

EASA Wildlife Strike Prevention and COVID-19

WBA Conference 2021

Vasileios STEFANIOROS

EASA – Senior Expert, Aerodromes

Facts

- Heavy reduction of air travel
- Downsizing of aerodrome operations
- Reduction of aerodrome operational personnel
 - Inspections and maintenance not always performed according to the schedule
- Aerodromes have been used for the long-term parking of aircraft

Impact on Wildlife Hazard Management

- Different approaches throughout Europe
 - No change at all
 - Continue according to the WHMP
 - Reduction of activities
 - Perform essential activities only
 - Complete stop

EASA Response

- Bird/Wildlife strikes monitoring on a monthly basis , under the Return-to-Normal-Operations (RNO) project
- Publication of Safety Information and Safety Promotion material
- Applicable to:
 - National Aviation Authorities
 - Aerodrome Operators
 - Air Operators
 - Air Navigation Service Providers

EASA Safety Information Bulletins (SIB)

→ SIB 2020-07

→ Issued on 4 May 2020

→ SIB 2020-07R1

→ Issued on 17 July 2020

→ Contains specific instructions on WHM

EASA Safety Information Bulletins (SIB)

7. Wildlife hazard management:

- The status of vegetation, habitat and land use management at the aerodrome should be checked;
- In the case of increased bird activity at and around the aerodrome, a NOTAM should be issued to advise caution;
- The status of wildlife activity reporting should be checked. The latest available reports should be reviewed and special focus should be given to areas which are known for wildlife activity;
- The status of the aerodrome fences should be checked. Fences should be repaired, when necessary;
- Availability and functioning of repellent systems should be checked;
 - Aircraft and other infrastructure, such as passenger boarding bridges, should be checked for possible nesting due to inactivity. Inform aircraft operators when wildlife activities are observed close to parked aircraft;
 - Regular monitoring of wildlife activities should commence as soon as possible;
 - Intensive use of active wildlife control methods before and right after the restart to disperse hazardous wildlife species from the aerodrome;
 - A comparative analysis of wildlife monitoring and control data of all possible and confirmed wildlife strikes collected before and during the lockdown should be performed in order to identify possible new wildlife hazards raised during the lockdown.

Safety promotion

- Joined effort between EASA, NAAs and industry
- Publication of a WHM Guide
- Purpose
 - NAAs: *to support oversight*
 - Aerodrome operators: *to identify how WHM risks may have changed and identify appropriate mitigating measures*
 - Air operators: *to monitor bird/wildlife strikes and identify the where greatest wildlife hazard exist*
- Information at: <https://www.easa.europa.eu/community/topics/wildlife-hazard-management>
-

Safety promotion

- Webinar on WHM
 - August 2020
 - Approximately 170 participants
 - Presentation of the WHM Guide

Thank you!

easa.europa.eu/connect



Your safety is our mission.

An Agency of the European Union 