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Memorandum

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Gyr Falcon ringing and recoveries data 1939–2017

In total 1767 gyrfalcons have been ringed in Iceland 1939–2016 (both years included). Of those I excluded 98 gyrfalcons and those are mostly birds found injured out in the field after some mishaps and most of them subsequently underwent rehabilitation before being ringed and released. The argument for not including them is that they are not “typical” for the population as such and most of them would have died following their “accidents” if not for the human invention. Also omitted are 16 chicks ringed with too small rings that most likely affected their survival probabilities through foot injuries. Accordingly 114 ringed birds are excluded from the analysis. The material for analysis is thus 1653 gyrfalcons, including 1629 ringed as chicks in nests and 24 ringed as breeding adults trapped at nest sites.

For the 1653 gyrfalcons ringed a total of 290 encounters (dead or alive) involving 270 individuals have been made. A total of 255 birds have been encountered once, 11 birds two times, three birds three times, and 1 bird four times.

The data sets are on two sheets within an excel file. One sheet for the ringing data and one sheet for the encounter data. For age codes of ringed birds and different variables for the encounters I refer to The EURING EXCHANGE Code 2000+ see:

<https://euring.org/files/documents/E2000PLUExchangeCodeV117.pdf>