

Pacific Flyway Council (PFC)

<http://pacificflyway.gov/>

- Pacific, Central, Mississippi, and Atlantic flyways
- Pacific Flyway includes: Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and those portions of Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming west of the Continental Divide.

Pacific Flyway Council

- Cooperation among public wildlife agencies for the purpose of protecting and conserving migratory birds in western North America.
- Council - director or an appointee from the public wildlife agency - Each flyway has its own council
- Annual process of setting migratory bird policy and regulations within the U.S. - contribute to migratory bird research and management throughout the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Nongame Technical Committee (NTC)

- Pacific Flyway Council (PFC) has both a game and nongame migratory bird technical committee that provides biological advice to the council.
- The technical committees are each composed of one biologist from the public wildlife agency
- USFWS participates

Notes from the Nongame Technical Committee (NTC)



CA/NV GOEA Work Group Meeting:

- NTC representation on Eagle Technical Assessment Team - ETAT
- Potential flyway monitoring proposal (Occupancy Monitoring Protocol)
- Standardized terminology and protocols across flyway
- Review of upcoming regulations
- Prioritizing eagle research needs across flyway

NTC representation on ETAT

- USFWS Eagle Technical Assessment Team
- 2011 Council approved member of NTC to ETAT (AZ)
- ETAT focus (eagles)
 - inactive nest, buffer zones
 - predictive models, assessing roost disturbance
 - revision of the 2009 Bald GOEA Act
 - finalization of 30 Year Programmatic Take Permit
 - assessing disturbance to roost
 - defining low risk projects, etc

Future efforts - Flyway (NTC)

- **Development of a Golden Eagle Occupancy Monitoring Protocol**
 - Purpose to provide standard method for agencies/interested parties to conduct nest searches and breeding surveys across states
 - Long term desired goal – conduct systematic nest monitoring across the flyway among all of the states

Future efforts - Flyway (NTC)

- **Standardized Terminology and Protocols Across the Flyway**
 - Raptor terminology (breeding) has varied among all of the states historically
 - Variations complicate comparisons
 - Standard terminology reduce confusion and allow easier comparison of data
 - To Date: Seven states have provided inputs, draft GOEA Terminology Document
 - Focus and refine document – NTC GOEA Subgroup (AZ lead, CA, NV, MT)
 - Also GOEA Research Subgroup (CA/NV)

Review of Upcoming Regulations

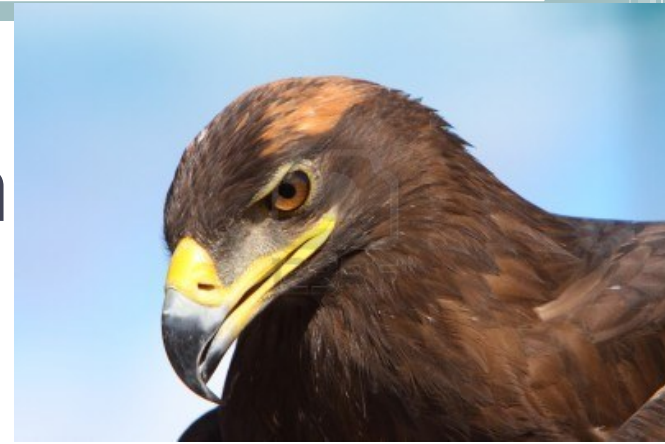
- **Bald and Golden Eagle Act is Under Revision**
- **Federal Register Notice in Future**
- **NTC will comment to the revision**



Prioritizing eagle research and monitoring needs

- **USGS has a list of research needs relative to eagles via the ETAT**
 - **NTC Flyway Research/Monitoring Needs**
 - Research on the impacts of lead exposure on raptor populations.
 - A determination of the importance of migration corridors through each state.
 - A determination of the status and trend of golden eagle prey populations across different types of western habitats.
 - Determination of the importance of breeding, migrating, and wintering habitats for golden eagles.
 - A simple mechanism to document and assess problem powerlines for potential mitigation retrofits.

Prioritizing eagle research monitoring needs



- **Continued**

- **NTC Flyway Research/Monitoring Needs**

- Research into standardized post-construction monitoring to quantify impacts to eagles (mortality and other nonlethal disturbance).
 - A low-cost monitoring strategy for the development of population estimates, occupancy and productivity information, and evaluation of population trends at a local and regional scale.
 - A golden eagle buffer-zone policy similar to the Bald Eagle Management Guidelines in order to avoid incidental take of bald and golden eagles.
 - Handout