

Community Education

Community education seminars and talks were given at several locations in 2006, across Victoria. The VPP receives an increasing number of requests from students and others seeking to either gain field research experience or just assist as a volunteer.

In 2006 the VPP supervised another international student, Madeleine Zahn a second year Bachelor of Science student from Germany. Madeleine is studying sustainable farming and land use practices and came with that rare commodity rock climbing experience! And was a valuable asset during the season which saw her monitor Peregrines at 12 made sites, 31 quarries, 15 tree nests and 22 natural cliffs. In all 170 nestling Peregrine Falcons were banded by Madeleine and other VP volunteers in 2006.

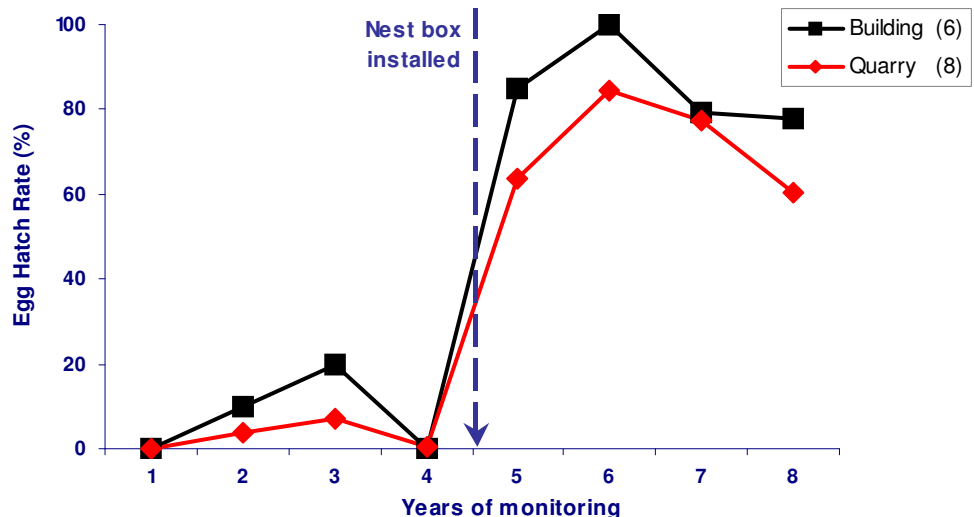


Madeleine with adult female.

Community education for the VPP also takes in the form of publishing scientific papers and presentations at scientific conferences. Most recently the results of 8 years of installing and monitoring nest boxes were analysed and presented at a scientific conference. The results at 14 sites were analysed (where sufficient numbers of years data have been collected) and presented this year at the IV North American Ornithological Conference in Vera Cruz, Mexico. Over 1,500 delegates from 41 countries attended the conference and over 1,000 presentations were given on a wide range of bird research and conservation projects. Raptor researchers studying Peregrine Falcons from as far a field as Greenland, Sweden, America and Canada concluded the VPP is the largest Peregrine monitoring project being conducted anywhere in the world.

This conference presentation will contribute towards the PhD being written on this project and is just one aspect of disseminating our findings research to be published as a result of the work of the VPP and its volunteers.

Conference travel was supported by Deakin University and the Holsworth Trust



Egg hatch rates pre and post installation of nest boxes

