

# **IBSC Working Group for Training Guidelines for Airport Wildlife Control Training**

## **Caveats**

1. Each State, indeed each airport within a State, may have varying wildlife management requirements due to varying ecosystems. Detailed instructions cannot be given due to this variable, only general guidelines can be promulgated.
2. States should prepare and distribute, with the cooperation of their National Wildlife Control Committee, guidelines for the training of airport personnel involved in airport wildlife control.
3. Airports should include within their wildlife management programs procedures for the training of staff involved in wildlife control.

## **I. Certification**

- A. Training administered to any person for the purpose of conducting airport wildlife control must be documented and records retained for a sufficient period as directed by the airport's wildlife control program or as necessary to satisfy periodic reviews or audits required under ICAO guidelines.
- B. Training of airport wildlife control personnel must be conducted by qualified airport wildlife control personnel or specialists with proven experience in this field, i.e., members of airport wildlife control committees or agencies. The *minimum* qualifications for personnel appointed to provide training in wildlife management at the airport are to have previously completed a formal course of instruction in airport wildlife control *and* be qualified to work on an airport. Trainers should also have received instruction in presentation skills and in teaching adults.
- C. Formal courses may be available from universities, military establishments, government entities and other education institutions or similar private agencies.
- D. Successful completion of an airport wildlife training course must be demonstrated by completion of a written and/or practical test. A written certification must be provided to those who successfully pass the test(s). If a published training procedure is not provided by the trainer the certificate should attest to the fields the trainee has successfully completed.
- E. Airport wildlife control personnel must receive training prior to their initial engagement as wildlife controllers. Thereafter airport wildlife control personnel should receive periodic refresher training. If refresher training is not available airport wildlife control personnel should requalify periodically, a term of 3-5 years is recommended.

## **II. Curriculum**

### **A. Qualified airport personnel**

1. Different airports will require different levels of initial training due to the nature of the wildlife hazards in the local area. Generally initial training should address:
  - a. nature and extent of the aviation wildlife management problem;
  - b. regulations, standards and guidance material related to airport wildlife management programs;
  - c. wildlife ecology and biology;
  - d. wildlife identification, including the use of field guides;
  - e. rare and endangered species and species of special concern, including related regulations and policies;
  - f. strike remains collection and identification;
  - g. long-term (passive) measures, including on and off airport habitat management including identification of attractions, vegetation policies, NAVAIDS protection, drainage system management;
  - h. short-term (active) measures, including acoustic measures, visual measures and wildlife removal techniques;
  - i. documentation of wildlife activities and control measures, proper reporting;
  - j. firearm and field safety, including the use of personal protective equipment;
  - k. wildlife strike risk assessment and risk management principles and how these programs relate to the airport's safety management system.

### **B. Personnel not qualified to work on airports** (persons with no aviation experience or training)

1. In addition to A. 1. above, these persons should receive instruction in:
  - a. Airport driver training including air traffic control communication, signage and marking, navigational aids, airport operations and safety and other matters local authority deem appropriate.
  - b. Aircraft familiarization including aircraft identification, aircraft engine design, and impact of wildlife strikes on aircraft systems.

### **C. Recurrent Training**

1. Airport wildlife control personnel should receive refresher training at periodic intervals. This training can be used to demonstrate skill levels, review firearms safety, changes in the local environment, changes in risk management policy, recent wildlife events at the airport, discuss improvements in active and passive measures and such other matters as local authority deems appropriate. An annual review is recommended.