Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group
Intern Opportunities

Overview:

We currently have two internships that provide students with opportunities to learn more about Peregrine Falcons, working with members of the public on a conservation education project, collecting data on provided forms, and developing observation skills. Participation in the winter quarter College 8 class, “Peregrine Falcon Recovery—A Case Study in Conservation Success” is strongly advised and class participants will have priority for internships. There are two opportunities to participate.

Falcon Nest Camera Operator: (2 units—6-8 hours per week) We offer views of nesting falcons to the public from three locations in the Bay Area. Operator/attendants use their computers to move the cameras as needed during incubation of eggs and rearing of young. Attendants become intimately familiar with the nesting chronology of peregrine falcons, and participate in a large conservation education effort (camera web site receives 600,000 or more hits per week). They also collect prey delivery data. Nest camera operators must also staff at least one, five-hour shift at a nest site during the period when young falcons fledge in May.

*Duties: Monitor and operate cameras during two, three-hour shifts per week in coordination with public volunteers. Note the frequency and size of prey items delivered to young. Complete at least one fledge watch shift at the San Jose nest during mid May.*

Peregrine Falcon Nest Monitor: (5 units—12-15 hours per week) Learn the observation protocol for nest site monitoring and report occupancy and productivity data on our observation form for one or more Peregrine Falcon nest territory. Nest site monitors must provide their own transportation to Bay Area peregrine falcon nest territories.

*Duties: Observe wild falcon nest sites weekly during spring quarter according to our protocol. Provide a one-page summary of nesting season activity, notes on access, location and a description of OP, and a statement about the status of the territory on our observation form.*