

NORTHERN GOSHAWK
(*ACCIPITER GENTILIS*)

Navajo/Federal Statuses: NESL G4 / MBTA; not listed under the ESA.

Distribution: Breeding range includes most of Canada, AK, northeastern U.S, northern Mexico, and most western states including UT, western CO and NM, and eastern AZ. On the Navajo Nation, goshawks occupy the Chuska Mountain Range, Defiance Plateau, and Black Mesa. Potential occurs throughout the Nation where appropriate habitat exists

Habitat: Typically nests in drainages, canyon bottoms, or north-facing forested slopes with ponderosa pine stands (also mixed-species, spruce-fir, and aspen stands) composed of large, mature trees and high (60-90%) canopy closure. A variety of forest types, ages, and successional stages often surround nest area and are used extensively by recently fledged young.

Similar Species: Adults larger than Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks, have gray, finely streaked underparts and broad white eyestripe; immatures also larger with white eyestripe.

Phenology:

- e.MAR-m.APR: pair formation, courtship, nest-site selection
- m.APR-e.JUN: egg-laying and incubation (28-32 days)
- m.MAY-m.JUL: nestling period (35-42 days)
- l.JUN-e.AUG: fledging of young
- m.AUG-e.SEP: independence of young, dispersal from natal area
- > e.SEP: may overwinter in nest area or other forest areas

Survey Method: Two years of ≥ 1 survey broadcasting taped alarm-call every 300 m along 260-m wide transects from 15 JUN-31 JUL; surveys during courtship discouraged.

Kennedy and Stahlecker. 1993. Responsiveness of nesting northern goshawks to taped broadcasts of three conspecific calls. *J.Wildl.Manage.* 57:2249-257.

Avoidance: No activity within 0.4 km ($\frac{1}{4}$ mi) of nest site during 1 MAR-15 AUG; no habitat alteration year-round within 0.2 km of nest site (=12 ha or 30 acre).

References:

- Reynolds, R.T., R.T. Graham, M.H. Hildegard; and others. 1992. Management recommendations for the northern goshawk in the southwestern United States. Gen.Tech.Rept. RM-217. Ft. Collins, CO: U.S. Dept. Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. 90p.
- Squires, J.R. and R.T. Reynolds. 1997. Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*). In *The Birds of North America*, No.298 (A.Poole and F.Gill, eds.). The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and The American Ornithol. Union, Washington, D.C. (description p.2)