

[From Spring 1998]

## **Peregrine Falcon Released**

Refuge Manager John D. Schroer and biologists from Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research, Inc., released a peregrine falcon at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge February 26, 1998.

The bird was captured at the Refuge on October 21, 1996. The female was found in Refuge waters and was underweight, had lice and a large laceration on her back, impairing her ability to fly and making her vulnerable to predation. Biologists theorized that she had been attacked and forced into the water by resident peregrine falcons. Although the laceration healed, scar tissue and secondary complications held up her release until this time.



WBOC, a local television station, as well as reporters from *The Eastern Shore News* and *Chincoteague Beacon* were on hand to capture the moment and inform their readership about this exciting event.

Peregrine falcons are a threatened species listed under the authority of the Endangered Species Act, having been recently downlisted from endangered to threatened.

*Angela Tracy,*  
*Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner*