



*Notice the white trailing edge on the wings, light eye stripe and long tail.*

**What to do:** If you think you see an aplomado falcon, please record the time and date, location and a brief description of the sighting. Send these along with your name and contact information to the e-mail addresses below. **Please, do not get too close and never approach a suspected aplomado falcon nest site.**

Thank you for your valuable help!

**For more information, visit us at:**

<http://www.aplomadofalconrecovery.org/>

**To report sightings, please contact:**

USFWS: [patricia\\_zenone@fws.gov](mailto:patricia_zenone@fws.gov)

NMDGF: [hira.walker@state.nm.us](mailto:hira.walker@state.nm.us)

Peregrine Fund: [tpf@peregrinefund.org](mailto:tpf@peregrinefund.org)

TESF: [TESFNM@gmail.com](mailto:TESFNM@gmail.com)

**These are NOT Aplomado Falcons.**



*Male and female American kestrels. They are smaller, with gray coloring on the head and a reddish tail and back.*



*Prairie falcons are larger and do not have a dark band across the abdomen like aplomados.*



**If You See An Aplomado Falcon...**

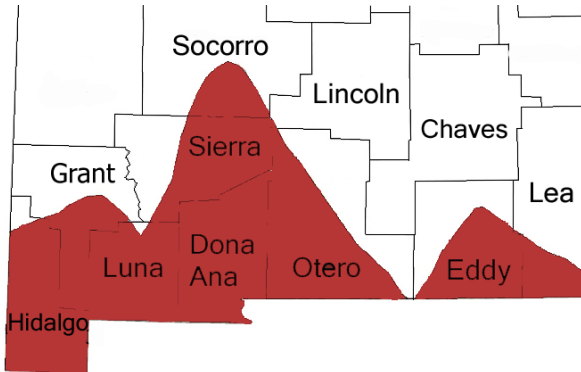


*Juvenile aplomado falcon*

**Aplomado Falcon**

*Markings: dark brown to gray on back; buffy white breast, speckled in juveniles; distinctive dark band across abdomen; light eye stripe; barred tail; orange legs.*

## SPECIES HISTORY



*Historical range of the northern aplomado falcon in New Mexico.*

The falcon's historical range in the U.S. included southeastern Arizona, southern New Mexico, and Trans-Pecos and southern Texas.



*An adult aplomado falcon. Notice the white breast with no speckling.*

The falcon began to decline drastically in the 1890s. By 1950 the bird had all but disappeared from its range north of the Mexican border. Reasons for the decline include habitat loss, collection and pesticide contamination. It was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 1986.

## HABITAT

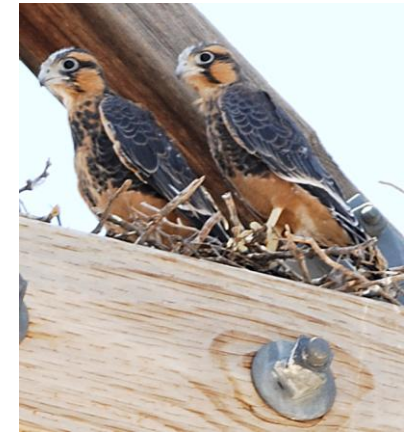
The aplomado falcon is associated with grassland savannas of eastern Mexico and the Chihuahuan Desert.



*An aplomado falcon perched on a yucca stalk near a reintroduction site. Notice the open grassland habitat.*

The falcon's preference for open grassland is undoubtedly related to the presence and accessibility of prey. Their diet primarily consists of small to medium sized birds and large insects.

Aplomado falcons do not build their own nests. Instead, they use abandoned raptor and raven nests in large structures such as trees, yuccas and power poles.



*Aplomado falcon chicks in a nest on a power pole.*

## EFFECTS ON OUR NEIGHBORS

Since 2006, The Peregrine Fund and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, along with several private and public land owners, have reintroduced 120 captive-bred aplomado falcons in southern New Mexico under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act, with more reintroductions planned for future years. Section 10(j) allows the Service to release an experimental population into a species' historical range without requiring restriction of current or future land uses and activities. Aplomado falcons continue to be protected from intentional take or harm under the Endangered Species Act.