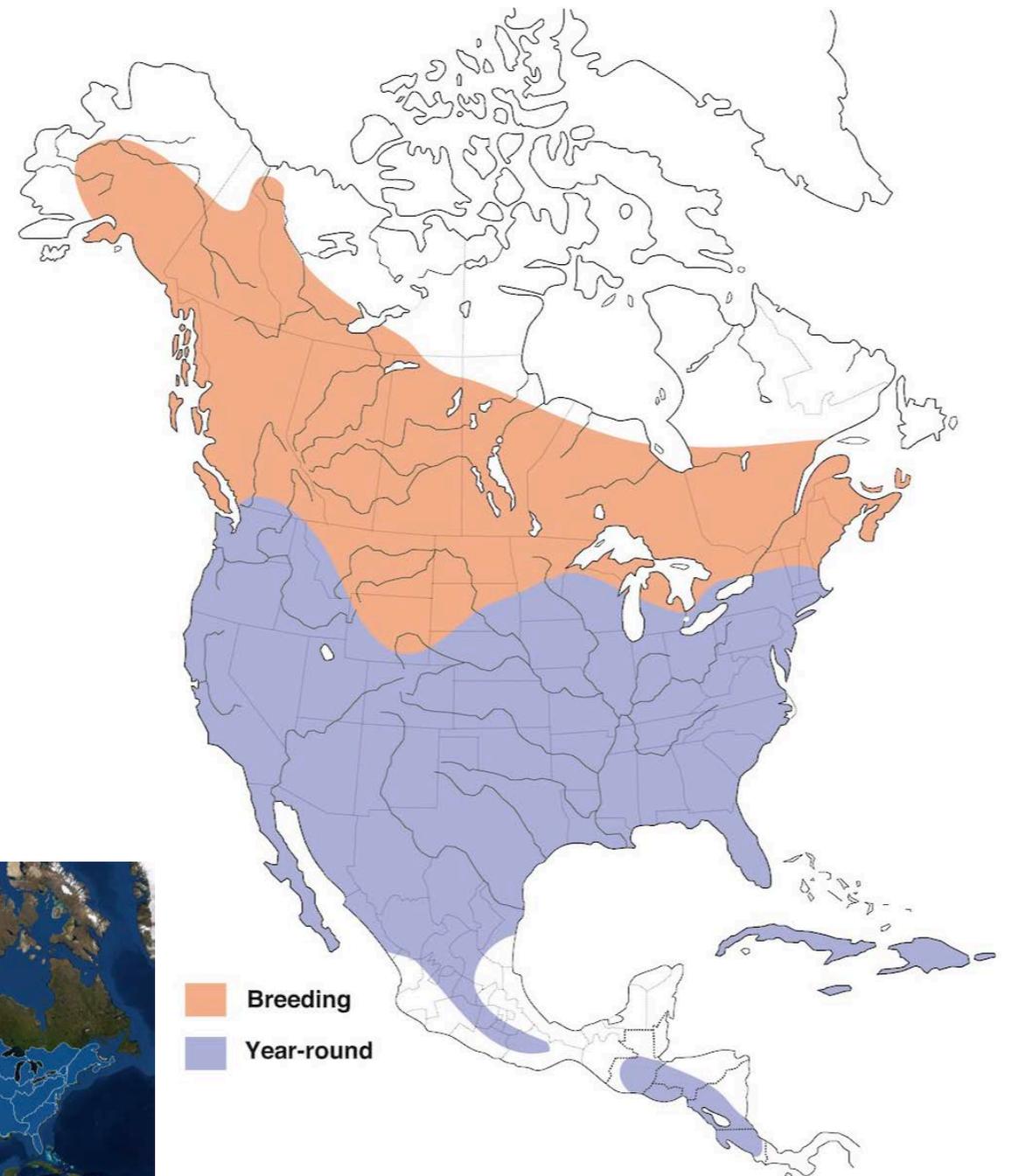
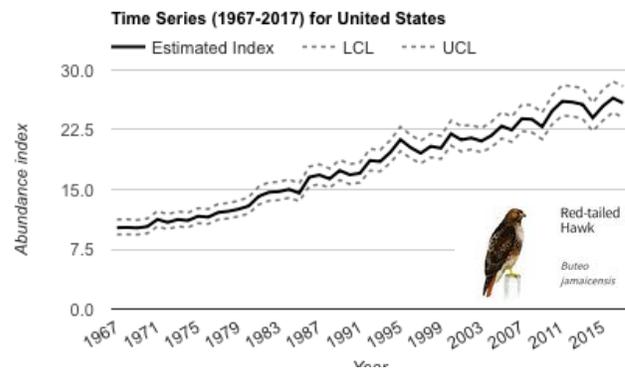
Ferruginous Hawk



**Red-tailed
Hawk**

Red-tailed Hawk

- Big, bulky hawk
- Found in all kinds of habitat
- Common on poles and posts
- Rounded wing tips
- Prominent Secondary bulge
- Highly variable in color







Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk

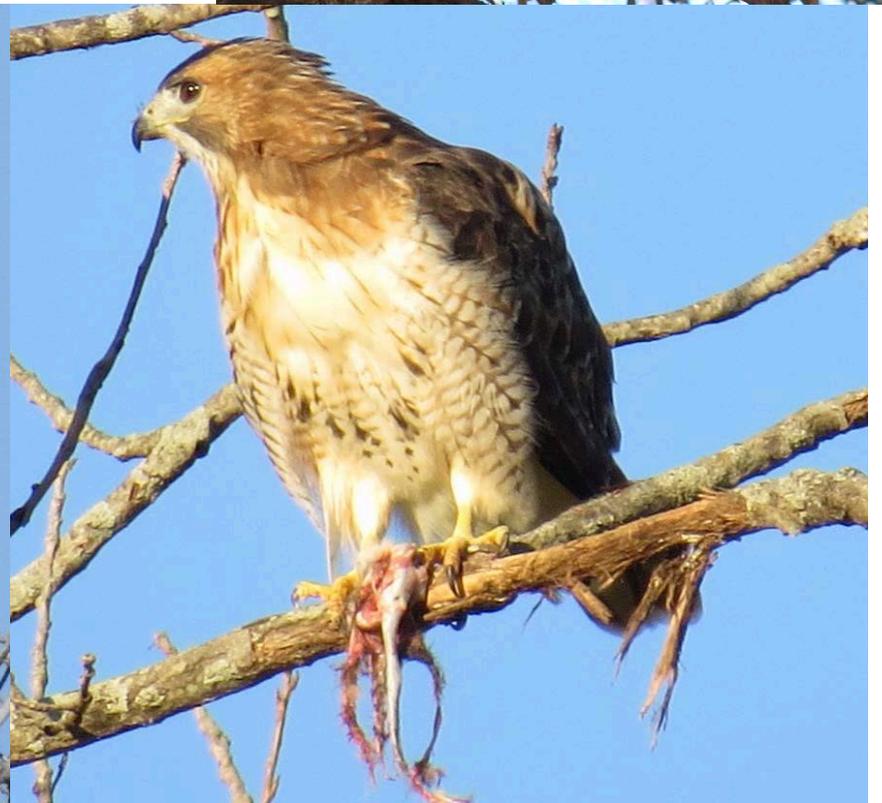


Krider's Red-tailed Hawk



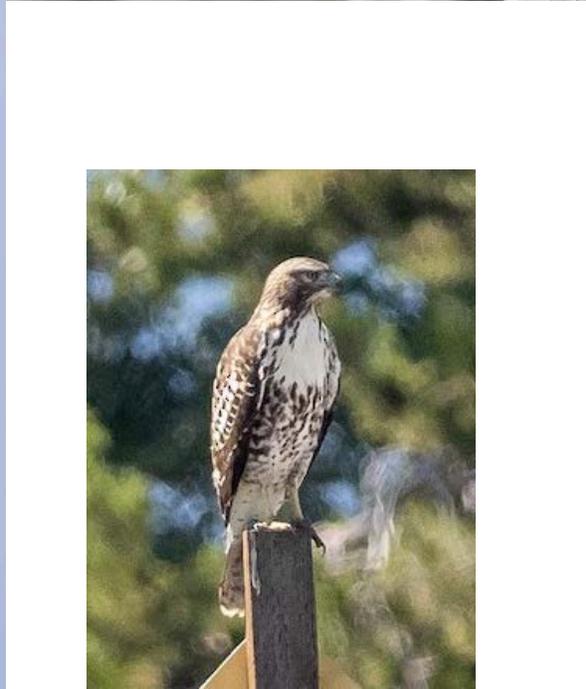
Dark Morph





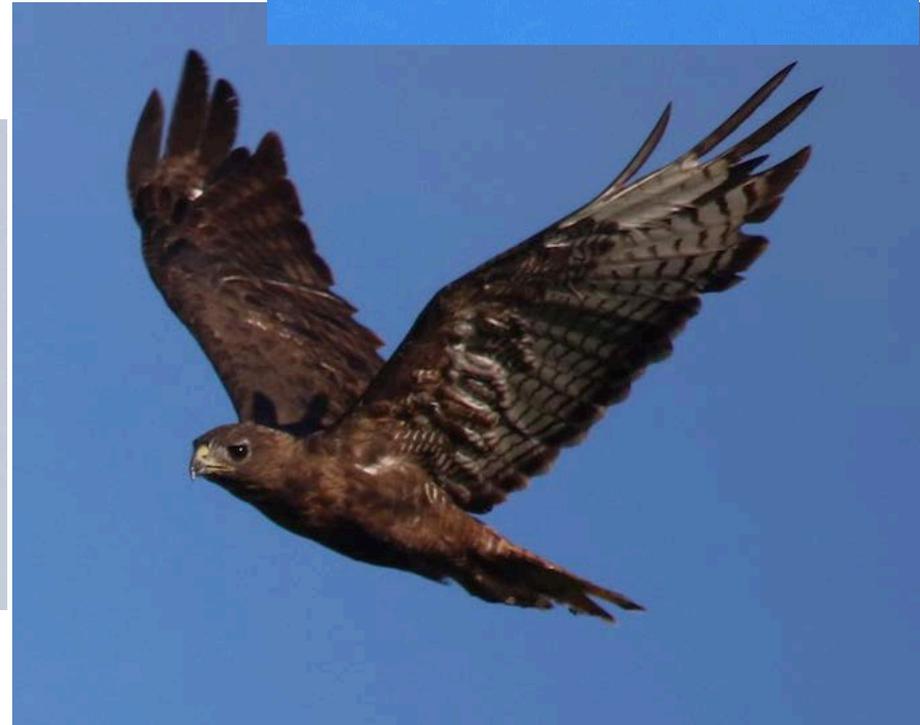








Dark Morphs





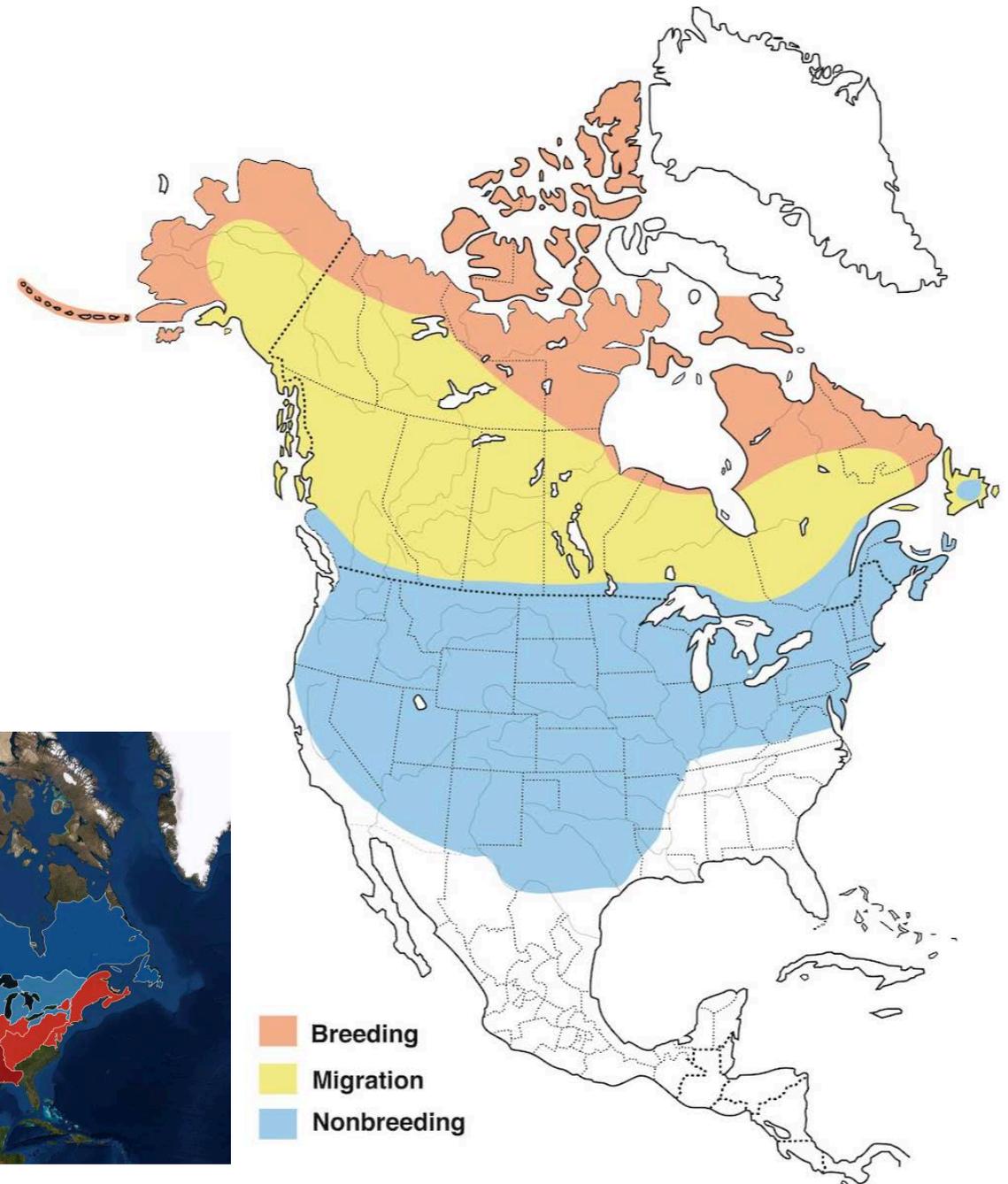
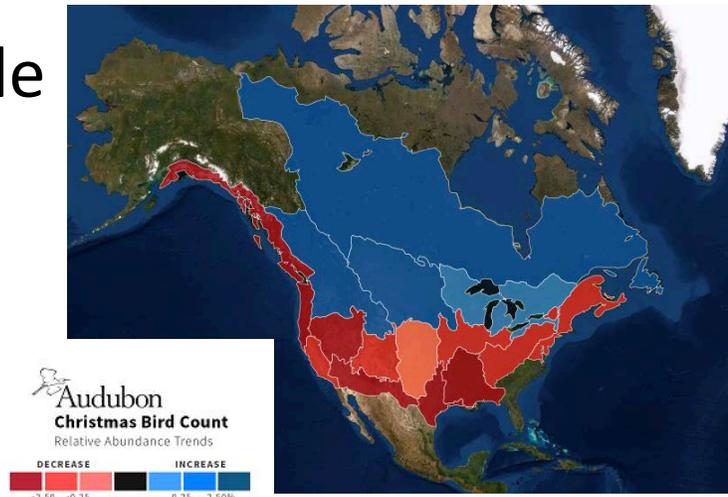
**Rough-legged
Hawk**

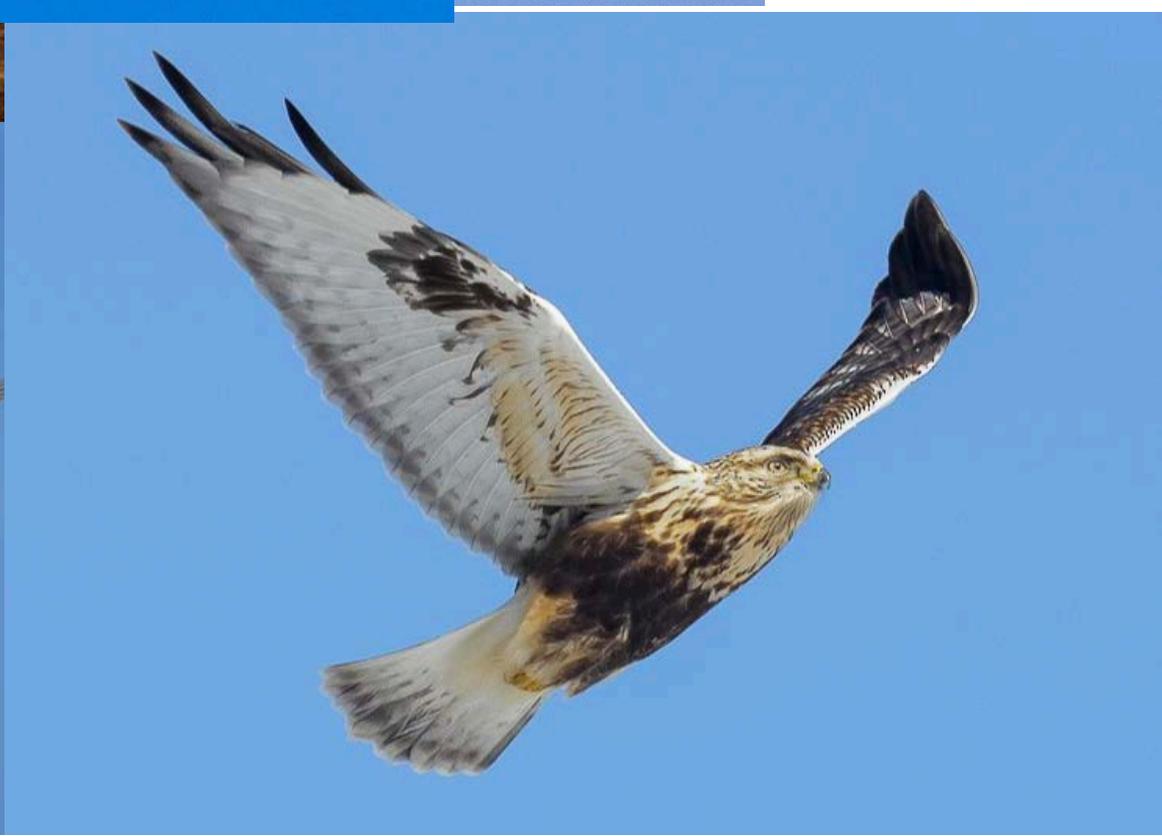
Rough-legged Hawk

- Arctic Breeder – winters in open areas
- Frequently hovers when feeding
- Modest Secondary Bulge
- Rounded wing tips
- Flight feathers pale
- White on tail
- Feathers on legs



Rough-legged Hawk
Buteo lagopus



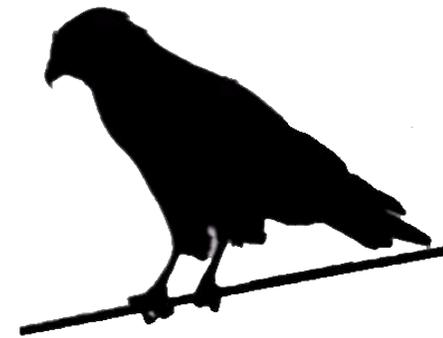






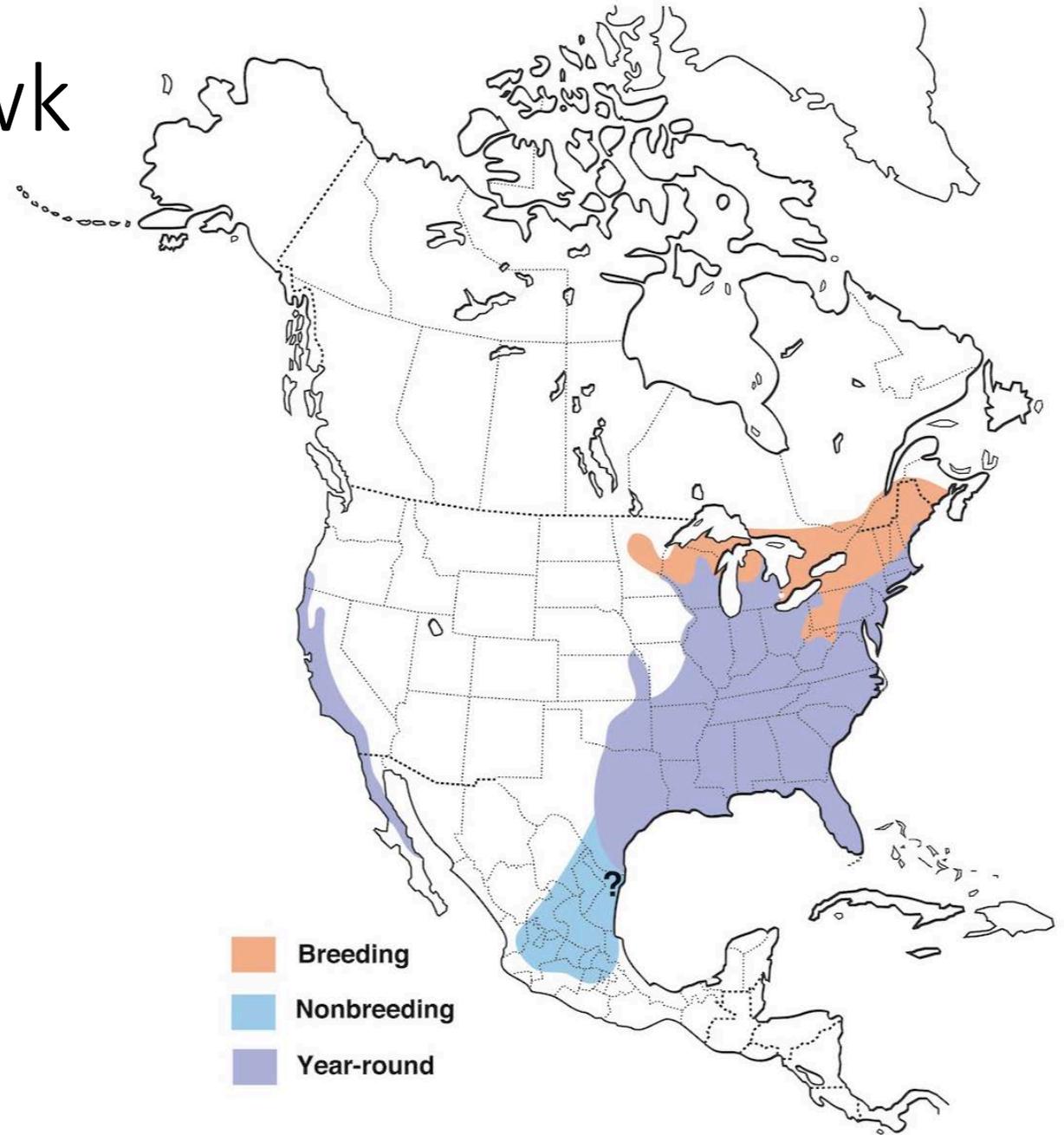
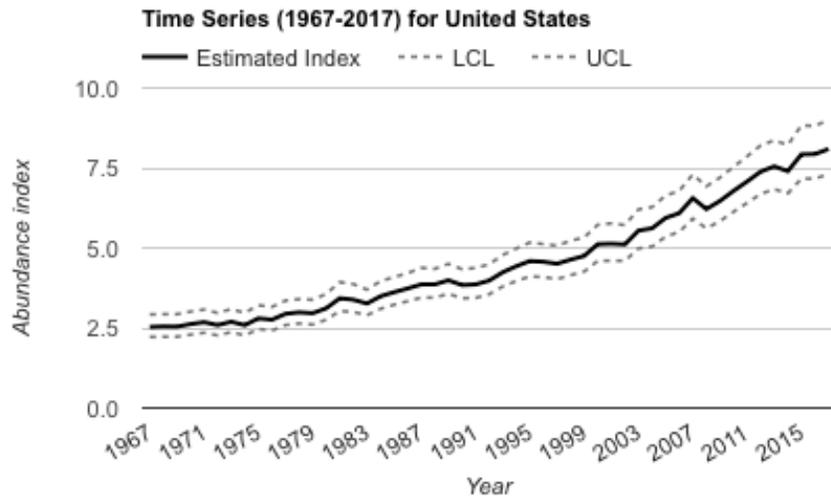


**Red-
shouldered
Hawk**



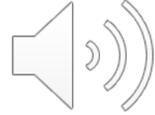
Red-shouldered Hawk

- Forest Bird
- Eastern Forest & West Coast
- Evenly barred





West Coast
Birds
Adults





East Coast Adults





West Coast Juveniles





Questions?

- Email me
- gtbancroft@gmail.com
- www.thomasbancroft.org

"Pretend you don't notice him."

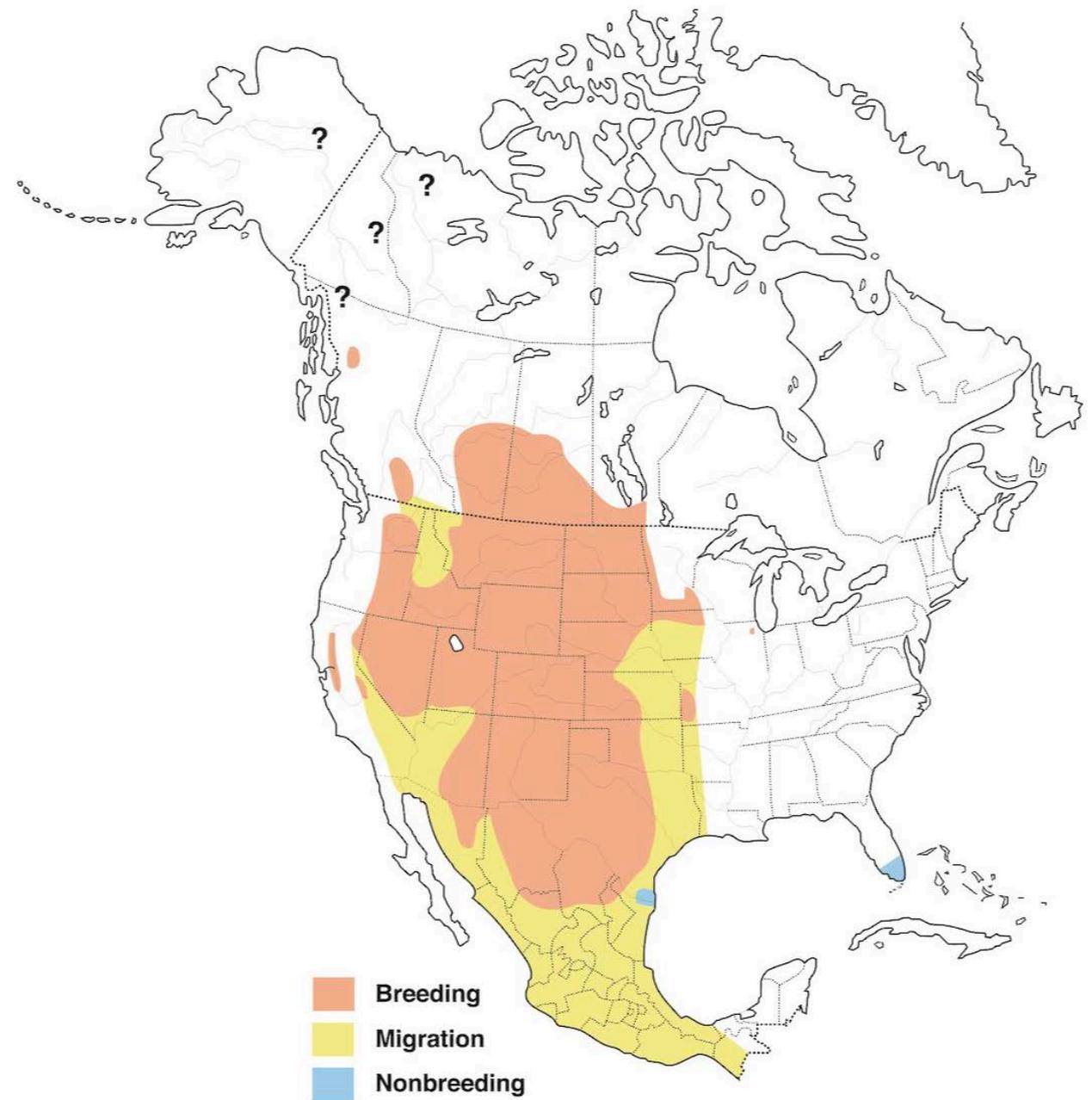


Swainson's Hawk



Swainson's Hawk

- Bird of Open Grassland
- Round wings with a Pointed tip
- Medium size
- Holds wings up in slight dihedral
- Light wing linings – dark under flight feathers
- Winters in South America

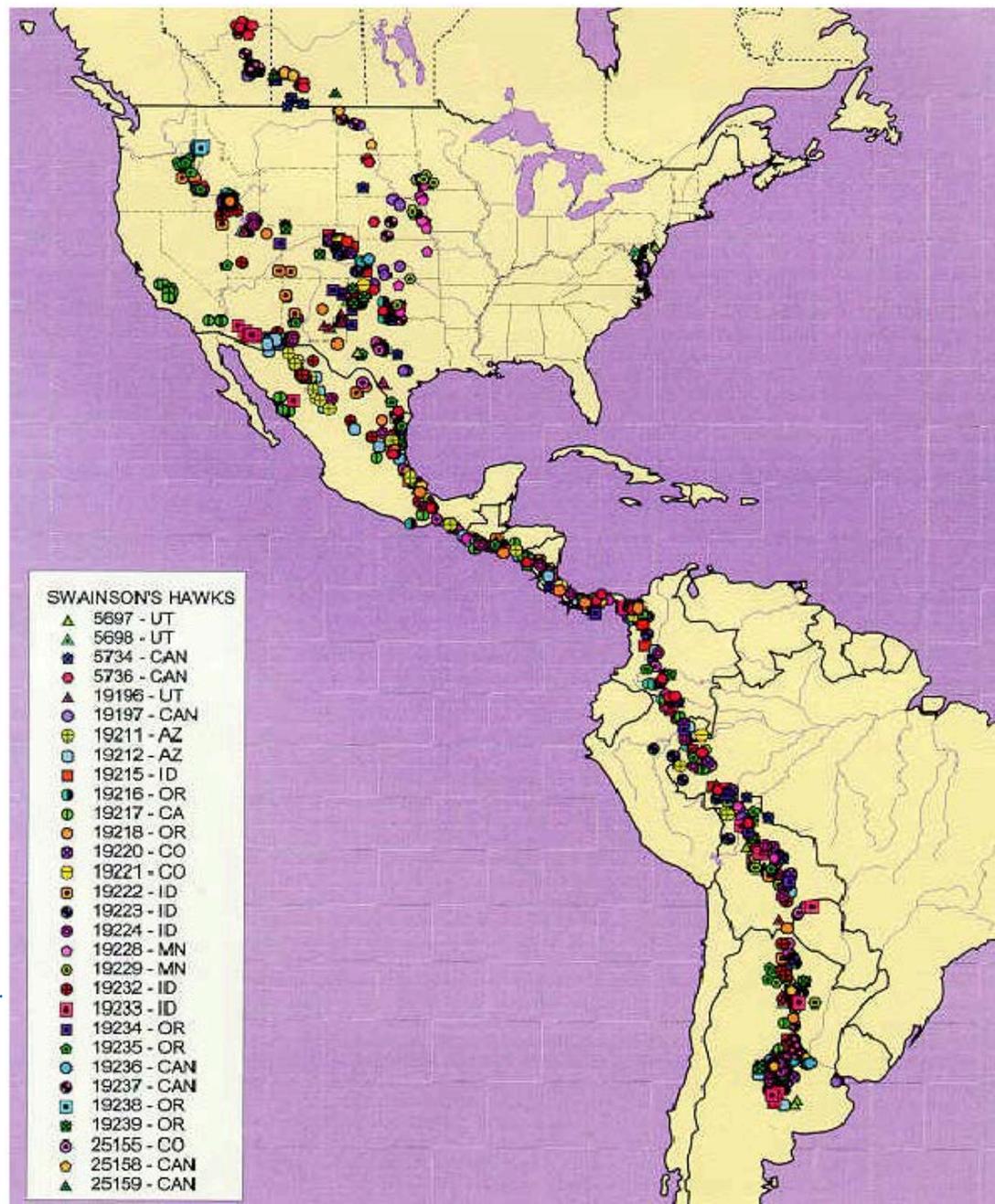




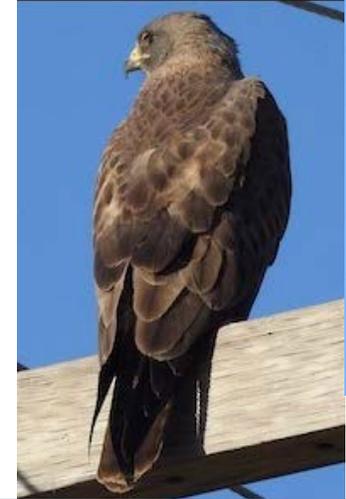
A Swainson's Hawk Conservation Success

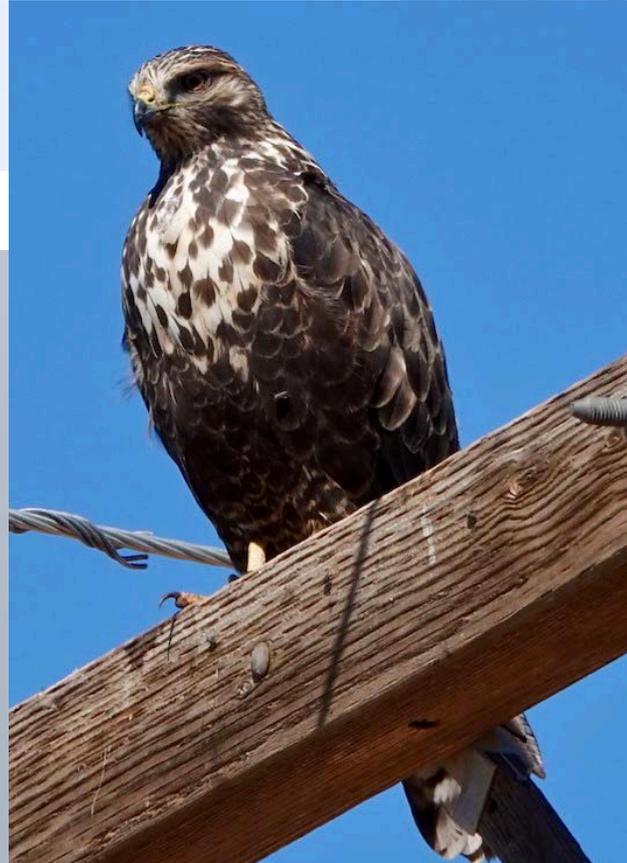
Swainson's Hawks travel up to 12,000 miles each year as they migrate between western North America and the pampas of Argentina. *Swainson's Hawk* photo by Dave Welling; map graphic by Jillian Ditner; map source: Neotropical Birds Online.

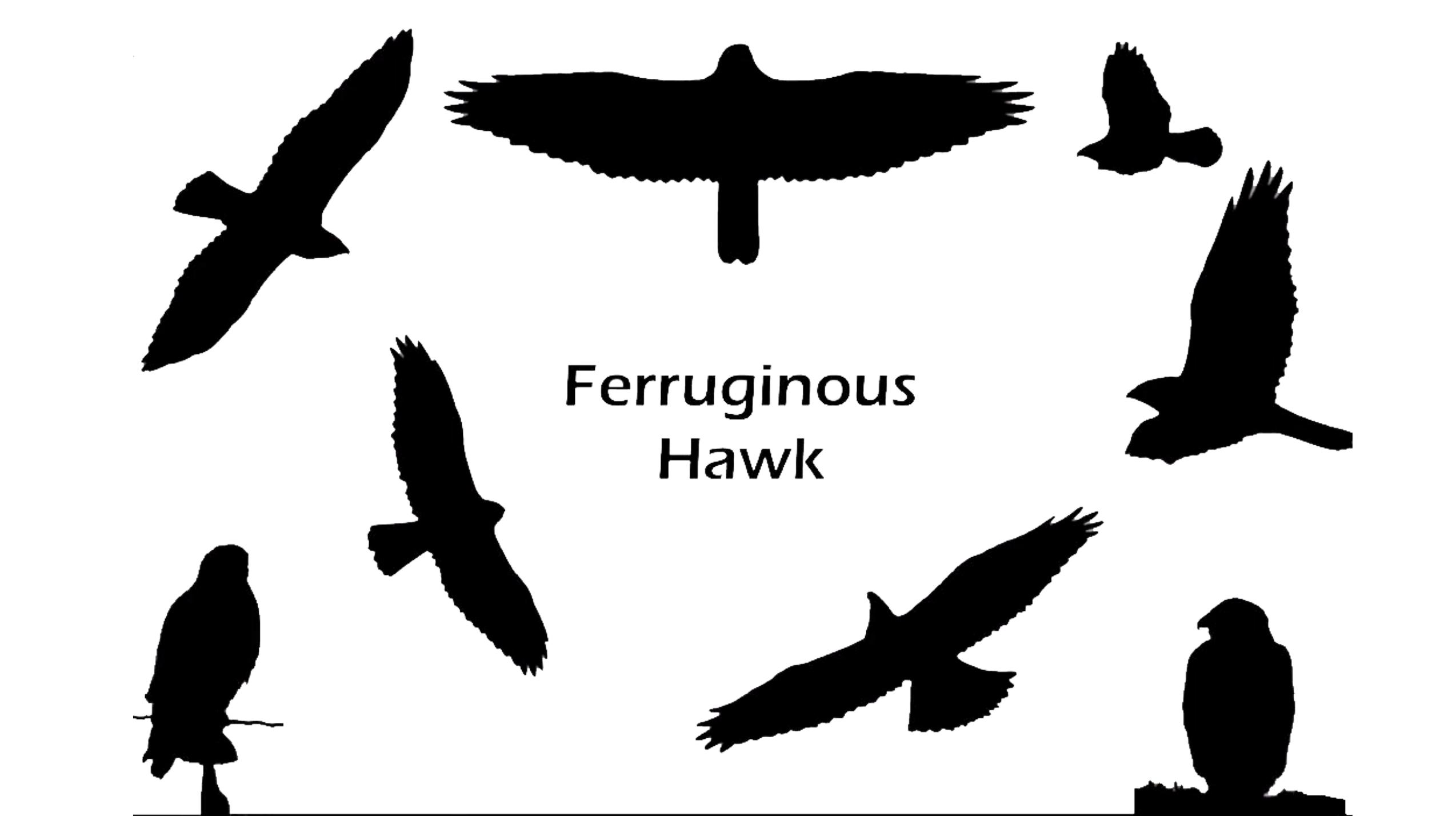
SWAINSON'S HAWK'S MIGRATION MAP







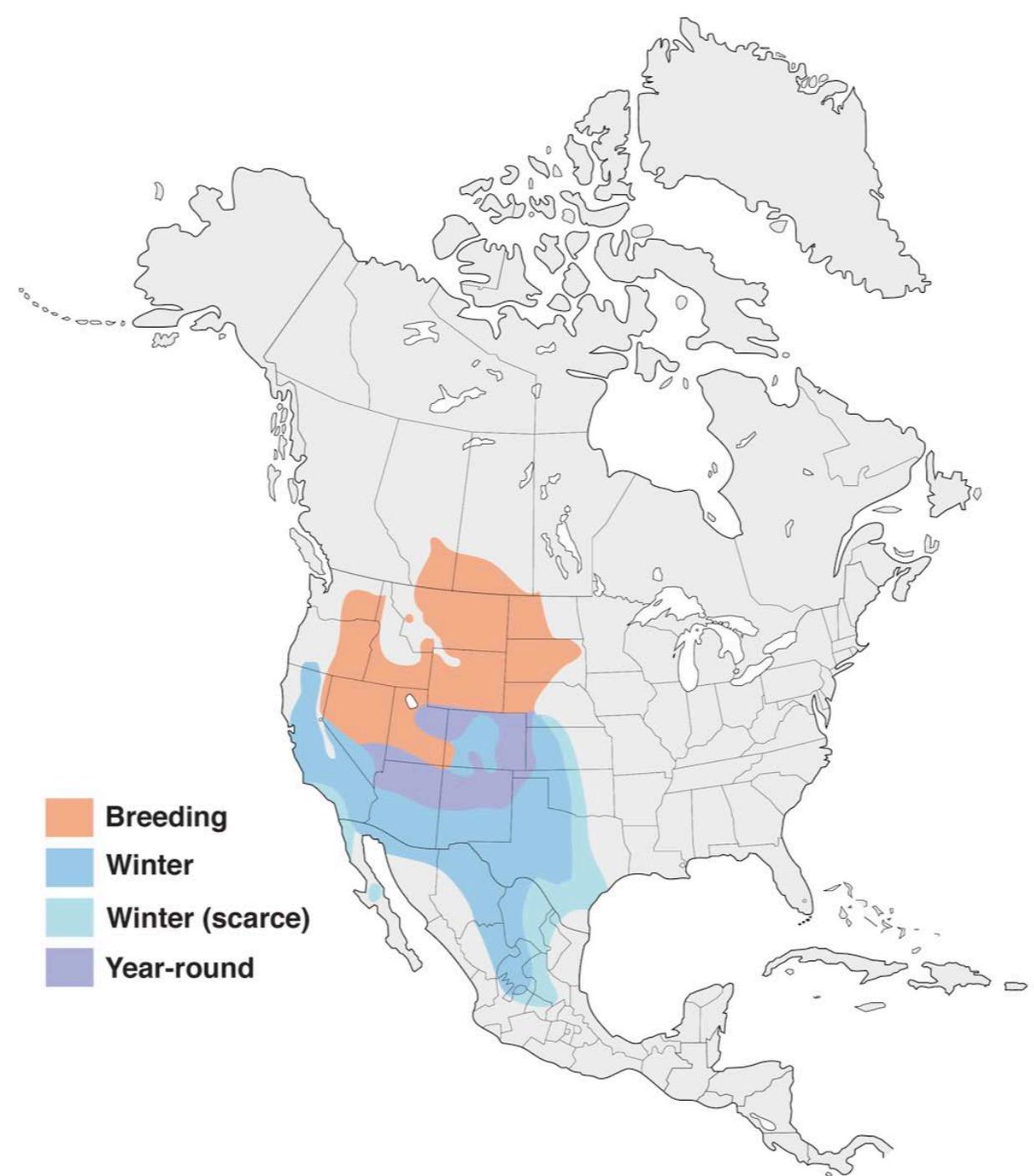


The image features seven black silhouettes of a Ferruginous Hawk against a white background. The hawk is shown in various flight poses: a large silhouette at the top center with wings fully extended; a smaller one at the top right in a steep climb; one on the left side in a steep climb; one in the middle left in a steep climb; one at the bottom right in a steep climb; one at the bottom center in a wide, gliding flight; and two perched on a horizontal line at the bottom, one on the left and one on the right.

Ferruginous
Hawk

Ferruginous Hawk

- Largest Hawk in North America
- Open Country in West
- Pointed wings
- Small secondary bulge
- Dark form – opposite to Swainson's – light flight feathers
- Dark legs, feathers on legs.





Adults



Adults



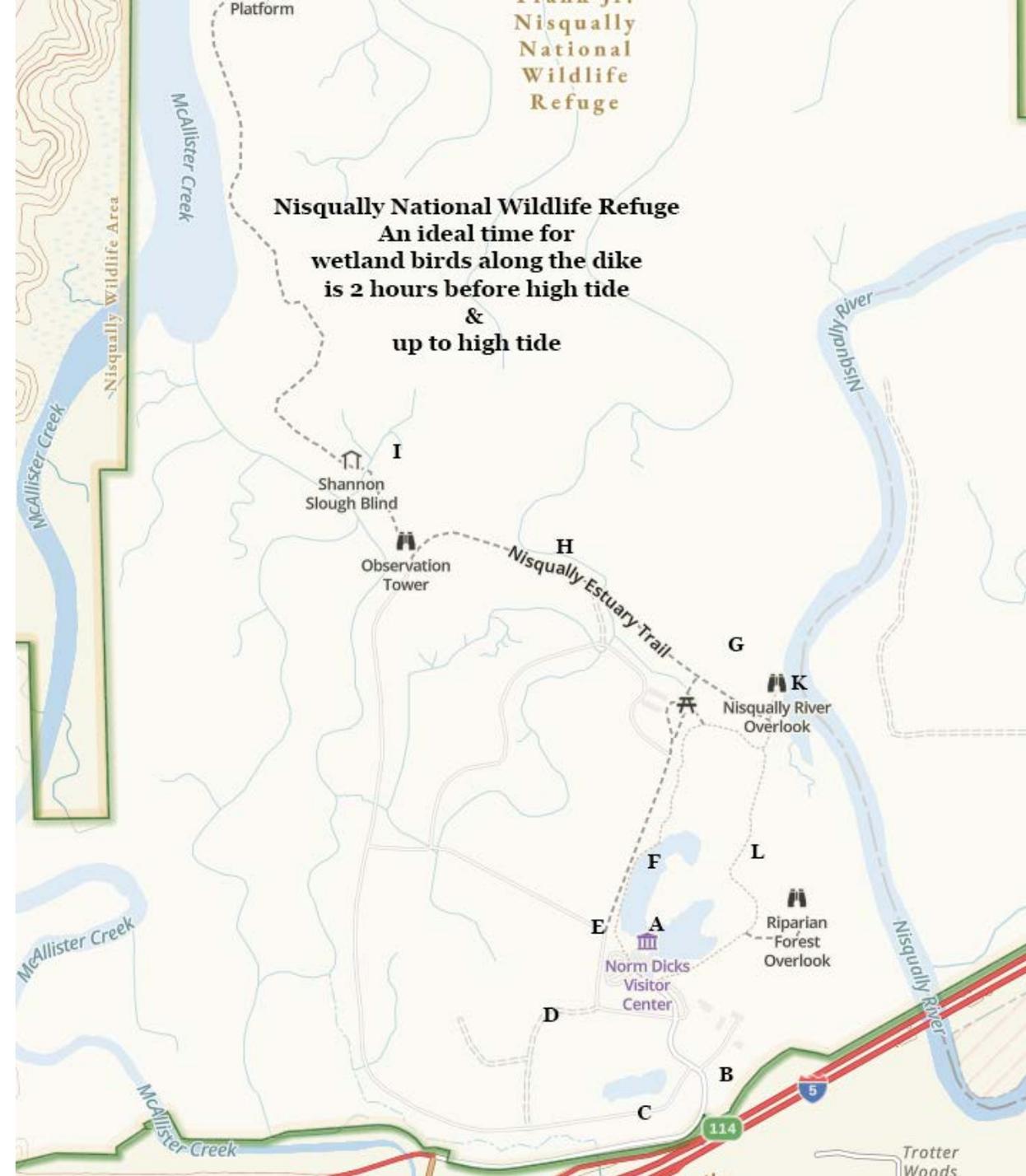
Juvenile





Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge

1. Consider going 2 hours before high tide, but any time can be good.
2. Bird the area around the Visitor's Center
3. Either head to do B, C, and D OR go directly to E
4. E – Gate that looks over fields, marsh, and hedgerows – scan for raptors and geese
5. Walk the board walk headed to the Dike
6. G & H – Scan the tree line, marsh, and snags for birds. The H area can be good if birds are being pushed into it by rising tide.
7. I – Go as far out as you would like on Board Walk
8. K – Come back to this lookout, you can make a side trip to the tower by the barns on the way.
9. Walk the boardwalk or the old road back toward the visiting center, stopping at the Riparian Forest Overlook



The Stillaguamish, Skagit, and Samish Flats

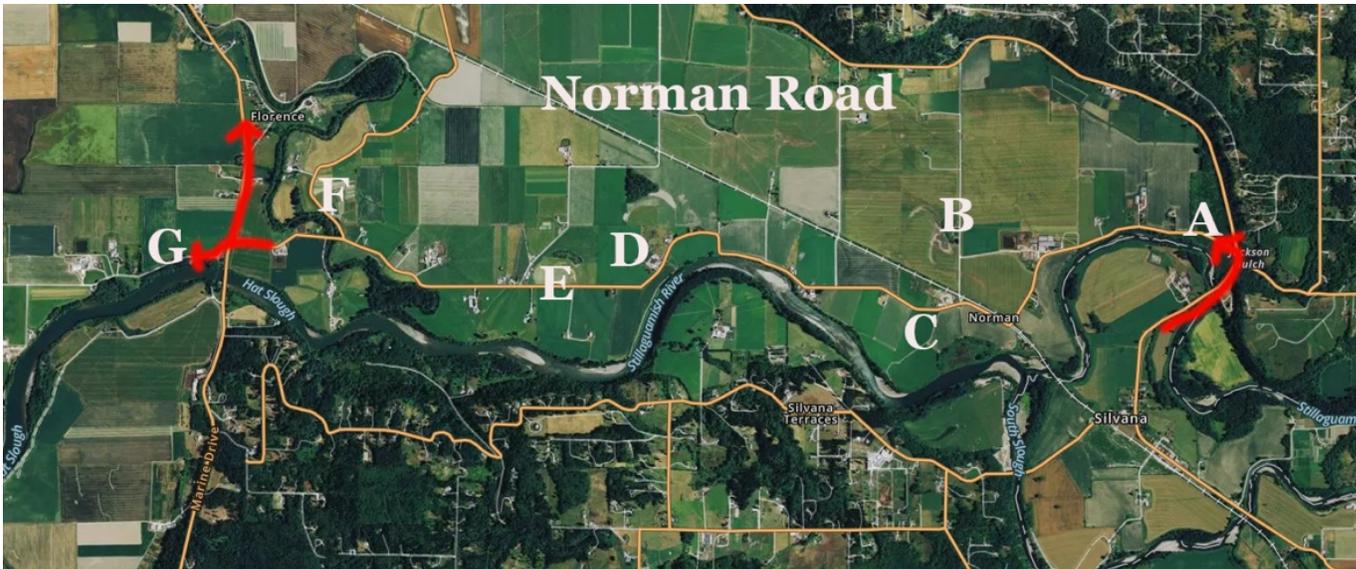
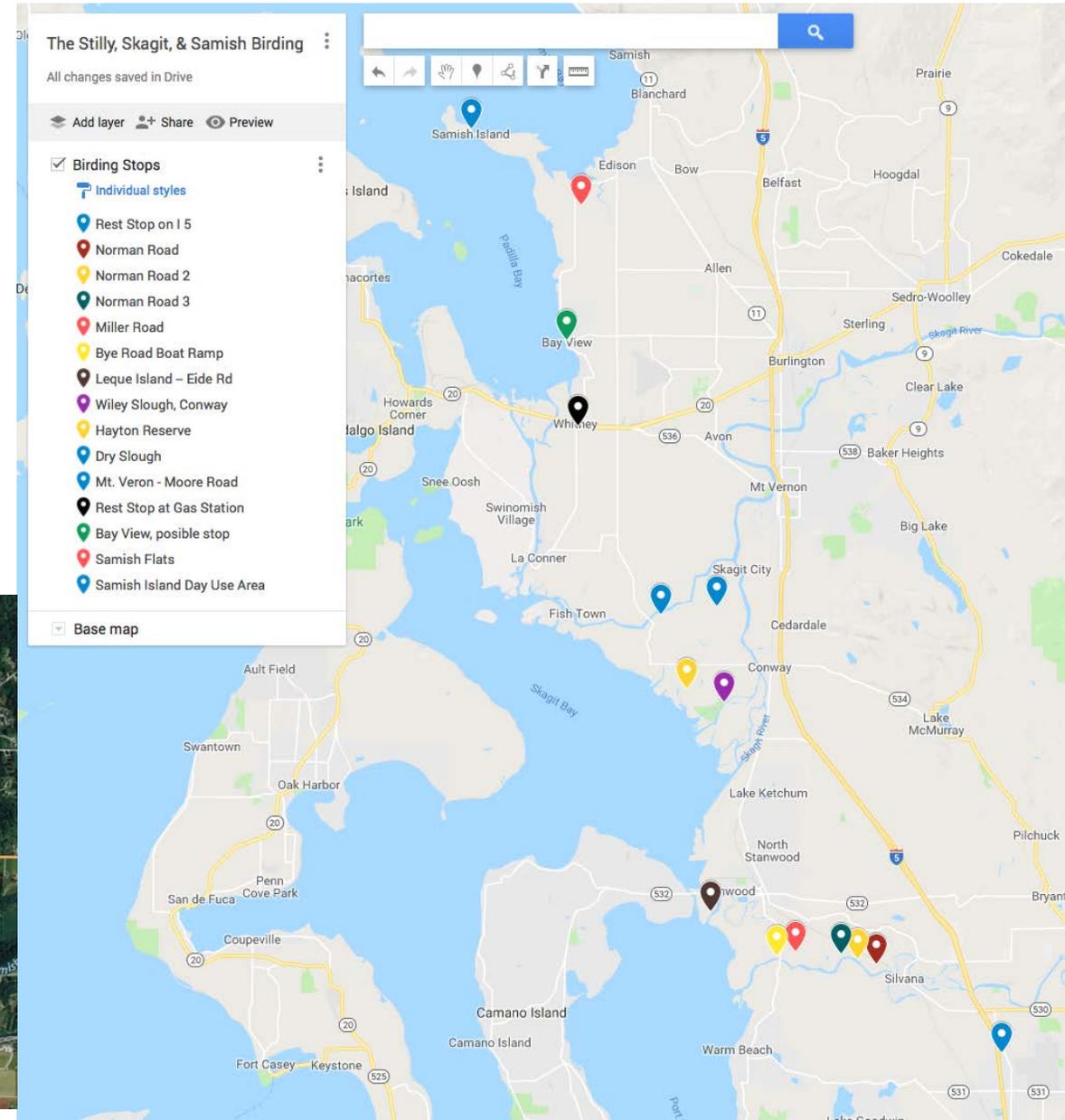
This trip can be good anytime of year but it's particularly good from late October through March.

1. You can do part or all of it.

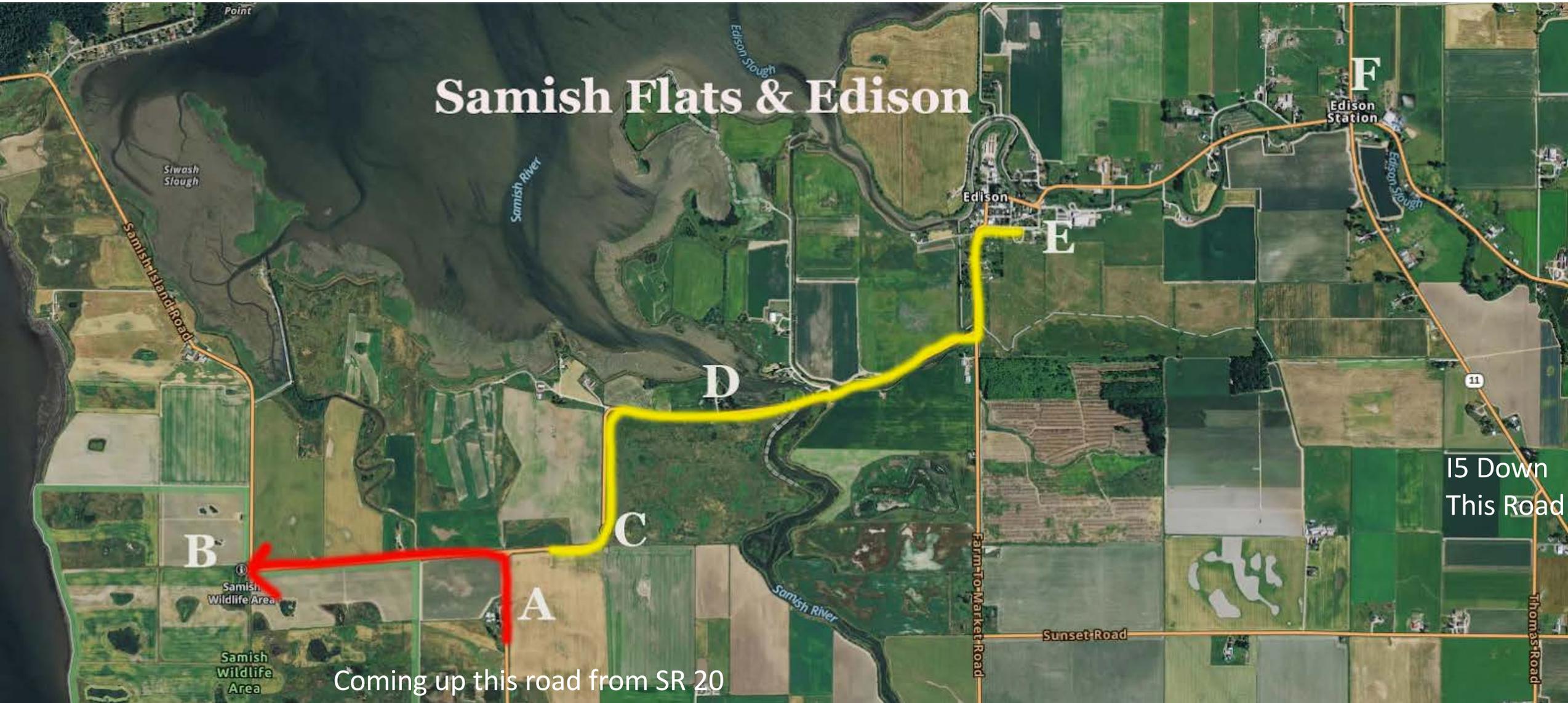
Norman Road

Fir Island and Skagit Area

Samish Flats



The Stillaguamish, Skagit, and Samish Flats



Coming up this road from SR 20

15 Down This Road



Questions?

- Email me
- gtbancroft@gmail.com
- www.thomasbancroft.org



Rough-legged Hawk

© Dan Jackson



Swainson's Hawk

© Daniel Arndt



Red-tailed Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Ferruginous Hawk

© Brian L. Sullivan



Red-shouldered Hawk

© Kevin J. McGowan



Rough-legged Hawk
© Bryant Olsen



Swainson's Hawk
© Bryant Olsen



Harlan's Red-tailed Hawk
© Jukka Jantunen



Red-tailed Hawk
© Bryant Olsen



Ferruginous Hawk
© Kevin J. McGowan

Review

Buteos



- Learn Red-tailed Hawk inside & out
- Location and time of year
- Wings broad and rounded
 - Rounded Rounded
 - Or Pointed Rounded
- Underside of wings
 - Dark flight feathers, light lining
 - Dark lining, light flight feathers
 - Dark edge to back of flight feathers
 - Patagial line on front
 - Carpal patch or carpal comma
- Barring, patches, patterns on body and wings (top and bottom)
- Tail color, pattern, where is white
- Location of dark and white patches
- Feathers on Tarsi or can you see the skin



Accipiters



- Body and waist shape
- Color from head to back the same or is there a difference between cap color and nape color, Adult Goshawk with distinctive face and light gray stripes.
- Tail
 - Terminal shape
 - Size of white bar on end of tail, clean white or dirty white
 - Do the bars on each side of tail shaft line up
- Shape of front of wing, head size, and is there a dip on wing into head
- Pattern of wing beats, can you count them
- Juvenal plumaged birds
 - Heavily streaked or lighter streaks
 - Goshawk tough to tell from female Cooper's



Homework

- Review the Powerpoint
- Study Red-tailed Hawks as much as you can
 - Learn them like they were a close friend
- Look at photographs in eBird or on AllAboutBirds
- When out walking go over in your mind
 - The characteristics we used to divide our 8 basic groups of raptors
 - The characteristics we use to separate the Buteos – not necessarily the specifics to a species, but what to look for when you see a Buteo
 - Do the same thing for the Accipiters

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



11.



Answer to Buteo Quiz

1. Red-tailed Hawk
2. Swainson's Hawk
3. Ferruginous Hawk
4. Red-shouldered Hawk
5. Rough-legged Hawk
6. Swainson's Hawk
7. Red-tailed Hawk
8. Ferruginous Hawk
9. Red-tailed Hawk
10. Rough-legged Hawk
11. Red-tailed Hawk

Have Fun!



Practice, go out birding if you can!