

**Airport Compatible Land Use
Guidance and Assistance Checklist
For Land Use Applicants**

Purpose and Goal: The purpose of this checklist is to provide assistance, guidance and technical support to land use applicants considering the introduction of new, altered or modified land uses within specified radii around Wichita Mid-Continent (ICT) and Colonel James Jabara (AAO) Airports. ICT and AAO are owned by the Wichita Airport Authority and operated by the City of Wichita. The goal of this assistance is to inform land use applicants of guidelines imposed on the owner/operator of the Airports, and offer reasonably achievable and realistic facility and/or management practices which may be employed to comply with Federal guidelines and local zoning code.

Background Information: Public airport owners that receive Federal grant-in-aid assistance are required by Federal grant assurances to take appropriate actions to restrict, manage and/or mitigate the use of land on and in close proximity to their airport(s) to uses that are compatible with airport operations and aeronautical activity. The FAA recommends that airport owners, to the extent practicable, oppose new or altered off-airport land-use development or practices that may attract wildlife considered to pose significant risks and hazards to aeronautical users and the public. It is the intent that no wildlife attractants or other potential hazards be placed, installed or erected on airport property or in close proximity thereto, unless appropriately mitigated or managed, which may affect existing and future instrument approach minimums of the airports, reduce the size of areas available for the landing, takeoff and maneuvering of aircraft, or destroy or impair the utility of the airports and the public interests therein as set forth in CHAPTER 28.08 *AIRPORT HAZARD ZONING CODE*.

Definition: For the purposes of this guidance, “wildlife attractants” are those facilities, improvements or practices considered to potentially pose significant risks and hazards to aeronautical users and the public due to their attracting and desirable nature by certain wildlife species. Wildlife attractants generally include property development, modification, or practices that create habitat of open bodies of water, food sources, loafing and roosting, organic waste storage/disposal, agricultural, and/or wetlands. When evaluating potential land uses, consideration should be given of whether the proposed land uses will add, increase or enhance wildlife attractants. Land-use practices that attract, increase, or sustain hazardous wildlife populations on or near airports can significantly increase the potential for aircraft/wildlife strikes which may cause serious property damage, serious injury or death to aeronautical users and the public on the ground.

Affected Areas: For ICT and AAO the FAA recommends a separation distance of 10,000 feet between the furthest edges of an airport’s air operations area (AOA) and hazardous wildlife attractants.

The FAA also recommends a distance of 5 statute miles between the farthest edges of an airport’s AOA and the hazardous wildlife attractant if the attractant could cause hazardous wildlife movement into or across protected approach, departure and circling airspace.

References:

- FAA AC 150/5200-33B *HAZARDOUS WILDLIFE ATTRACTANTS ON OR NEAR AIRPORTS*
http://www.faa.gov/airports/resources/advisory_circulars/index.cfm/go/document.information/documentNumber/150_5200-33B
- Code of the City of Wichita CHAPTER 28.08 *AIRPORT HAZARD ZONING*.
http://library2.municode.com/default-now/home.htm?infobase=14166&doc_action=whatsnew
- State of Washington Department of Transportation *Airport Stormwater Guidance Manual*
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/AirportStormwaterGuidanceManual.htm>
- Title 50: Wildlife and Fisheries, Part 21-MIGRATORY BIRD PERMITS, 21.50 Depredation ...
<http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&sid=f2686ee2947797f9abb51d1bf97cd9ee&rqn=div5&view=text&node=50:6.0.1.1.4&idno=50#50:6.0.1.1.4.1.10>

Checklist

A. Land and Facilities

1. Does the proposed land use include any potential wildlife attractant(s) such as open bodies of water, food sources, organic waste storage/disposal, agricultural, and/or wetlands?
 - Yes
 - No (if "No" then no other consideration is necessary)
2. If yes, can the attractant(s) be reasonably eliminated/avoided?
 - Yes (if "Yes" then no other consideration may be necessary)
 - No
3. If no, can the attractant(s) be **reduced and/or designed* to present less of an attractant?
 - Yes (if "Yes", then please refer to attractant reduction and/or design options below)
 - No
4. If no, please refer to Section B. below Management Practices/Mitigation Procedures. If/when possible, it is always preferable to utilize a combination of both land and facility modifications and management practices to effectively eliminate, reduce or mitigate wildlife attractants.

B. Management Practices/Mitigation Procedures

Can any or all of the following practices or procedures be employed?

- Install and maintain "please don't feed the geese" signs around open water sources.
- Eliminate food sources such as fescue grass and grain crops (wheat, milo, etc.).
- Install landscaping, native grasses and vegetation varieties that are not attractive to geese.
- Maintain grass height to not less than 6" to 8" around water sources.
- On-going application and/or installation of commercially available repellants (i.e. chemical, audio, physical).
- Actively engage in legal harassing, hazing and removal practices.
- Actively engage in legal egg oiling and addling (under state permit).
- Engage as necessary in legal depredation (under federal or state depredation permit).

*** Attractant Reduction and/or Design Options**

- Stormwater detention ponds designed for a maximum (average rain event) of 48 hour water detention.
- Where constant flow of water is anticipated through a detention basin, or where any portion of a basin bottom may remain wet, the detention facility should include a concrete or paved pad and/or ditch/swale in the bottom to prevent vegetation that may provide nesting habitat.
- Use of steep-sided, rip-rap lined, narrow, linearly shaped stormwater retention ponds.
- Apply physical barriers such as "bird balls," wire grids, pillows, or netting, to prevent access of hazardous wildlife to open water.
- Installation of landscaping adjacent to water sources that do not attract wildlife, or wildlife find objectionable, including certain grass varieties, tall native grasses, decorative rocks and gravel, shrubs, etc.
- AVOID organic waste storage/disposal, artificial marshes, wetlands, confined livestock operations, grain crop agricultural production, aquaculture (i.e. catfish or trout production).

Contact Information for Assistance

- Wichita Airport Authority – (316) 946-4700; airportwebmaster@wichita.gov
- Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Region 4 - (316) 683-8069;
- USDA, APHIS, WS – (785) 537-6855; Devon.V.McBride@aphis.usda.gov

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