(b) (6) CDR USN COMNAVREG NW BGR WA (USA)

From: (b) (6) LCDR USN (USA)
Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021 2:52 PM
To: (b) (6) - APHIS
Cc: (b) (6) LCDR USN NAS WBY WA (USA); (b) (6) - APHIS; (b) (6) (b) (6) LT USN VP-40 (USA); (b) (6) U LCDR USN VP-40 (USA); (b) (6) (b) (6) CDR USN COMNAVSAFECEN NOR VA (USA)
Subject: RE: Flashing Landing Lights and BASH Mitigation

(b) (6)

This is really helpful; too bad the lights weren't effective. Thank you for the thorough response!

V/r,
(b) (6)

From: (b) (6) - APHIS (b) (6) @usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 23, 2021 2:31 PM
To: (b) (6) LCDR USN (USA) <(b) (6) @navy.mil>
Cc: (b) (6) LCDR USN NAS WBY WA (USA) <(b) (6) @navy.mil>; (b) (6) - APHIS <(b) (6) @usda.gov>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: Flashing Landing Lights and BASH Mitigation

Sir,

I spent some time looking up information on this as well as speaking with some of my colleagues. It seems that this idea was studied by the NWRC back in 2004 by Brad Blackwell. The study outlines that the pulsing of lights at different rates and wavelengths had little to no effectiveness. The flashing lights on airplanes where installed on numerous planes in the past and if some of the planes at Southwest continue to use it I suspect it is just holdovers from years ago before research was conducted to prove/disprove the efficacy. I have provided you the link to where you can read through the research paper I refer to above.

Efficacy of aircraft landing lights in stimulating avoidance behavior in birds. - Wildlife Services Publications - WS Digital Collections (oclc.org)

V/r,

(b) (6)
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From: (b) (6) LCDR USN (USA) <(b) (6) @navy.mil>
Sent: Monday, November 22, 2021 3:01 PM
To: (b) (6) - APHIS <(b) (6) @usda.gov>
Cc: (b) (6) LCDR USN NAS WBY WA (USA) <(b) (6) @navy.mil>
Subject: Flashing Landing Lights and BASH Mitigation

(b) (6),

Recently a discussion came up about flashing landing lights being used to reduce bird strikes. I looked through a couple BASH discussions but didn't find anything substantial. It seems that Southwest Airlines might be using flashing landing lights but I don't have anything more than airplane spotter comments on the subject. Have you heard of using flashing lights to deter birds?

Very Respectfully,
LCDR (b) (6)
CPRW-10 Aviation Safety Officer
W:(b) (6)
C:(b) (6)
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