



## 9/11 Memorial Trail and Falcon Banding

By Rep. Ann Flood

PEN ARGYL - Cyclists from across the country are participating in the 9/11 National Memorial Trail ride, touring approximately 1,200 miles over 27 days to fundraise for the organization. The riders have been traversing through scenic landscapes, paying tribute to the memory of those affected by the events of September 11, 2001. As they ride across the terrain and pedal through some of the hottest days this year, the cyclists are taking breaks with the 9/11 National Memorial Trail partners along the way.

On Thursday, the cyclists and I visited Waste Management (WM), a partner of the trail organization since 2021, where we enjoyed a lunch-and-learn session with bird bander Kevin Kelly. Together, we watched closely as Kevin placed a small bracelet-like band around the ankle of a small falcon, explaining the importance of the citizen science project.

"The bands are like a social security number. If the bird is ever found, the finder can report that band number to the Bird Banding Laboratory, and together we all learn the patterns of the birds," explained Kevin Kelly.



Debbie Pettinari  
Agent

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