



Wildlife Services Colorado Airports Update Winter 2019



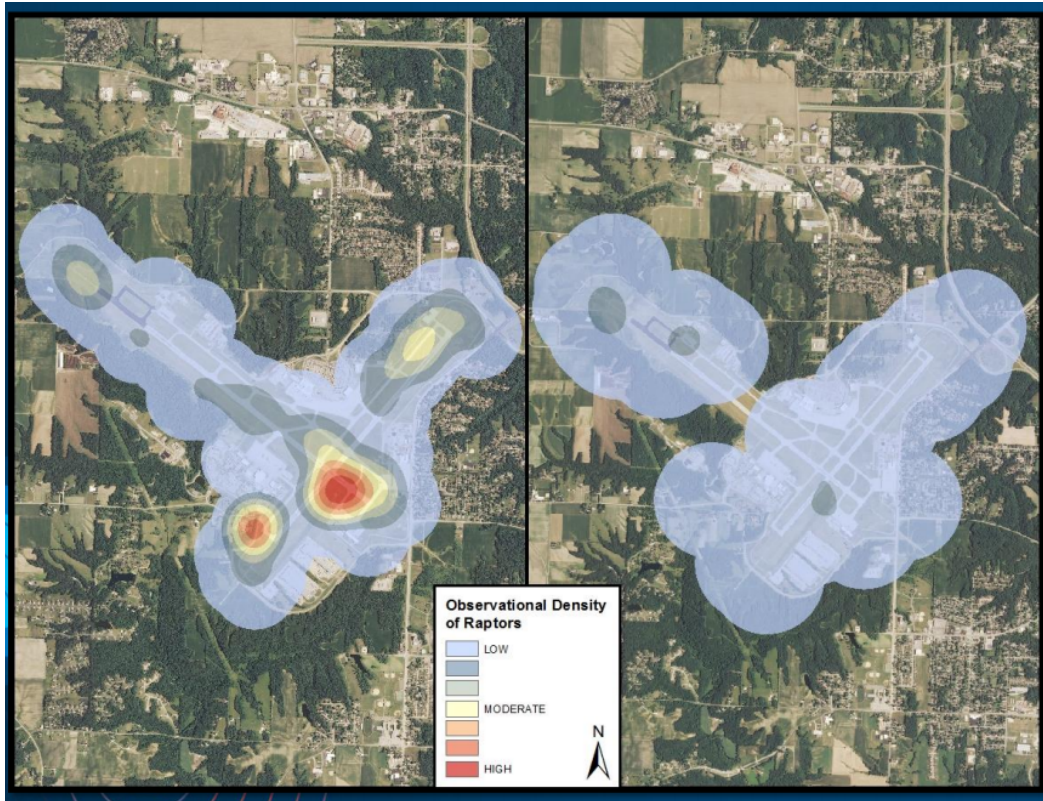
Emily L. Blizzard
Airport Wildlife Biologist
USDA APHIS Wildlife Services
CDOT Division of Aeronautics

Anniversary Miracle On the Hudson

- January 2009 - LaGuardia
- A-320 aircraft, Flight 1549
- 2,800 ft – strike both engines
- Smithsonian Feather Lab
- Canada geese



Anniversary Miracle On the Hudson



- Improved Research/ Data Collection
 - Strike Reporting
 - Snarge Kits
- Wildlife Services
 - 2009; 2,751 airport staff
 - 365 airports
 - 2017; 5,000
 - 406 airports
- National Wildlife Research Center
- GIS mapping software
- Avian radar

Technical Assistance

- Migratory Bird Depredation Permits
- Shutdown – Delay
- Date Submitted



Technical Assistance

- Trapping Exemption Permits
 - Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
 - Colorado Parks and Wildlife
 - Coyotes, Foxes, and Badgers
 - Eagle
 - Durango La-Plata
 - Northern Colorado Regional
 - Rifle
 - Pueblo Memorial



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment



Technical Assistance



- Fencing
 - Antelope
 - Mule deer
- Types of Fencing
- Designs
- Behavior
- Movements

SLOPE INCREASES BARRIER

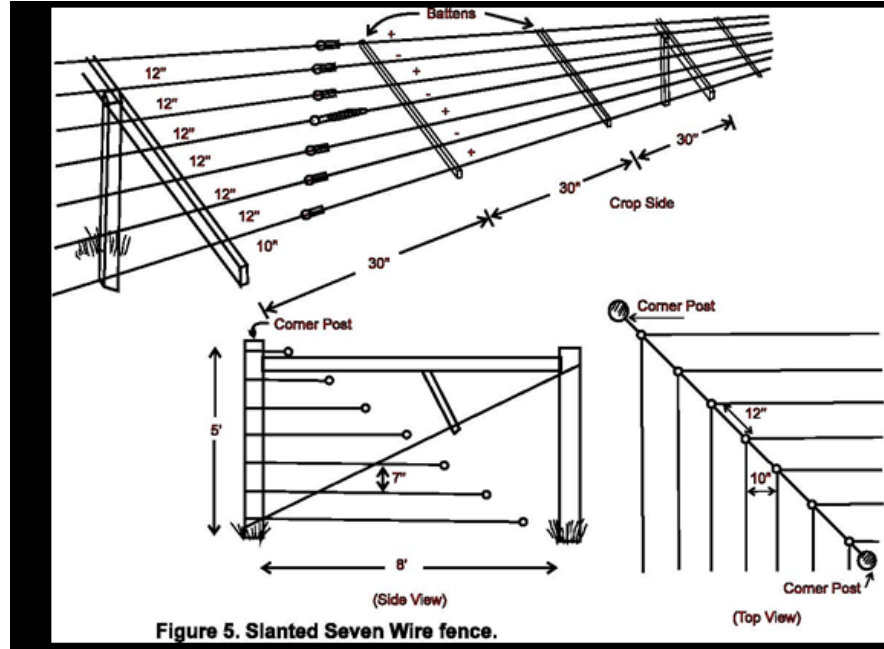


Figure 5. Slanted Seven Wire fence.

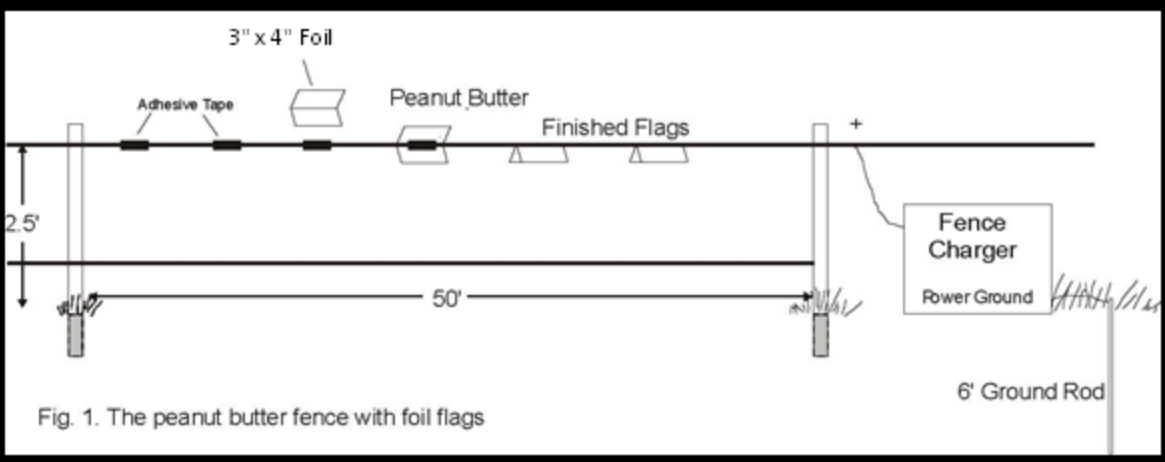
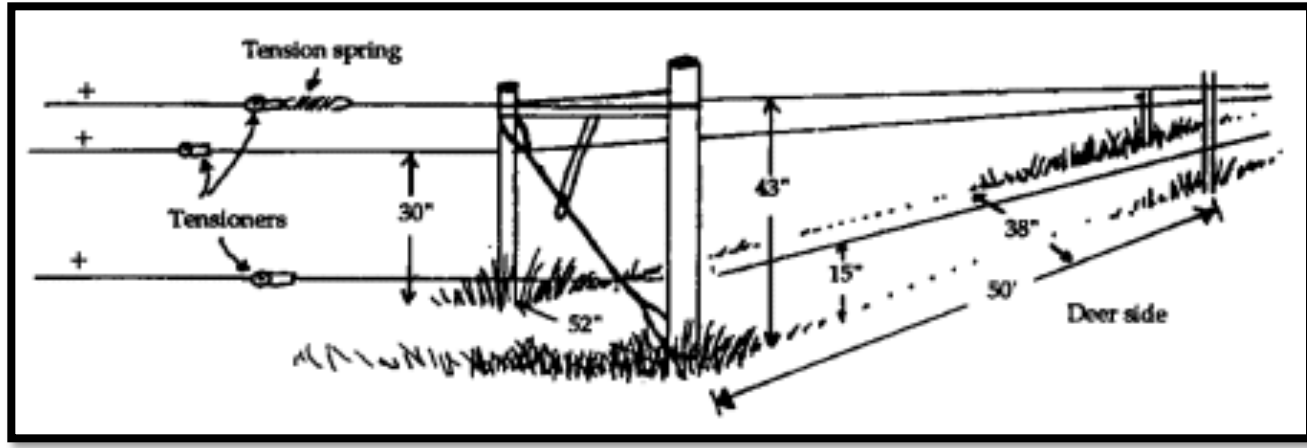


Fig. 1. The peanut butter fence with foil flags



Technical Assistance



- Seed Mix
- Landscape Plants
- Construction Plans
- Fencing Review

- Review
- NWRC
- Official Letter

Outreach – Career Fair

- Rocky Mountain Metro.
- Inform
- Educate
- Colorado Aviation Community
- FAA-qualified airport wildlife biologists



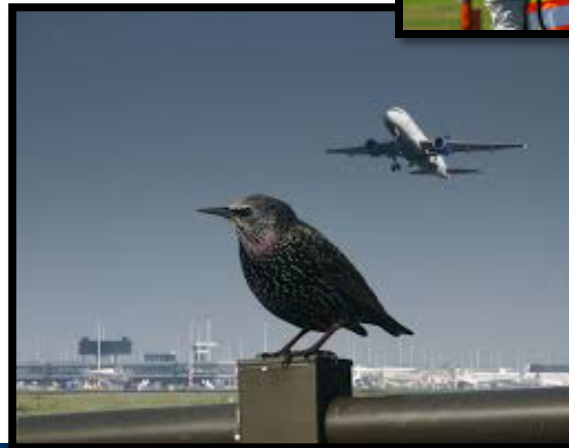
Trainings

- Wildlife Hazard Identification and Management
 - FAA AC 150/5200-36B
 - Qualifications for Wildlife Biologists Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments
 - Training Curriculum



Upcoming Trainings

- Now Scheduling
- Call or Email
- March – Montrose



Wildlife in Airport Environments

Preventing
Animal-Aircraft
Collisions
through
Science-Based
Management

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Travis L. DeVault
Bradley F. Blackwell
& Jerrold L. Belant

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Mitigation



- Prairie Dogs
 - Centennial
 - Northern Colorado
 - Pueblo
 - Durango
 - Cortez
 - Erie
- Ground Squirrels
 - Aspen
 - Eagle

Upcoming Mitigation



- Prairie Dogs
 - Centennial
 - Grand Junction
- Coyotes
 - Northern Colorado Regional
- Zinc phosphide
- February
- Aluminum phosphide

Strikes 2018

- January 1 – November 30
- 124 Strikes
- Jan. – March: 12
- April – June: 42
- July – Aug.: 46
- Sept. – Nov.: 24

Strike Score	
1	< 3%
2	3 - 8%
3	8 - 12%
4	12 - 20%
5	>20%

Species	Number of Strikes	Strike Score	Proportion of RISK
American kestrel	20	5	21.04
Bank swallow	2	1	0.01
Barn swallow	1	1	0.01
Chestnut-collared longspur	1	1	0.01
Cliff swallow	11	1	0.71
Common nighthawk	2	1	0.05
Horned lark	30	5	21.04
Eastern meadowlark	1	1	0.01
European starling	2	1	0.71
Franklin's gull	1	1	0.08
Killeer	1	1	0.04
Mallard	2	4	18.99
Mountain bluebird	1	1	0.04
Mourning dove	7	1	0.58
Northern-rough winged swallow	1	1	0.01
Red-tailed hawk	3	5	25.46
Rock pigeon	1	1	0.77
Say's phoebe	1	1	0.00
Song sparrow	1	1	0.01
Vesper sparrow	2	1	0.21
Violet-green swallow	1	1	0.01
Western kingbird	2	1	0.02
Western meadowlark	26	2	3.95
Yellow-rumped warbler	2	1	0.02

Strikes 2018

- Horned lark 30



Strike Score	
1	< 3%
2	3 - 8%
3	8 - 12%
4	12 - 20%
5	>20%

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Bank swallow	2	1	0.01
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Cliff swallow	11	1	0.71
Common nighthawk	2	1	0.05
Horned lark	30	5	21.04
Eastern meadowlark	1	1	0.01
European starling	2	1	0.71
Franklin's gull	1	1	0.08
Killeer	1	1	0.04
Mallard	2	4	18.99
Mountain bluebird	1	1	0.04
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Song sparrow	1	1	0.01
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Violet-green swallow	1	1	0.01
Western kingbird	2	1	0.02
Western meadowlark	26	2	3.95
Yellow-rumped warbler	2	1	0.02

Strikes 2018

- Western Meadowlark 26



Strike Score	
1	< 3%
2	3 - 8%
3	8 - 12%
4	12 - 20%
5	>20%

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American kestrel	20	5	21.04
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Violet-green swallow	1	1	0.01
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Western meadowlark	26	2	3.95
Yellow-rumped warbler	2	1	0.02

Strikes 2018

- American kestrel 20



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Song sparrow	1	1	0.01
Vesper sparrow	2	1	0.21
Violet-green swallow	1	1	0.01
Western kingbird	2	1	0.02
Western meadowlark	26	2	3.95
Yellow-rumped warbler	2	1	0.02

Strikes 2018

- Cliff swallow 11



Strike Score	
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Strikes 2018

- Mourning dove 7



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Western meadowlark	26	2	3.95
Yellow-rumped warbler	2	1	0.02

Interesting Bird Strike

- Violet green swallow
- 2 - 10
- Steamboat Springs
- August 20th
- Snarge
- \$300 damage
- Departure
- Late April – Early September



NEPA

NEW: Advisory Circular 150/5200-38
Charlotte Jones
Airport Certification Safety Inspector

Advisory Circular

AC 150/5200-38, Protocol for the Conduct and Review of Wildlife Hazard Site Visits, Wildlife Hazard Assessments (WHA), and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (WHMP). This Advisory Circular (AC) outlines the standards for and defines when to conduct a Site Visit, WHA, and WHMP.

One of the biggest impacts this AC will have involves a possible National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review as it relates to the WHMP. Our new approval process will follow one of the below paths:

- When a WHMP revision is received, the Airport Certification Safety Inspector (ACSI) will determine if the revisions are administrative only. If so, the ACSI will continue with our normal approval process and letter. To facilitate the ACSI's review, the certificate holder will need to either include a Revision Log summarizing individual page and text revisions in the WHMP. This will help expedite the review process.
- If the ACSI determines the WHMP revision contains a modification to an existing control method or includes a new procedure that was not in the previously approved WHMP, then the ACSI will forward the WHMP to the Environmental Specialist (EPS) for review. If the EPS decides the Categorical Exclusion (CATEX) covers the modification to the existing control method or new procedure in the WHMP, per consultation with United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is required, and the ACSI will proceed with the normal approval process and letter.
- However, if the EPS decides the modification to an existing control method or new procedure are not covered by the CATEX, the ACSI will issue a partial approval letter to the certificate holder identifying which elements are not approved and requires further action. The ACSI will inform the airport that Section 7 Consultation is needed and they need to prepare a Biological Assessment (BA). The certificate holder will then prepare the BA and forward it and the WHMP to the assigned EPS. The EPS will consult with USFWS who then has 135 days to provide us a biological opinion. Upon completion of the consultation process, the EPS will contact the ACSI and a final approval letter will be forwarded to the certificate holder.

Don't panic, the process will be harmless; we've already reviewed six WHMPs using this new procedure. To help facilitate the process, each certificate holder should take the following actions to ensure a smooth review:

- Include a revision log in the WHMP identifying the changes. For example:

Date	Page	Revision Description
9/13/2017	8	Updated the Projects Table to include completion dates. Also added two new project as a result of the drainage project completed in 7/3/2017.
9/20/2018	22	Updated the Laws and Regulations section to state that all permits are maintained at Airport Operations and are available upon request.
9/20/2018	Appendix 1	Removed all permits.
9/20/2018	Appendices 2-4	Removed all hard copy ACs. Included a reference page to include a link to the AC and re-named the remaining appendices.

- Ensure the WHMP contains realistic actions the airport can accomplish. Update all habitat modifications, population management, and land use strategies to reflect current efforts. NOTE: If your WHMP contains a measure the airport is not currently pursuing but may in the future, it may remain in the plan.
- Update the strike history (if applicable) to reflect current information. This can be obtained using the Wildlife National Strike Database at <http://wildlife.faa.gov/database.aspx>
- If the WHMP includes a signatory page, ensure it is signed by the approval official prior to submitting.
- Ensure each page contains the original WHMP approval date as well as the revision date.
- Verify all appendices are included and matches the Table of Contents.
- Verify all references to Cert Alerts and ACs are accurate.

ANM WILDLIFE WONDERS

Federal Aviation Administration
Northwest Mountain Region
Airports Division
2200 S. 256th Street

December 1, 2018
Volume 1, Issue 2

New Wildlife Guidance
Charlotte Jones
Airport Certification Safety Inspector

As you know, our goal is to review all 67 of our certified Wildlife Hazard Management Plans (WHMP) for standardization. Since our first publication of this newsletter in June 2018, we have reviewed and approved 11 WHMPs. While at least five of the 11 reviews were a result of a Part 139 discrepancy, the others were simply because you are being proactive. We are on to a great start and I cannot thank you enough for your efforts. Once all our WHMPs have been reviewed, all that's left to do is conduct the annual review and maintain the currency of the information.

In this issue, the discussion will center around Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5200-38 update and the adoption of our standardized Plan Review.

AC 150/5200-33B, Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports is currently being updated. Future changes to this AC will involve recommendation clarification of a Wildlife Hazard Assessment (WHA) and WHMP by general aviation airports.

AC 150/5200-36A, Qualifications for Wildlife Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Training Curricula for Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling Wildlife Hazards on Airports is currently being updated. Future changes to this AC will include revision of requirements to be a qualified wildlife biologist.

The long awaited **AC 150/5200-38, Protocol for the Conduct and Review of Wildlife Hazard Site Visits, Wildlife Hazard Assessments, and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans** was published August 20, 2018. This AC outlines the standards for and defines when to conduct a Site Visit, WHA and WHMP.

Airport WHMP Review. Now that the new AC 150-5200-38 has been published and includes a sample documented plan review, Northwest Mountain has adopted this as our standard documentation for the annual review of your WHMP.

14 CFR [§139.337\(f\)\(6\)](#) requires the certificate holder to review and evaluate the WHMP every 12 consecutive months or following an event described in paragraphs (b)(1), (b)(2), and (b)(3) of this section, including: (i) the plan's effectiveness in dealing with known wildlife hazards on and in the airport's vicinity and (ii) aspects of the wildlife hazards described in the WHA that should be reevaluated. Prior to the standardized format, Airport Certification Safety Inspectors (ACSI) experienced a variety of ways airports met this requirements. While acceptable, a more standardized process was always desired.

The expectation is for all Part 139 certified airports to use the Plan Review distributed on September 18, 2018, and provide a copy to your assigned ACSI during your Part 139 inspection. You may modify the document to include your airport's letterhead; however, none of the other information may be excluded. For all items that are not applicable, annotate N/A.

If there is something specific that you would like to have clarified, please feel free to email me at charlotte.jones@faa.gov.

Report Wildlife Strikes

- AC 150/5200-38
- NEPA Review
- FAA
- Northwest Mountain Region
- Others
- Quantify triggers for NEPA
- USDA – Environmental Assessments



FAA NORTHWEST MOUNTAIN REGION AIRPORTS CONFERENCE

Seattle, Washington



- March 19-20
- NEPA
- Wildlife Discussions
- Environmental/Extraordinary Circumstances

Questions?

Emily Blizzard

**USDA APHIS WS-Colorado
Airport Wildlife Biologist**

Emily.l.blizzard@usda.gov



Office 303.328.9041

Cell 720.656.8786