

History of Peregrine Falcon Nests near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

18 March 2026



photo by Lori Maggio, Downtown Pittsburgh, 2020

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www.birdsoutsidemywindow.org

With data from:

Pennsylvania Game Commission
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Volunteer Peregrine Observers

Special thanks to:

[The National Aviary Peregrine Falcon Cam](http://TheNationalAviaryPeregrineFalconCam)

Notations: Birds are listed as “Name (sex, band#, year of birth – year of death).” The volunteer observers most invested in a particular nest site are given the honor of naming “their” birds. Names are given at banding or by nest watchers.

Information on band recoveries – offspring identified after dispersal – are in this spreadsheet: [Southwestern PA Peregrine Band Recoveries 1991 - present](#)

Pittsburgh Area Territories:

Current and Historical Sites as of March 2026. All locations are in Allegheny County, PA unless otherwise noted:

1. Downtown Pittsburgh (since 1991)
2. Univ of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning (since 2002)
3. East Liberty Presbyterian Church (since 2024)
4. Monaca-East-Rochester Bridges, Ohio River, *Beaver County* (since 2007)
5. Sewickley Bridge, Ohio River (since 2024)
6. **UNUSED:** Neville Island I-79 Bridge, Ohio River (since 2007. No nest during construction 2020-24)
7. **NO NEST:** Eckert St / McKees Rocks, Ohio River (since 2008)
8. Westinghouse Bridge, Turtle Creek, Allegheny County (since 2010)
9. **NO REPORTS:** Clairton Coke Works, Monongahela River (2022 only)
10. **NO NEST:** 62nd St/Highland Park Bridge, Allegheny River (2019-2022)
11. Tarentum Bridge, Allegheny River, Allegheny/Westmoreland Counties (since 2010)
12. **NO REPORTS:** Graff Bridge, Route 422 Kittanning, Allegheny River, Armstrong County (2016-2020)
13. **SKIPPED 2025:** Rt 40, West Brownsville, Monongahela River, Washington County (since 2023)
14. **BLOCKED:** Elizabeth Bridge, Monongahela River, Allegheny County (permanently blocked)

[Click here](#) for Sightings of banded Pittsburgh Peregrine Offspring (these sightings are called "Recoveries").

(#1) Downtown Pittsburgh

Gulf Tower, 1991 – 2011, then 2014, 2017

Background

Peregrines were first seen in downtown Pittsburgh in the winter of 1989 – 1990 by Charles Bier and Steve Branca. In early 1991, with PA Game Commission approval, two nest boxes containing gravel substrate were installed at the Gulf Tower by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) to provide a suitable breeding site: 1 on the south face of the building, 1 on the north.

The first successful peregrine nest in Pittsburgh was at Gulf Tower in 1991.

Over the years peregrines used only the north box facing the Allegheny River. The south nest box was removed when it deteriorated.

In Dec 2011 the Gulf Tower commenced construction to install a new exterior lighting system on the roof. Construction lasted into spring 2012. Due to the disturbance, peregrines abandoned the Gulf Tower in 2012 and chose the Third Avenue site.

They nested at Gulf Tower for two more seasons: 2014 and 2017 and then permanently abandoned Gulf. The nestbox was permanently removed in (approximately) 2020.

Macy's Annex, 2015 (just one year)

In 2015, for just one season, the Downtown peregrines chose a 9th floor balcony at Macy's Annex. The nest was inaccessible for banding purposes but viewable from offices inside the Frick Building across the alley.

Third Avenue, 2012 - 2013, 2016, 2018 - present

In 2012 the Gulf Tower peregrines chose an inaccessible nest site facing Third Avenue on the 12th floor at the back of a building. The nest cannot be seen from the ground. There is no webcam. Chicks hatched at this site are not banded.

Downtown / Gulf Tower: Breeding Pairs

1991 – 1997: Boris and Natasha

Boris (male, 1989-2003): released (hacked) in northeastern Tennessee in June 1989 as part of the peregrine falcon recovery program.

Natasha (female, 1989-1997): released (hacked) in the Shenandoah Mountains on the Virginia-West Virginia border in June 1989 as part of the peregrine recovery program.

Boris and Natasha fledged a total of 19 young.

1998 - 2002: Boris & Tasha

Tasha (female, Black/red *6/7, approximately 1996 – 2010): un-banded, given PA bands after nesting.

Arrival of Tasha: A new un-banded female was observed at the nest during the 1998 nesting season. She was banded that spring when her chicks were banded and later nicknamed Tasha.

Boris and Tasha fledged a total of 20 young.

2003 - 2010: Louie & Tasha

Louie (male, Black/green *4/*E, 2002 – 2019): Hatched at University of Pittsburgh, 2002.

Arrival of Louie: Birds of prey fight for territorial domination and sometimes kill their rivals during these encounters. In early March 2003 Tasha had laid a few eggs when a rival female arrived. The rival laid eggs in the same nest box and the two females disappeared, apparently to fight for the territory. While Boris was left incubating 6 eggs, a younger male peregrine arrived and they fought for the site. Boris lost the fight and on 11 April 2003 his beheaded body was found on the nest box gravel, visible in the falcon camera.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) collected Boris' body and later removed the abandoned eggs from the nest box. Within a week two peregrines courted at the site and the female laid 4 eggs. When the dust cleared we discovered the pair was Louie and Tasha. Louie is one of the first offspring of the original peregrine pair at the University of Pittsburgh's Cathedral of Learning, hatched in 2002 by Dorothy and Erie (see below).

Louie and Tasha fledged a total of 24 young.

2010 - 2019: Louie & Dori at 3 sites: Gulf Tower, Macy's Annex, Third Avenue

Dori (female, Black/green M/93, 2007 – 2022): Hatched at Landmark Building, Akron, Ohio in 2007 named Mary Cleo at banding, renamed by Make-a-Wish. Nestbox was outside their offices.

Arrival of Dori: Tasha had laid two eggs by 19 March 2010 when a rival female showed up. Observers could hear loud peregrine warning calls on the webcam on the night of 19-20 March though the rival was not seen on camera. At dawn on 20 March, Tasha left the nest to challenge her rival. By 5:45pm Dori had won the site. Tasha was never seen again. Dori began laying her 3 eggs on 2 April in the same scrape as Tasha's eggs. All 5 eggs hatched.

Death of Louie: Louie found dead on 27 June 2019 at age 17.

Louie and Dori fledged 39 young. In total, Louie fledged 63 young peregrines.

2020 - 2022: Terzo + Dori: Third Avenue

Unidentified banded (male), later presumed to be Terzo, arrived in 2020. Due to COVID-19 shutdown, no ID on him.

Terzo (male, Black/Red N/29, 2013 - present): Hatched at PNC 4th & Vine Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2013.

Terzo formerly nested at Cathedral of Learning with Hope (2016-2019).

Terzo and Dori fledged a total of 8 young.

2023 - 2025: Terzo + unbanded dark plumage female: Third Avenue

New unbanded female with very dark plumage, so dark that she looks brownish. First seen in spring 2023. She fledges 3-4 young every year.

Terzo and dark-plumage female have fledged a total of 11 young as of June 2025.

As of June 2025, more than 120 young fledged from the Downtown Pittsburgh territory 1991-2025. All were banded until the adults moved to Third Ave.

(#2) University of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning

Background

Peregrines first nested at the University of Pittsburgh in 2002. Adult peregrines were seen occasionally at the Cathedral of Learning between 1998-2000 and a peregrine chick thought to have fledged in Oakland was injured, rehabilitated and released nearby but no peregrines took up residence at the building. In January 2001 Kate St. John noticed a pair of peregrines in courtship flight and monitored other behaviors consistent with nesting. Although no nest was found, Kate brought together the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, the University of Pittsburgh and the PA Game Commission to install a nest box in February 2002.

Cathedral of Learning: Breeding Pairs

2002 – 2007: Erie & Dorothy

Erie (male, Black/red *T/W, 1998-2007) - Hatched 1998 at the Rhodes State Office Tower in Columbus, OH.

Dorothy (female, Black/green 5/*A, 1999-Nov 2015) - Hatched 1999 at the Firststar Center in Milwaukee, WI.

Intruder: On 11 March 2007 Erie fought at the scrape and killed Pulse, an invading male hatched in Cleveland in 2004. Erie and Dorothy fledged a total of 22 young.

2008 – 2015: E2 & Dorothy

E2 (male, Black/green *5/*4, 2005- Mar 2016): Hatched at Pittsburgh's Gulf Tower in 2005.

Arrival of E2: As of October 2007, Erie was no longer seen at the Cathedral of Learning. Dorothy appeared to be alone for a month. Then in November 2007 a male peregrine began courting her with behavior that suggested he was new to the site. The new male was identified using webcam images when he nested with Dorothy in spring 2008. He is the second Erie (actually Erie's grandson) and was nicknamed E2.

Death of Dorothy: Very ill for weeks, Dorothy disappeared in Nov 2015 at age 16.5.

Dorothy and E2 fledged 21 young. In total Dorothy fledged 43 young.

Nov 2015 to Mar 2016: E2 & Hope

Hope (female, Black/green 69/Z, 2015 – 2019): Hatched at the Benjamin Harrison Bridge, Hopewell, VA in 2008 and hatched in the Shenandoah Mountains. Nested at Tarentum Bridge before arrival at Pitt.

Arrival of Hope: Dorothy was last seen at the Cathedral of Learning in early November 2015. On November 30, 2015 we saw intensive courtship at the nest on the webcam. The new female was identified using webcam images. Black/Green 69/Z.

Death of E2: [E2 died 15 March 2016, apparently hit by a car.](#)

E2 & Hope never fledged young though Hope had laid two eggs fertilized by E2 before he died.

2016 - 2019: Terzo & Hope

Terzo (male, Black/Red N/29, 2013 – 2020 at Pitt, Terzo then moved Downtown): Hatched at PNC 4th & Vine Tower, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2013.

Arrival of Terzo: E2 was last seen on the Cathedral of Learning camera at 12:37pm 15 March 2016; he died that afternoon. Terzo was first heard on camera after sunset on 23 March.

Hope killed and ate 7 of the 17 chicks she produced at Pitt.

Hope & Terzo fledged 8 young.

2020: Terzo, Ecco & Morela

Morela (female, unbanded): Unbanded female named "Morela" for her apricot-colored chest (Polish for apricot)

Ecco (male, unbanded): Unbanded male. Named Ecco because he kept showing up..

Arrival of Morela: Morela arrived in September 2019 and convinced Hope to leave the territory. Terzo remained on site and courted with Morela.

Arrival of Ecco: In February 2020 a second male appeared on site. Terzo never completely chased away this unbanded male. Both males courted Morela. She laid 2 eggs in early May. Neither male assisted with incubation. The nest failed. No young.

2021 - 2023: Ecco & Morela

Ecco chased away Terzo in January 2021. Ecco & Morela nested successfully in 2021, 2022.

Death of Morela: In March 2023 an intruder female repeatedly challenged Morela while she was ready to lay eggs. She became eggbound and died 13 May. No nest in 2023.

Ecco & Morela fledged 7 young.

2024 – present: Ecco & Carla

Carla (female, Black/blue S/07, 2020 - present) Hatched April 2020, at IMPC building, Fort Wayne, IN.

Arrival of Carla: Within days of Morela's disappearance, Carla appeared on the falconcam. She fledges 3

Ecco & Carla nested successfully in 2024 & 2025. As of June 2025 they have fledged 5 young.

As of June 2025, 86 young fledged from the Cathedral of Learning 2002-2025. Almost all were banded.

(#3) East Liberty Presbyterian Church

Background

The sticks of an old red-tailed hawk's nest on East Liberty Presbyterian Church steeple provide enough stability so that eggs and chicks can't roll off the ledge. In Spring 2024 a pair of peregrines claimed ELPC steeple as their nest site.

Breeding Pairs

2024 – present: unbanded "Dave" and "Libby" (named by nest monitor Adam Knoerzer)

Neither bird is banded.

1 chick in 2024. 3 fledglings in 2025.

(#4) Monaca-East-Rochester / Beaver RR Bridge, Ohio River, Beaver County

Background

Scott Gregg first noticed a pair of peregrines at the Monaca-East-Rochester Bridge in February 2007. When the nest was found by the PA Game Commission, the condition of the site suggested that peregrines had been breeding there for several years. In 2013 the peregrines nested at an inaccessible site on the Railroad Bridge that spans the Ohio River from Monaca to Beaver. They now switch between the two sites.

Breeding Pairs

Discovered in 2007 only: unbanded male & Kelly. May have arrived before 2007

(male, unknown): unbanded.

Kelly (female, Black/green 26/B, 2003 - unknown) - Hatched 2003 at 125 S.Wacker St, Chicago, IL.

This pair fledged 2 young in 2007.

2008 - present: Individuals have changed over the years but identity has never been confirmed since banding ended in 2014

In 2008: Unbanded male with ...

75/Y (female, Black/green 75/Y, 2006 - ???) – Hatched 2006 at Rachel Carson Bldg, Harrisburg, PA. Very aggressive.

Arrival of 75/Y: In March 2008 a new female challenged Kelly and repeatedly chased her away from the site. The new female was identified on banding day.

Peregrines have nested on either the Monaca-East Rochester Bridge or the Monaca-Beaver Railroad Bridge since at least 2007.

As of mid-March the most recent observation was February 2026

After banding ceased in 2015 observers have been sporadic to non-existent.

Recent: In 2024 and 2025, at least 2 young each year at Monaca-East Rochester Bridge.

As of June 2025, 32 young observed in this territory 2007-2025. 21 of them were banded.

(#5) Sewickley Bridge, Ohio River, Allegheny County

Background

From 2021 through 2024 the Sewickley Bridge hosted a pair of peregrines during the breeding season but there was never any evidence of young or fledglings. Jeff Cieslak began monitoring the peregrines in 2022. In 2024 he identified the banded male and documented a nest exchange. The nest failed again. That same year he learned that PennDOT was going to rehab the bridge so he contacted the PA Game Commission and PennDOT and asked them to install a nestbox. It was installed in late 2024. The Sewickley Bridge nest was successful in 2025.

Breeding Pairs:

2021 – 2023: pair unidentified

Nesting unsuccessful

2024 – present: Beau and unbanded female

Beau (male, Black/green 05/S, 2010 - present) - Hatched 2010 at Univ of Pittsburgh Cathedral of Learning, son of Dorothy and E2.

Female unbanded, unnamed.

Nest unsuccessful every year including 2024 (before nestbox).

4 fledglings in 2025 (with nestbox).

(#6) presently UNUSED -- Neville Island I-79 Bridge (a.k.a. Glenfield Bridge), Ohio River, Allegheny County

Background

This nesting site was discovered when a peregrine fledgling was found floating in the river beneath the bridge on 9 June 2012. The nest was always on the underside of the bridge in a plate cap.

Beginning in 2021 the underside of the bridge was blocked for construction rehab. The blockage was not removed until 2024.

Breeding Pairs

2007- 2012: peregrines may have been nesting here for as long as 5 years

2013: Unbanded male & Magnum

Magnum (female, (Black/Red 62/H, 2013 - 2018) - Hatched 2010 at Canton, Ohio, Bank One

2015 - 2018: Beau & Magnum

Beau (male (Black/green 05/S): Hatched 2010 at University of Pittsburgh, Cathedral of Learning.
Magnum (female, Black/Red 62/H, 2013 - 2018) - Hatched 2010 at Canton, Ohio, Bank One
Beau and Magnum fledged 19 young 2013-2018. 12 of their young were banded (2013-2017).

2019: banded male, maybe Beau, unbanded female

Male is banded but bands not confirmed, maybe Beau
Female is unbanded. Magnum has been replaced.
1 chick seen before it fledged.

2020: No fledglings verified and no evidence of eggs or young.

2021-2025: Construction cover prohibited nesting through 2024. No peregrines present in 2025.

In total, 19 young fledged from Neville Island Bridge 2012-2019. 12 young were banded at this site 2013-2017

(#7) Eckert St / McKees Rocks Bridges, Ohio River, Allegheny County

Background

Joe Fedor, Jr. first reported a pair of peregrines at the McKees Rocks Bridge in spring 2008. The PA Game Commission found the nest with assistance from PennDOT. In 2022 Jeff Cieslak was photographing a pair of peregrines near the McKees Rocks Bridge and he discovered they were nesting at Eckert Street.

Breeding Pairs

2008 - 2009, McKees Rocks Bridge: Bravo & unbanded female

Bravo (male, Black/green V/H, 1999 – unknown) – Hatched at Cleveland, Ohio's Terminal Tower in 1999.
(female, unknown) – Unbanded, origin unknown.
Bravo and mate fledged at least 7 chicks. 3 were banded (2009). May have nested here prior to 2008.

2010 - 2020, McKees Rocks Bridge – off & on: Pair's identity not confirmed.

10 young were documented at the McKees Rocks Bridge 2010-2020.

2021-2023, Eckert Street Bridge: unbanded adults

8 young were documented at the Eckert Street Bridge 2021-2023. None banded.

Eckert Street unused 2024 & 2025.

As of June 2025, 25 young were observed in this territory 2008-2025. 3 were banded (2009).

(#8) Westinghouse Bridge, Turtle Creek, Allegheny County

Background

A nesting pair of peregrines attacked PennDOT workers when they began maintenance on the Westinghouse Bridge in Spring 2010. The PA Game Commission confirmed the nest and banded 3 chicks. The site has been used almost continuously since then.

Breeding Pairs

2010 - 2011: unidentified banded male & Storm

"Brian" (male, unknown) – male is banded but bands were not identified. Nicknamed Brian by PennDOT

Storm (female, Black/green 66/C, 2005 – 2012) – Hatched at Bank One in Canton, Ohio in 2005, named Storm when banded. Called 'Val' by PennDOT
"Brian" and Storm fledged 6 young. 3 of their chicks were banded.

2012 - 2014: unbanded male & Hecla

(male, unbanded)

Hecla (female, Black/green 68/H, 2012 – present) – Hatched at Ironton-Russelton Bridge at Ironton, Ohio in 2009.
Unbanded male & Hecla fledged 3 young. 2 of their chicks were banded.

2015 – early 2016: George & Storm Storm returns!

George (male, Black/green 19/W, 2015 – present): Hatched Cobb Island, VA, 2006. Hacked at New River Gorge, WV
Storm (female, Black/green 66/C, 2015 – present): **Reclaimed** Westinghouse Bridge, April 2015.

At start of 2016 season, Storm was found injured under the Westinghouse Bridge, April 2016. Never returned.
In their one year together George and Storm fledged 2 young. Both were banded.

2016 - 2019: George & unbanded female "Rose"

George (male, Black/green 19/W, 2015 – present): Hatched Cobb Island, VA, 2006. Hacked at New River Gorge, WV
Rose (female unbanded): Has rosy chest, nicknamed "Rose."

In their three years together George and Rose fledged 6 young. No more banding at bridges in PA.

2020 - 2025: "Hammond" (unbanded) & banded female "Ms Indiana"

"Hammond" (unbanded male, 2015 – present)

"Ms Indiana" (female Black/blue 48/N, 2020 - present): Hatched 2016 Tower Bldg, South Bend, IN

As of 2025, "Hammond" and "Ms Indiana" have fledged 10 young.

In total, 27 young fledged from Westinghouse Bridge 2010-2025. 7 young were banded at this site 2010-2015

(#9) UNUSED Clairton Coke Works, Monongahela River, Allegheny County

Background

Spring of 2022 US Steel Clairton employees noticed peregrines strafing them at the riverside quench tower.
Nest documented by PGC's Doug Bergman & photographer Dana Nesiti.

Breeding Pairs (2022 only) unbanded adults

2022: 3 chicks in nest.

2024: 4 eggs. No news after that.

No reports of fledglings.

#10) 62nd St / Highland Park Bridges, Allegheny River, Allegheny County

Background

62nd Street Bridge, Highland Park Bridge and Aspinwall RR Bridge are all within sight of each other over the Allegheny River. They may be a single peregrine territory.

62nd Street: Dan Yagusic first noticed a pair of peregrines at the 62nd Street Bridge in spring 2007. At least two eggs were laid on a steel beam but the nest failed, due to exposure and weather. PA Game Commission installed a nest box in January 2008. Solo female peregrines were sometimes seen at this bridge 2009-2018. Bridge rehab in subsequent years probably removed the nestbox.

Highland Park Bridge: Peregrines not reported at 62nd Street Bridge but were seen at Highland Park Bridge in June 2022.

Aspinwall RR Bridge: Peregrines sometimes perch here.

62nd Street Bridge / Highland Park Bridge

2007- 2008: Bo & Shenandoah, 62nd Street (2 eggs flooded)

Bo (male, Black/green *4/*5) – Hatched in 2004 at Federal Reserve Bank, Boston.

Shenandoah (female, Black/green *9/*B) - Hatched in 2002, at the Benjamin Harrison Bridge, Hopewell, VA. Hacked in the Shenandoah Mountains by Shawn Padgett.

2009: single female, 62nd Street

Mary Cleo (“Dori”) (female, Black/green M/93) - Hatched in Akron, OH in 2007. Present in 2009, she left the bridge in March 2010 and won the Gulf Tower Downtown. (Renamed Dori by Make-A-Wish at Gulf Tower.)

2010-2018 – 62nd Street, peregrines seen occasionally, Identity not confirmed,

2019 – Unbanded male + Ms Indiana: Nest may have been in Sharpsburg:

Male unbanded

Ms. Indiana (female, Black/blue 48/N) Hatched 2016 Tower Bldg, South Bend, IN. Seen 8/26/2019 by Dan Yagusic. 1 fledgling seen on 3 July 2019.

Adult found injured in Sharpsburg at Main & 6th Street, night of 6 August 2019; taken to rehab

2021: 62nd Street Bridge. Peregrines nested somewhere near

Adult + 1 fledgling seen at Tree Pittsburgh parking lot, next to 62nd Street bridge, 21 July 2021.

2022: Highland Park Bridge. Peregrines nested somewhere near

1 fledgling being fed by adult on Highland Park Bridge, 19 June 2022

2023-2025 – No evidence of nesting in this area

As of June 2025, 3 young were reported in this territory, 2007-2025. None banded.

(We thought this would be a good territory but apparently it isn't.)

(#11) Tarentum Bridge, Allegheny River, Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties

Background

A pair of peregrines was reported at the Tarentum Bridge in 2008. Dan Yagusic read their bands in December 2009. The PA Game Commission then searched for a nest without success. In May 2012 Rob Protz noticed adult peregrines going in and out structural holes in the bridge beam. PGC confirmed nestlings on 6/1/12. Rob Protz confirmed that two chicks fledged in June. The chicks were too old to be banded by the time they were discovered.

In winter 2014-2015 the PA Game Commission installed a nestbox on the bridge abutment ([see blog post on Feb 28, 2015](#)).

Breeding Pairs

2010 - 2011: Banded male from Cathedral of Learning + Hope (from Hopewell, VA)

Unnamed (male, Black/green 35/X) – Hatched at Cathedral of Learning in 2008.

Hope (female, Black/green 69/Z) – Hatched at the Benjamin Harrison Bridge, Hopewell, VA, 2008. Hatched in the Shenandoah Mountains.

No nest found

2012 - 2015: unidentified male + Hope (female, Black/green 69/Z)

2 fledglings in 2012

2 chicks banded in 2014

No nest in 2013 and 2015

November 2015: Hope left Tarentum for the Cathedral of Learning where she nested 2016-2019.

2016: revolving door of males and females claiming the bridge

No nest

2017-2024: Banded male + new unbanded female with darkly dotted breast

Unnamed (male, Black/Green 48/BR) Hatched at Westinghouse Bridge in 2014

Unnamed (female - unbanded) Has very dotted breast, easy to recognize in photos.

This pair fledged 24 young.

2025 - present: new unbanded male + same unbanded female with darkly dotted breast

Unbanded male

Continuing unbanded female with very dotted breast, easy to recognize in photos. Has 3-4 fledglings every year since 2017. 3 in 2025

In total, 31 young fledged from Tarentum Bridge 2010-2025.

(#12) NO REPORTS Graff Bridge, Route 422 Kittanning, Allegheny River, Armstrong County

Background

Peregrines were noticed at this site in 2015. Nesting confirmed in 2016; 2 fledglings seen in July.

Breeding Pairs – adults never identified

2016 - 2020: a total of 10 young observed at this site in 5 nesting seasons

2021 - 2025: No steady observers at this site. Adult peregrine occasionally observed. No nesting reports.

In total, 10 young were documented at the Graff (Rt 422) Bridge 2016-2020.

(#13) Rt 40 Lane Bane Bridge, West Brownsville, Monongahela River, Washington County

Background

A pair of peregrines was reported nesting at the Rt 40 Lane Bane Bridge in West Brownsville, PA in 2023. Nesting was successful that year with 3 fledglings.

Breeding Pairs

2023 - 2025: Unbanded pair

2023 = 3 fledglings

2024 = 2 fledglings

2025 = one of the pair sent to rehab due to injuries. No nest in 2025

(#14) PERMANENTLY BLOCKED: Elizabeth Bridge, Monongahela River, Allegheny County

Background

There has been only one nest attempt. A pair nested at the bridge in the spring of 2018, choosing a nest site in the superstructure above the road deck. Both fledglings landed on the road and both were hit by cars.

1 died, the other suffered head trauma. **All potential nest holes are permanently blocked by PennDOT to prevent nesting due to fledgling mortality.**

Breeding Pairs (2018)

2018: Unidentified breeding pair at the bridge used a hole in the superstructure as their nest site.

2 young fledged from the Elizabeth Bridge in 2018. Both fledglings hit by cars on the Rt 51 road deck.

Banded birds seen in additional locations

Speers-Belle Vernon Bridge, Monongahela River, Washington County

2021 only: Pair seen and photographed by Joe Ciferno, February 2021

Male (Black/Green 68/AC), Hatched at Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, 2012

Female (Black/Green 07/BS), Hatched at Commodore Barry bridge over the Delaware river in Chester, Delaware County, PA, 2017.

No nesting reports. No longer tracked.

Green Tree Water Tower, Allegheny County

2013 only: Peregrines defended the water tower during a rehab project in the spring of 2013. The project was stopped for the nesting season but the nesting attempt failed. Adults were:

Unbanded male in juvenile plumage

Banded female "Blue" (female, Black/green 74/AE) Hatched Cathedral of Learning, 2011