

CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION
NOTICE OF FINDINGS
American Peregrine Falcon
(Falco peregrinus anatum)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2075.5 of the Fish and Game Code, the California Fish and Game Commission ("Commission"), at its December 12, 2008, meeting in Sacramento, made a finding that the petitioned action to remove the American Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) from the list of endangered species is warranted.

In making this finding, the Commission concludes that the peregrine falcon's continued existence is no longer threatened by any one or a combination of the following factors: Present or threatened modification or destruction of its habitat, Overexploitation, Predation, Competition, Disease, or other natural occurrences or human-related activities. Specifically, the basis for the delisting relied most heavily on the following: 1) Current American peregrine falcon breeding range in California includes most of the known historic breeding range; 2) American peregrine falcon breeding population size has increased dramatically following State and federal listing as endangered and may have reached or even exceeded historical levels within California, as best as can be determined from the historic population data; 3) The threat posed to the peregrine falcon nesting populations in California by organochlorine pesticide contamination has lessened due to the restrictions imposed on the use of such substances in the United States and Canada since the 1970's. However, "hot spots" remain in the State; these areas need continued evaluation to monitor their impact on peregrine recovery; 4) Recovery goals specific to California populations of peregrine falcons as established through the federal recovery plan for the Pacific States have been met for range and population size; productivity goals have been met at most sites in California; 5) The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) delisted the peregrine falcon from the federal endangered species list in 1999 and established a monitoring program, contingent on funding, to document breeding status of this species through the year 2015. A sub-set of 30 nest sites will be monitored in California every three years, providing current occupancy and productivity data for the State's peregrine population; and 6) The captive breeding and reintroduction program established in the 1970's and continued through 1992 was highly successful in aiding the recovery of the peregrine in California.

It is anticipated that the Commission will ratify the findings at a hearing to be held at the Yolo Fliers Club, Ballroom, 17980 County Road 94B, Woodland, California, on Thursday, June 25, 2009, at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard.

Fish and Game Commission

May 26, 2009

John Carlson, Jr.
Executive Director