

## **In Belgorod Region, probe launched into illegal trafficking of birds entered in the Red Book of the Russian Federation**



The Moscow Interregional Transport Investigations Directorate of the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation opened an investigation into illegal hunting and trafficking of especially valuable wild animals and aquatic biological resources of the species entered in the Red Book of the Russian Federation (Part 3 of Article 258.1 of the Criminal Code of Russia).

According to the investigation, in October and November 2018, two citizens of Russia and one citizen of Ukraine, acting intentionally as an organised group, transported by car, in a specially designed hide, eight gyrfalcons (*falcorusticolus*) entered into the Red Book of the Russian Federation, worth over 9 million roubles, from Irkutsk to Belgorod Region with the purpose of transporting them further abroad.

At the moment, the investigative activities associated with the probe and aimed to gather evidence, are ongoing. The birds have been seized and stay in the Belgorod zoo for now.

Video link <https://youtu.be/JV7qGKoLizY>

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20 November 2018

*Page address:* <https://en.sledcom.ru/news/item/1273794>