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BASH Meeting
NAS-WI (FY20 4th Quarter)
USDA-Wildlife Services

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Forecasted Wildlife Activity

- **Raptors**
  - Increase in raptor activity as young birds begin to explore new areas and migration begins in early fall
- **Waterfowl**
  - Numbers will begin increasing on/around airfield as fall progresses
- **Shorebirds**
  - Activity has been occasional in recent months, likely to increase in the fall
- **Songbirds**
  - Large numbers observed throughout the summer should begin to dwindle as migration begins in the next few months
- **Deer**
  - Continued presence on the airfield and an increase in activity as the rut picks up later in the fall
- **Coyotes-**continuous/ongoing

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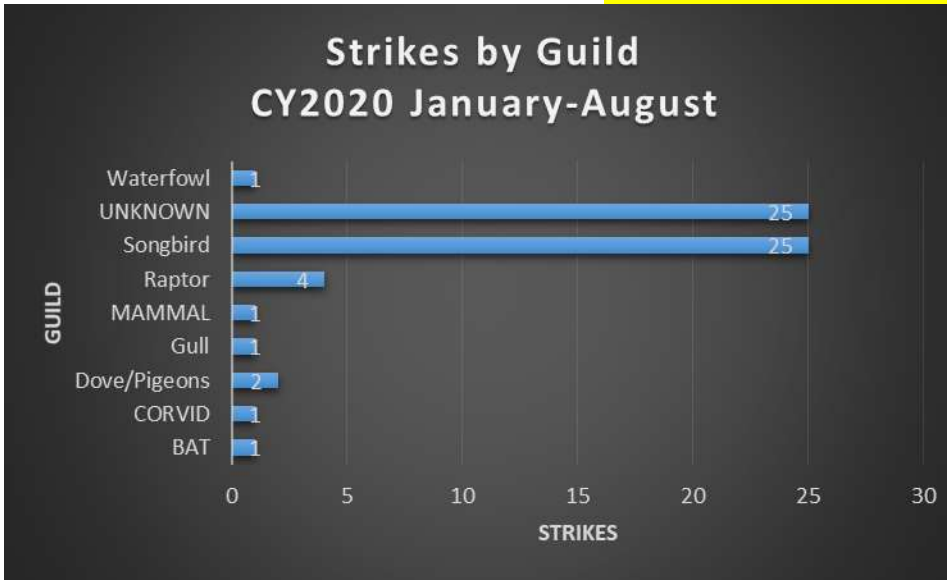
Strikes

Reported 2020 Strikes JAN-AUG		
GUILD	***Number of Strikes by Guild***	***DAMAGE/COST***
BAT	1	$24
CORVID	1	$0
Dove/Pigeons	2	$11,024
Gull	1	$24
MAMMAL	1	$7,761
Raptor	4	$288
Songbird	25	$600
UNKNOWN	25	$600
Waterfowl	1	$0
Grand Total	***61***	***$20,321***

- A peak in strikes for both June 2019 and 2020
- Strike reporting is GETTING BETTER and the percentage of species identification increased from 32% of strikes in 2019 identified to guild/species for the summer months to 60% of species identified in 2020
- Some of the unknowns may still be awaiting results from Smithsonian, so the percentage is likely higher
  Your efforts in submitting samples is greatly appreciated!



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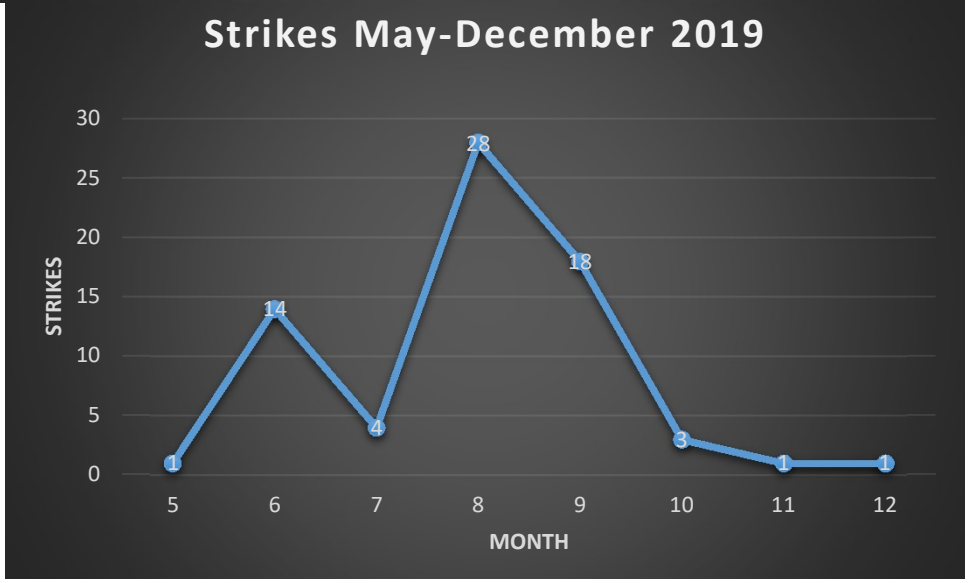
Strikes

- In 2019 strikes decreased as fall progressed
- However, fall is when bigger groups of birds and bigger species such as swans, geese, ducks and cormorants will be flying in the area



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Please print this page and give copies to anyone who may need to collect or report a bird strike

Strike Reporting Steps

1.Collect samples with alcohol swabs and place in Ziploc bag, then freezer.

2.Notify Squadron ASO of Strike

3.HAZREP all strikes relatively soon after strike (24 hours if possible)

- USN Safety Center-All strikes need associated cost even if zero damage
- $24/hour for DoD personnel; $55/hour for contracted maintenance

4.Staple HAZREP to sample bag

5.Mail to Smithsonian Feather Lab

Strikes

HAZREPs lack spatial detail

•Add as much detail as possible, altitude, location if able

•Strike data is not very useful to a pilot without spatial data

•For strikes occurring within 5 miles of airfield, please "HAZREP" as much detail as possible

Species ID is critical for airfield wildlife management, IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT **USDA OR ASO**, HELP US HELP YOU!

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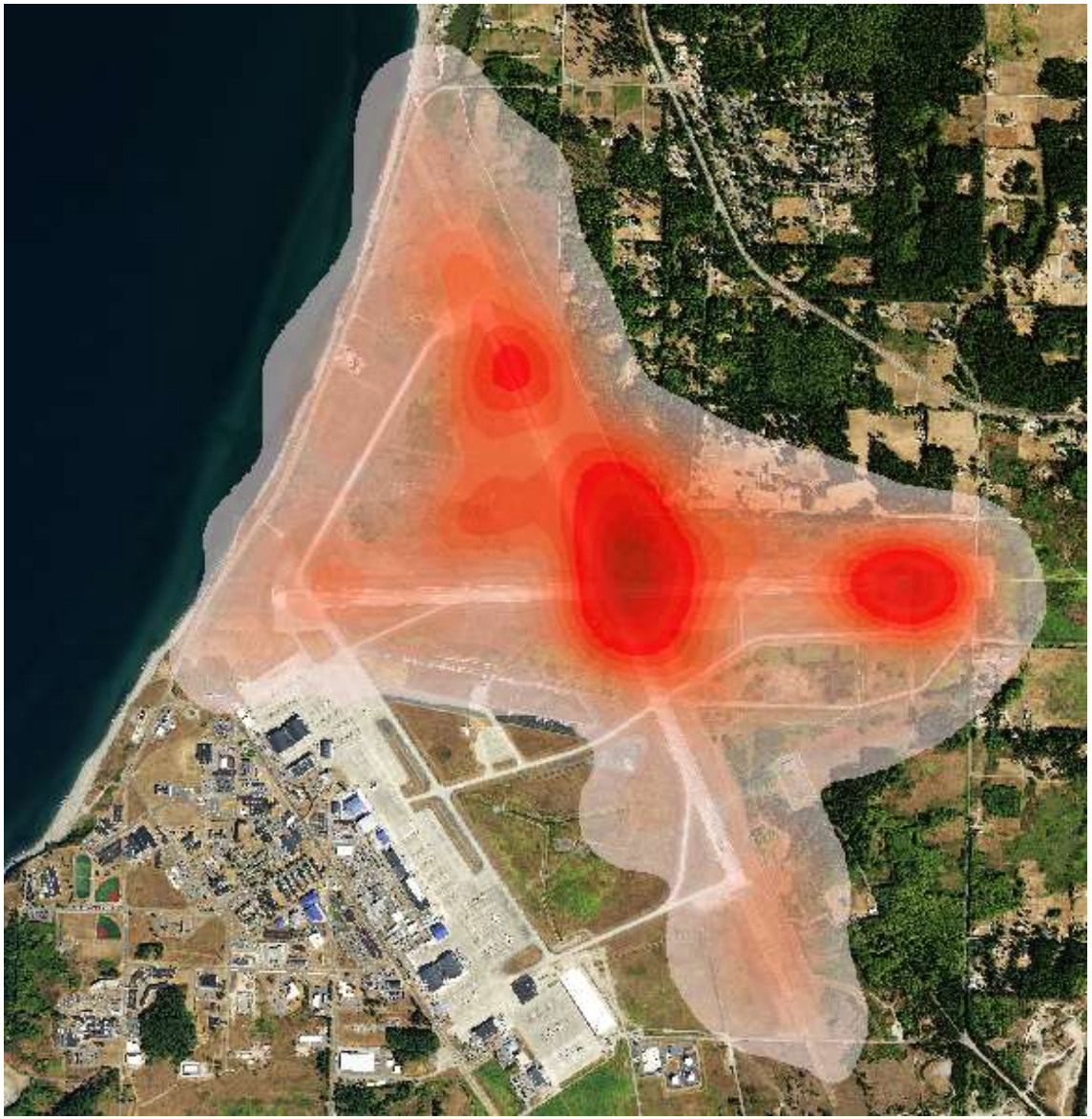
Incursions April-June 2020



- Majority of incursions were Raptor species
  - (201 of 283 total incursion observations)

- Forested areas near midfield and along the north/east sides of R14 and R25 is where the majority of species are coming from that incur the runways on the airfield
  - these trees provide great perch habitat for raptors

*it should be noted this map represents incursion hotspot areas and does not factor in the number of individuals per incursion observation nor the body size of species

Incursions (AGL)

AGL	Corvids	Gulls	Mammals	Pigeons	Raptors	Shorebirds	Songbirds	Waders	Waterfowl	Grand Total
<-10ft									2	2
0	3		7	1	2	3	1			17
1-100ft	11	4	1		157		19	1	11	204
101-200ft	1	4			27				5	37
201ft +		1			15				7	23
Grand Tota	**15**	**9**	**8**	**1**	**201**	**3**	**20**	**1**	**25**	**283**

-Most strikes occur below 500 AGL

-It is important to get above 500 AGL as soon as possible

-Above numbers represent an “incursion” and type of animal. They are not the number of individuals observed

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3rd Qtr. Totals

(April-June 2020)

GUILD	Eggs/Nest Removed	Dispersed	Removed	Relocated	Grand Total
Blackbirds		139	1		140
Corvids		113	5		118
Gulls		27			27
Mammals		41	16		57
NA					0
Pigeons		17			17
Raptors	3	575	13	12	603
Shorebirds	3	276			279
Songbirds		86			86
Upland					0
Waders		1			1
Waterfowl	1	295	47		343
Grand Total	**7**	**1570**	**82**	**12**	**1671**

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Waterfowl Activity
(Ducks/Geese)

Canada Goose

Mallard

Green-winged Teal

Bufflehead duck

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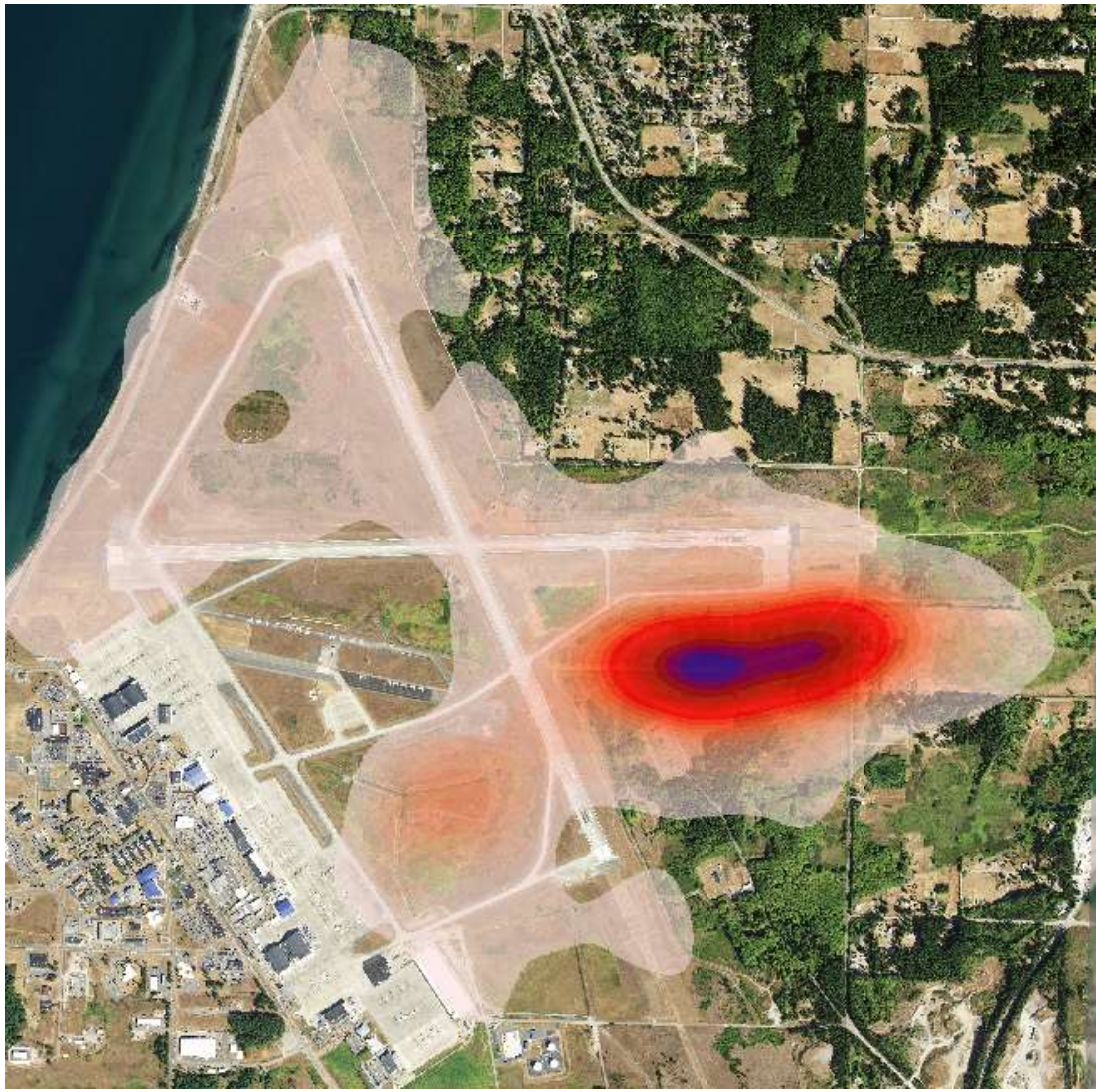
Waterfowl Observations April-June 2020

-Waterfowl activity has remained low throughout the summer
(126 observations)

-Expect numbers to increase in early fall as migration begins



Shorebirds

Western Sandpiper

Black-bellied Plover

Shorebirds April-June 2020

- Shorebirds activity has been low throughout the summer
- Expect activity to increase as fall progresses

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Columbian Black-tailed Deer

R14

North of R25

Barrier 23 Ditch

OLF Coupeville

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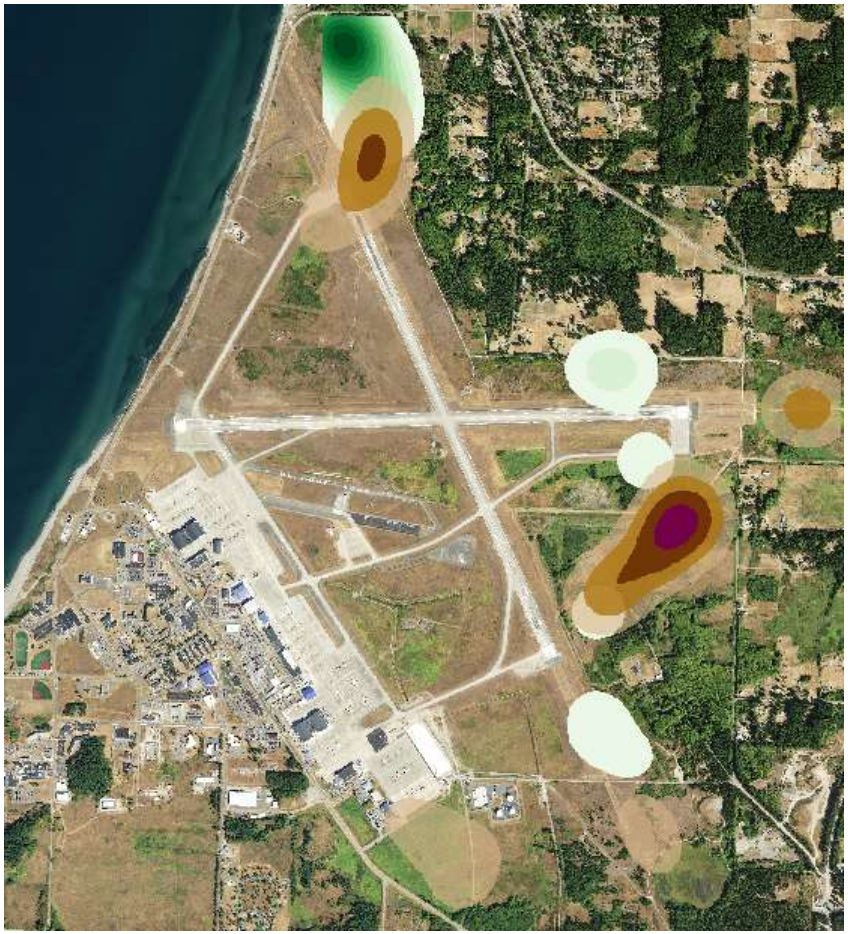
Deer Observations April-June

Ault Field
(36 deer/23 Observations over 3 months)



=Deer observations

=Deer sign observation

OLF Coupeville
(4 deer/3 Observations during 3 visits)

Columbian Black-tailed Deer

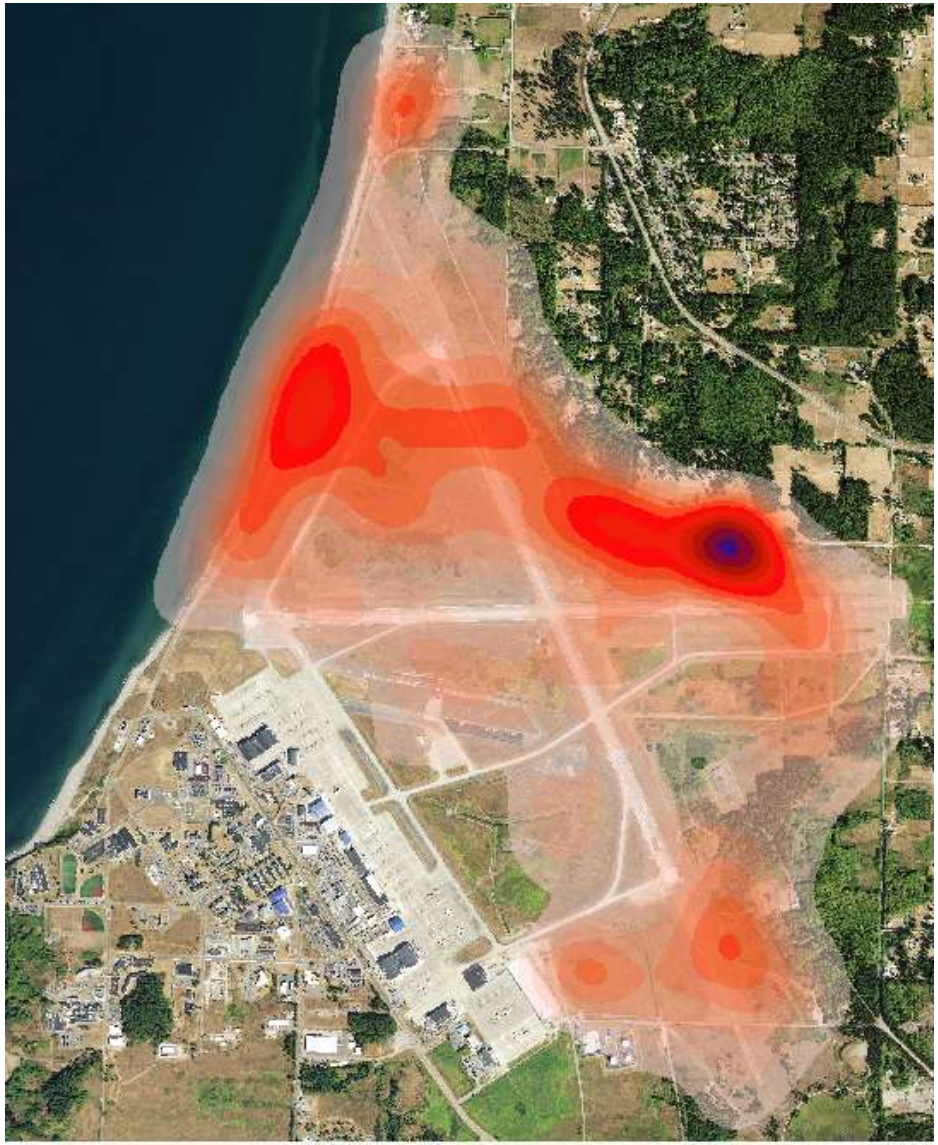
- USDA observed 40, harassed 20 and removed 7 deer between April 1-June 30
- Deer continue to show a presence on the airfield
- Without a proper fence on the airfield, deer activity will continue
- USDA continues to harass all deer observed and is awaiting a possible permit to remove additional deer

Coyotes April-June

- Coyote presence on the airfield remains common
- Typically found near R32 and R14 ends where it is forested
- USDA continues to remove problem animals as they are discovered

Eagle Activity April-June

- 257 observations during QTR3 up from 83 observations during QTR2
- Nesting site near the airfield (seen as the blue dot) contributed to numerous incursions of R14 as adults routinely would fly across to perch on the beach looking for fish
- Nesting season has ended but eagle observations still occur several times a week



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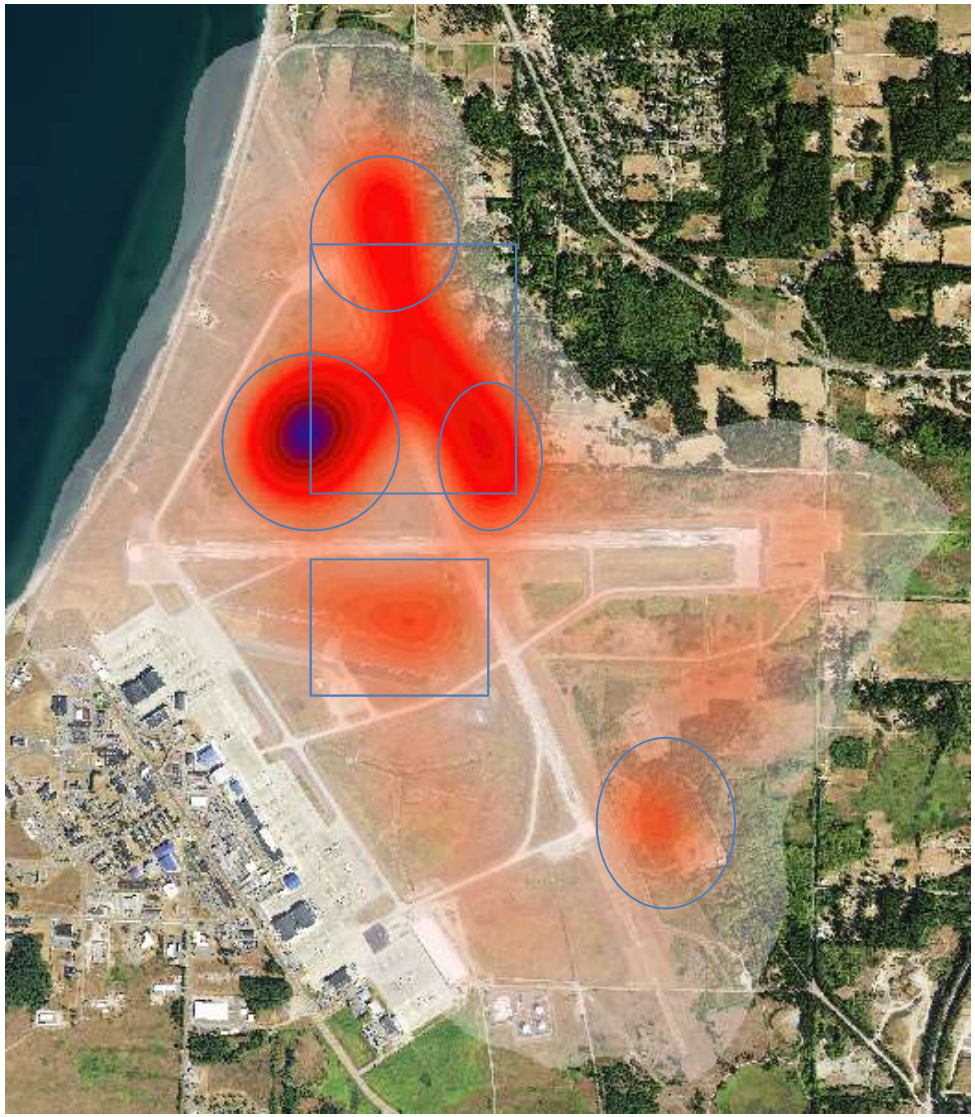
Raptor Species

Raptor Activity (not including eagles)

Perch areas

Movement areas

- USDA trapped and relocated 12 raptors during QTR3 and have trapped and relocated 21 raptors so far in QTR4
- Expect raptor numbers on the airfield to keep increasing as young have begun flying and migrants cross through airspace during the fall migration season



Other Topics

-Wildlife Dispersal and Detection Team (WDDT) status?
    -Use of Pyros?

-Protocol for reporting and placing “FOUND” wildlife in freezer
(For Airfield Staff only)
(DO NOT PLACE WILDLIFE IN FREEZER WITHOUT INFO! Data sheets are in the binder in the freezer. PLEASE FILL THEM OUT.)

-Wildlife/Security Fence Funding?

-Prescribed Burn in future?

-Other Thoughts/Comments?

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