



Migratory Bird Program

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Jennifer Miller, Acting Chief
Division of Bird Conservation, Permits, and Regulation



Organization Structure

- Department of Interior
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Migratory Bird Program - Headquarters
 - Division of Bird Conservation, Policy, and Regulation
 - Branch of Permits and Regulation
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Staff Leads

- Mandy Lawrence – Permit Policy
 - Matt Stuber – Eagle Policy
 - Katie Powell – Species Conflicts
 - Samantha Cobble – ePermits
 - Sarah Lessard – Regulations
 - Steve Czapka – NEPA
 - Steve Earsom – Solicitor Liaison / Pilot
 - Mary Williams – Eagle General Permit
 - Kammie Kruse – Temporary Shared Services Model (Acting)
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Migratory Bird Treaty Act

(16 U.S.C. §703-712)

- Regulations: Migratory Bird Permits (50 CFR Part 21)
 - Prohibits take, capture, possession, transport, and more
 - “Take” defined in regulation (e.g., injure or kill)
 - Applies to >1,100 protected species (50 CFR 10.13)
 - Includes live birds, parts, nests, eggs, or products
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Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

(16 U.S.C. §668a-d)

- Regulations: Eagle Permits (50 CFR Part 22)
 - Prohibits take, capture, possession, transport, and more
 - “Take” defined in law (e.g., Disturb, injure, or kill)
 - Applies to Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle
 - Includes live birds, parts, nests, eggs, or products
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Other Relevant Laws

- Airborne Hunting Act (AHA; 50 CFR 19)
 - “Harass” (chase, drive, herd) birds with aircraft
 - Includes UAS/Drones
- Endangered Species Act (ESA)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Administrative Procedures Act (APA)

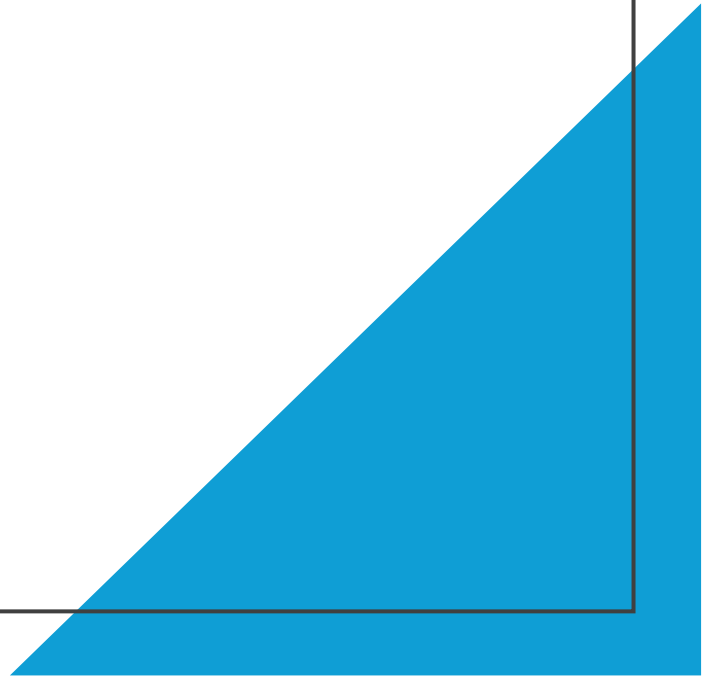


Depredation

- Wildlife-caused damage or losses
 - Agriculture loss
 - Property damage
 - Threats to human health & safety
 - Limiting recovery of protected species
 - Take authorized as part of comprehensive non-lethal approach
 - Landscape management
 - Operational practices
 - Active Hazing
 - Passive Dissuasion
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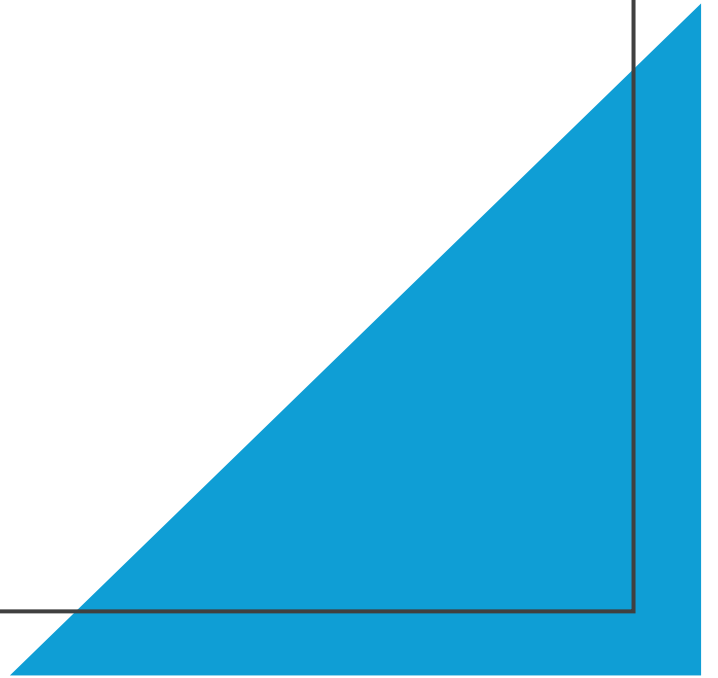
Team Philosophy

- Regulatory role in bird–aircraft strike space
- Goal: reduce strikes by aligning safety + conservation
- Integrate biological, social, and political science
- Provide science-based, common-sense solutions
- Communicate regulatory sideboards
- Foster cross-boundary collaboration
 - Emerging and long-term issues



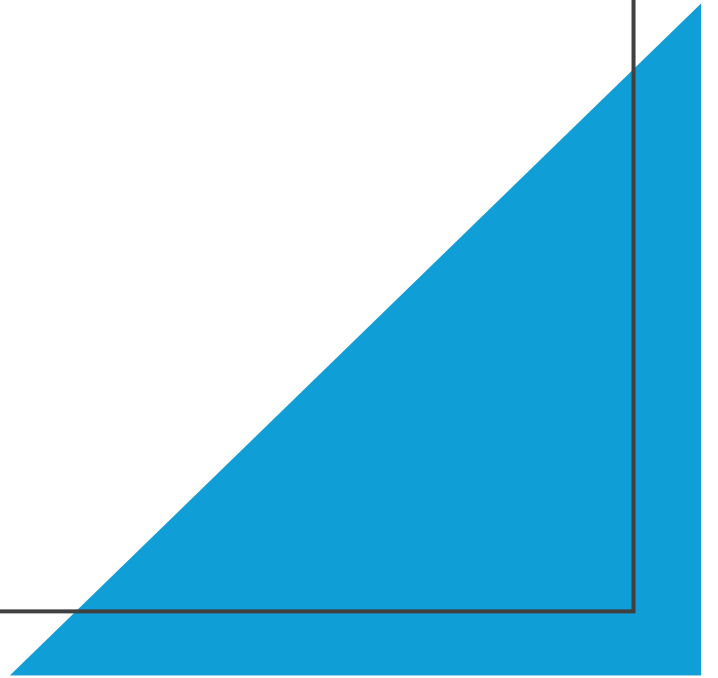
Implementation

- Communicating Across Boundaries
 - Airfield scale: Environmental & Air Operations
 - Agency scale: Airports & Federal agencies
 - FAA, USDA-WS, DOD
- Examples
 - Environmental vs. Air Opps
 - Airport & FAA



(De)Regulation

- Reducing inconsistency and red tape
 - Example: Form 37s
 - Example: Eagle hazing
 - Example: Trapping
- Future
 - Listening and learning what else is needed



Questions?

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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