

# **HawkWatch International:**



## **American Kestrel Nesting Box Study**

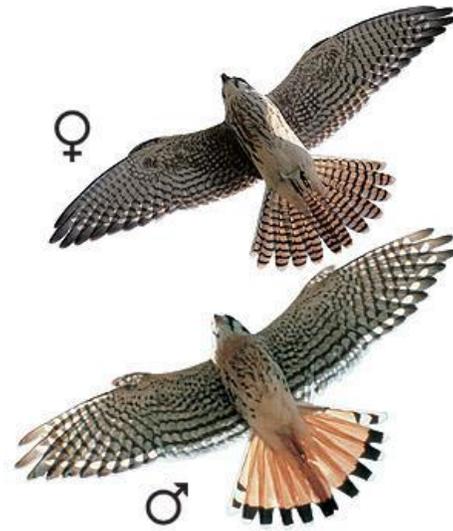
### **Spring 2019**

### **Field Journal**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Materials:

- Weather appropriate clothing
- Weather appropriate shoes
- Field journal
- Small backpack
- Pen or pencil
- Camera
- Cell phone
- Painter pole & attachment
- Binoculars
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Sun glasses
- Water bottle



## Incubation and Nestling Periods:

	American Kestrel	Starling	Western Screech-Owl
Code	AMKE	EUST	WESO
Incubation Period	30 days	11 days	30 days
Nestling Period	28 days	21 days	30 days

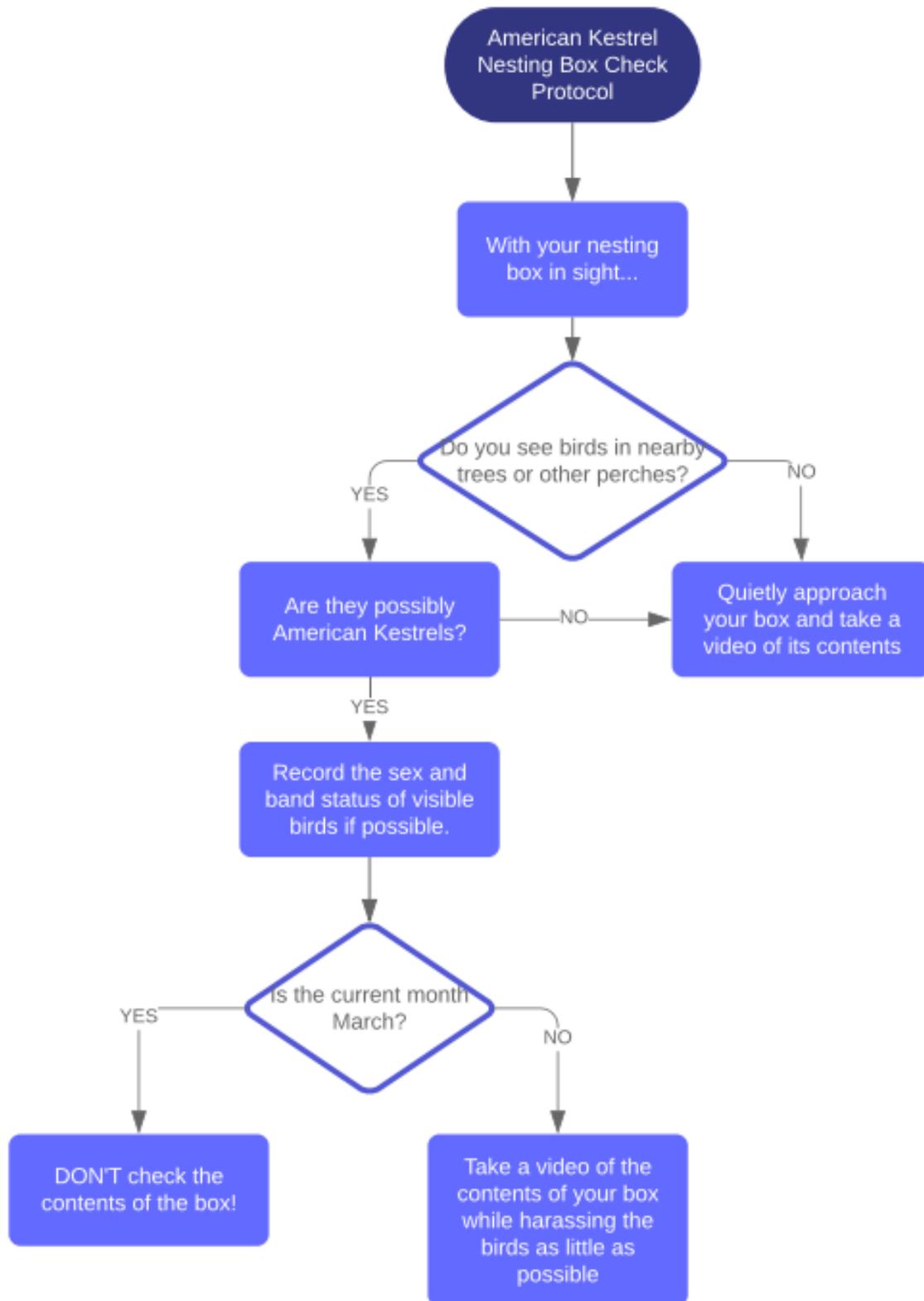
American Kestrel Eggs



American Kestrel Nestlings



# Nesting Box Check Protocol



## Female American Kestrel

Things to look for:

- Slightly larger than males
- Vertical eye stripe
- Mostly brown with dark streaks
- Smaller than a crow
- Often bobs its tail while perched
- Long, square tail
- Pointy wing tips while flying



## Male American Kestrel

Things to look for:

- Blue/gray wings
- Vertical eye stripe
- Thick dark band on the end of the tail
- Smaller than a crow
- Often bobs its tail while perched
- Long, square tail
- Pointy wing tips while flying



## Other Things You Might See In Your Box

European Starling Eggs



European Starlings



European Starling Nestlings



Northern Flicker



Western Screech Owl



Barn Owl



## Visit #1

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #2

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #3

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #4

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #5

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #6

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #7

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?

## Visit #8

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather:

Box Name:
Observations:

Question to Ask Myself:

- Are there kestrels nearby? On phone poles? On power lines? In trees?
- Male or female?
- Are they banded? On which leg are they banded? What type of band (color or small silver)?
- Are there eggs in the box? What species do they belong to? How many eggs can I see? Could there be more eggs than I can see?
- Are there nestlings in the box? How old are they? How many can I see? What sex are they?
- Were there nestlings last time but none now? Do I see any nestlings on the ground?
- What other behavior do I see?