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Aberrant White Plumage in an American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)

On 10 Oct 2018, a hatch-year male American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) with aberrant plumage was captured at John F. Kennedy International Airport in Jamaica, New York (40° 38' 23.07" N, 73° 45' 23.61" W). In the left wing, the bird had two completely white primaries (p10 and p 9) as well as five white outer primary coverts. The bird also had one completely white outer primary covert in the right wing. All other plumage appeared normal.

A photograph of the bird is shown in Figure 1. The bird was banded with a USGS band (1893-14409) and a green auxiliary band (09 over C) (Acraft Sign & Nameplate Co., Edmonton, AB, and released the following day in Suffolk County, NY (40° 55' 12.65" N, 72° 55' 42.02" W) in an effort to reduce wildlife strikes at the airport. There have been no subsequent recaptures or reported sightings of this bird as of 31 Dec 2019.



Figure 1. Male American Kestrel showing aberrant white feathers in its wings.