

## CPW FALCONRY LICENSING PROCESS

1. Carefully review the state regulations pertinent to falconry which can be found in Chapters W-00, W-03, W-05, and W-06 of Colorado Parks and Wildlife Regulations at: <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Regulations.aspx>. Please note that you must be at least 12 years of age and a Colorado resident at the time of your application. Residency is established by living in this state for at least six consecutive months immediately prior to the date of your license application.
2. Find a falconer licensed by Colorado as a master or as a general (with at least three years experience at that level) who would be willing to sponsor you during the required two-year apprenticeship. We recommend you contact the Apprentice Director at one of the state's falconry clubs for assistance with locating a sponsor. Currently there are two active clubs in Colorado, the Colorado Hawking Club and High Plains Falconers. For your convenience links to these two organizations are posted on the Special Licensing Applications webpage.
3. Next you must pass a Colorado falconry exam with a score of 80% or better. There will be a total of 100 questions which are a mix of true/false, multiple choice, and short answers drawn from three categories: falconry practices, the biology/ecology of raptors, and regulations/laws. You will be allowed up to two hours to complete the exam. To prepare for testing, work with your sponsor and study all available reference materials such as those recommended below. Exams are administered at Colorado Parks and Wildlife offices located throughout the state. When you are ready to set up a time and place for testing contact Special Licensing at 303.291.7143.
4. After passing the exam you are required to construct a facility to house falconry raptors which meets the minimum facility requirements as outlined in Chapter 6 Falconry Regulations **PRIOR** to submitting an Apprentice Resident Falconry License application. A Falconry Sponsor Form completed by your sponsor must be included with that application. Both the application and the sponsor form are available for download on the Special Licensing Applications webpage.
5. Once Special Licensing receives your complete application, a request will be made of your District Wildlife Manager (DWM) to set up and conduct an inspection of your facility (mews). When Special Licensing receives an approved Facility Inspection from your DWM, your Apprentice Resident Falconry License will be issued and mailed to you.

Please contact Special Licensing at [Wildlife.SpecialLicensing@state.co.us](mailto:Wildlife.SpecialLicensing@state.co.us) or at 303.291.7143 if you have additional questions regarding apprentice licensing or specific inquiries regarding license renewal, reinstatement or transfer from another state.

# RECOMMENDED FALCONRY EXAM REFERENCE MATERIALS

## REGULATIONS

Complete CPW Regulations are online at: [cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Regulations.aspx](http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/Regulations.aspx)

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission Regulations Chapters W-00 (regarding importation of raptors #003 and waste of wildlife #020D2), W-03 (small game hunting requirements), W-05 (migratory bird hunting requirements), and W-06 (all other regulations related to falconry).

Note that although the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is no longer involved in falconry licensing, CPW Regulations do require the submission of falconry bird acquisition and disposition reports (3-186A forms) to the Federal Falconry Database at <https://epermits.fws.gov/falcp>

## BOOKS ABOUT FALCONRY

Beebe, Frank [The Compleat Falconer](#)  
Beebe & Webster [North American Falconry and Hunting Hawks](#)  
California Hawking Club [Apprentice Manual: A Starter Guide for the Prospective Falconer](#) (2000)  
and [Apprentice Study Guide](#) (1999)  
Ford, Emma [Falconry: Art and Practice](#)  
Fox, Nick [Understanding Birds of Prey](#)  
Glasier, Philip [Falconry and Hawking](#)  
Hallgarth, Adrian [Hawking & Falconry For Beginners](#)  
Hollinshead, Martin [Hawking Ground Quarry](#)  
Hollinshead, Martin [The Complete Rabbit and Hare Hawk](#)  
McGranaghan, Liam [The Red-Tailed Hawk](#)  
Mullenix, Matthew [American Kestrels in Modern Falconry](#)  
Oakes, William [The Falconer's Apprentice: A Guide to Training the Red-Tailed Hawk](#)  
Various Field Guides such as Peterson Reference Guides or [A Photographic Guide to North American Raptors](#) by Wheeler & Clark.  
Woodruff, Ben [Trapping Essentials](#)

## FALCONRY SUPPLIERS

**Northwoods Limited**  
P.O. Box 874  
Rainier, WA 98576  
Phone (360) 446-3212  
<http://northwoodsfalconry.com/>

**Western Sporting Publications**  
P.O. Box 939  
Ranchester, WY 82839-0939  
Phone (307) 672-0445  
<https://www.westernsporting.com/>

**Mike's Falconry**  
4700 SE Chase Rd.  
Gresham, OR 97080  
<http://www.mikesfalconry.com/>

**Marshall Radio Telemetry**  
845 W. Center St.  
North Salt Lake, UT 84054  
<http://marshallradio.com/>