



Raptor Nest Protection During Construction



Photo Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



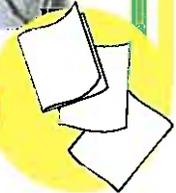
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Raptors, meaning birds of prey, are very sensitive to disturbances during their nesting season. If their nests are approached by humans, or if there is excessive noise or vibration nearby, the adult raptors may abandon their nests, causing their eggs to not hatch or their nestlings to starve.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife has developed recommended buffer zones and seasonal restrictions for disturbance activities (such as highway construction) customized for each of ten species of raptors. The Colorado Department of Transportation follows these recommendations. Thus, for example, CDOT does not undertake construction between February 1 and July 15 within a ½-mile radius of an active nest used by ferruginous hawks.

Guidance: CDOW Recommended Buffer Zones and Seasonal Restriction for Colorado Raptors

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