

Park Rule Prohibiting the Feeding of Wildlife at Bachman Lake Park

Dallas Park and
Recreation Board
March 22, 2018

Mark Duebner, Director
Department of Aviation



City of Dallas

Background

- FAA mandated all FAR Part 139 air carrier airports to conduct a Wildlife Hazard Assessment (WHA).
- Based on the results of the WHA for Dallas Love Field, along with its aeronautical activity, the FAA determined that a Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (WHMP) would be required for the airport (WHMP approved on 2/7/14)



WHMP Goal and Methods

- Goal:
 - To minimize the risk to aviation safety, airport structures/equipment, or human health posed by populations of hazardous wildlife on and around Dallas Love Field
- Methods:
 - Identification of hazardous wildlife and their attractants
 - Conducting suitable proactive and reactive management techniques



WHMP Status

- Proactive Management methods:
 - Annual training of airport personnel actively involved in overseeing or implementing the WHMP
 - Installed signs at Bachman Lake Park requesting patrons to not feed the wildlife
 - Increased community awareness through:
 - Local news media coverage
 - Presentations to the Friends of Bachman Lake
 - Love Field Environmental Advisory Committee
 - Increased inspections of Bachman Lake Park by Aviation personnel
 - USDA relocated resident waterfowl from Bachman Lake Park in 2014



Wildlife

- Left uncontrolled, wildlife at or near an airport can jeopardize the safe operation of any aircraft
- One of the greatest threats to aircraft operations posed by wildlife is bird strikes



Aircraft

- Modern Jets are designed to take the impact of a 5 lbs. bird
- However, even small birds such as starlings or pigeons can cause severe damage if multiple birds are ingested



Miracle on the Hudson

- US Airways Flight 1549
- 3 minutes into flight the aircraft struck a flock of Canada geese
- Aircraft lost both engines and made a forced landing in the Hudson River
- There were no fatalities
- Total loss of aircraft loss estimated at \$31 Million



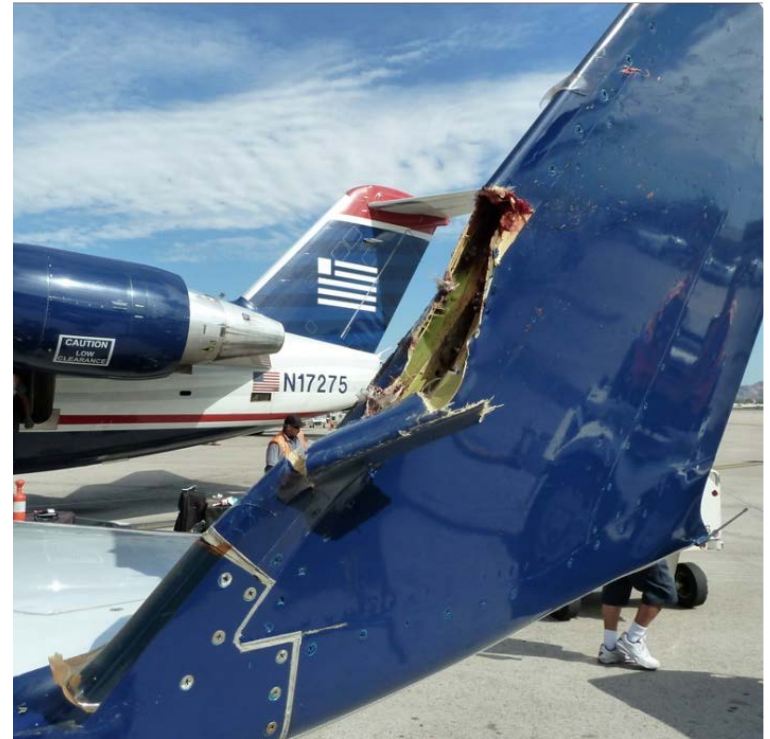
Recent Bird Strike at Love Field

- April 26, 2016
- Virgin America Airlines aircraft reported seeing 2-4 pigeons flying left to right as they took off. Immediately afterward the pilot reported a continuous loud noise from his number two engine, so the pilot decided to make a precautionary landing. On inspection, remains of a pigeon were found to have indeed been ingested, resulting in damage to three of the engine's blades.
- Cost of repairs were \$407,918.00
- There were 3 aborted takeoffs in 2017 due to bird strikes



Economic Impact of Bird Strikes

- According to FAA annual cost of wildlife strikes in 2015 was \$229 million
- World wide annual cost for strike damage and delays between \$1 Billion-\$1.5 Billion



Fatal Crash from Bird Strike

- Addison, TX July 8, 2003

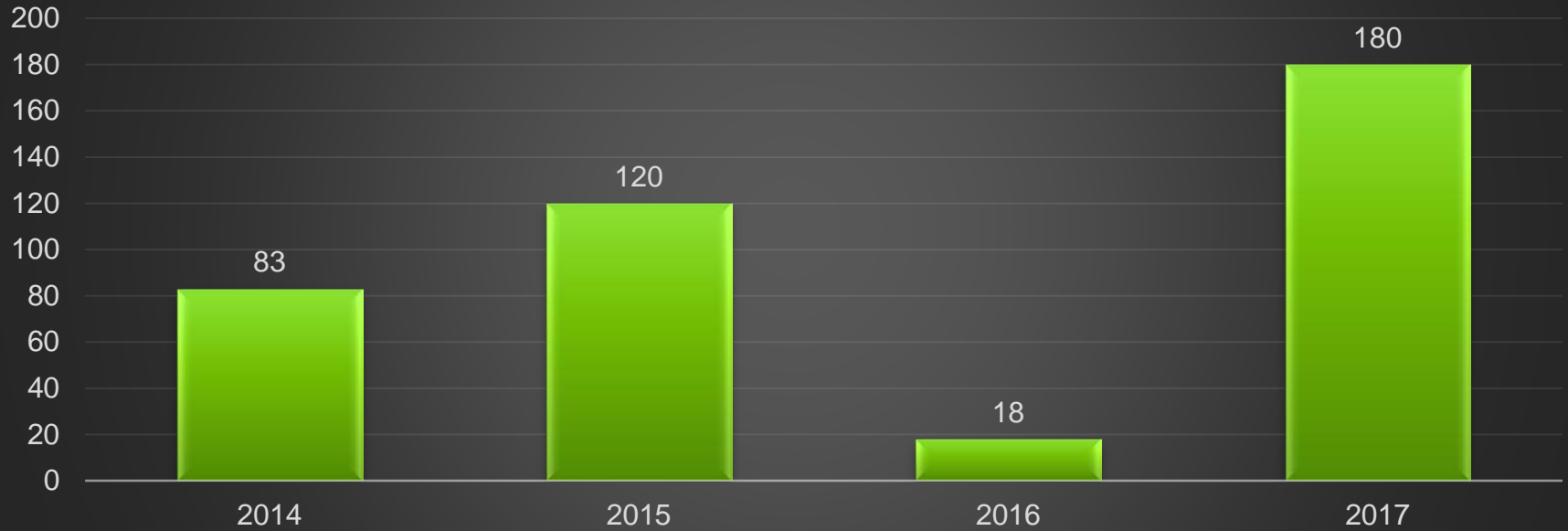


- Pilot and instructor both died



Dallas Love Field

Confirmed Bird Strikes



Bachman Lake Park



Birds at Love Field

- Rock Dove “Pigeon”
- Mourning Dove
- Killdeer
- Meadowlark
- Kestrel
- Cliff Swallow
- White-winged dove
- Chimney Swift
- Red Tailed Hawks
- Double Crested Cormorants
- Egrets
- Mallards
- Coots
- Great Tailed Grackles
- Great Blue Heron
- Black Vultures
- Ring Billed Gulls



Proposed Action

- Aviation Department is requesting Dallas Park and Recreation Board to approve the following Proposed Proactive Management methods:
 - Establish a Park Rule prohibiting the feeding of wildlife at Bachman Lake Park
 - Update Signage at Bachman Lake Park prohibiting the feeding of wildlife to reflect the new rule



Proposed Action – Park Rule

- Park Rule pursuant to Park Board authority under Section 32-11 Making it an offense to feed wildlife within Bachman Lake Park
 - Wildlife is defined as a feral animal or a domestic animal not under the control of the domestic animal's owner
- Penalty not to exceed \$200



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