

Professional Development Workshop for Teachers at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary



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Dates: June 19-23, 2005

Location: Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, 410 Summer Valley Road, Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Fee: \$235, which includes registration, breakfast, snacks and farewell dinner

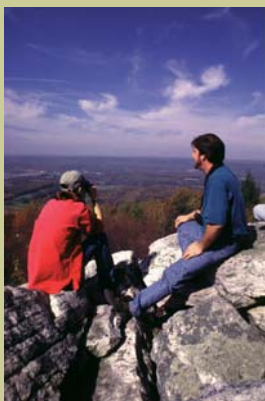
Optional lunch package: \$50
Accommodations at Acopian Center: \$100 for the week (for out-of-town participants only). Limited space is available at the residence and will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis; affordable accommodations are also available at local hotels.

Inservice and College Credit Available

For More Information Contact:

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Bird watchers looking for hawks from one of Hawk Mountain's lookouts.



Tracking Birds of Prey at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary: Bringing Wildlife Conservation Research and Technology to Your Classroom

- Study Migrating Raptors
- Participate in research with scientists from around the world
- Use GIS, Remote Sensing and Satellite Tracking Technologies
- Deepen content knowledge of ecology, animal behavior, and conservation biology
- Receive "Eye of the Falcon Environmental Science Curriculum" free of charge

This course, designed for secondary school science teachers and environmental educators, will engage teachers in research projects that combine field-based methods with the advanced technologies used in wildlife conservation research, such as satellite tracking technologies, remote sensing, and Geographic Information Systems.



Peregrine Falcon fitted with satellite received transmitter.

The course will take place at the world-renowned Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (www.hawkmountain.org), the largest and oldest member-based raptor conservation organization in the world. Located along the Appalachian Flyway in southeastern Pennsylvania, scenic Hawk Mountain Sanctuary offers visitors an outstanding experience in nature observation with its mountaintop vistas and thrilling migration of nearly 20,000 hawks, eagles and falcons.

Participants will have the opportunity to develop mini-research projects under the guidance of our team of wildlife biologists, education specialists, and geospatial technology experts. They will participate in ongoing research at the Sanctuary focusing on satellite tracking studies of migrating raptors and the effects of local land use on wildlife.

Seminars offered by Hawk Mountain and Earthspan staff as well as by visiting scientists will deepen teacher content knowledge of ecology, animal behavior, conservation biology, and the advanced technologies used in these fields. By focusing on birds of prey - flagship indicators of ecosystem health - we can gain a better understanding of broader conservation issues on local, regional, and global scales.

As an added bonus, teachers participating in the workshop will receive the *Eye of the Falcon* Environmental Science Curriculum. The *Eye of the Falcon*, developed by Earthspan, Inc., is a standards-based environmental science curriculum for middle and high school students that utilizes Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing data, and satellite tracking of wildlife to teach core concepts in the life sciences and to involve students in cutting-edge scientific research and technology. The curriculum

Earthspan

Earthspan is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization created by concerned scientists dedicated to the continued development and application of advanced technologies for the conservation and management of wildlife species, habitats, ecosystems, and public health. Earthspan develops and tests wildlife tracking technologies, conducts wildlife conservation research projects, and seeks to educate school children of all ages about these issues through curriculum offerings and teacher training workshops.

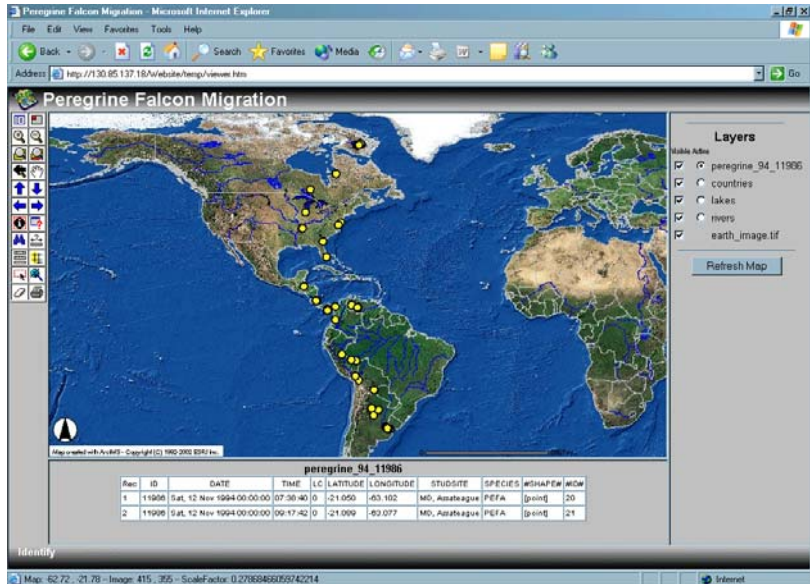
(www.earthspan.org)

Hawk Mountain

Hawk Mountain's mission is to foster the conservation of birds of prey worldwide and to create a better understanding of, and further the conservation of, the natural environment, particularly the Central Appalachian region. The Sanctuary manages its 2,600 acres for multiple uses, balancing mission-based programs like education and awareness, with the need to maintain a healthy and functioning ecological system.

(www.hawkmountain.org)

draws from a wide range of fields, including ecology, animal behavior, social studies, and geography, and raises awareness about local and global environmental issues. *Eye of the Falcon* brings environmental science to life as students are engaged in authentic, ongoing research projects and are challenged to use their research results to solve real-life conservation issues.



GIS map students can create using Eye of the Falcon website. This map illustrates the migration route of a Peregrine Falcon.

Accommodations:

Accommodations are available for a limited number of out-of-town participants at Hawk Mountain’s new Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, located at the base of Hawk Mountain. The Center consists of three buildings: a research center and two residences. The research center provides working space for Sanctuary conservation science staff, visiting scientists, and students. It includes a dry lab, a map lab and a library containing more than 2,000 volumes—one of the largest collections of raptor literature in the world. The residences include double-occupancy rooms with private baths. Participants will be responsible for preparing their own dinners and may use the kitchen and dining facilities in the residence hall. A van will be available for participants to purchase food at a local supermarket.

Additional accommodations are available at local hotels and B&B’s. For more information, check out http://www.hawkmountain.org/visiting_us/tourist_information.htm.



Students conducting GIS-based research project using Eye of the Falcon lessons (Left) . Handler with live hawk at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (Right).