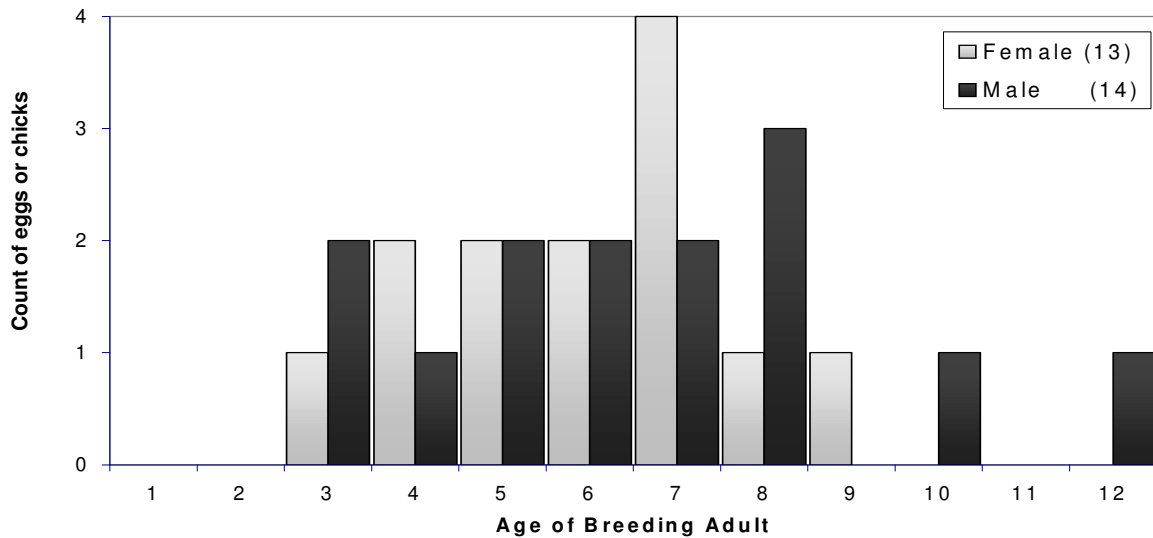


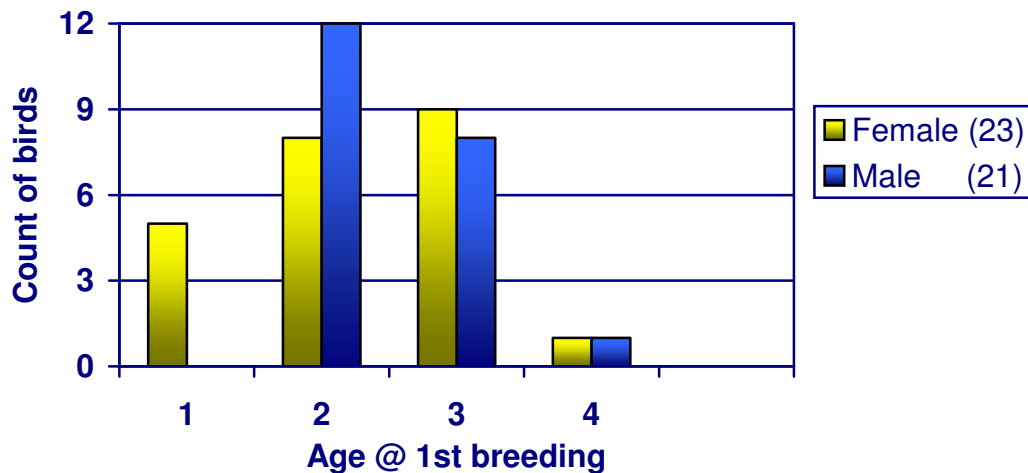
Appendix III

Figure 3. Age structure of breeding population in 2006 (n=27)



120 pairs of breeding adults were surveyed at nest sites during the 2006 breeding season. The graph above shows less recruitment of younger birds into the breeding population than we have seen in recent years. Birds in the ten year age class and younger are from the first years when we started banding over 100 chicks in the season. It is encouraging to now see a greater proportion of the breeding population reaching an age of 6 years and older.

Figure 4. Age at first breeding of banded Peregrines (1991-2006)



Only those sites monitored the year before a banded bird first appears breeding have been included in this graph. In this way we can be certain this is their first year of breeding. There appears to be a preference for females to either begin breeding at age two or at least pair up with a male in their first year. By their second year the females are old enough to lay eggs. Males however, don't appear to be gaining territories until they are in full adult plumage at 2 years of age. Few birds that fail to establish a pair bond and breed by age 4 years, probably ever succeed to breed.

