

Non-Eagle Feather Repositories

Requesting Non-Eagle Feathers

Nov 2016

How do I request non-eagle feathers or parts?

You can obtain a request form from either of the two Repositories participating in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's (Service) Southwest Region program, or by contacting the Region 2 Migratory Bird Permits Office, or Native American Liaison. See contact information below.

Is there a difference between the Repositories?

Yes. Sia Essential Species Repository is operated directly by Native Americans of the Comanche Nation. They also manage the Sia Eagle Aviary and Raptor Program. The other, Liberty Non-Eagle Repository, is a non-tribal wildlife rehabilitation and conservation education center that regularly consults on tribal issues with a Native American advisory committee on tribal issues. The two Repositories operate independently of each other and, as such, have different applications, methods of processing requests and timeframes for distribution. Please contact them directly to learn more.

Where do the Repositories get their feathers?

The Repositories can use naturally shed, or 'molted' feathers gathered under their own permits, such as Liberty's rehabilitation permit and Sia's live possession of raptors permit. They can also use the feathers from birds that die of natural causes that they possess under these permits. Feathers, parts and whole birds are also donated from other Service permitted entities.



Red-tailed hawk wing feather dance bustle and Hopi kachina doll with American kestrel feathers.

Do I need a permit to obtain feathers?

The Service will not be issuing federal permits for possession of non-eagle feathers and parts. However, the recipient of these items will receive a Letter of Authorization that allows for their legal possession. Proof of enrollment in a federally recognized (BIA) tribe is required for the Letter of Authorization and the possession of migratory bird feathers and parts.

Can I apply to both Repositories?

Not at the same time. You can choose which Repository you wish to obtain feathers from, and they will contact you regarding your order request. If you have a pending request with one Repository and decide you would like to send it to the other repository instead, you may withdraw your original request at any time, and for any reason. You may NOT have two requests submitted for processing simultaneously.



Can I get eagle feathers from the Repositories?

You cannot receive eagle feathers from the Non-eagle Repositories. However, the Sia Essential Species Repository currently holds an Indian Religious Use permit that authorizes them to distribute eagle feathers from their facility for religious purposes. You may contact them for more information. You may also contact the Service's National Eagle Repository to request eagle feathers, parts or whole birds at:

<https://www.fws.gov/national-eagle-repository.html>

For additional information on the non-eagle repositories, contact:

Oklahoma

William Voelker, Director/Founder,
Sia Essential Species Repository
<http://www.comancheeagle.org>
or 580-464-2750

Arizona

Liberty Repository -
Robert Mesta, Non-Eagle Feather
Program, Coordinator
email: robertm@libertywildlife.org
Ph: 520-240-7406

Mare VanDyke, Non-Eagle Feather
Program Assistant
email: marev@libertywildlife.org
Ph: 480-384-0929

Liberty Repository
<http://www.non-eaglefeathers.net>
or 480-998-5550

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Southwest Region

Migratory Bird Permits Office at
permitsR2MB@fws.gov
or 505-248-7882

Joe Early, Native American Liaison
at joe_early@fws.gov
or 505-248-6602

For more information on how
Southwest Region works with Tribes,
please visit:

[http://www.fws.gov/southwest/NAL/
index.html](http://www.fws.gov/southwest/NAL/index.html)

Connect with Us in the Southwest Region

Regional Website:
www.fws.gov/southwest/

Regional Facebook site:
[http://www.facebook.com/
USFWSSouthwest](http://www.facebook.com/USFWSSouthwest)



Regional Twitter page:
[http://twitter.com/USFWS_
Southwest](http://twitter.com/USFWS_Southwest)



Regional Flickr page:
[http://www.flickr.com/
photos/usfws_southwest/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_southwest/)



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