

BIRD HAZARDS AT AIRPORTS

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This is a 137-slide audio-visual presentation of approximately 21 minutes duration produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide an awareness of bird hazards to aircraft in the airport environment and some procedures to reduce the hazard. The audio-visual is a semi-technical orientation and training program for airport/airfield managers, aircraft controllers, airline managers, pilots, and other airport users.

The program identifies some of the reasons why bird hazards to aircraft and the airport environment pose serious safety and health hazards. The program looks at those conditions and situations in the airport environment which are attractive to birds. The program additionally describes when bird hazards may be the most serious, and although aircraft-bird collisions are worldwide and throughout the day and year, it emphasizes the particular hazards at the airport.

A brief review is made of the bird's biology and life history requirements in order to acquaint the viewer with those features which allow birds to adapt to the airport environment. The review of the bird's biology and life history requirements emphasizes those fea-

tures which provide a basis for effective control and non-effectiveness of other control methods.

A special effort is made to define the role of humans in the solution of the problem. The need to identify the principal participants, their effective organization, extent, and timelines of their efforts are prescribed. The need to maintain an awareness of the problem, gather information, and continuously analyze the airport with surrounding areas for changes in bird attractions and use are emphasized.

The measures used to reduce or eliminate bird hazards to aircraft in the airport environment are presented categorically. Modification of flight activity, removal or legal restriction, elimination, or modification of sanctuary situations, direct control of bird populations including lethal and non-lethal methods, and modifications of the airport environment are steps used to address the problem. The elements of an airport "shotgun patrol" are prescribed.

In addition to the specific aviation industry audience, this audio-visual program may also serve as useful role in creating an awareness of the problem to land use planners and developers as well as the environmentally sensitive groups which are critical of actions having adverse impacts on birds.

For information about this slide-tape presentation, please contact Mr. Thompson.