

# Introduction to Raptor Husbandry

January 22 and 23, 2021

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Founder and Curator of Birds at River Valley  
Raptors Inc.  
Falconer

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Founder and Executive Director at River  
Valley Raptors Inc.  
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Class participants will be grouped into two separate cohorts and assigned a classroom. You will be required to stay with your cohort throughout the workshop, including during lunches and breaks. Your cohort will go through the workshop in the same classroom each day, and the instructors will switch between the classrooms to teach different topics and lead different activities.

Note: Participation in this workshop requires following all UW-Stevens Point COVID-19 safety guidelines, including social distancing and wearing a facial covering over the nose and mouth during all indoor activities.

## **Friday – 9am-4pm**

### **Group 1, 9:00 – 12:00, Group 2, 1:00 -4:00**

- Introductions and getting to know one another
  - Ice Breaker
  - What you are looking to get out of the class?
- Course outline and expectations
- The different species of raptors commonly used

#### **Native**

##### ○ **Hawks**

- Red-tailed
- Broad winged
- Harris Hawk
- Rough-legged Hawk

##### ○ **Falcons**

- Peregrine
- Kestrel
- Merlin

##### ○ **Eagles**

- Bald
- Golden

##### ○ **Owls**

- Great horned
- Snowy
- Barred
- Barn
- Screech
- Saw-whet

##### ○ **Vultures**

- Turkey
- Black

#### **Non-Native**

- Auger Buzzard
- Eurasian Eagle Owl
- Saker falcon
- Milky eagle owl
- Spectacled owl
- Crested cara-cara
- Andean Condors

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## Friday – Continued

**Group 1: 1:00 – 4:00, Group 2: 9:00 – 12:00**

- Raptor Husbandry – Overview
  - Ethics of keeping raptors
    - Tethering vs. Free lofting
  - Right tool for the job
    - Parent reared vs. Imprint
    - Rehab vs. Captive bred
  - Injuries and rehab birds
  - Collection Plan
  - Raptor equipment
    - Anklets and jesses
    - Leashes and swivels
    - Hoods
    - Gloves
    - Scales
    - Travel boxes
    - Telemetry
    - First Aid Kit

## **\*\*\* Activity #1**

Group 1– Practice making Jesses, and other equipment

Group 2 – Raptor examination and educational mounts

- Housing
  - Mews
  - Weathering yard
  - Combos
  - Perching
  - Bath pans
- Raptor Diseases
  - Bumble foot
  - West Nile Virus
  - Aspergilosis
- Frounce
- Husbandry
  - Tethering vs. Free lofting
  - Diet and nutrition
  - Coping
  - Nail trims
  - Imping
  - Keel score/weighing/fat check
  - Udder balm

## **\*\*\* Activity 2**

Group 1 – Practice coping on cadaver birds

Group 2 – Practice imping and feather care

**Saturday 9am – 4pm**

**Group 1, 9:00 – 12:00, Group 2, 1:00 -4:00**

- Training
  - Positive reinforcement training
  - The Training Game
  - Clickers
- Anthropomorphism (Don't Label me)
- Weight management vs. food management
- Owls vs. others
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**Group 1, 9:00 – 12:00, Group 2, 1:00 -4:00**

- Use our animals for education
- Education with raptors
  - What spp. are important for conservation around the world?
  - Using non-natives for local conservation
  - Using a bird's story vs. only biology
- Falconry
- How to further your knowledge
  - IAATE
  - IATCB
  - Books/websites
  - NEI and other workshops

\*\*\*Optional Activity

Telemetry Demonstration