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***Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) Program***  
***Aviation Wildlife Management Conference 2024***



**Jay Higgins**  
CNIC BASH Program Coordinator

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# *Navy BASH Program*

- **CNIC established in 2010**
- **Resources 32 airfield BASH programs**
- **Centrally managed (\$5M annual budget)**
  - One Air Ops (me) and one Natural Resources Specialist (Paul Block)
- **Provides oversight and guidance**
  - Navy BASH WG (CNO, Fleet, NAVAIR, Safety Command, NAVFAC, USDA, FLAB)
  - BASH instruction (program execution standards)
  - BASH Manual (habitat/species management, templates, threat species)
  - CNIC airfield inspection team (three year cycle)

# *Focus of Efforts*

- **Internal program management - ongoing**
  - Compliance with standards
  - Improved reporting
  - BASH working group synergy
  - WHMP development-habitat management requirements and prioritization
  - Funding advocacy for recurring airfield maintenance and long term projects
- **External stakeholder integration - current**
  - (CNIC/USDA) Data management and access (GIS Navy Data Model)
  - (CNIC/USDA) Risk modeling and presentation
  - (CNIC/Safety Command/FLAB) Strike reporting trend analysis
  - (CNIC/CNATRA/NAVAIR/USDA) Bird vision studies and light development
  - (CNIC/CNAF/CNATRA) Advocacy of avian radar acquisitions
  - (CNIC/NAVFAC) Management of new T&E bat species

# *Areas of Concern/Initiatives*

- **Threats to P-8, F-35, training aircraft (T-45, T-6, T-44)**
  - Target vulture light sensitivities (aircraft lighting)
  - Target vulture olfactory senses to draw away from flight paths
  - Use sound blasting devices to deter shorebirds
  - Study land use changes to understand impacts on local bird activity
  - Study impact of changing weather patterns on bird activity
  - Identify alternative vegetation regimes to deter local airfield birds
  
- **Risk management**
  - Maximize bird activity data streams (surveys, MOTUS, avian radar?)
  - Direct limited dollars toward highest hazard mitigations on airfields
  - Marry bird hazard conditions to flight profile adjustments

**Questions?**