



Land Use, Wildlife, and Public Perception: Key Factors in Airport Safety Management

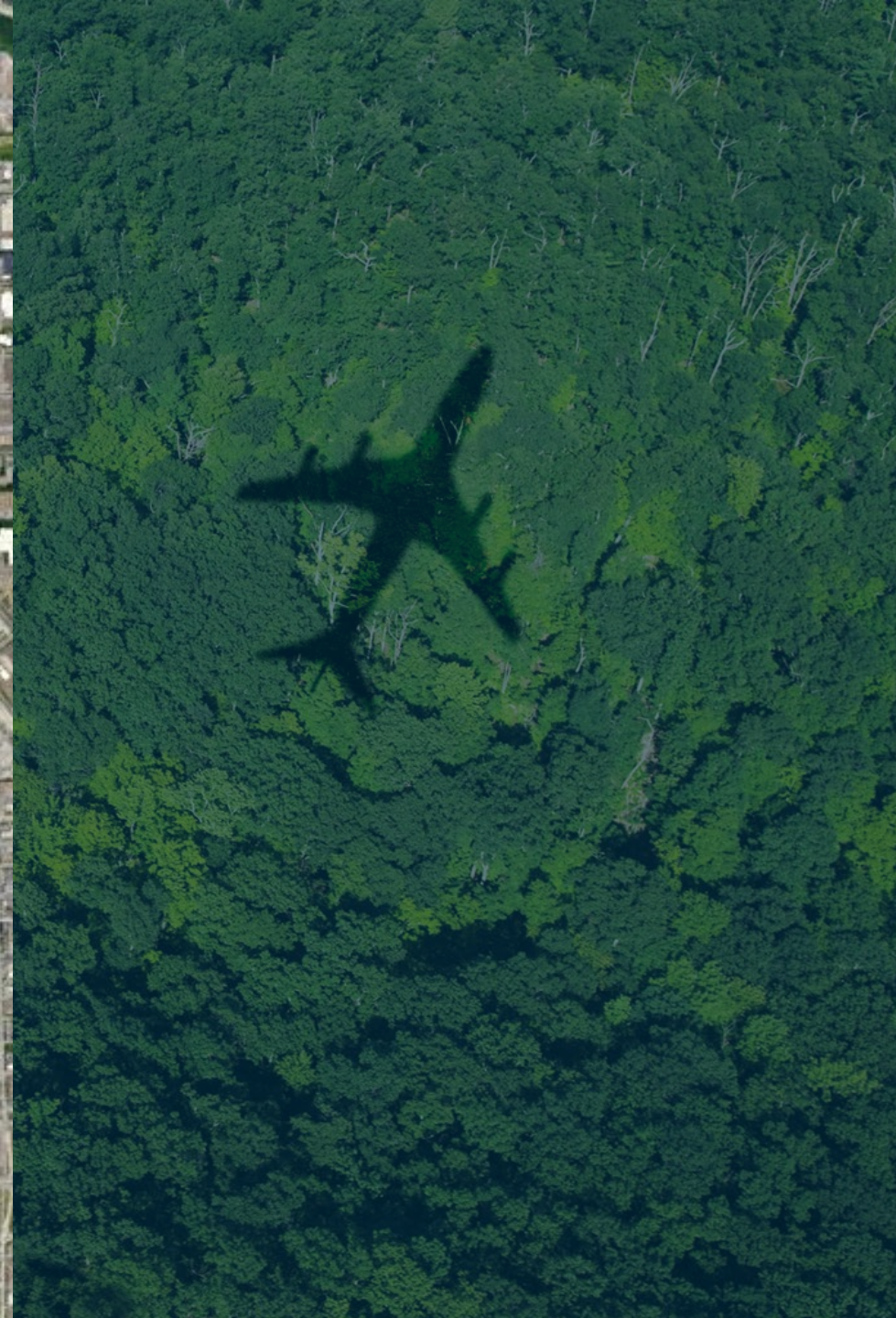
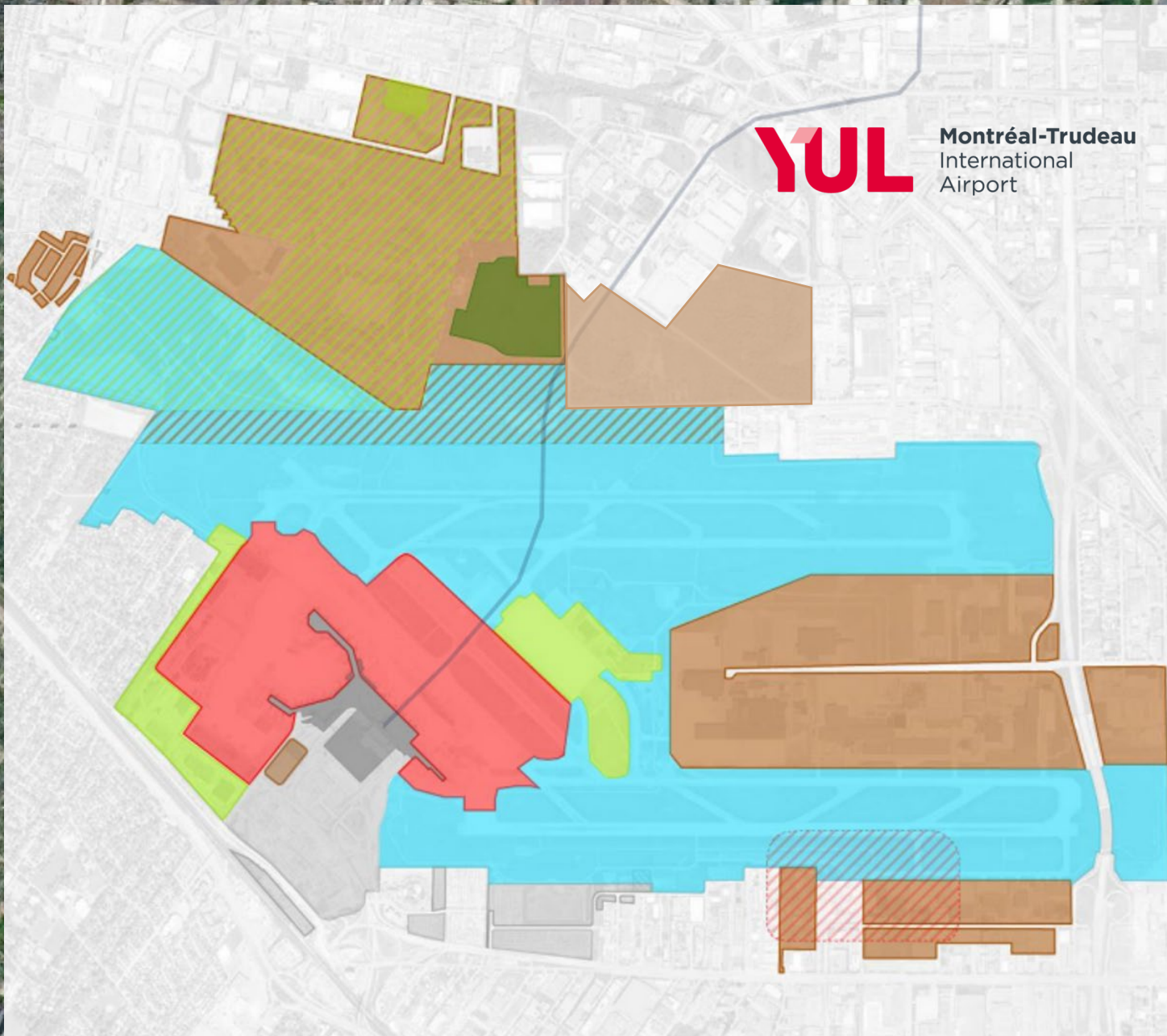
Andrea Brown, Project Manager
M.Sc. Biology

Pierre Molina, President & CEO
M.Sc. Biology



YUL

Montréal-Trudeau
International
Airport

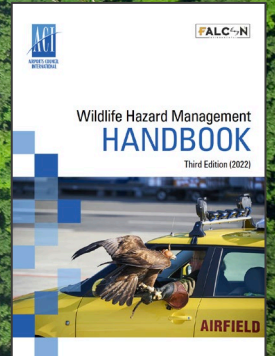


Land Uses

Areas around an airport impact on the presence of wildlife on airports

Management of land uses can influence how wildlife interact with the airport

Identifying land uses near an airport is an essential part of Wildlife Hazard Management Plans



6 Habitat Management – Off the Airport

6.1 Introduction

The land use and habitat management on areas near an airport are also an important consideration, although an aerodrome operator may have limited ability to control off-site land use and will need to work in partnership with local landowners and stakeholders.

Generally, the aerodrome does not have the opportunity to directly manage habitats outside of the aerodrome. Therefore, it is necessary for the aerodrome to develop good relationships with the adjacent landowners and the local government to be able to influence land uses that affect hazardous wildlife distribution, movements and abundance.

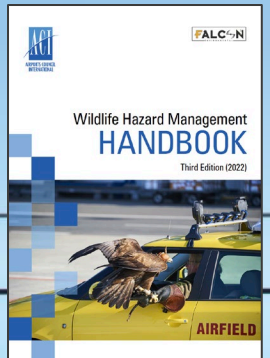
Wildlife

Critical to know seasonal abundance of each hazardous species on and near the airport.

Important to know how those species interact with the airport.

Knowing where species nest/den can be very important in determining control strategies.

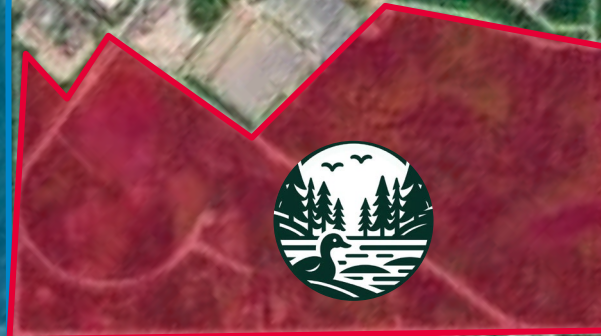
- ACI Handbook, third edition (2022)



Montreal Airport (YUL)



Montreal Airport (CYUL)



Montreal Airport (CYUL)



Ducks and Associated Species



Geese



Crows and Ravens



Hawks



Pigeons and Doves



Wild Turkeys



Starlings



Blackbirds



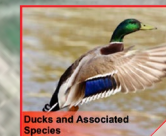
Other Small Birds



Crows and Ravens



Gulls and Terns



Ducks and Associated Species



Geese



Starlings



Hérons and Egrets



Blackbirds



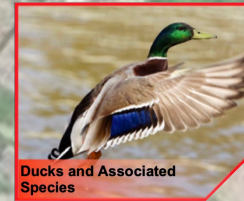
Swallows and Associated Species



Other Small Birds



Montreal Airport (CYUL)



Montreal Airport (CYUL)



The Roles of Land Uses and Wildlife in Airport Safety Management

Land use and wildlife play an important role in airport safety management. In this case:

- Difficult to monitor the abundance of the species present
- Difficult to implement wildlife control and management measures
- Increase in the abundance of the species already present



The Roles of Land Uses and Wildlife in Airport Safety Management

VERY HIGH MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES



Goélands, mouettes et sternes



Oies, bernaches et cygnes



Corneilles et corbeaux



Buses, épaveurs et busards



Canards et espèces associées



Harfangs

HIGH MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES



Étourneaux sansonnets



Faucons



Hérons et algrettes



Moyens mammifères



Pigeons et tourterelles



Urubus



Coyotes



Dindons sauvages



Crecerelles



Why would Decision-Makers support the creation of the largest green space in Montreal?



Citizens are asking to protect 541 Acres (219 ha) !

It starts with Pressure Groups



Dispute ongoing between Montreal airport and Technoparc nature reserve

By [Swidda Rassy](#)
Updated: February 14, 2025 at 7:12PM EST
Published: February 09, 2025 at 9:58AM EST

The ADM controls lots three, four, five and 20 and has committed to conserving lots three and four, roughly 25 hectares of land.

NEWS

Hopes for nature park dashed by Trudeau airport 20-year master plan

By [Michelle Lalonde](#)
Updated May 29, 2025 6:13 PM

ENVIRONMENT

Group of scientists speaks out against plans to build on property near Montreal airport

ENVIRONMENT

Battle over wetland at Saint-Laurent's Technoparc goes to court

She said the ADM opposes the expansion of the conservation project because it would attract more birds to the area, which she said pose a crash risk to airplanes. She pointed to the deadly [crash of a passenger airplane in South Korea on Dec. 29](#), where initial investigations have pointed to a bird strike as a factor in the crash.

It says, however, that it's planning to develop a decarbonization support centre on lot 20 in the next 10 to 20 years.

Change Region

Technoparc Mtl--Site général

216 Species 9708 Checklists 1148 eBirders

NEWS

City reaches deal with Hypertec to preserve part of Technoparc wetlands

By [Michelle Lalonde, Montreal Gazette](#)
Updated October 16, 2024 9:03 AM

Montreal Watch

Debate ongoing between Montreal airport and Technopark nature reserve

What about public perception?

NEWS

Bird hazard? Montreal airport says expanding nature park could pose risk to planes

NEWS

After public outcry, Hypertec in talks to sell Technoparc site to city

By [Michelle Lalonde, Montreal Gazette](#)
Updated August 15, 2023 10:01 PM

Does preserving Technoparc land put flights at risk of more bird collisions?

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

There's a new twist to the debate over preserving the green space known as Technoparc near Montreal's Trudeau airport. Environmentalists want the property protected to preserve and attract wildlife, but airport authorities argue that having more animals in the area poses a risk to aircraft. As... [Read more](#)

Activists VS Media: Impact on Public Perception

Mères au
front
Québec



Decision-Makers Reaction: Proportional to Public Perception



Public Perception and Social Acceptability

Public Perception is the Driver: the Battleground

- Refers to how citizens, media, and local communities view and interpret the airport actions.
- Public perception is dynamic

Social Acceptability is the Outcome: the Collective Result

- Citizens (local users of the land)
- Pressure groups – Activists – Media
- Decision-makers

Path to Social Acceptability

1. Shape Public Perception
2. Build Stakeholder Alliances
3. Position the Airport as a Responsible Actor



**Social acceptability is not won in a single decision —
it is built day by day through trust, alliances, and a
credible vision that connects airport growth with
public values.**





Andrea Brown
andrea.brown@falconenvironmental.com



Pierre Molina
pierre@falconenvironmental.com

www.falconenvironmental.com