Female-biased dispersal is common among many bird species, likely because of a resource-defense system, whereby males defend breeding territories and females choose among many males (Greenwood 1980, Greenwood and Harvey 1982, Pusey 1987). The resource-defense hypothesis assumes that males settle close to their natal areas because familiarity with an area facilitates the establishment of territories. Similarly, adult males may show fidelity to breeding sites because of the advantages of familiarity with neighbors in establishing and defending territories (Greenwood and Harvey 1982, Payne and Payne 1993). Female birds may disperse more frequently than males, regardless of nesting outcome, because they are seeking to maximize their reproductive opportunities and are not constrained by the need to establish and defend territories (Winkler et al. 2004).

Among raptors, males typically demonstrate stronger fidelity to breeding sites than do females (e.g., Village 1990, Warkentin et al. 1991, Newton and Wyllie 1992, Forero et al. 1999, Linkhart and Reynolds 2007). In some cases, sex differences in site fidelity are directly tied to different responses to nest failure. For example, female Flammulated Owls (*Otus flammeolus*) had much lower return rates than did males following nesting failure (Linkhart and Reynolds 2007).

Breeding-site fidelity in raptors has been studied extensively in migratory populations, but relatively little is known about site fidelity in nonmigratory populations. We examined site occupancy by the nonmigratory Southeastern American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius paulus*), which is characterized by a high degree of natal philopatry in Florida (median natal dispersal distance of 4.9 km; Miller and Smallwood 1997), to determine whether sex or previous reproductive success influenced breeding-site fidelity.