



73. Rough-legged Hawk T

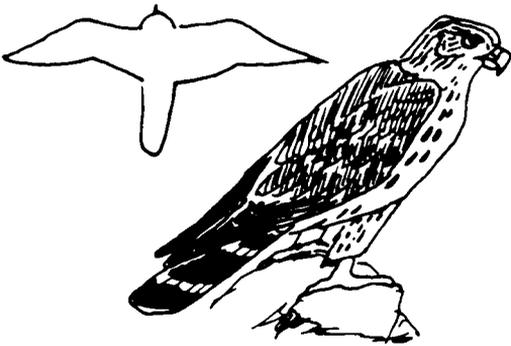
TRAITS: Large bird with whitish tail with dark terminal band, dark back, light breast and belly, pale head.

HABITAT: Alpine and dry lowland tundra near cliffs or river bluffs; nests in cliffs or trees.

FOODS: Lemmings, voles, hares, shrews, ground squirrels; occasionally small birds and insects.

EATEN BY: No predators known.

“GEE WHIZ”: Migrates from tundra regions to areas with milder winter climates; winters in open habitats throughout the Lower 48.



74. Merlin *

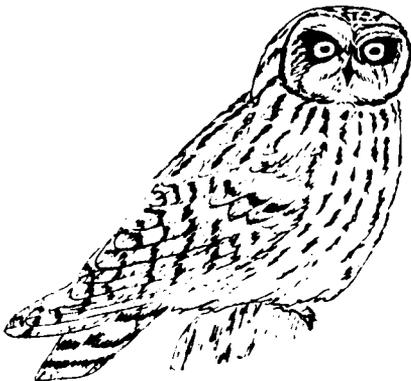
TRAITS: Medium-sized bird with long tail and sharply-pointed wings; sharp talons and hooked bill.

HABITAT: Open coastal and boreal forests; uses stick nests in spruce trees, or less commonly, nests on the ground.

FOODS: Songbirds, including thrushes, juncos, swallows, waxwings, sparrows, woodpeckers, and warblers.

EATEN BY: Squirrels and marten may eat eggs.

“GEE WHIZ”: These small falcons often place their nests in abandoned magpie nests.



75. Short-eared Owl T

TRAITS: Large owl, light brownish color, moth-like flapping flight.

HABITAT: Open country, tundra and wetlands throughout Alaska; nests on ground in grass-lined depressions.

FOODS: Small mammals and birds, including voles, shrews, lemmings, young hares, weasels, sparrows, and shorebirds; also large flying insects.

EATEN BY: Eggs and young may be eaten by foxes or bears.

“GEE WHIZ”: Migrate south to winter in prairies and coastal wetlands of the lower 48.