

AIRPORT WILDLIFEHAZARD **MANAGEMENT**

**Birds and other wildlife hazards management
at
Entebbe International Airport**

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Safe and secure- African style



BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE HAZARDS MANAGEMENT AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT

INTRODUCTION:

The location of Entebbe International Airport within Entebbe peninsular gazetted birds sanctuary and on the flight path of migratory bird species moving to and from Africa, makes it one of the most bird strike prone Airports in the world.

However, the Airport authorities have adopted a number of measures and methods based on research, hazard controls and procedures to prevent birds and other wildlife hazards from occurring.

Before a problem can be solved, the problem must be well understood.

Some of the methods of birds and other wildlife control involve participation of local communities around the Airport.

This presentation illustrates the different ways in which the airport authority works with the airport and surrounding community to control bird collision with aircrafts at Entebbe

Bird attractions at Entebbe International Airport

- Lake Victoria
- Fishing activity
- Garbage dumps
- Sand excavation
- Land fills
- Gardening
- Human settlement
- Perching objects e.g. Fence, Approach lights etc
- Other natural attractions e.g. trees, anthills etc
- Warm tarmac
- Free soaring space
- Modified/changed environment

What should be done?

Try team work?

THE ROLE OF AIRPORT COMMUNITIES IN THE CONTROL OF BIRDS AND OTHER WILDLIFE HAZARDS AT ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

- There are procedures in place (SOPs) that help the BHWC unit to control/manage birds and other wild life.

COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES:

- Airport Authorities should have a constant programme to monitor and sensitize the surrounding communities on garbage management. This includes audit checks to fish factories, markets, fish landing sites, abattoirs, beaches and any other relevant places from time to time.
- Discouragement of gardening in and around the Airport.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

➤ **Habitat control;**

Nest removal in and around the aerodrome tend to reduced a number of birds breeding sites within the Airport fence.

Bush clearing is also done to make it less attractive for birds.

➤ **Run way sweep;**

This has particularly been effective in control of scavenging birds; especially the Black Kite and Marabou Storks that come to feed on bird remains after a bird strike incident. (carrion)

➤ **Anthill eradication;**

This has been effective in reduction of most birds that are fond of perching, especially the African Fish Eagle.

Anthills attract large flocks of different bird species especially when white ants (elates) are coming out.

➤ **Monitoring of refuse disposal**

Constant checks on proper refuse disposal has had a great impact on the reduction of the scavenging bird species (Marabou Storks, Black Kites and Pied Crows)

➤ **Long grass policy;**

The grass is left at about 20cm-30cm (1 foot ruler) and this is intended to impair the birds' vision, thus making them feel insecure and discouraging their presence. At Entebbe this is being researched on due to many birds.

Bird scare methods include

- Distress calls
- Foot patrols
- Vehicle movements
- Pyrotechnics: Using signal pistols and 4c type cartridges (these are to scare not to kill)
- Run way inspection using two dedicated vehicles 10 minutes before every Jet aircraft movement.
- Shot gun to eliminate old /disabled birds, stray dogs and other mammals.

AIRPORT BIRD HAZARD CONTROL COMMITTEE

It is chaired by the General Manager EIA.

Its membership includes;

- Chairman board of Airline representatives (BAR)
- Entebbe municipal council representative
- LC2 councilor in charge of Kigungu parish, the immediate neighbors
- CAA officials
- Airport Operators Committee (AOC)

- Uganda air force (UPDAF)
- Aviation Police (AVPOL)
- Line ministries (MAAIF, MOH)

The committee is responsible for oversight and the implementation of the recommended methods and measures.

RESEARCH AND REPORTS

- For the purpose of improving the current methods used, data on bird strike hazard incidents is collected and analyzed.
- Reports are made to Civil Aviation Authority Management, ABHWCC and Airline operators.
- Bird strike incident reports are also sent to ICAO.

POINTS TO NOTE

- Entebbe International Airport is located on a water body.
- Birds and other wild life is a global concern.
- in controlling birds and other wild life, we go an extra mile (FOD, Security, Interference)
- Talk about birds and other wild life, you are talking about environment and the food chain for life.

- Uganda is a contracting state on migratory bird species, UN conference on human environment (Stockholm 1972).
- IBS forms must be filled by: - Pilots, Air traffic Managers, Airport operations and Flight safety officers for future reference.

● Thank you







The pilot of this Cessna 172 made a Mayday call to nearby Air Traffic Control Tower in Texas after hitting a bird (likely a vulture) with the left wing at 800 feet AGL on 8 July 2003. The pilot attempted to make an emergency landing in a field but lost control and crashed, killing himself and his passenger. Worldwide, over 157 people have been killed by wildlife strikes since 1990. (Photo by FAA)



Various medium-sized mammal species, such as these black-tailed jackrabbits at a southern USA airport in 2003, not only have the potential to be sucked into engines of jet aircraft but also serve as a food source for birds of prey.



- Many anthills can attract many birds for food, nesting and perching.
- Other wildlife also find it safe to live and breed.

Other wildlife



CIVET CAT







- Similar Procedures and practices are used in other parts of the world.



- Birds and air transport
 - Aviation industry is greatly threatened by the presence of birds and other wildlife at any airport.
 - Airline operators spend huge sums of money replacing aircraft parts after damage by birds and other wildlife.
 - In tragic cases, there could be total destruction of aircraft, goods, life and environment.