## CONTACT DETAILS

## IN AN EMERGENCY CALL:

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|---|---|
| **Lead:** | **Primary Contact:** |
| **Participants:** | |

## SERVICE/ACTIVITY DETAILS

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|---|---|
| **Purpose:** | **Date:** |

**Benefit:** Develops patience, discipline, and respect for nature through training. | Encourages outdoor activity and connection with birds of prey. | Enhances understanding of predator-prey relationships and raptor biology. | Preserves an ancient cultural tradition and teaches sustainable hunting techniques. | Provides non-invasive pest control methods using trained birds. | Supports wildlife conservation efforts by promoting responsible bird care.

## HAZARDS

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Allergic reactions in handlers or the public | Skin irritation, respiratory issues, anaphylaxis | Allows individuals with allergies to make informed decisions about participation, reducing the risk of adverse reactions. | Inform participants of potential allergens present (e.g., feathers, dander). Have first aid kits and emergency contact information readily available. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Bird injuring a member of the public during handling | Talon scratches, bites, panic response | Allows public engagement and education about falconry, fostering appreciation and support for raptor conservation. | Ensure that only experienced falconers handle the birds during public interactions. Provide protective gloves to individuals holding the birds to prevent injuries from talons. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Birds being startled by loud noises or sudden movements | Startling of birds, erratic flight, potential escape | Helps birds adapt to real-world conditions, making them more resilient in various display settings while allowing a wider audience to experience falconry. | Ensure public viewing areas are positioned away from loud machinery or sudden noise sources. Brief the audience before the demonstration to avoid sudden movements. Train birds in controlled environments with gradual exposure to noise to build tolerance. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers, audience | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Birds colliding with or attacking a member of the public during a flying show | Injury from impact, distress to audience, loss of bird control | Provides dynamic demonstrations that captivate audiences, enhancing educational impact and public interest in falconry. | Conduct flying shows in spacious areas to minimize the risk of birds colliding with spectators. Use well-trained birds accustomed to flying close to people without making contact. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers, birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Birds contracting diseases from wild animals | Infection, weakened immune system, reduced lifespan | Maintains the health of the bird collection, ensuring the longevity and success of the program. | Quarantine new birds before introducing them to the main population. Avoid flying birds in areas known to be inhabited by wild raptors or other potential disease carriers. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Birds escaping during transport or display | Loss of birds, disruption of event, difficulty in retrieval | Prevents loss of valuable birds and maintains the integrity of the program. | Use secure, well-maintained transport boxes and equipment. Regularly inspect for wear and tear, and ensure all closures are secure during transit and display. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Birds getting caught on obstacles (trees, wires, structures) | Entanglement, injury, disorientation | Encourages birds to build trust with handlers and develop reliable recall training, which is essential for falconry practices. | Conduct site inspections before flying birds in a new area. Use radio tracking devices on birds in case of unintended landings. Train birds to recall to the glove promptly if they become caught or disoriented. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Birds ingesting foreign objects during displays | Choking, poisoning, digestive issues | Prevents health complications in birds, ensuring their continued participation in programs. | Keep display areas free from small, ingestible items. Supervise birds closely during displays to prevent them from picking up foreign objects. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Damage to property from birds landing on displays or fixtures | Scratches, breakages, financial loss | Prevents property damage, maintaining good relationships with venue providers and reducing costs. | Assess rooms and display areas upon entry. If deemed unsuitable for free flight, attach a creance line to limit the bird's flight area or opt not to fly the bird. **(ALL)** | Property owners, event organizers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Escape of birds due to faulty jesses or tracking equipment | Loss of birds, difficulty in recovery | Encourages better training and recall reliability while allowing birds some degree of freedom in demonstrations. | Inspect all jesses, leashes, and telemetry devices before each use. Maintain a strict routine of equipment checks and replacements. Train birds to recall to the glove or lure reliably even without equipment. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Exotic animal causing illness from venom | Venom reaction, allergic responses, mild envenomation | Allows for the inclusion of a diverse range of species in educational programs while ensuring public safety. | Avoid using venomous species in public displays. For species with mild venom, ensure handlers are aware and take necessary precautions. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Exotic animal injuring a member of the public during handling | Bites, scratches, panic response | Enables safe, hands-on educational experiences that enhance learning and appreciation for wildlife. | Utilize only tame and regularly handled exotic animals classified as harmless species for public interactions. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Falconers experiencing fatigue or burnout from prolonged work hours | Exhaustion, reduced focus, increased risk of errors | Ensures the continued passion and well-being of falconers, leading to higher-quality bird care and more effective public education. | Implement structured work shifts to allow handlers adequate rest. Encourage mental and physical well-being through training rotations. Conduct routine debriefings to address stress and workload concerns. **(ALL)** | Handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Handler injuries from bites, scratches, or talon punctures | Bites, scratches, puncture wounds | Encourages handlers to develop expertise in bird behavior, improving their confidence and skillset in raptor management. | Provide handlers with appropriate PPE, including thick gloves and arm protection. Ensure staff receive training on proper bird restraint techniques. Encourage staff to check for signs of aggression before handling. **(ALL)** | Handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Heat stress in birds during outdoor displays | Overheating, dehydration, fatigue | Ensures the health and comfort of the birds, allowing for safe outdoor educational activities. | Schedule outdoor displays during cooler parts of the day. Provide shaded areas and access to water for the birds at all times. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Inadequate supervision of public interactions with birds | Injury to public, stress to birds, potential escape | Enables meaningful educational experiences while maintaining public safety and minimizing stress on the birds. | Maintain a strict handler-to-bird ratio to ensure each bird is properly monitored. Use signage to instruct visitors on appropriate behavior. Only allow pre-approved interaction under direct supervision with clear safety briefings beforehand. **(ALL)** | Public, birds, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Injury to birds from environmental hazards during displays | Cuts, ingestion of toxic substances, drowning | Protects the health of the birds, ensuring their continued participation in educational activities. | Assess display areas for potential hazards such as sharp objects, toxic plants, or open water sources. Remove or mitigate identified risks before the event. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Injury to birds from improper handling by staff | Broken feathers, wing strain, stress-related issues | Ensures the safety and well-being of the birds, leading to more effective educational programs. | Provide comprehensive training for all staff on proper bird handling techniques. Regularly assess and refresh training to maintain high standards. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Poor weather conditions affecting birds ability to fly safely | Loss of control, injury, reduced visibility | Helps falconers develop a better understanding of environmental factors affecting birds and ensures adaptability in different working conditions. | Assess weather forecasts before scheduling public flights. Avoid flying birds in strong winds, heavy rain, or extreme temperatures. Have contingency plans for indoor demonstrations if needed. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers, audience | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Potential aggression between birds in close quarters | Fighting, injuries, stress | Enables multiple birds to be kept and displayed in the same setting, increasing variety and educational value in falconry displays. | House birds separately unless they are compatible. Train handlers to recognize early signs of aggression. Use perches that provide adequate spacing to prevent birds from reaching each other. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Public throwing objects at or attempting to touch birds | Injury to birds, distress, potential escape | Ensures that live demonstrations remain interactive while teaching respect for wildlife and responsible engagement. | Establish a clear boundary between the public and display areas using fencing, rope barriers, or marked zones. Assign staff to monitor the crowd and intervene when necessary. Display signage outlining expected behavior. **(ALL)** | Birds, handlers, audience | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Risk of audience members feeding birds inappropriate food | Dietary issues, poisoning, choking | Allows controlled educational feeding experiences while preventing dietary health issues. | Prohibit public feeding unless under strict handler supervision. Provide clearly labeled feeding instructions if feeding is part of an educational experience. Train birds to accept food only from designated handlers. **(ALL)** | Birds, audience | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Risk of birds contracting parasites from prey or environment | Parasites, illness, weight loss | Allows birds to maintain a natural diet and practice hunting behavior while ensuring their health and longevity. | Conduct regular health checks and deworming treatments. Avoid feeding wild-caught prey and instead use high-quality, controlled food sources. Clean enclosures and transport boxes regularly. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Risk of dehydration in birds during prolonged displays | Dehydration, overheating, exhaustion | Helps birds build endurance and adapt to different conditions, preparing them for outdoor work, hunting, or prolonged display periods. | Schedule water breaks and shaded rest areas for birds during long events. Provide misting systems in hot weather. Limit flight times and monitor birds for early signs of dehydration, such as excessive panting or drooped wings. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Stress-induced health issues in birds | Feather plucking, loss of appetite, reduced performance | Ensures the well-being of the birds, leading to more effective and humane educational programs. | Limit the duration and frequency of public displays. Provide birds with adequate rest periods in quiet, secluded areas away from public view. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Transmission of zoonotic diseases (diseases spread from animals to people) | Illness in handlers or public, potential disease outbreaks | Promotes public health while allowing educational interactions with the birds. | Regularly clean all animal enclosures and display areas with antibacterial cleansers. Provide antibacterial hand gel for use before and after handling the animals. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Unauthorized handling of the animals or equipment | Injury to birds, damage to equipment, disruption of display | Maintains the integrity of the demonstration and ensures the safety of both the birds and the public. | Ensure a falconer is present at all times during displays. Use cordoned-off areas to restrict unauthorized access to animals and equipment. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers, birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |
| Unintentional injury to birds during transport | Stress, bruising, wing or leg injuries | Enables birds to be transported for conservation programs, breeding projects, and falconry events while minimizing harm. | Use specialized transport crates with proper ventilation and soft padding. Avoid stacking crates to prevent toppling. Secure birds with travel jesses and ensure perches are non-slip. Monitor for stress signs during travel. **(ALL)** | Birds | Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med** |

| HAZARD | RISK | RISK BENEFIT | MEASURE | RISK TO | RISK LEVEL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Public fear or anxiety leading to disruptive behavior | Distress, panic, disruption of demonstration | Creates an inclusive environment where all individuals can engage with the program at their comfort level. | Clearly communicate what to expect during displays. Offer opportunities for individuals to opt out or observe from a distance if they are uncomfortable. **(ALL)** | Public, handlers | Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low** |
| Unpredicted risks | Illness, injury, death | | Continuous risk monitoring conducted by all staff. Any unforeseen hazards must be reported promptly to supervisors or management, with immediate corrective action taken as necessary. **(ALL)** | All | **N/A** |

## NOTES

**Extra notes & activity evaluation:**

| Completed by | Reviewed/Approved by | Risk Assessment Date | Review Required Date |
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