

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

2002 Bird Strike Committee-USA/Canada, 4th
Annual Meeting, Sacramento, CA

Bird Strike Committee Proceedings

October 2002

Wildlife Hazard Management in Micronesia: Aviation Safety in Uncharted Territory

Daniel S. Vice
USDA, Wildlife Services

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/birdstrike2002>



Part of the [Environmental Health and Protection Commons](#)

Vice, Daniel S., "Wildlife Hazard Management in Micronesia: Aviation Safety in Uncharted Territory" (2002). *2002 Bird Strike Committee-USA/Canada, 4th Annual Meeting, Sacramento, CA*. 24.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/birdstrike2002/24>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Bird Strike Committee Proceedings at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in 2002 Bird Strike Committee-USA/Canada, 4th Annual Meeting, Sacramento, CA by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Wildlife Hazard Management in Micronesia: Aviation Safety in Uncharted Territory

Daniel S. Vice, USDA, Wildlife Services, 1060 Route 16, Suite 103C, Barrigada Heights, Guam 96913

The islands of Micronesia support small, but growing, commercial and military aviation routes. A developing tourism industry, coupled with increased demands for military training sites, is bringing aviation traffic to remote and occasionally primitive island settings. While flight volumes are low relative to mainland settings, the nature of aviation in the islands is that of self-sufficiency and minimal infrastructure, which creates difficult flight situations. Pilots flying island routes face numerous challenges, including wildlife hazards that are generally unmitigated. Although major infrastructure and safety improvements have been made across many of the civilian airports in Micronesia, the impact of wildlife on aviation safety has not been thoroughly addressed; several CFR 139-certificated airfields lack basic information regarding the hazards specific to each island and most operate with no operational hazard management activities. Migratory shorebirds, resident sea birds, and resident mammals create the most severe hazards, while introduced and native forest birds present increasing hazards in some locations. This presentation will review what is known about wildlife hazards in the tropical Pacific and provide recommendations for future management actions.