

**Falco  
sparverius**



# PEREGRINE FUND

- Established in **1970** to restore the peregrine falcon from the brink of extinction
- Created as a raptor research and citizen science project in response to the effects of pesticides (**DDT, in particular**) on eagles and California condors.
- PF removed from the U.S. Endangered Species List in **1999**.
- **AKP created in 2012** to research the decline of kestrels

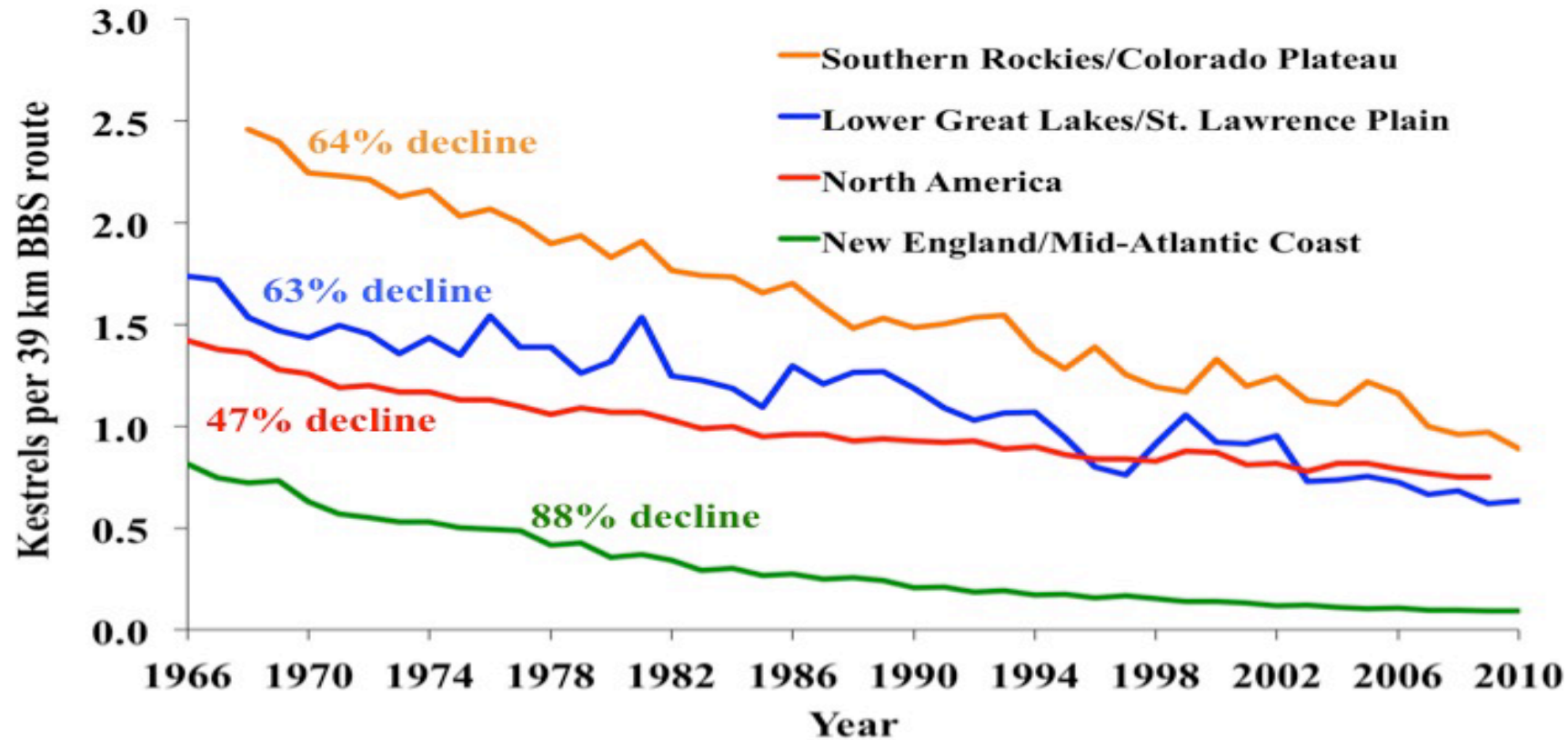
# AMERICAN KESTREL PROJECT



In the winter of 2023–2024, some significant changes to the American Kestrel Partnership (AKP) took place, with the AKP's former community science program merging with [\*\*Cornell Lab of Ornithology's NestWatch\*\*](#) [\*\*NestWatch\*\*](#), developed by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, is a nationwide nest-monitoring program designed to track status and trends in the reproductive biology of birds, including when nesting occurs, number of eggs laid, how many eggs hatch, and how many hatchlings survive.

- ❑ The colorful American Kestrel is the smallest falcon on the continent.
- ❑ It has lost half of its population in the last 50 years.
- ❑ U.S. declines are worst in the Northeast, where the population has decreased by as much as 88 percent in 45 years.

*BBS data indicate long-term population declines*



❑ A recent study suggests the bird is shrinking in body size, as well.

❑ Factors:

Loss of habitat

Less food

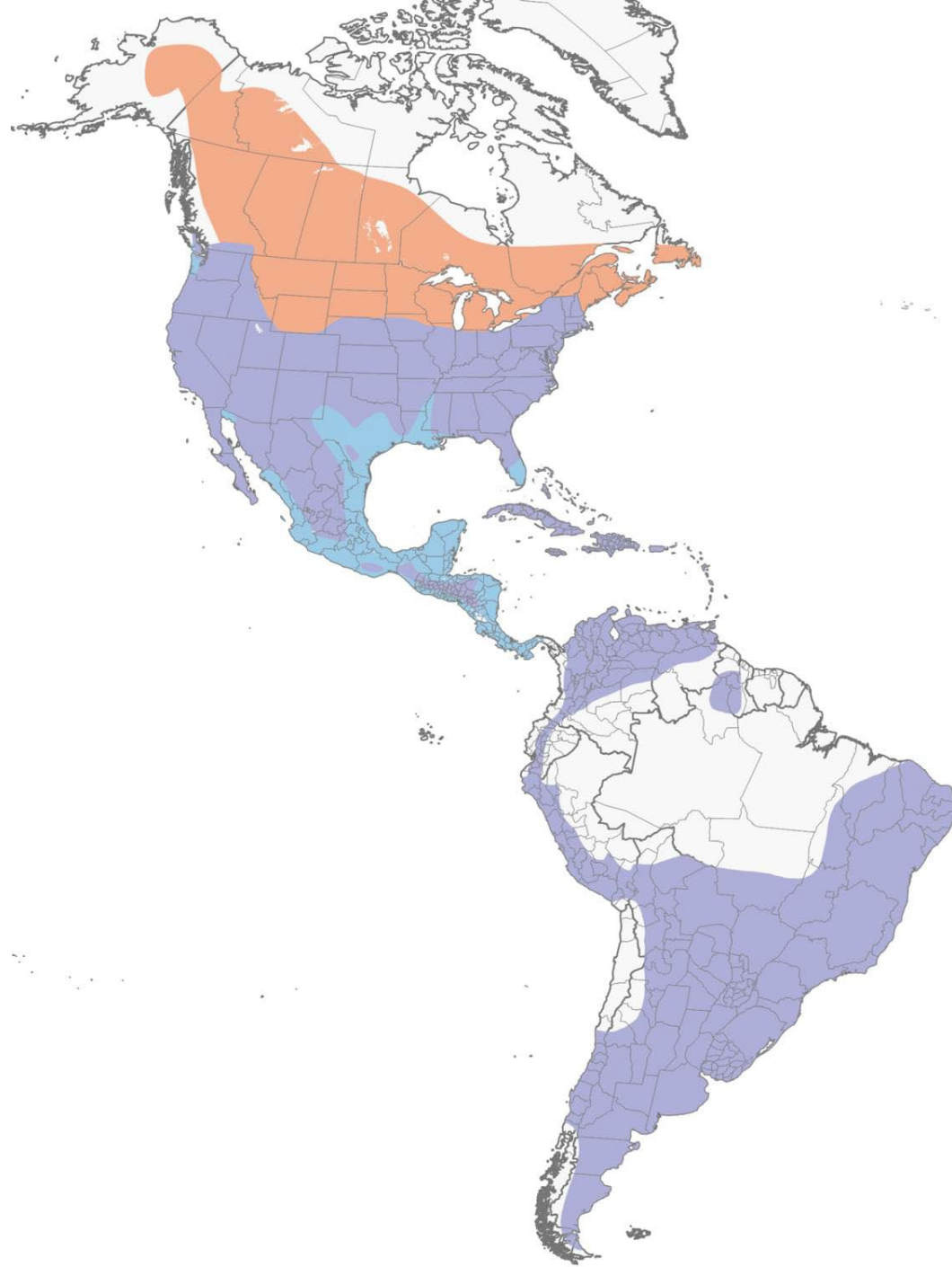
Fewer nesting sites

Exposure to pesticides

Predation by hawks

Climate change





**BREEDING**

**YEAR-ROUND**

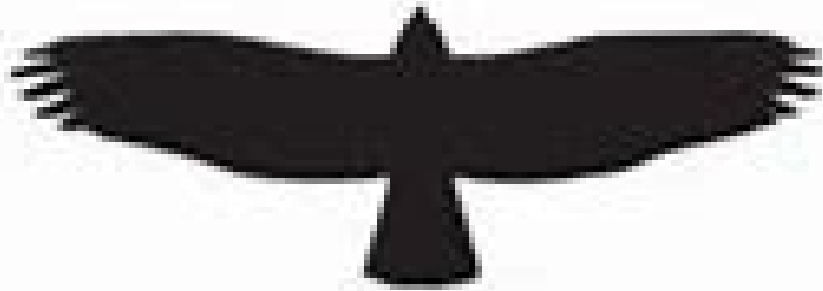
**NON-BREEDING**



**Eagle**



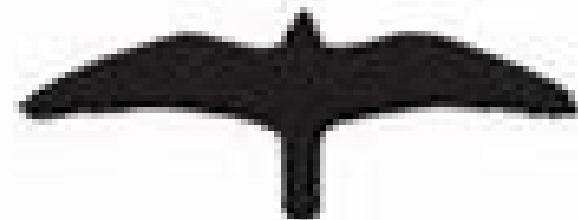
**Buteo**



**Accipiter**



**Falcon**







# American Kestrel Diet



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Invertebrates

**74%**



Small  
Mammals

**16%**



Birds

**9%**



Frogs-Lizards

**1%**



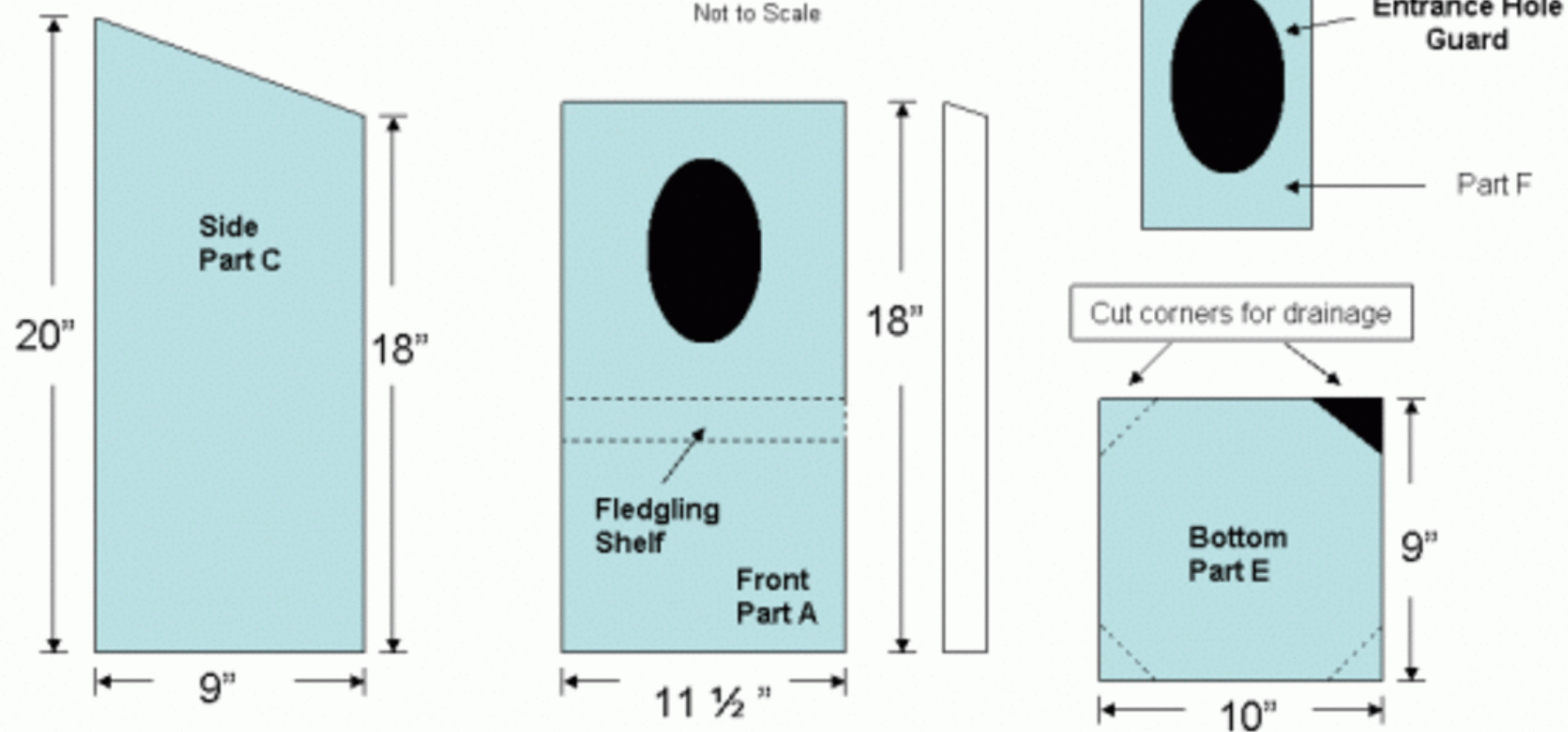
Kestrels must compete with other cavity-nesting birds and squirrels for the dwindling number of potential nest sites





# Kestrel Nesting Box

Not to Scale



1' x 12' x 10' board (not to scale)



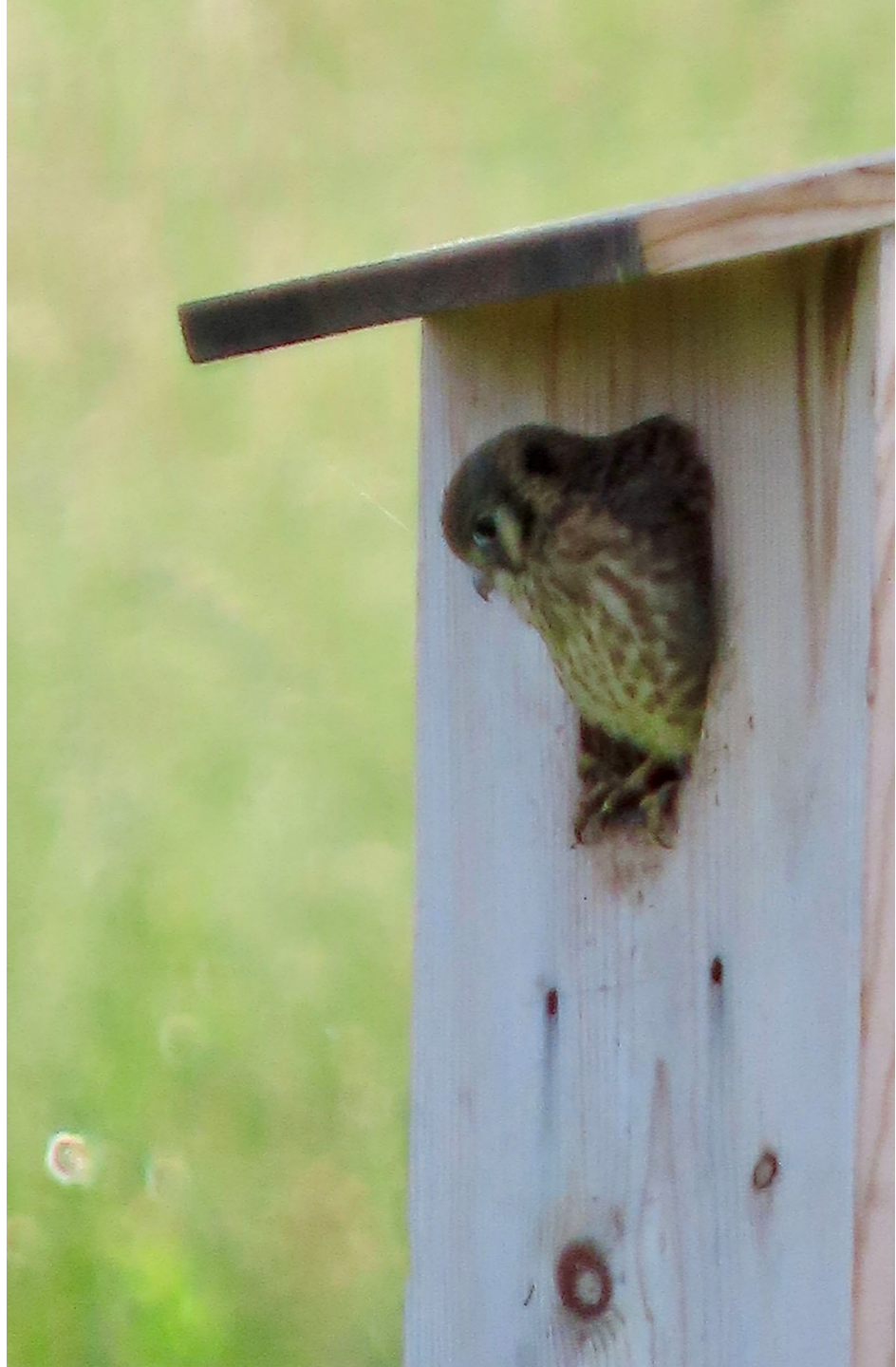
February 2012

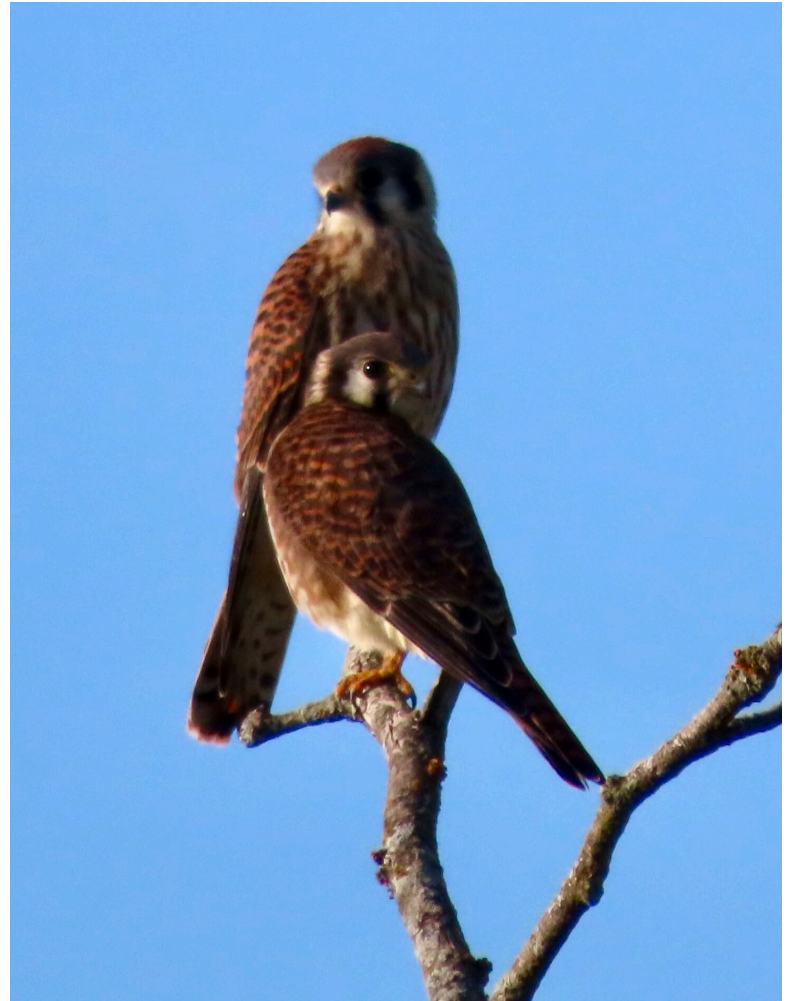
Anthony A.

Part E

Part F















# American Kestrel Cam

2021 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

# K-STATE

Research and Extension

Master Naturalist  
Johnson County



QUESTIONS?