

What is Bird Abatement?

- **Elimination/relocation of nuisance birds that cause**

- Loss of investments in farming / aviculture

- Aircraft crashes (2009 – NY - Sullenberger – Canadian Geese)

- Bacteriological/viral contamination

- Newcastle disease / Avian Flu

Problems

- **Farming**

- Birds eating seed / produce
- Raptors – game birds / pigeons as livestock

- **Aircraft crashes**

- Airport open grasslands = bird oasis
- Distract pilot
- Break windshield – AEDC chicken gun
- Strike a propeller
- Sucked into turbine engines

Problems (cont)

- **Health Hazards**

- Food/water contamination from bird feces
- Inhalation of fecal dust
- Direct contact with feces
- Associated parasites – ticks, fleas, mites, etc.

Solutions

- **Scarecrow**



- **Netting over produce**

- not 100% effective

- **Poison**

- Environmentally unsound – secondary kills

- Not discriminating

Solutions (cont)

- **Pyrotechnics**

- Nashville airport – cannon?

- **Falconry**

- Federal Abatement Permit Required - complete
- Federal Master Class Falconry Permit Required - complete
- Trained Captive Bred Raptors Required – complete
- Nuisance Wildlife Damage Control Permit Required – complete
- Studies...
 - Sight of raptors triggers evolved, well-developed escape behaviors
 - Nuisance birds show no signs of habituating to raptors (Mikx 1970)
 - Raptors have been used to disperse birds from a number of airports, including some in Canada (Blokpoel 1976; Koski and Richardson 1976; DeFusco and Nagy 1983; Blokpoel 1984; Hild 1984; BSCE 1988; Erickson et al. 1990).
 - Falconry used to secure North American Airports – National Geographic News – March 2003
 - Bird Control in Production Strawberries with Falconry – CCBC V – 2006

Solutions (cont)

- **Falconry Advantages**
 - Zero environmental/infrastructure impact
 - No residue / litter for later cleanup
 - Nuisance birds typically don't become habituated to the raptors

Solutions (cont)

Harris Hawk



Goshawk



Peregrine/Prairie Hybrid Falcon



Trapping for relocation



Solutions (cont)

- <http://youtu.be/ZdE4dnNiON4>