

# Response Statement - Peregrine Falcon anatum/tundrius

*December 4, 2007*

**Common Name:** Peregrine Falcon anatum/tundrius

**Scientific Name:** *Falco peregrinus anatum/tundrius*

**Status assessment by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC):** Special Concern

**Reason(s) for status designation provided by COSEWIC:** Continental populations of this species have shown continuing increases in population size since the 1970's up to near historical numbers. Population thresholds for downlisting have been achieved for both the tundrius and anatum subspecies. This recovery has been the result of reintroductions across much of southern Canada, and natural increases in productivity following the ban in Canada of organochlorine pesticides (e.g. DDT). These compounds were the primary factor responsible for the historic decline. These pesticides continue to be used on the wintering grounds, and continue to be found in peregrine tissues, albeit at levels that do not significantly affect reproductive success. The unknown effects of new pesticides regularly licensed for use in Canada are also a concern.

**Occurrence:** British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut

**Competent Minister(s):**

Minister of Environment

Minister responsible for the Parks Canada Agency

**Province(s) and territory (territories) to be consulted:**

British Columbia

Alberta

Saskatchewan

Manitoba

Ontario

Quebec

Newfoundland and Labrador

New Brunswick

Nova Scotia

Yukon

Northwest Territories

Nunavut

**Applicable federal legislation:** When the species is found within national parks of Canada or other lands administered by the Parks Canada Agency, it is protected or managed under the *Canada National Parks Act* or through measures or management tools available to the Parks Canada Agency under other legislation. Where it occurs in a National Wildlife Area this species is subject to the *Wildlife Area Regulations* under the *Canada Wildlife Act*, which prohibits activities that could be harmful to species and to their habitat, unless a permit is issued indicating the permitted activity.

**Conservation activities underway:** A Recovery team is in place, and a recovery strategy has been drafted.

**How the Minister of the Environment intends to respond to the assessment:** The Minister of Environment will undertake consultations with the governments of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut, the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board, the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council - Northwest Territories, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, the Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Coordinating Committee, the Wildlife Management Advisory Council - North Slope and the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board, Aboriginal peoples, stakeholders, and the public on whether or not the Peregrine Falcon anatum/tundrius should be added to the *List of Wildlife Species at Risk* (Schedule 1) under the *Species at Risk Act*. The Minister of the Environment will forward the COSEWIC assessment of the Peregrine Falcon anatum/tundrius to the GIC upon completion of consultations.