Original Research

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Title:

Conservation genetics of regionally extinct peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) and

unassisted recovery without genetic bottleneck in southern England

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Abstract

The peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) has been affected by persecution, pollution, trade and habitat degradation, but it is considered a flagship conservation success story because of successful reintroductions. However, in the UK there were never formal reintroduction programmes for peregrine falcons, and it appears that UK populations – and specifically the Sussex peregrines of the English south coast – recently recovered from a population crash unassisted. To study this, we obtained samples from contemporary populations in southern England, Ireland, continental Europe, domestic-bred peregrine falcons, and from England pre-population crash. Using microsatellite and mtDNA control region data, the genetic diversity and structure, signatures of genetic bottlenecks, and potential origin of the Sussex peregrines was investigated. We found low levels of genetic diversity across all peregrine falcon populations, low but significant genetic differentiation among all populations, and a few private alleles, indicating some level of genetic structure in European peregrines. Although we could not pinpoint the origin of the Sussex peregrines, the data suggests that it is not likely to have originated from escaped domestic birds or from adjacent European populations. The results obtained here parallel other studies on peregrines elsewhere showing low genetic diversity but genetic structure. We conclude that not enough time elapsed for genetic erosion to occur due to the population bottleneck, and that at least for the Sussex peregrines there is no need for genetic conservation by wild-take and subsequent captive breeding programmes as long as current protection measures remain in place.

Keywords Conservation, genetic diversity, microsatellites, mtDNA control region, organochlorine pesticides, raptor

Introduction

The peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*, Tunstall 1771) has a wide distribution and it can be found in all continents except Antarctica (White 1994). Although it is considered as a Least Concern species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the peregrine falcon is a charismatic species, admired for its speed, agility and hunting behaviour (Ratcliffe 2010), which has been severely affected by persecution, pollution, trade and habitat degradation (BirdLife International 2016). The peregrine falcon is now considered a flagship conservation success story because of effective reintroductions, e.g. Canada, United States of America, Southern Scandinavia, Germany and Poland aiding its recovery from localised extinctions (Crick and Ratcliffe 1995; Ratcliffe 2003; Banks et al. 2010; Smith et al. 2015). However, although in the UK there were never formal reintroduction programmes for peregrine falcons, populations in southern England recovered from a population crash unassisted (Franklin and Everitt 2009). This brings up the question as to where do the re-established peregrines in southern England come from and have they suffered the detrimental impacts associated with a genetic bottleneck?

During the middle of the 20th century, peregrine falcon populations in many regions of the northern hemisphere, including mainland UK, underwent dramatic declines (Crick and Ratcliffe 1995; Horne and Fielding 2002; Ratcliffe 2010). Prior to 1939, Sussex (Southern England) supported the densest breeding population in any part of the British Isles (Ratcliffe 1963; unpublished diaries John Walpole-Bond 1904-1954). The wartime (1939-1945) persecution of peregrines, due to them being predators of homing pigeons (war or carrier pigeons) carrying military messages, saw many coastal UK peregrine populations decline (Ratcliffe 1963). The small number of fatalities in Sussex however, had no persisting effect on the local population. The number of breeding pairs recorded immediately after the war between 1945 and 1951 are comparable with the records for the years leading up to 1940. After World War II, the main reasons for the peregrine falcon population 'crash' included direct persecution of adults (Humphreys et al. 2007; Ratcliffe 2010) and indirect mortality of adults and eggshell thinning due to persistent organochlorine pesticides such as dichloro-diphenyl-

trichloroethane (DDT) or dichloro-diphenyl-dichloroethylene (DDE), as a derivative of DDT,

and the more toxic cyclodienes dieldrin and aldrin (Ratcliffe 1984; Wilson et al. 2018). The

well-documented peregrine falcon population crash during the pesticide era showed a further

reduction of the total UK breeding population by 50% within a decade (Ratcliffe 2003). By

1958, for example, there were no occupied territories and no young produced in Sussex, and

peregrine falcons were absent from the region as a breeding species for over three decades

(Franklin and Everitt 2009). The decline and subsequent crash of this southern England

population of peregrines paralleled changes in the country as a whole (Ratcliffe 1984, 2003;

Franklin and Everitt 2009). Therefore, during this time many peregrine breeding territories

became vacant, acutely apparent across extensive areas of Southern England and Wales

(Ratcliffe 1963; Banks et al. 2010). Only the peregrine populations of the Scottish Highlands,

outer UK islands (Ratcliffe 1963) and Northern Ireland remained relatively unaffected (Wells

and Ruddock 2009).

Since the ban on organochlorine pesticides in the UK in the 1980s and 1990s (Meijer

et al. 2001), UK surveys of the peregrine breeding populations have recorded a steady

increase (Ratcliffe 1984; Crick and Ratcliffe 1995; Horne and Fielding 2002; Wilson et al.

2018), and the recovery of the peregrine falcon is considered a flagship conservation success

story (Crick and Ratcliffe 1995). In 2014, the breeding population estimates were 1769 pairs

(Wilson et al. 2018), and by 2018, peregrine populations in England had increased by 250%

of its former pre-war size (Wilson et al. 2018). National survey reports since 1972 document

the progressive post-crash expansion of the peregrine populations notably in the north and

west of the British Isles (Ratcliffe 1972, 1984; Crick and Ratcliffe 1995; Horne and Fielding

2002). However, the re-colonisation of Sussex by peregrine falcons lagged behind the rest of

mainland UK, and it was not until 1990 when a single pair successfully bred (Franklin and

Everitt 2009). In 2016, the Sussex peregrine population had substantially increased and was

then composed of more than 40 breeding pairs, well in excess of the 8-12 pairs recorded

between 1904 and 1954 (Franklin and Nicholls 2018). After an absence of more than 30 years,

the remarkable and unaided recovery of the Sussex peregrine led conservation managers to

question where the founders originated from, and if the current thriving population shares its

ancestry with surviving native peregrines or with peregrines from further afield.

Such a newly formed population of peregrine falcons deriving from a few migrant

founders could be experiencing detrimental impacts associated with inbreeding, genetic drift

and low genetic variation (Maruyama and Fuerst 1984, 1985; Cornuet and Luikart 1996;

Jacobsen et al. 2008). This could result in inbreeding depression (i.e. reduced biological

fitness because of inbreeding) and deteriorated adaptive potential (Frankham 2015), including

reduced egg clutch size and juvenile survival, often requiring intensive conservation

intervention (Brown et al. 2007). As peregrine falcons have suffered unprecedented population

bottlenecks and the occurrence of regional extirpations (Brown et al. 2007), it would be

expected for the re-established Sussex peregrine population to be genetically impoverished,

with limited potential for long-term survival. Conversely, levels of genetic diversity of a newly

established population could be increased through mechanisms including hybridisation,

mutation, and migration (gene flow; Hartl and Clark 2007).

As the origins of the Sussex peregrine population is unknown, it is therefore

reasonable to hypothesise that the founder population could have been the result of

immigration from these adjacent recovering populations, or even from peregrine populations

in continental Europe to the east and Ireland from the west (Nicholls et al. 2017). There are,

however, other plausible explanations to the rapid recovery of the Sussex peregrines. Fleming

et al. (2011) speculated that losses of large numbers of domestic birds derived originally from

captive-bred peregrines of several subspecies and even interspecific falcon hybrids could

have augmented the recovering UK population. Extrapolation of Flemming et al. (2011) data

and also information from a voluntary lost-found register for falconry birds (Barbara Royle

pers. comm., The Independent Bird Register) indicate that on average around 30 peregrines

and 30 peregrine hybrids (i.e. hybrids of peregrines with other *Falco* species) per year are

reported as lost and unrecovered by mainland UK falconers since records began in 1980. This

is likely an underestimate as there are no longer legal requirements to report losses or

recoveries of falcons as there was previously. Furthermore, Flemming et al. (2011) speculated

therefore that peregrines and peregrine hybrids have been inadvertently released in numbers which, based on planned re-introduction programmes, are known to be sufficient for establishing wild populations (Saar 1988; Holdroyd and Banash 1990; Tordoff and Redig 2001; Jacobsen et al. 2008). Moreover, a gyrfalcon/saker falcon x peregrine (of domestic origin) produced viable hybrid offspring with a wild peregrine within the Sussex population (Everitt and Franklin 2009). This key observation demonstrated that domestic hybrids between peregrine and other falcon species can interbreed and produce offspring with wild peregrines, and that domestic hybrids lost into the wild could potentially have a greater impact on the genetic diversity of the post-pesticide populations than the recruitment of mixed provenance domestic peregrines (*F. peregrinus ssp.*). Even a single pair which includes an escaped hybrid and a wild peregrine producing viable offspring in a strongly philopatric founder population could have a profound genetic effect on the allelic diversity of subsequent generations (Hartl and Clark 2007). The high phenotypic variation of Sussex peregrines noted by Nicholls et al. (2017) may provide further support for this hypothesis.

In this study we used a combination of mitochondrial (mtDNA) and microsatellite markers to examine the levels of genetic diversity and genetic structure for the population of peregrine falcons in the English south coast before their local extinction between 1955 and 1958 (pre-pesticide extinction) and since their repopulation of the area (post-pesticide recovery), to explain the origins of the recently recovered Sussex peregrines. For this, we analysed genetic data of: 1) a historic sample of peregrine falcons from museum specimens collected from the English south coast before the population crash of the mid 1950's, 2) UK domestic-bred peregrines freely available for sale to falconers and therefore potentially vulnerable to loss into the wild population, 3) a German population which had an assisted recovery from local extinction by the release of very large numbers of captive-bred birds (Saar 1988; Wink 2019), 4) wild peregrines from the Republic of Ireland which had also experienced a population depletion in the 1960s and subsequent recovery (Ratcliffe 2003) but which has had no releases of captive-bred birds, and 5) a small sample of Mediterranean peregrines (*F.*

p. brookei) which are a near geographical neighbour and thought to have contributed in some

part to the recovery of the German peregrine population (Wink 2019).

Our aims were: 1) to assess the levels of genetic diversity in the re-established Sussex

peregrine population compared with a historical population of peregrine falcons before the

population decline; 2) to test for signatures of genetic bottlenecks in the contemporary

population; 3) to estimate the genetic structure among British, Irish, continental European and

domestic-bred peregrine falcons, as well as between contemporary and historical populations;

and 4) to evaluate the potential phylogeographic origin of the Sussex peregrines from wild

peregrines or from augmentation by domestic peregrines of mixed origin.

Methods

Sample collection and groupings

A total of 164 feather or toe-pad samples were obtained from various regions (Online

Resource 1 and Table S1). Contemporary feather samples of peregrine falcons (*F. p.*

peregrinus) from the south of England were collected from wild birds by the Sussex Peregrine

Study over the period of 2000 to 2015 from known peregrine territories and monitored nesting

sites within the County of Sussex, and from London, Hampshire, Kent and Surrey (N = 37).

Feather samples were obtained from Ireland (wild *F. p. peregrinus* or first generation bred

from wild birds obtained in the Republic of Ireland, N = 30) where there was a population

decline of peregrines in the 1960's followed by a rapid, and probably unassisted, re-

establishment (Ratcliffe 1984; Norriss 1995; Madden et al. 2009) with a recent census of 425

pairs in 2017 (David Norriss pers. comm.). Feather samples were obtained from North-Rhine

Westphalia in Germany (wild free-living peregrine falcons, N = 44). In Germany, peregrines

were extirpated during the 1950's and 60's with only around 40 pairs remaining, these in the

south of the country (Saar 1988) where there was an assisted reintroduction of just over 1000

captive bred birds comprising some *F. p. brookei* but predominantly *F. p. peregrinus* (Saar

1988; Wink 2019). Feathers samples were taken from randomly selected domestic birds from

different breeding lines from various breeders ('peregrines' bred from a mix of races and

subspecies of *F. peregrinus* and sibling species, including *F. p. pelegrionides* and *F. p.*

babylonicus, of largely unknown provenance; N = 30). The founder breeding population for

domestic birds was around 200-250 breeding birds and of these approximately 2/3 were native

F. p. peregrinus and 1/3 imported birds of other subspecies (Online Resource 1). Other feather

samples were obtained from Mediterranean peregrines (*F. p. brookei*) from Spain, Gibraltar

and Italy (N = 5). The relative proximity of Mediterranean peregrines to *F. p. peregrinus*

populations in UK and mainland Europe makes it a potential candidate as a source of

immigrants into depleted post-pesticide *F. p. peregrinus* populations. Toe-pad samples of

peregrine falcons from British museums (N = 18) were obtained from several counties in the

south of England and the Channel Islands (Table S1). For this study, museum samples dated

pre-1955 represented the pre-pesticide population crash, while toe-pad and feather samples

with a collection date post-1955 represented the post-pesticide recovery. Samples were

stored at 4 °C or at room temperature until analysis.

The total sample was then divided into geographical and temporal groups for further

analysis with microsatellite and mtDNA data, namely: 'UK-post' (UK post-1955 ban on

organochlorine pesticides, including museum samples dated post-1955, feathers from wild

free living animals, and wild-injured animals in captivity), 'UK-pre' (UK pre-1955 ban on

organochlorine pesticides, including museum samples pre-1955), 'Domestic' (all post-1955

feathers from animals bred in captivity in the UK, as explained above), 'German' (all post-1955

feathers from wild free-living animals), 'Irish' (all post-1955 feathers from wild, wild-injured

birds in captivity and F1 from wild-take) and '*F. p. brookei*' (including feathers from wild-injured

animals held in captivity for rehabilitation and captive bred). To explore the genetic

polymorphism at the UK and at the species levels, the groups 'UK-peregrines' (including all

pre- and post-1955 samples) and 'All-peregrines' (all *F. peregrinus* and subspecies from all

sources) were also created.

DNA extraction

DNA from contemporary feathers was extracted using the GeneJET Genomic DNA

Purification Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific) or the using Bioline Isolate II Genomic DNA

extraction kit (Bioline) following the manufacturer's protocol and suspended in 50 μL elution

buffer. DNA from historical museum toepad samples was extracted using the Bioline Isolate

II Genomic DNA extraction kit (Bioline), but suspending tissues in 400 μL lysis buffer with 25

μL proteinase k and incubated overnight at 55 °C. DNA was then washed through a spin

column and eluted into 50 μL elution buffer. DNA extractions from historical museum toepad

samples were carried out in a separate laboratory dedicated to ancient DNA work and in a

UV-irradiated fume hood to ensure no contamination. Negative controls were included to

ensure no contamination.

Microsatellite genotyping

We used a suite of ten polymorphic microsatellite markers developed for peregrine falcons

(NVHfp5, NVHfp13, NVHfp31, NVHfp46-1, NVHfp54, NVHfp79-4, NVHfp82-2, NVHfp86-2,

NVHfp89, NVHfp92-1; Nesje et al. 2000). The PCR procedure and amplification volumes

followed Raisin et al. (2009) for all samples (feather and toe-pad), set at a total volume of 2

μL. Each PCR contained 2 μL of DNA that was air-dried, 1 μL of primer mix (with a

fluorescently labelled forward primer) at 0.2 μM and 1 μL QIAGEN Multiplex PCR Master Mix

(QIAGEN). PCR cycling conditions were 95 °C for 10 min followed by 35 cycles of 95 °C for

30 s, 55 °C for 90 s and 72 °C for 90 s, with a final incubation at 72 °C for 10 min. PCR

products were separated using an Applied Biosystems 3730 DNA analyser (Applied

Biosystems), using ROX 500 as a size standard. Alleles were scored on GeneMapper version

3.7 (Applied Biosystems).

Approximately 25% of contemporary samples were amplified twice at all 10 loci to

determine genotyping error (Hoffman and Amos 2005; Pompanon et al. 2005), and 37.5% of

museum samples were genotyped twice to confirm accurate scoring of alleles and to allow

identification of potential errors due to allelic dropout of larger alleles. Owing to degradation

and yield associated with historical DNA (Wandeler 2007), two microsatellite markers, NVHfp5

and NHVfp92-1, failed to amplify across all museum samples. Genotype error (mismatch alleles) was found for microsatellite marker NHVfp82-2 across all DNA samples and was subsequently removed from analysis. The resulting dataset comprised seven microsatellite markers and 149 individuals (available on Dryad https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.mgqnk98wj).

Microsatellite analysis

Any potential genotyping errors due to microsatellite stuttering, allelic dropout and null alleles in the total sample were examined using Micro-Checker version 2.2.3 (Van Oosterhout et al. 2004). Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) and linkage disequilibrium (LD) between loci were calculated using Genepop version 4.6 (Raymond and Rousset 1995; Rousset 2008).

To assess the levels of genetic diversity of peregrine falcons, the allelic richness (i.e. number of alleles, N_a), effective number of alleles (N_e), observed heterozygosity (H_O), and measured heterozygosity (H_e; Nei's gene diversity), inbreeding coefficient (F_{IS}), and private alleles (N_p) per population were estimated in GenAlEx version 6.5 (Peakall and Smouse 2012). A Multivariate Analysis of Variance (MANOVA) on the per-locus genetic diversity values (N_a, N_e, H_O and H_e) was done in SPSS version 24 (SPSS Statistics) to determine whether there were temporal differences between UK-post and UK-pre populations. The effective number of breeders (N_{eb}), or inbreeding effective number, and the jackknife confidence intervals were estimated for each population using the co-ancestry method of Nomura (2008), as implemented in NeEstimator version 2.01 (Do et al. 2014). The presence of genetic bottlenecks was tested by estimating heterozygosity excess based on the two-phase model (TPM; 70% proportion of stepwise mutation model and variance = 30) and the infinite-alleles model (IAM) as implemented in Bottleneck version 1.2 (Piry et al. 1999). In populations undergoing bottleneck, the allelic richness is reduced faster than heterozygosity (Nei's gene diversity) thus becoming larger than the expected heterozygosity at mutation-drift equilibrium (Cornuet and Luikart 1996), and the difference was tested with a Wilcoxon's test assuming that all loci fit the TPM or IAM under mutation-drift equilibrium.

Nei's unbiased pairwise genetic distances (Nei 1978) were estimated among

populations in GenAlEx which for neutral markers under an infinite-allele-model it is predicted

to increase linearly with time. The extent of population subdivision was assessed by

calculating Wright's pairwise differentiation values among populations (F_{ST}), and by a

hierarchical analysis of molecular variance (AMOVA) at three hierarchical levels (among

populations, among individuals within populations and within individuals) using GenAlEx.

Significance levels were obtained using 1000 permutations.

Genetic distances among individuals were estimated (Smouse and Peakall 1999), and

the distance matrix was converted to a covariance matrix to perform a Principal Coordinate

Analysis (PCoA) in GenAlEx. The detection of first-generation migrants was done with

GeneClass2 (Piry et al. 2004) selecting likelihood ratio L_{home}/L_{max}, the Bayesian method by

Rannala and Mountain (1997), 1000 Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulations (Paetkau et al.

2004), and a probability threshold alpha = 0.05. The assignment of individuals to populations

(using the leave-one-out procedure) based on their relative likelihood scores and a quality

index (computed as the mean value of the scores of each individual in the population it belongs

to) were also estimated with GeneClass2. A Bayesian approach in Structure version 2.3.4

(Pritchard et al. 2000) was used to detect the most likely number of genetic clusters among

peregrine falcon populations doing 10 replications with number of clusters K = 1–10 with

100,000 burn-in, 1,000,000 MCMC iterations after burn-in, and admixture model (using

sampling locations as prior information) with correlated allele frequencies (Falush et al. 2003).

The most likely number of K clusters was examined in StructureSelector (Li and Liu 2018)

using log likelihood scores [mean LnP(K)] and ΔK values (Evanno et al. 2005). As these

methods often underestimate clusters due to uneven sample sizes (Janes et al. 2017), we

obtained estimates of K based on Puechmaille's method by subsampling the independent

clusters previously identified, a technique which accounts for uneven sample size across

groups (Puechmaille 2016). Likelihood scores and clusters were obtained using the

CLUMPAK (Kopelman et al. 2015) function in StructureSelector and individual probability plots

were generated using Structure Plot (Ramasamy et al. 2014).

Mitochondrial DNA sequencing

PCR was performed to amplify approximately 650 bp of the domain I of the mtDNA control region of contemporary peregrine falcon feathers using primers L15206 and H15856 (Talbot et al. 2011). PCR amplifications were carried out in 50 µL final volume, consisting of 5 µL 10X Maxima Hot Start Taq buffer, 5 µL dNTP Mix (2 mM each), 1 µM 10µM forward and reverse primers, 1.2 µL 25 mM MgCl$_2$, 0.3 µL 5U/µL Maxima Hot Start Taq DNA Polymerase (ThermoFisher Scientific), 1 µL DNA sample and 27.5 µL molecular grade water. PCR conditions were 95° C for 5 min followed by 35 cycles of 95° C for 60 s, 47° C for 60 s and 72° C for 90 s, and a final elongation step at 72° C for 10 min. PCR products were visualised under UV light after electrophoresis in 1% Agarose gels containing SYBR Safe DNA gel stain (Invitrogen). Successful amplifications were purified using the GeneJET PCR Purification Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific) and send for Sanger sequencing to DBS Genomics (Durham University).

PCR amplification for museum toepad samples was carried out in a separate irradiation UV isolation hood dedicated to ancient DNA work to prevent contamination. Due to the fragmented nature of museum DNA, internal primers were specifically designed to amplify short overlapping fragments (175-198 bp) of the mtDNA control region of peregrine falcons (Table S2). PCR amplifications were carried out in 10 µL final volume, consisting of 5 µL MyTaq HS DNA Polymerase (Bioline), 0.2 µL of each forward and reverse primer, 1 µL DNA and 3.6 µL dH$_2$O. Negative controls were included in each PCR replacing DNA with ultrapure ddH$_2$O. PCR cycling parameters were an initial hot start of 95 °C for 1 min, followed by 35 cycles of 95 °C for 15 s, 52 °C for 15 s, 72 °C for 10 s, followed by a final incubation period of 72 °C for 10 min. PCR products and negative controls were examined by agarose gel electrophoresis to ascertain amplification and to confirm no traces of contamination. PCR product was purified and sequenced using a 3730xl analyser (Macrogen).

From the feather and toepad samples, 102 DNA sequences were newly obtained here, from which 100 were *F. peregrinus* and two were *F. rusticolus*, and all new sequences were

deposited in GenBank (accession numbers: MT247108-MT247209). In addition, 83 DNA

sequences of peregrine falcons (including sequences identified to the species level as *F.*

peregrinus, and to the subspecies level *F. p. peregrinus* or other subspecies of peregrines)

were retrieved from GenBank (accession numbers: AF090338, DQ165502-DQ165549,

JN400833-JN400846, JQ282801, JX029991, JX878245-JX878269, and NC000878), plus

eight gyrfalcons *F. rusticolus* (accession numbers: EF517337-EF517344) used as an

outgroup.

Mitochondrial DNA analysis

All control region sequences were aligned using ClustalW multiple alignment in BioEdit version

7.2.6 (Hall 1999). Considering alignment gaps, 628 bp were analysed in a total of 193

individuals. DNA sequences were imported into DnaSP version 5.10.1 (Librado and Rozas

2009) and were separated into the main groups indicated above (i.e. UK-post, UK-pre,

German, Domestic, Irish and *F. p. brookei*), and into 'GenBank-peregrines' (identified from

online source as the subspecies *F. p. peregrinus*), and 'GenBank-others' (identified from

online source as the species *F. peregrinus* and/or several other subspecies of peregrines but

not *F. p. peregrinus* or *F. p. brookei*), and '*F. rusticolus*' (i.e. gyrfalcons, the outgroup to

peregrine falcons; identified from online source, and feathers from captive bred animals).

DNA polymorphism indices were obtained in DnaSP to allow comparisons among the

groups and published data, including total number of segregating sites (S), number of

polymorphic sites (Pol), number of haplotypes (H), haplotype diversity (Hd), nucleotide

diversity (π), and average number of nucleotide differences (k). To explore the historical

demography of the falcons, pairwise sequence polymorphisms were estimated to generate

mismatch distributions, and the population size changes per group were evaluated using

Ramos-Onsins and Rozas' R_2 (Ramos-Onsins and Rozas 2002) and Fu's Fs (Fu 1997) values

calculated with DnaSP, with significance tested with the coalescent process for a neutral

infinite-sites model and assuming a large constant population size (1000 replications).

Pairwise genetic differentiation (F_{ST}) among groups were obtained using DnaSP to

analyse the genetic structure of the populations. An AMOVA (among and within populations)

was performed using Arlequin version 3.5 (Excoffier and Lischer 2010), with significance

levels were obtained using 1000 permutations. The phylogenetic relationships among the

samples was assessed with a phylogenetic network using all the haplotypes, including those

from museum samples, generated with the software Network version 5.0.0.3 (Fluxus

Technology). The Median Joining algorithm with the Greedy FHP criterion was selected.

Results

Microsatellite data analysis

There was no evidence of large allele dropout. Only one locus showed potential scoring errors

due to stuttering but revising the genotype data showed no allele scoring errors. Four out of

seven loci could have null alleles, but this was probably due to homozygosity excess for most

allele size classes. Overall, estimated frequencies of null alleles for the full dataset ranged

between 0.010%–0.15%, which was considered acceptable due to the origin of the feather

and tissue samples. There were no deviations from HWE in the populations due to

heterozygote excess or in a global test across all loci across all populations; however,

deviations from HWE due to heterozygote deficiency were detected in four populations (UK-

post, Domestic, German and Irish, $P < 0.05$). There was no evidence of LD for each locus pair

across all populations.

Overall, genetic diversity values were lower in the UK-post and UK-pre groups

compared with other peregrine falcon groups, and the UK-post group had the lowest

heterozygosity value and number of effective alleles (N_e) among all populations (Table 1).

Comparing the two temporal groups, UK-post had higher mean number of alleles (N_a) and

heterozygosity (H_e) than UK-pre, but lower observed heterozygosity (H_O) and number of

private alleles (N_p), the Domestic group had the highest N_p followed by the Irish group, and

the *F. p. brookei* group had the highest level of heterozygosity followed by the Domestic and

Irish groups (Table 1; Online Resource 1 and Fig S1). However, the differences in genetic

diversity values were not statistically significant (MANOVA: Wilk's λ F = 0.933, P = 0.487;

Box's test of equality of covariances: F = 1.834, P = 0.052; Levene's tests of equality of

variances: P > 0.05 for all variables). The Domestic group had the highest value of inbreeding

(F_{IS}) while the *F. p. brookei* and UK-pre groups had the lowest levels of inbreeding (Table 1).

The UK-post and German groups had the lowest effective number of breeders (N_{eb}), while the

Domestic group had the highest N_{eb} (Table 1). There was no evidence of genetic bottleneck

under the TPM with all P-values > 0.05; however, the UK-post (P = 0.039), UK-pre (P = 0.016)

and German (P = 0.039) groups showed signatures of genetic bottlenecks under the IAM.

There were significant results for the *F. p. brookei* group under the TPM and IAM, but caution

should be taken because of low sample size.

There were high pairwise genetic distances between the UK-post and UK-pre groups

with any of the other groups, while the lowest genetic distance among all pairwise comparisons

was between the German and *F. p. brookei* groups, and between the UK-post and UK-pre

groups (Table S3). All pairwise comparisons (except between the German and *F. p. brookei*

groups) showed significant and moderate levels of genetic differentiation (F_{ST}) (Table S3); the

highest F_{ST} values were observed in pairwise comparisons between the UK-post and UK-pre

groups with any other groups (Table S3). Based on the AMOVA, 13% of the total variation

was found among groups, while 30 and 57% was found among and within individuals,

respectively, and significant global F-statistics (F_{ST} = 0.130, F_{IS} = 0.348 and F_{IT} = 0.433, all P

< 0.05).

A total of 37.9% accounted for the first three dimensions of the PCoA (PCo1 = 19.28%,

PCo2 = 10.02% and PCo3 = 8.6%). The analysis indicated two main clusters, one including

the UK-post and UK-pre samples, and another one mostly including all other samples (Fig. 1).

Eight individuals were detected as first-generation migrants with likelihood probabilities below

0.05, including four from UK-post assigned to UK-pre, one from UK-post assigned to the

German group, one from the Domestic group and from *F. p. brookei* assigned to the Irish

group, and one from *F. p. brookei* assigned to the German group. Based on the genotypes,

73.6% of the individuals (106 out of 144 individuals with sufficient genotype information) were

correctly assigned to the group of origin (quality index = 68.65%); the German group had the

highest percentage of correct assignment of individuals (88.9%), followed by UK-post (76.9%),

Irish (72.4%), *F. p. brookei* (66.7%), Domestic (65.5%) and UK-pre (57.1%). Structure analysis

using sub-sampling using Puechmaille's method resulted in the most likely number of clusters

at K = 4 (Fig. 2). Assuming K = 4, the UK-pre and UK-post individuals assigned predominantly

to cluster 1, whilst Domestic individuals assigned to cluster 2, German and *F. p. brookei*

individuals predominantly assigned to cluster 3, and Irish individuals assigned to cluster 4 (Fig.

2). However, the log likelihood simulations indicated K = 2 clusters under Evanno's method,

while mean LnP(K) indicated K = 3 clusters. Assuming K = 2 or K = 3, the UK-pre and UK-

post peregrines also formed one cluster, demonstrating the genotypic similarities of the two

temporal groups (Fig. 2).

Mitochondrial DNA data analysis

A 628 bp fragment of the control region was obtained for all feather samples from

contemporary birds. However, probably because of DNA degradation and amplification failure

of 5' and/or 3' regions, it was not possible to obtain the full mtDNA control region fragment

from some museum (toepad) samples (pre- and post-1955). This restricted the amount of

nucleotide sites available for pairwise sequence comparisons when using museum samples

in UK-pre and UK-post groups.

A total of 183 mtDNA sequences of peregrine falcons were obtained for analysis from

all sources (including GenBank, museum and feather samples), but only 10 haplotypes were

found (Table 2). Haplotype diversity varied considerably among peregrine groups, with the

lowest values found in the UK-pre and UK-post groups, and the highest values found in the

Irish group, followed by the Domestic, GenBank-peregrines and German groups (Table 2).

Nucleotide polymorphism was also generally low across all peregrine groups, with the lowest

values observed in German and UK-post groups (Table 2).

No signatures of a recent population expansion were detected in any peregrine falcon

group with R_2 or Fs (Table 2); however, *F. rusticolus* showed significant departures from

neutrality using R_2. Based on Fs values, the groups GenBank-others, UK-peregrines, All-

peregrines and *F. rusticolus* showed significant departures from neutrality. Overall, there were

very few pairwise differences among mtDNA sequences of peregrine falcons and all mismatch

distributions were right skewed (Fig. 3); UK-pre and UK-post groups showed high frequencies

of 0 pairwise differences, and other peregrine falcon groups showed high frequencies of only

1-2 pairwise differences.

Pairwise genetic differentiation (Table S4) among all peregrine falcon groups (i.e.

excluding *F. rusticolus*) showed a low average $F_{ST} = 0.064$ (or 6.4% differentiation in the

mtDNA control region), with values ranging from 0 to 20.4%, indicating low genetic

differentiation. There was no differentiation (0%) between UK-post vs. Domestic, Irish vs.

GenBank-others, and German vs. *F. p. brookei* groups, very low differentiation between UK-

post vs. Irish groups (0.8%), and low differentiation between UK-post vs. UK-pre groups (5%).

Higher differentiation values were obtained in pairwise comparisons with GenBank, GenBank-

others, *F. p. brookei* and *F. rusticolus* groups, as expected from their taxonomic diversity or

evolutionary divergence. Based on the AMOVA, 43.86% and 56.14% of the total variation was

found among and within groups, respectively, and there was a significant global $F_{ST} = 0.439$

$(P < 0.05)$.

The phylogenetic haplotype network (Fig. 4) reflected the genetic diversity and

differentiation results shown above. Including museum samples increased the number of sites

with gaps/missing data which cannot be utilised in phylogenetic haplotype network

reconstructions; therefore, the network analysis was based on 238 nucleotide sites. There

were 13 haplotypes in the total sample, all peregrine samples belonged to 10 haplotypes,

while all *F. rusticolus* samples (the outgroup) belong to three other haplotypes. Most peregrine

falcon samples belonged to haplotype 1 (150 samples), which had a central position relative

to all other peregrine haplotypes, and it was formed by a mix of samples from various

peregrine groups, including 10 UK-pre, 17 UK-post, 21 German, 20 Irish, 10 Domestic, 45

GenBank-peregrines, 22 GenBank-others and five *F. p. brookei*. Other peregrine samples (15)

belonged to haplotype 2, which included samples from all peregrine falcon groups except UK-

pre, German and *F. p. brookei*. Overall, the group GenBank-others showed the highest

number of haplotypes, including three haplotypes not found elsewhere, reflecting world-wide

origin of the GenBank data set. The German group was the least diverse with only one

haplotype, while the Irish and Domestic groups only had two haplotypes. UK-post and UK-pre

had four haplotypes both; notably, UK-pre was represented in four haplotypes, two shared

with UK-post and two unique haplotypes (haplotypes 5 and 6), each separated from the central

haplotype 1 by two mutational steps; UK-post had only one unique haplotype (haplotype 7)

not shared with any other group.

Discussion

Using microsatellite and mtDNA markers, we examined the levels of genetic diversity and

genetic structure of peregrine falcon populations before and after the documented post-

pesticide extinction in the English south coast, compared the genetic affinities of UK

peregrines with other European populations, domestic-bred birds of unknown provenance and

with published falcon mtDNA data, and explored the phylogeographic origins of the recently

recovered Sussex peregrines. The genetic data was obtained from museum specimens

collected from the English south coast before and after the population crash of the mid 1950's,

from contemporary UK wild and captive specimens, and from contemporary Irish and

continental European wild and captive specimens, and UK domestic-bred peregrines of mixed

ancestry. Here, we report the unassisted recovery of a peregrine falcon population in Southern

England with no detected signature of a genetic bottleneck and little change in the level of

genetic diversity through time. This adds to the growing literature showing unassisted

recoveries of peregrines in several countries (Sielicki and Mizera 2009) and, to our knowledge,

this is the first study to explore this in the UK using molecular tools, with implications toward

their conservation and protection.

Spatial and temporal genetic diversity and structure

Successful breeding, good dispersal capabilities and inter-population connectivity are

fundamental for preventing inbreeding depression and subsequent loss of genetic diversity

(Frankham 2015; Ponnikas et al. 2017). As evidenced by our population genetics and

phylogeographic study, results broadly indicated that there was no overall loss of genetic

diversity or signature of a population bottleneck, although some genetic diversity indices

showed lower genetic variation in the post-pesticide population (UK-post) than in the pre-

pesticide population (UK-pre). Based on microsatellite data, there was, however, a difference

in the number and proportion of private alleles, with UK-post showing lower values than UK-

pre, and the UK-pre and UK-post were less differentiated genetically with each other than with

any other peregrine group. Based on mtDNA, the UK post-pesticide population also showed

lower number of polymorphic sites and nucleotide diversity values than the pre-pesticide

population. UK-pre had two haplotypes not found elsewhere in our samples, which could

represent a significant loss of haplotype diversity; however, there was very low genetic

differentiation in mtDNA control region overall, as previously described in cytochrome b in

peregrine falcons (Wink 2019).

It was expected, based on population genetics theory, that the re-established Sussex

peregrine population would be genetically impoverished due to being founded by a small

number of individuals surviving the pesticide crash. It was therefore somewhat surprising the

level of genetic diversity retained by the newly established population, comparable to ancestral

levels in the UK, and also remarkable considering that no specific conservation efforts (i.e. no

formal reintroductions) have been directed to peregrines in the UK, a conservation strategy

that other countries have employed (Brown et al. 2007; Jacobsen et al. 2008; Johnson et al.

2010). We have observed no genetic evidence of informal reintroductions via falconry losses

of domestic birds.

The results found here are consistent with other spatial and temporal studies on

falcons using microsatellites and/or mtDNA control region. In general, it would appear that the

heterozygosity levels have remained comparable among peregrine falcon populations from

the UK and other regions of the world in spite of the presumed relatively recent population

bottleneck, and there also appears to be differences in allelic diversity, with the UK (pre- and

post-pesticide), Irish and German populations having fewer alleles than other peregrine falcon

populations, but the Domestic group showing higher levels.

Compared with this study, for example, using a panel of 11 polymorphic microsatellite

loci Brown et al. (2007) showed similar levels of heterozygosity (but slightly higher allelic

richness) in historical and contemporary Canadian peregrine falcon (*F. p. tundrius*)

populations, no signatures of genetic bottlenecks, and weak but significant population genetic

structure; however, effective number of breeders in the Canadian falcon populations were

much higher than those reported here. Based on mtDNA, Brown et al. (2007) found low

nucleotide and haplotype diversities in historical and contemporary populations, much lower

than in the UK-post and UK-pre populations reported here. Overall, Brown et al. (2007)

concluded that contemporary and historical samples had similar genetic diversity levels, and

that the organochlorine-induced bottleneck did not likely had an impact on the evolutionary

potential of peregrines in Canada.

While studying captive and wild populations of peregrines in Scandinavia and potential

gene introgression from the captive breeding stock during a reintroduction programme using

11 microsatellite loci, Jacobsen et al. (2008) showed similar heterozygosity values among

contemporary, captive and historical populations, which were comparable with the

heterozygosity values reported here; however, they found higher allelic richness than in the

wild populations of peregrines studied here. Jacobsen et al. (2008) therefore concluded that

the levels of genetic diversity in the contemporary wild population of peregrines in Scandinavia

remained higher than expected from the population bottlenecks, and that this could be due to

population admixture, considerable gene introgression and the release of a large number of

young from the captive breeding population, and increased survivorship of chicks and adults

in the wild, which could have altered the genetic composition of the contemporary wild

population.

Ponnikas et al. (2017), using 10 microsatellite loci, also found similar heterozygosity

values and no genetic bottlenecks, but they found higher allelic richness in peregrine falcons

from Finland than in the UK populations reported here, and no genetic structure. They

concluded that the genetic diversity could have been maintained through high dispersal rates

across Finland without reintroductions, thus preventing genetic structuring of populations and

the negative effects of the population decline due to the use of organochlorine pesticides, but

that the effective population size was low and genetic monitoring is needed (Ponnikas et al.

2017). Nesje et al. (2000), however, based on 12 microsatellite loci, found lower

heterozygosity values in Scottish, Scandinavian, Canadian, American and Tasmanian

populations of peregrine falcons than those reported here, but the Scottish population had

similar allelic richness (and one monomorphic locus) to the UK populations described in this

study, and all the other peregrine populations had higher allelic richness.

Island (*F. p. nesiotes*) and mainland Australian (*F. p. macropus*) peregrine populations

in the South Pacific and mainland and island populations in the North Pacific (*F. peregrinus*)

described in Talbot et al. (2011) were also less genetically diverse than the peregrine

populations described here, but peregrine populations from Vanuatu (South Pacific) and

Colville area of northern Alaska showed higher number of private alleles than the European

peregrines. Similarly, Talbot et al. (2011) found much lower mtDNA haplotype and nucleotide

diversities in the South Pacific islands than in our study but their results from the North Pacific

islands were comparable. There was also significant genetic differentiation with both

molecular markers among their sampled populations in the South Pacific and elsewhere,

suggesting isolation and long-term residency due to strong philopatry by peregrines, which

reduces the capacity for gene flow and a limited ability for long-distance dispersal (Talbot et

al. 2017).

There are several possible intrinsic and extrinsic factors, such as dispersal (natal and

breeding), life history, behaviour, habitat and connectivity (Kozakiewicz et al. 2017),

influencing the genetic composition of the newly re-established Sussex population. It is

possible that not enough time elapsed for genetic erosion to occur or to be observed after the

population bottleneck (Hailer et al. 2006; Johnson et al. 2010; Ponnikas et al. 2017). Studies

has shown that longevity is instrumental to reducing genetic drift working as an intrinsic buffer

against loss of genetic diversity (Hailer et al. 2006; Ponnikas et al. 2017). Long generation

time is characteristic of many raptor species, as seen in White-tailed eagles (Hailer et al. 2006)

and Golden eagles (Sonsthagen et al. 2012), often extending over twenty to thirty years.

Comparably, peregrines in the wild have also been known to reach up to sixteen years of age,

although mortality is typically mostly at 6-8 years (Tordoff and Redig 1997; London Peregrine

Partnership).

The origin of the Sussex peregrine population

Our phylogenetic analyses based on mtDNA was unable to detect the ancestral origins of the

re-colonised population of peregrines; however, microsatellite data detected signatures of

genetic structure demonstrating that the contemporary wild peregrine population in Sussex is

genetically similar, but not identical, to the pre-pesticide UK population, and that it is

genetically different from other European populations and from the domestic stock.

Despite UK peregrines possessing no migratory behavioural traits, it is a species of

innate dispersal and colonising capability (Smith et al. 2015; McGrady et al. 2017; Ponnikas

et al. 2017). Individuals dispersing from other refugial areas, such as Cornwall, Cumbria,

Wales and Scotland (Crick and Ratcliffe 1995; Horne and Fielding 2002; Franklin and Everitt

2009), but genetically similar to the historical population, could have contributed to the Sussex

peregrine population – however, we lack the necessary samples to test this hypothesis.

Mature female peregrines may have contributed to the new population as some have been

observed to change territories each year, rather than returning year on year to the same

breeding territories (Mearns and Newton 1984). It is possible that non-breeders (floaters),

dispersing but sexually inactive birds and migrants from regions not severely affected by

organochlorine pesticides had an effect on the structure, dynamics, persistence and recovery

of peregrine falcon populations, as has been hypothesised for other avian populations

(Penteriani et al. 2011), and might have been crucial for the persistence of peregrine falcons

regionally in the UK, rather than locally in the cliff areas of Sussex. Further sampling of wild

peregrine populations from northern Europe and from the Irish and British Isles is needed,

especially Wales and Scotland, as well as a more comprehensive sampling of domestic

peregrines and wild subspecies of *F. peregrinus*.

Based on microsatellite data, we reason that the domestic falcons have not contributed

to the genetic diversity of UK peregrines or to the re-establishment of the Sussex peregrine

population. There was significant genetic differentiation between the Domestic group and the

historical and contemporary wild UK peregrines, the Bayesian clustering method showed that

the Domestic group was genetically different from the UK and other European peregrine

groups, and the genetic assignment test did not place any UK-post peregrine in the Domestic

group. The analysis of mtDNA data was less conclusive than with microsatellites due to the

restricted number of nucleotides and low haplotypic diversity, as shown in other studies on

peregrine falcons (e.g. Brown et al. 2007; Talbot et al. 2011; White et al. 2013). The only two

haplotypes found in the Domestic group were also found in all other peregrine groups, and the

UK-post population had two haplotypes not found in the Domestic group. If mtDNA from the

domestic falcons (from other species of falcons or subspecies of *F. peregrinus*) had

introgressed the contemporary population of wild UK peregrines, we would have expected to

find more haplotypes in UK-post, or at least more shared haplotypes between Domestic and

UK-post. MtDNA might not be the best marker to explore introgression due to the low mtDNA

genetic variation in falcons in general (e.g. Brown et al. 2007; Talbot et al. 2011; White et al.

2013), as expected from recently diversified falcons (Nittinger et al. 2005; White et al. 2013).

Other studies using microsatellite markers have suggested introgression of alleles due

to re-introductions of individuals from distant geographic origins (Tordoff and Redig 2001;

Brown et al. 2007), but in this study there was a clear genetic distinction of domestic,

Mediterranean falcons (*F. p. brookei*) and gyrfalcons from the wild peregrine falcons; however,

further studies looking at introgression from domestic falcons and peregrine falcon subspecies

into the recovering population of wild peregrine falcons (*F. p. peregrinus*) using a more

comprehensive sampling scheme and possibly reduced representation DNA libraries (e.g. via

Restriction site Associated DNA sequencing – RAD-seq) are needed.

Implications for the protection of peregrines in the UK

Currently the global populations of peregrines have made a successful recovery and the population trends appears to be stable (BirdLife International 2016), and in the UK the peregrine falcon has subsequently been moved from amber to green on the Birds of Conservation Concern (Eaton et al. 2015). In Sussex, the newly established peregrine falcons are currently occupying all known historical nesting territories within the county, and other inland non-traditional sites, indicating retention of good-quality habitat, with no significant barriers to dispersal.

We recognise that there are implications for the protection of UK peregrines if it is accepted that there has not been a genetic bottleneck effect, and that contemporary and pre-pesticide populations contain similar levels of genetic diversity, as described here. Reestablishment of the population has been rapid, with conservation of the integrity of its genetic architecture without reintroductions from captive breeding and release schemes such as has occurred in North America, Scandinavia and Germany. We would suggest that for Sussex peregrines, and indeed other adjacent UK populations, there is no need for genetic conservation by wild-take and subsequent captive breeding programmes, and that the various legal conventions for peregrines already in place (e.g. UK Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) and protection of breeding sites should be enough to prevent a new population decline in this recently recovered avian population. Although it appears that population growth rate of long-lived species (like the peregrine falcon) is more sensitive to changes in survival than to reproductive success (Smith et al. 2015; McGrady et al. 2017), any harvest of different age classes, if allowed by law, should be scientifically informed to assert minimal impacts to wild populations, and that wild populations should be adequately monitored to determine any potential impact in population demography and survival (Millsap and Allen 2006).

Furthermore, it appears that the loss of domestic birds (presumably of mixed origins) has not influenced the genetic structure of UK peregrine falcons. Domestic peregrines have been found to be genetically different from wild peregrines (at least as supported by the Bayesian clustering analysis), therefore not supporting the hypothesis that domestic birds

could have contributed to the reestablishment of the Sussex peregrine population.

Nonetheless, continuous loss of domestic birds could eventually lead to the introduction of

alleles and mtDNA haplotypes not typically belonging to *F. p. peregrinus*, and careful

monitoring and care while carrying out falconry should be advocated.

Although the estimated effective population sizes of peregrines studied here were

found to be below the critical threshold of 50 individuals to avoid short-term inbreeding

depression (Brook et al. 2002), at least in Sussex there is a healthy breeding population that

could safeguard its long-term survival. However, it is recommended that field monitoring is

carried out on a yearly basis to assess the Sussex peregrine population, and that genetic

monitoring should be performed at 8 to 10-year intervals, in-line with generation lifespans of

this species in the wild, to ensure that the evolutionary potential is not being compromised by

inbreeding depression and genetic drift through intrinsic and anthropogenic factors.

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 FIGURE CAPTIONS

Fig. 1 Principal coordinates analysis (PCoA) based on microsatellite genotypes of peregrine

falcons (*Falco peregrinus*)

Fig. 2 Individual probability plots showing the most likely number of genetic clusters of

peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) for K number of clusters (K = 4, 3 and 2) based on a

Bayesian analysis of genetic structure of microsatellite data

Fig. 3 Mismatch distributions of peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) populations showing the

observed pairwise differences in mtDNA control region and expected values under neutrality

Fig. 4 Phylogenetic haplotype network showing the evolutionary relationships among

peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) mtDNA control region haplotypes arranged into groups

    FIGURES

    Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

965   **Fig. 4**

Tables

Table 1 Genetic diversity values in peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) populations based on microsatellite data												
Population	N	N_{miss}	N_a	N_e	H_o	H_e	F_{IS}	N_P	N_P (prop.)	N_{eb} (CI)	N_{assign}	% Assign
UK-post	39	35.143	4.143	2.294	0.557	0.548	-0.005	2	0.286	4.5 (1.4-9.6)	30	76.923
UK-pre	14	8.571	3.286	2.297	0.587	0.545	-0.097	3	0.429	Infinite	8	57.143
German	30	22.143	4.429	2.649	0.581	0.590	0.008	1	0.143	6.5 (2.9-11.6)	24	88.889
Irish	30	23.143	6.000	3.481	0.634	0.669	0.029	3	0.429	19.3 (0.5-71.3)	21	72.414
Domestic	30	19.857	7.000	4.122	0.624	0.706	0.114	10	1.429	81.7 (0.1-410)	19	65.517
F. p. brookei	6	4.714	3.714	2.885	0.771	0.646	-0.194	0	0.000	30.9 (0-155.4)	4	66.667
All UK-peregrines	53	43.714	4.714	2.302	0.558	0.558	0.003	6	0.857	22.3 (0-111.7)	52	98.113
All-peregrines	149	113.571	9.429	3.818	0.599	0.725	0.170	-	-	10.3 (5-17.6)	-	-
N = sample size, N_{miss} = sample size considering missing data across loci, N_a = number of different alleles, N_e = number of effective alleles, H_o = observed heterozygosity, H_e = expected heterozygosity, F_{IS} = fixation index, NP = number of private alleles, NP (prop.) = proportion of private alleles in the population, N_{eb} = Effective number of breeders (CI = jackknife confidence interval), N_{assign} = Number of individuals used in assignment test, % Assign = percentage of individuals correctly assigned to the population of origin												

Table 2 DNA polymorphism in peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) populations based on mtDNA control region data										
Population	N	S	Pol	H	Hd	π	k	R_2	Fs	τ
UK-post	24	363	6	5	0.529	0.002	0.837	0.101	-1.349	0.356
UK-pre	14	295	9	5	0.505	0.005	1.407	0.132	-0.786	0.153
German	21	627	2	4	0.710	0.001	0.924	0.231	-0.140	0.924
Irish	22	627	5	8	0.892	0.003	1.792	0.179	-2.349	1.792
Domestic	14	627	4	5	0.824	0.002	1.209	0.148	-1.159	1.209
GenBank-peregrines	55	376	6	7	0.756	0.003	1.182	0.098	-1.289	1.182
GenBank-others	28	556	26	19	0.971	0.006	3.198	0.087	**-13.598**	0.828
F. p. brookei	5	627	2	3	0.800	0.002	1.000	0.250	-0.475	1.000
UK-peregrines	38	290	11	8	0.486	0.003	0.908	0.070	**-3.908**	0.095
All-peregrines	183	238	11	10	0.320	0.002	0.365	0.026	**-9.361**	0.365
F. rusticolus	10	627	8	7	0.911	0.003	1.867	**0.116**	**-3.502**	1.867
N = number of sequences used, S = total number of sites (excluding sites with gaps/missing data, or excluding them in pairwise comparisons), Pol = polymorphic sites, H = number of haplotypes, Hd = haplotype diversity, π = nucleotide diversity, k = average number of nucleotide differences, Fs = Fu (1997), R_2 = Ramos-Onsins and Rozas (2002), τ = 2ut. Values in bold (P < 0.05), simulations based on the coalescent process for neutral infinite-sites model assuming a large constant population size										

999 **Electronic supplementary material**

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1001 **Conservation genetics of regionally extinct peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*)**

1002 **and unassisted recovery without genetic bottleneck in southern England**

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ONLINE RESOURCE 1

Comparative population samples

German

The German peregrine population was also extirpated during the 1950's and 60's with only around 40 pairs remaining, these in the south of the country (Saar 1988). The recovery in North Rhine–Westphalia and other German regions was assisted by the reintroduction of just over 1000 captive bred birds comprising some *F. p. brookei* but predominantly *F. p. peregrinus* (Saar 1988; Wink 2019) and it is currently considered a hybrid zone of between the two (Michael Wink, pers. comm.). Wegner et al. (2009) speculates that the North Rhine-Westphalia population underwent a genetic bottleneck and predicted low genetic diversity, confirmed using microsatellites (Volkhausen 2007).

Ireland

As with mainland UK the peregrine population of the island of Ireland (i.e. Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) suffered a population decline in the 1960's followed by a rapid re-establishment (Ratcliffe 1984; Norriss 1995; Madden et al. 2009). We could find no records that any captive breeding and release programme was involved in the recovery of the Irish population. Moreover, among western European countries the Republic of Ireland is unique in that it allows wild take of peregrines for falconry purposes (Ryan 2016). Any falconry losses therefore would be of indigenous stock, and because there are few falconers in Ireland as compared to the UK, the number of losses would be minimal.

Domestic

We regarded domestic peregrines as those falcons available for falconry and advertised as 'peregrines' on the open market in the UK, thus freely available to falconers and as such may potentially be lost and breed in the wild. Registration of peregrines with the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA, formerly the UK Department of Environment, DoE) by falconers and breeders was compulsory during the period 1985-2007 and this seems to be the period when captive breeding became prolific. Some registration data are available for this period (Fox and Chick 2007; Flemming et al. 2011) and from these inferences on the origins and size of the UK Domestic population can be made. During the period 1985-2007 some 627 peregrines of wild UK origin (wild-disabled and licensed wild-take) were held in captivity and of these, 130 (21%) produced offspring. Additionally, 398 peregrines were imported into the UK during the period 1976-2005 and were of subspecies other than the native *F. p. peregrinus*, namely *F. p. anatum, F. p. brookei, F. p. calidus, F. p. pealei* and *F. p. peregrinator*. If we assume that these imports had a similar breeding success rate as captive wild UK peregrines, we conclude therefore the founder breeding population for domestic birds was around 200-250 breeding birds and of these approximately 2/3 were native *F. p. peregrinus* and 1/3 imported birds of other subspecies.

According to Flemming et al. (2011) for the 22-year period of compulsory registration (1985-2007) 687 peregrines were lost by falconers, or roughly 30 per year. There is now no legal requirement to report lost birds but a voluntary registration scheme (The Independent Bird Register) provides a lost-found service to subscribers and some data indicates an almost identical estimate of 30 lost and not recovered peregrines per year (Barbara Royle pers. comm.). These two sources combined also

provide evidence that similar losses of hybrids between peregrines and other falcon

species. Therefore, in the 37 years since records began in 1983, around 1000

peregrines and a similar number of peregrine hybrids could have been lost into the

wild by falconers. This figure is comparable to the number of captive bred birds

purposely released in the German reintroduction scheme (Saar 1988) and indeed

captive breeding/release schemes for other raptor species.

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Falco peregrinus brookei

The Mediterranean peregrine (*F. p. brookei*) as its name suggests inhabits those

regions of southern Europe on the fringe of the Mediterranean Sea (White et al. 2013).

Its relative proximity to *F. p. peregrinus* populations in UK and mainland Europe makes

it a potential candidate as a source of immigrants into depleted post-pesticide *F. p.*

peregrinus populations. Further, Wink (2019) using mtDNA cytochrome b data

suggests that western Europe represents a zone of integration between these two

sub-species and intermediate populations have also been recorded along the French-

Spanish Pyrenees (Zuberogoitia et al. 2009).

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 Fig S1

Table S1 Samples of peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) used of microsatellite and mtDNA control region analysis							
Group	Country	Locality	Microsatellite ID	MtDNA ID	Haplotype (Network)*	Sample origin	Museum ID
UK-pre	UK	East Sussex	PF36			Leeds Museum	LEEDM.C.1995.1.98.6074
UK-pre	UK	East Sussex	PF37	B2-7_GBEastSussex1917pre	Hap_1	Booth Museum Brighton	BC205723 (51)
UK-pre	UK	Avon	PF38	B2-1_GBAvon1899pre	Hap_5	World Museum Liverpool	1983.59
UK-pre	UK	East Sussex	PF39			Booth Museum Brighton	BC200464 (53)
UK-pre	UK	Alderney	PF40	B2-5_GBGuernsey1924pre	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1924.5.21.1
UK-pre	UK	East Sussex	PF41	B2-4_GBSussex1895post	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1895.6.14.1
UK-pre	UK	Hampshire	PF43	B2-2_GBHampshire1936pre	Hap_6	World Museum Liverpool	1983.61
UK-pre	UK	Buckinghamshire	PF44	B2-6_GBBuckinghamshire1938post	Hap_1	NHM Tring	2013.3.7
UK-pre	UK	Devon	PF45	B1-5_GBDevon1845pre	Hap_4	World Museum Liverpool	T3371
UK-pre	UK	Wiltshire	PF47	B1-3_GBWiltshire1926pre	Hap_4	World Museum Liverpool	57.107.32
UK-pre	UK	Suffolk	PF48			World Museum Liverpool	57.107.28
UK-pre	UK	Avon	PF49	B1-1_GBAvon1903pre	Hap_1	World Museum Liverpool	1983.56
UK-pre	UK	East Sussex	PF50			Booth Museum Brighton	BC205721 (52)
UK-pre	UK	Hampshire	PF51	B3-54_GBHampshire1909pre	Hap_1	Booth Museum Brighton	BC203426 (54)
UK-pre	UK	Dorset		B3-55_GBDorset1918pre	Hap_1	Booth Museum Brighton	BC210019 (55)
UK-pre	UK	Devon		NH16_GBDevon1935pre	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1935.12.16.1
UK-pre	UK	Berkshire		NH18_GBBerkshire1943pre	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1943.12.18.1
UK-pre	UK	Hampshire		NH25_GBHampshire1943pre	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1943.2.25.2
UK-pre	UK	Hampshire		NH63_GBHampshire1932pre	Hap_1	NHM Tring	1955.3.63
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF1	Fpp_GBCTS261100TT6post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	Surrey	PF10	Fpp_GBSurrPengeUK6post	Hap_2	SPS	

UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF11			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF12			SPS	
UK-post	UK	Surrey	PF13	Fpp_GBHeathrowUK12dbpost	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF14	Fpp_GBFirSist99TT8post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF15			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF16			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF17			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF18			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF19			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF2	Fpp_GBBHW14TT1post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF20			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF21			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF22			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF23			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF24			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF25			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF26	Fpp_GBLe2000TT2post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF27	Fpp_GBSussHeightsBright30600TT29post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF28			SPS	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex	PF29			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF3			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF30			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF31			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF32	Fpp_GBSussHeightsBrightDG24TT14post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex	PF33	Fpp_GBShorPowStatJR33TT9post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF34			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF35			SPS	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex	PF4			SPS	
UK-post	UK	Herm Island	PF42	B2-3_GBHerm1956post	Hap_7	World Museum Liverpool	57.108.44

UK-post	UK	Cornwall	PF46	B1-4_GBCornwall1966post	Hap_4	World Museum Liverpool	LIV.2012.54.67
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF5			SPS	
UK-post	USA	Unknown	PF53			BC210629 (57)	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex	PF54	B3-56_GBSussex1982post	Hap_1	Booth Museum Brighton	BC203403 (56)
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF6			SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex	PF7			SPS	
UK-post	UK	Surrey	PF8	Fpp_GBUKSurGR001post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex	PF9	Fpp_GBSusWorthUK4post	Hap_2	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex		Fpp_GBSecSist07TT7post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	West Sussex		Fpp_GBHoughtFemTT12post	Hap_2	SPS	
UK-post	UK	Dorset		Fpp_GBDors3AdFem09TT13post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex		Fpp_GBSussHeightsBrightDG22TT15post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex		Fpp_GBSusUK1post	Hap_2	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex		Fpp_GBSusBrighUK2post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	Cornwall		Fpp_GBCornUK3post	Hap_1	SPS	
UK-post	UK	East Sussex		Fpp_GBSusUK15post	Hap_2	SPS	
UK-post	UK	Kent		Fpp_GBCant01post	Hap_1	SPS	
Outgroup	UK	Domestic		Fpp_DomCAGyrTT3	Hap_3	Breeder	
Outgroup	Captive bred	Unknown		Frusticolus_GBGyrCaptBrTT10	Hap_3	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE1	Fpp_IEBW136990mIE2	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Galway	IE10			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Sligo	IE11			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE12			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Clare	IE13	Fpp_IEKM2	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE14	Fpp_IEKM4tb	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE15	Fpp_IEKM01	Hap_2	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE16	Fpp_IEER001	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Dublin/Kilkenny	IE17	Fpp_IEBW02fF1DublinXKilkennyIE8	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Limerick	IE18	Fpp_IEDR02mF1LimerickIE4	Hap_1	SPS	

Irish	Ireland	Laois	IE19	Fpp_IE19	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Limerick	IE2	Fpp_IEAM05fLimerickIE18	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE20	Fpp_IEEW02mF1IE6	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE21	Fpp_IEEW01mF1IE5	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Kerry	IE22	Fpp_IEEW03fKerryIE7	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Kildare	IE23	Fpp_IEDR00001fIE3	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE24	Fpp_IETR02fIE13	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Wexford	IE25			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Sligo	IE26	Fpp_IEDR03mSligoIE10	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Westmeath	IE27	Fpp_IEAM01WestMeathIE14	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Donegal	IE28	Fpp_IEAM02mIE15	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Unknown	IE29	Fpp_IETR01F1IE12	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Limerick	IE3	Fpp_IEAM04mLimerickIE17	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Kilkenny	IE30	Fpp_IEBW03mKilkennyIE9	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Tipperary	IE4			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Kerry	IE5	Fpp_IEAM03fKerryIE16	Hap_1	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Dublin	IE6	Fpp_IEDR04mDublinIE11	Hap_2	SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Mayo	IE7			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Mayo	IE8			SPS	
Irish	Ireland	Mayo	IE9			SPS	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G1			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G10	Fpp_DEDU6TT18	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G11	Fpp_DEDU5TT17	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G12	Fpp_DEMH1	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G13			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G14			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G15	Fpp_DEOB1	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G16	Fpp_DEDo3	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	

German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G17			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G18	Fpp_DEKR3	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G19	Fpp_DEDu6	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G2	Fpp_DEDU3TT24	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G20	Fpp_DEKle2	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G21			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G22			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G23			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G24			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G25	Fpp_DEGe16	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G26			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G27			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G28			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G29			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G3			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G30			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G4	Fpp_DEDu7	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G5	Fpp_DEWES6jTT23	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G6			Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G7	Fpp_DEDU2TT21	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G8	Fpp_DEGelbTT22	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia	G9	Fpp_DEKiezTT19	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DEDuJuv10TT20	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	

German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DESWK11TT25	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DEP3K95TT26	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DET4K99TT27	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DEP8K11TT28	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
German	Germany	North Rhine-Westphalia		Fpp_DEWe56	Hap_1	Peter Wegner	
F. p. brookei	UK	Gibraltar	BR1	Fpp_BrookeiBro2	Hap_1	GONHS Raptor Unit	
F. p. brookei	UK	Gibraltar	BR2	Fpp_BrookeiBro3	Hap_1	GONHS Raptor Unit	
F. p. brookei	UK	Gibraltar	BR3	Fpp_BrookeiBro4	Hap_1	GONHS Raptor Unit	
F. p. brookei	Spain	Northwest	BR4			Breeder	
F. p. brookei	Italy	Unknown	BR5	Fpp_BrookeiBro5	Hap_1	Breeder	
F. p. brookei	Spain	Unknown	BR6	Fpp_BrookeiBro6	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D1			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D10	Fpp_Dom21Tia	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D11			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D12			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D13	Fpp_Dom19MrT	Hap_2	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D14	Fpp_Dom24Dave	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D15			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D16			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D17			Breeder	
Domestic	The Netherlands	Domestic	D18			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D19			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D2			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D20	Fpp_Dom9Isla	Hap_2	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D21	Fpp_Dom10Charly	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D22	Fpp_Dom8Motty	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D23			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D24			Breeder	

Domestic	UK	Domestic	D25			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D26			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D27			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D28	Fpp_Dom5Angel	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D29			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D3			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D30	Fpp_Dom18Dinky	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D4			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D5			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D6	Fpp_Dom17Katie	Hap_2	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D7			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D8			Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic	D9	Fpp_DomGBCap56VLakeTT5	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic		Fpp_DomDECaptBr7admaleTT11	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic		Fpp_DomGBAdCaptSunnyJimSJ11TT16	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic		Fpp_Dom11Druid	Hap_1	Breeder	
Domestic	UK	Domestic		Fpp_Dom12Bonnie	Hap_2	Breeder	
SPS = Sussex Peregrine Study, GONSH = Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society							
*Full FASTA file available upon request							

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1144 **Table S2**

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Table S2 Newly designed mtDNA control region primers for peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*)					
Internal pair 1. Product Length 192.					
	Start	Stop	Sequence 5'-3'	Tm	GC%
PF_CR1F	95	117	AAGCAATGAAACACGGAATATCG	58.09	39.13
PF_CR1R	286	267	CTAATACCTGAAGCCGGCAC	58.42	55
Internal pair 2. Product Length 188.					
PCR10 F	95	119	AGCAATGAAACACGGAATATCGAC	59.97	41.67
PCR10 R	283	264	ATACCTGAAGCCGGCACTAC	59.54	55
Internal pair 3. Product Length 190.					
PF_CR2F	173	192	TCCAGGATACGGAAGTGCCT	60.33	55
PF_CR2R	362	343	CCTGACGCTGGTCGTGTAAT	60.11	55
Internal pair 4. Product Length 175.					
PF_CR3F	264	284	GTAGTGCCGGCTTCAGGTATT	60.13	52.38
PF_CR3R	438	419	CAAGTTATGGCCCTGACCGA	59.75	55
Internal pair 5. Product Length 191.					
PF_CR4F	392	411	AACTTGCACTTTTGCGCCTC	60.25	50
PF_CR4R	582	563	GCACTCAGAAGGGTCACCTG	60.25	50

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1148 **Table S3**

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Table S3 Nei's unbiased pairwise genetic distances (above diagonal) and pairwise genetic differentiation (F_{ST}) values (below diagonal) among peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) populations based on microsatellite data						
	UK-post	Domestic	German	*F. p. brookei*	Irish	UK-pre
UK-post	-	0.591	0.459	0.469	0.591	0.020
Domestic	**0.208**	-	0.211	0.176	0.099	0.690
German	**0.158**	**0.050**	-	0.012	0.375	0.544
F. p. brookei	**0.171**	**0.099**	0.029	-	0.315	0.490
Irish	**0.187**	**0.062**	**0.081**	**0.070**	-	0.622
UK-pre	**0.120**	**0.135**	**0.130**	**0.136**	**0.135**	-
Significant F_{ST} values in bold (P < 0.05)						

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1152   **Table S4**

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Table S4 Pairwise genetic differentiation (F_{ST}) values among peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) populations based on mtDNA control region data									
	UK-post	UK-pre	German	Irish	GenBank-peregrines	GenBank-others	Domestic	*F. p. brookei*	*F. rusticolus*
UK-post	-								
UK-pre	0.050	-							
German	0.124	0.026	-						
Irish	0.008	0.029	0.048	-					
GenBank-peregrines	0.089	0.050	0.107	0.065	-				
GenBank-others	0.019	0.021	0.012	0.000	0.017	-			
Domestic	0.000	0.108	0.231	0.056	0.145	0.060	-		
F. p. brookei	0.124	0.026	0.000	0.048	0.107	0.012	0.231	-	
F. rusticolus	0.838	0.814	0.931	0.899	0.880	0.859	0.843	0.931	-

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