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The Probe of NADCA
ISSUE 169
SEPTEMBER 1996

Bird Strike!

James E. Forbes, Chairman,
Bird Strike Committee--USA
and Past President, NADCA

Pilot Cal Rodgers made aviation history in 1912 when he became the first bird strike fatality. Cal was flying his Wright-Pusher aircraft along the California Coast when he struck a gull, lost control of the plane, crashed into the Pacific Ocean and was drowned.

The term bird strike refers to the situation when an aircraft collides with a bird. Bird strikes occur less commonly to piston-powered aircraft than jets. For the next 50 years few bird strikes or fatalities were reported.

This all changed about the end of World War II with the introduction of the turbine-powered engine. An air carrier Lockheed electra turboprop on takeoff from Boston Logan Airport in 1960 struck a flock of starlings and crashed into Boston Harbor killing 62 people.

Since then, more than 209 deaths have resulted from the 136 bird strike related crashes. Each year, about 3,000 U.S. Military, 2,200 U.S. Civilian and 1,000 Canadian aircraft bird strikes are reported. These reported bird strikes result in $112 million damage to U.S. civil aviation alone. This is a conservative figure as only 1/3 to 1/2 of all strikes are reported.

Bird strikes are usually divided into two groups: strikes and ingestions. A strike occurs when birds collide with an aircraft part such as the rudder, radome, fuselage, leading edge or windscreen. This resulting damage may vary from none or negligible to catastrophic depending on the size of the bird and the speed of the aircraft. An aircraft traveling at 250 knots striking a 2.5 pound herring gull releases thousands of foot pounds of energy, routinely exceeding that of a rifle bullet. This is why modern jet aircraft traveling at high speeds suffer greater damage from bird strikes than slower propeller-driven aircraft. However, any bird strike to a jet or piston-powered aircraft is dangerous and should be avoided-- remember Cal Rodgers.

Ingestions occur when a bird is sucked into one or more engines which can at best result in thousands or millions dollars of damage or at worst cause catastrophic engine failure, loss of power, a crash and human injury or deaths.

There is no known way to prevent bird ingestion. The public often asks, "Can't you simply put a screen over the engine?" A screen would reduce the enormous volume of air required to pass through the engine. No screen can withstand the thousands of foot pounds of energy released by a feathered missile traveling faster than a speeding bullet. Any screen that could work would immediately clog with feathers, stop the flow of air into the engine and shut it down. All is not lost. Depending on the engine size and type, most modern engines are certified to withstand ingestion of 4 pound birds without catastrophic failure.

There are more than 500 species of birds in North America. Most bird strikes routinely involve only about 33 of these species. One group, gulls, account for more than half of all bird strikes on worldwide basis. One gull species alone, the laughing gull, has accounted for 1,407 strikes between 1979 and 1995 at JFK International Airport in New York.

The gulls may one day be replaced by the larger, even more dangerous Canada goose. This species, which formerly nested only in Northern Canada, has in recent years become a permanent resident throughout the United States. It is also an introduced, hazardous species in Australia and the British Isles.

A number of bird strikes involving Canada geese occurred in the U.S. in 1995:

- House Speaker Newt Gingrich was a passenger in a Cessna Citation aircraft which hit four geese on takeoff from Mackinac Island, Michigan, resulting in both an ingestion and a strike causing a 14 inch hole in the wing.
- Dulles International Airport experienced three separate aircraft Canada goose strikes. One involved a Boeing 757 that hit 10 geese, damaging the engines, wings and radome.
- An Air France Concorde with 79 people on board on landing at Kennedy International Airport ingested geese into 2 of 4 engines resulting in more than $4,000,000 damage.
- A U.S. Air Force Boeing 707 E-3B AWACS jet, upon takeoff from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, struck and ingested at least 13 Canadian geese. The 184 million dollar aircraft crashed and was destroyed. The crew of 24-- 22 American and 2 Canadian-- were all killed.

Birds have been hit by aircraft at altitudes of over 27,000 feet in the Himalayas. Most strikes occur below 2,000 feet AGL and of those the greatest number of strikes happen below 500 feet.

By now, two factors seem to be emerging:

1. We can't keep birds out of engines or from striking aircraft unless we can separate birds from aircraft.
2. Most bird strikes occur below 500 to 2,000 feet AGL. Most aircraft are usually well above 2,000 feet AGL except when they are at or near an airport.

The logical solution in our attempts to reduce bird strike hazards to aircraft seems to be: "To separate the bird from the aircraft in and around airports."

Next Month: Solutions to Bird Strikes

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

September 15-21, 1996: Professional Trapper's Short Course, Limberlost Camp, LaGrange, Indiana.
An intensive, hands-on training session on trapping and animal damage control. Tuition plus room & board totals $750. For information, contact Charles Park at (219) 463-2072.

October 3-5, 1996: 3rd Annual Conference, The Wildlife Society, Cincinnati, Ohio. Conference will include a Symposium, "Social, Economic, and Environmental Benefits of Wildlife Damage Management," coordinated by Dr. Kathleen Fagerstone (contact at 303-236-2089). For general information on Conference, contact TWS at (301) 530-2471.

October 5-9, 1996: 50th Annual Conference of the Southeastern Assoc. of Fish & Wildlife Agencies, Arlington Resort and Spa, Hot Springs, Arkansas.
Hosted by AR Game & Fish Comm. Contact AR Game & Fish, #2 Nat. Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205.

October 6-9, 1996: Annual Conference, Society for Vector Ecology, Berkeley Marina Marriott Hotel, Berkeley, California.
For information, contact Justine Keller, Exec. Secretary, PO Box 87, Santa Ana, CA 92702, phone (714) 971-2421 ext. 148, FAX (714) 971-3940.

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Your contributions to *The Probe* are welcome. Please send news clippings, new techniques, publications, and meeting notices to *The Probe*, c/o Hopland Research & Extension Center, 4070 University Road, Hopland, CA 95449. Articles and notes can also be sent by e-mail to rmtimm@ucdavis.edu. If you prefer to FAX material, our FAX number is (707) 744-1040. The deadline for submitting material is the 15th of each month. Opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of NADCA.

October 7-8, 1996: Humane Solutions to Problems with Urban Wildlife, Mesa, Arizona.
A 2-day class, sponsored by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). For information, contact Training Initiatives Section, HSUS, 2100 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20037 or e-mail: hsusti@ix.netcom.com.

November 14-15, 1996: Natural Resource and Environmental Policy for the 21st Century: Shaping the Vision, YO Holiday Inn, Kerrville, Texas.
Information: Texas Agric. & Nat. Resources Summit Initiative, 113 Administration Bldg., TX A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2142, phone (409) 845-8484, FAX (409) 845-9938.

December 3-5, 1996: 9th Annual Conference of the Australian Wildlife Management Society, Canberra, Australia.
Information: Jim Hone, Faculty of Applied Science, Univ. of Canberra, PO Box 1, Belconnen ACT 2616, Australia, e-mail: hone@aerg.canberra.edu.au

December 8-11, 1996: 58th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, Red Lion Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska.
For information, contact 58th Midwest F&W Conference, PO Box 4558, Lincoln, NE 68504-0641, phone (402) 471-0641, FAX (402) 471-5528, or visit http://www/ngpc.state.ne.us/iafwa/midwest.html

April 16-19, 1997: 13th Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshop, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, Nebraska.
Will include the annual NADCA membership meeting.
For information: contact Charles Lee, Kansas State University, (913) 532-5734, or Scott Hygnstrom, Univ. of Nebraska, (402) 472-6822.

Thanks to the following contributors to this month's Probe: *John Maestrelli, Jim Miller, Wes Jones, James Forbes, Stephen Vantassel, Charles Lee, Scott Hygnstrom, Russ Mason, Guy Connolly*

NADCA NEWS

NADCA Names Its Regions

At the July conference call of the NADCA Officers and Directors, a decision was made to adopt geographically descriptive names for each of the NADCA regions. The proposal, initiated by RD Scott Hygnstrom, will assist everyone in more easily identifying the regions. The regions are to be called by the following names:

Region 1 (AK, CA, HI, NV, OR, WA)	Western
Region 2 (AZ, CO, NM, UT)	Southern Rockies
Region 3 ID, MT, WY)	Northern Rockies
Region 4 (AR, LA, OK, TX)	South Central
Region 5 (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD)	North Central
Region 6 (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI)	Great Lakes
Region 7 (CT, PA, RI, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, VT)	Northeastern
Region 8 (DC, DE, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)	Centraleastern
Region 9 (AL, FL, FA, KY, MS, TN)	Southeastern
Region 0 (Foreign/Agency Liaison)	International

Kevin Sullivan New RD - Western Region

Kevin Sullivan has accepted appointment to be NADCA Regional Director of the Western Region (Region 1), replacing Tom Hall following his resignation. This appointment was verified during the NADCA Board's July conference call. Currently, Kevin is a biologist with the California ADC state office in Sacramento. Welcome, Kevin, and thanks for your willingness to assume this important responsibility.

Bob Reynolds Retires

Bob Reynolds, Assistant Regional Director of the ADC Western Region, retired in August 1996 following 32 years of Federal service. In his most recent position since 1988, Bob had specific responsibilities for oversight of ADC programs in Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, and Oregon.

Bob's career accomplishments are many, including various Wildlife Biologist and Field Supervisor positions in Texas, Wyoming, and Washington D.C. He was State Supervisor in Colorado, Senior Staff Biologist in the WRO, and State Director of Utah and Wyoming. Bob also served ADC as the chairman of the Management Information System Working Group.

Call for Papers
13th Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshop

Dates: April 16-19, 1997
Location: Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, Nebraska

Information needs concerning wildlife damage management continue to increase. Despite previous conferences addressing wildlife damage issues, there is a demand in the Great Plains for regional opportunities for training and interaction of federal, state, county, and private sector professionals. In order to continue the strong tradition of professionalism, we need your expertise and participation. A preliminary program will be developed after responses to this call are received. Those submitting abstracts will be notified by December 15 if their presentations will be included in the program.

Participants in previous Great Plains Wildlife Damage Control Workshops have identified four areas of major interest:

Predator Management
Urban Wildlife Control
Trapping and Capture Methods
Media and Communications Skills

Please provide the following information **by November 1, 1996:**

- Specify type of presentation: paper, poster, video, software demonstration
- Title of Presentation:
- Authors, affiliations, addresses, and phone numbers:
- Abstract (*250 words or less*)

(*Abstract should include: why you did the project, what you did and how, what you found out, and what it means*)

Send the above information to:

Charles Lee, Extension Specialist - Wildlife
Dept. of Animal Science
Room 127 Call Hall
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506
(email: clee@oz.oznet.ksu.edu).

Questions regarding the Great Plains Workshop should be directed to Charles Lee at (913)532-5734 or Scott Hygnstrom at (402) 472-6822.

ADC News, Tips, Ideas , Publications . . .

Vultures Attack Florida Building

De Land, Florida: Vultures have been eating parts of a structure built to withstand any natural disaster: the county's Emergency Operations Center. About 200 vultures have been chewing up caulk from the center's outside walls and rubber material on the outer edges of the concrete building's roof for about a month. "Literally, what they are doing is eating the roof," said Gary McCracken, an employee of Volusia County overseeing repairs to the emergency center between De Land and Daytona Beach. "It has to be stopped."

The vultures have roosted in woods off U.S. 92 for years and often perch on county buildings nearby. The EOC structure houses the county's fire, police and other safety operations during disasters such as hurricanes.

No one knows why the large, black birds suddenly began finding that building's caulk and roofing material so appetizing. Officials are concerned that if the birds peck through enough of the material, water could work its way through the openings.

Bernice Constantin, director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services Office in Gainesville, was called in for advice. She suggested after a study that special fireworks be set off to frighten the vultures away. County employees also put special Mylar tape around the roof, and reflection of the sun off the tape apparently is annoying the buzzards, McCracken said.

Employees have been recaulking cracks and temporarily patching the roof edges while they wait to see if the countermeasures are effective. After that, the building must be permanently vulture-proofed, perhaps with a coating.

-- reported by AP in the Miami Herald, June 20, 1996

Other News Notes...

An August 3 article from the AP reports ADC received 393 complaints of bears visiting bird feeders, dumpsters, and yards last year in New Hampshire. ADC is working with state game officials to educate the public on how to avoid attracting bears.

Newsman Sam Donaldson is receiving criticism for calling on ADC to assist in controlling predators on his New Mexico sheep ranch. "He's a millionaire, and millionaires shouldn't be getting taxpayer-funded predator control," says activist Pat Wolff. Donaldson leases 2,360 acres of grazing land from the state for his hundreds of sheep. Last year, he lost 80 lambs to coyotes and other predators. "The government helps ranchers and farmers and businessmen of all kinds," Donaldson said. "If it's in existence and I am eligible to use it, I'll use it."

Wolf Reintroduction Plans for '97 Announced

Reintroduction of the gray wolf in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and in central Idaho has been so successful that no new releases will be made in either area in 1997, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt announced on July 15.

"The wolves already released have reproduced well and suffered few losses and the program so far is not only under budget but ahead of schedule," Babbitt said. "I have concurred with a recommendation from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that we forgo any further reintroductions in the immediate future."

Ralph Morgenweck, the Service's regional director in Denver, Colorado, said, "If the wolf population in one recovery area does appear to lag, we have the option of moving animals from one area to another." Morgenweck said that type of relocation work is routine and also substantially reduces costs and planning.

"Forgoing releases in 1997 will also help reduce potential wolf pack conflicts," said Ed Bangs, the wolf reintroduction program coordinator. Seven wolves have been lost in Yellowstone in 1996-- two adults and one pup were believed killed by other wolves, two were illegally killed, one was hit by a car, and one died after falling into a hot spring.

Seven litters of wolves were believed born this spring to reintroduced parents in central Idaho. Four of the reintroduced Idaho wolves died in Idaho in 1996 according to the Nez Perce Tribe, which monitors wolf activity in Idaho. One was shot, one was killed by a mountain lion, one drowned, and one death was from undetermined causes.

Fifteen wolves were reintroduced into central Idaho and 14 in Yellowstone National Park in 1995. Twenty wolves were reintroduced in central Idaho and 17 in Yellowstone National Park in 1996.

Bangs said while wolf mortality in Yellowstone was slightly higher than in Idaho, the rate remains below predictions. "With the two litters born last year to the Yellowstone wolves, we started off much better than expected and that momentum has continued throughout this year." Bangs said any reintroduction proposals beyond 1997 will be evaluated on a yearly basis.

Prior to the reintroduction of the gray wolf, the animals had been absent from Yellowstone and central Idaho since the late 1920s. The reintroduction goal calls for establishment of 10 breeding pairs in each of three recovery areas for three successive years, which would result in a recovered wolf population and removal of wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains from the endangered species list by 2002. Central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park are two of the recovery areas; northwest Montana is the third, although it is not a reintroduction zone.

-- taken from a US Fish & Wildlife Service press release

House Kills Anti-ADC Amendment

The U.S. House of Representatives voted 279 - 139 to defeat an amendment proposed by Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) which would have slashed Animal Damage Control funding within USDA in half and prohibited funding for predator control across the western United States.

A coalition of livestock producers, trappers, and agricultural organizations, including the American Sheep Industry Association, led the effort to defeat the amendment. Agricultural Appropriations Chairman Joe Skeen (R-NM) led opposition to DeFazio's amendment in Congress, with Reps. Barbara Cubin (R-WY), Wes Cooley (R-OR), Henry Bonilla (R-TX), and Charles Stenhold (D-TX) joining his efforts. Each member gave an impassioned statement in support of the ADC program and voiced strong opposition to this animal rights amendment supported by the Defenders of Wildlife.

The following representatives voted in favor of DeFazio's amendment (therefore, in favor of cutting the ADC budget); if you're within the district of one of these representatives, you may wish to provide a letter and some educational materials to your representative to let him/her know that you support the federal ADC program.

CALIFORNIA
Robert T. Matsui (D), Lynn Woolsey (D), George Miller (D), Nancy Pelosi (D), Ronald V. Dellums (D), Tom Lantos (D), Fortney H. Stark (D), Anna Eshoo (D), Sam Farr (D), Anthony C. Beilenson (D), Howard L. Berman (D), Henry A. Waxman (D), Xavier Becerra (D), Julian C. Dixon (D), Lucille Roybal-Allard(D), Esteban Edward Torres (D), Maxine Waters (D), Jane Harman (D), Juanita Millender-McDonald (D), Ed Royce (R), George E. Brown (D), Dana Rohrabacher (R), C Christopher Cox (R), Brian P. Bilbray (R), Bob Filner (D).

COLORADO
Patricia Schroeder (D).

CONNECTICUT
Barbara B. Kennelly (D), Sam Gejdenson (D), Rosa De Laura (D), Christopher Shays (R).

DELAWARE
Michael Castle (R).

FLORIDA
Joe Scarborough (R), Cliff Stearns (R), Michael Bilirakis (R), Dan Miller (R), Porter J. Goss (R), Carrie Meek (D), Harry A. Johnston (D), Peter Deutsch (D).

GEORGIA
John Lewis (D), Cynthia McKinney (D).

HAWAII
Neil Abercrombie (D), Patsy T Mink (D).

ILLINOIS
Jesse Jackson (D), William O. Lipinski (D), Luis Gutierrez (D), Michael Patrick Flanagan (R), Sidney R. Yates (D), John Edward Porter (R), Harris W. Fawell (R), Donald Manzullo (R).

INDIANA
Tim Roemer (D).

KANSAS
Jan Meyers (R).

MARYLAND
Wayne T. Gilchrest (R), Benjamin L. Cardin (D), Elijah E. Cummings (D), Constance A. Morella (R).

MASSACHUSETTS
John Oliver (D), Richard E. Neal (D), Peter Blute (R), Barney Frank (D), Martin Meehan (D), Edward J. Markey (D), Joseph P. Kennedy (D), Joe Moakley (D), Gerry E Studds (D).

MICHIGAN
Bart Stupak (D), Peter Hoekstra (R), Vernon J. Ehlers (R), Frederick S. Upton (R), Richard R. Chrysler (R), David E. Bonior (D), Sander M. Levin (D), Lynn Nancy Rivers (D), John D. Dingell (D).

MINNESOTA
Gilbert W. Gutknecht (R), Jim Ramstad (R), Bruce F. Venio (D), Martin Olav Sabo (D), William P. Luther (D).

MISSISSIPPI
Gene Taylor (D).

MISSOURI
Richard A. Gephardt (D), Karen McCarthy (D).

NEW JERSEY
Robert Andrews (D), Christopher H. Smith (R), Marge Roukema (R), Donald M. Payne (D), Dick Zimmer (R), Robert Menendez (D).

NEW YORK
Gary L. Ackerman (D), Jerrold Nadler (D), Charles E. Schumer (D), Edolphus Towns (D), Major R. Owens (D), Nydia Velazquez (D), Carolyn Maloney (D), Charles B. Rangel (D), Jose Serrano (D), Eliot L. Engel (D), Nita M. Lowey (D), Sue Kelly (R), Michael R. McNulty (D), Maurice Hinchey (D), Louise McIntosh Slaughter (D), John J. LaFalce (D).

OHIO
Steven J. Chabot (R), Tony P. Hall (D), Sherrod Brown (D).

OKLAHOMA
Thomas A. Coburn (R).

OREGON
Elizabeth Furse (D), Peter A. De Fazio (D), Earl Blumenauer (D).

PENNSYLVANIA
Thomas M. Foglietta (D), Robert A. Borski (D), Ron Klink (D), Jon D. Fox (R), William J. Coyne (D), Paul McHale (D), Michael F. Doyle (D), Philip S. English (R).

RHODE ISLAND
Patrick J. Kennedy (D), Jack Reed (D)

SOUTH CAROLINA
Marshall Sanford (R).

TENNESSEE
John J. Duncan (R), Zachary P. Wamp (R).

TEXAS
John Bryant (D), Stephen E Stockman (R), Lloyd Doggett (D).

VERMONT
Bernard Sanders (I)

WASHINGTON
James A. McDermott (D).

WEST VIRGINIA
Nick Joe Rahall (D).

WISCONSIN
Mark Neumann (R), Scott Klug (R), Gerald D. Kleczka (D), Tom Barrett (D), Thomas E. Petri (R), David R. Obey (D), Toby Roth (R), F. James Sensenbrenner (R).

Galapagos to Eradicate Feral Animals

Authorities on Ecuador's Galapagos Islands launched a campaign in June to eradicate non-native animal species that threaten food supplies for the archipelago's native fauna.

Wild goats, deer and donkeys, introduced years ago by sailors and island inhabitants, are among the animals using up the islands' limited vegetation and will be the main target of the hunting and trapping campaign.

"The goal is for these animals to be eradicated, or at least to reduce their numbers considerably so that they will not represent a threat to the islands' fragile ecosystems," said Galapagos National Park Director Eliecer Cruz.

Park authorities have approached both Ecuador's air force and navy to see if they are interested in transporting captured animals to the Ecuadorian mainland. "If not, then we will proceed to hunt them," Cruz said. Cruz downplayed concerns that the large number of animal cadavers resulting from such a hunt could also alter the fragile ecosystem on the equatorial islands, which lie about 600 miles (900km) west of the Ecuadorian coast in the Pacific Ocean. The islands' climate, which includes extreme ranges of heat and cold, would quickly aid in the decomposition of the animals' bodies, Cruz said.

An estimated 120,000 of the herbivorous goats, deer and donkeys live on Isabela Island, the largest of the dozens of islands that make up the Galapagos archipelago. They were introduced over centuries to provide a steady food supply for inhabitants and visitors, but the non-native species graze on plants that are also the primary food for the Galapagos giant tortoises and other native animals. The lack of population control led to the proliferation of the goats, deer and donkeys, which turned wild.

Other animals introduced to the islands by man were cats and rats, which were presumed to have escaped from ships before multiplying rapidly. Rats pose a particular threat to the island's bird populations, entering bird nests and eating the eggs.

The Galapagos Islands, where British naturalist Charles Darwin did research work on the origin of species in the 1830s, are the exclusive home to six species of giant tortoise and several large lizards. Other animals on the volcanic archipelago include flamingos, flightless cormorants, penguins and a host of other exotic birds.

--- *from United Press International*

"Handbook" Really Gets Around

The book *Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage* is considered to be *the* reference in the field of wildlife damage management. The new (blue) edition is a two-volume set featuring 93 chapters from 75 authors, covering from alligators to polar bears. Distribution of this edition was initiated in January 1995. To date, 6,555 copies have found homes in all 50 states, 11 Canadian provinces, Mexico, and several foreign countries. You can find the "Handbook" in every USDA-APHIS-ADC field office in the nation and every county Extension office in 20 states. It is used as a text in at least ten university wildlife courses and is available in reference libraries across the country.

The editors, Scott Hygnstrom, Bob Timm, and Gary Larson, have received numerous compliments on the book, from all quarters. They are currently planning to conduct an evaluation of the Handbook to determine impacts and benefits. Administrators are anxiously awaiting the results.

Copies of the new (1994) edition of Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage are still available (book - $45, CD-ROM - $43, or both for $65 including shipping) from: Wildlife Damage Handbook, University of Nebraska, 202 Natural Resources Hall, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0819. For further information, call (402) 472-2188.

Ferries Grapple with Pigeon Nuisance

British Columbia Ferries say their staff have complained about the droppings from pigeons that are resident at the Horseshoe Bay ferry terminal. The staff's main concern is that when they are directing traffic onto the ferries, the vehicles, and the staff themselves, stir up the droppings and then the staff breathe this in, causing them some health worries.

BC Ferries have tried a variety of non-lethal measures to discourage the pigeons, including sealing off some areas that the birds use for perching; using wire-mesh for those areas it could not close off completely; using a plastic owl -- which worked for a couple of days before the pigeons became accustomed to it, and now use it to perch on; and a high-pitched noise, which was supposed to scare off the pigeons. All this resulted in was complaints from customers about the noise, and after a week-and-a-half, they were forced to turn it off.

BC Ferries admits that it has not received complaints from the public about the pigeons and, therefore, will not resort to any lethal solutions for now.

--- *from the Internet news services*

Video and Publications Review:

Fur Institute of Canada's educational materials on the fur trade

Stephen Vantasstel, Special Correspondent, The PROBE

From time to time, Government agencies produce documentation of such quality and insight that you actually feel good about paying taxes (at least for a few seconds). In December of 1995, the Fur Institute sent me a number of articles for review. These products both video and printed, address various aspects of the fur trade. Since these items were not created to answer animal damage control problems per se, a value grade will not be given. However, the reader should be reminded that the quality of these materials in both form and content is superb. I wish the U.S. had literature of similar quality as that produced by the Fur Institute (if we do, I would love to see it).

The reader should know that prices can only be given as a guide because shipping costs will vary depending on your locale. You must also add Canadian Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 7% to the cost of the item only, not on the shipping. All prices should be paid in Canadian dollars. To be sure, I would call ahead and get a solid price by talking to the Fur Institute directly.

"A Matter of Choice, People, Animals and the Environment"

These materials endeavor to help people wrestle with the variety of issues relating to the fur trade. This discussion is facilitated by the use of mock government hearings. The students are told that the government wants an inquiry heard on the proper use of animals in regards to the fur trade. Some students are chosen to be on the hearing committee. Other students are assigned to the various players in the fur trade debate ranging from Animal Rights Activists to the Fur Trapper. The students representing these various groups are required to present the best and most convincing case before the hearing committee. It is believed that as the students study and interact with the material that they will develop the following: a. a deeper understanding of the fur trade debate, b. greater respect for other views and cultures, and c. a methodology for wrestling with other issues of debate in society.

The packet comes with a teachers guide (pp. 1-57) which includes pages outlining the positions of each of the various animal use views. In this way the students and the teacher are guided in their search for information pertinent to their case. Each student would receive a guide that would lay the ground rules for the discussion. Questions are provided to stimulate thought in how the student will portray his assigned role play. A 6 minute video also accompanies the written material to help clarify the goals of the mock committee hearing. As is typical in Canada, 6 minutes are in English the latter 6 are in French. In any event the video has been professionally done and makes for good watching. If you are interested in exposing your students to the hot topic of the fur trade in a manner that will generate more light than heat, then this is the guide for you. The materials that I received were designed for grades 8-12. However, I believe they could easily be used in college classes as well.

"People of the Fur Trade: Partners in Conservation"

This publication provides a brief overview of the various jobs in the fur industry. This eight-page fold out folder is obviously public relations material that endeavors to leave the reader with a positive feeling about the fur trade. However, it does inform the reader about trap research, fur auctions, trappers, fur processing and consumers. The accompanying water color type poster shows each aspect of the fur industry around a tranquil scene of a beaver colony and dam. The cover contains a line drawing of an Eskimo, again properly reemphasizing that trapping is closely related to the culture of Canada's indigenous Indian populations. By reminding people of the Indian's culture of trapping, we show that the animal rights agenda has cultural implications, namely the assault on an indigenous culture.

Up to nine of these brochures can be obtained at no charge. If you want more than nine, there is a $2.00 charge per item.

"Humane Trap Research and Development"

This is another informative brochure which provides a brief overview on the Fur Institute's trap research program. In six standard size pages, the brochure covers the history of the institute, use of technology, scientific protocol used to study traps, results and future goals. Of interest to our readers should be the scientific protocol used to evaluate traps. It consists of the following stages:
1. Mechanical Evaluation, 2. Trap Approach Study, 3. Pre-Selection Test, 4. Enclosure Test, 5. Performance Confirmation Tests, and 6. Field Tests. The trap must pass each level before it is permitted to go to the next.

The readers are also told which traps have successfully passed the tests. Generally, they include conibears, padded jaw footholds and the egg trap.

This brochure along with the video costs $20.00 Canadian +GST plus shipping.

Stephen Vantassel, NWCO Correspondent, 340 Cooley St. Springfield, MA 01128, email: ADCTRAPPER@aol.com
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Stephen's reviews of additional materials produced by the Fur Institute will appear in next month's PROBE.

TIME VALUED MATERIAL –
DO NOT DELAY

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68501
Permit No. 46

Membership Application and Renewal Form

NATIONAL ANIMAL DAMAGE CONTROL ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Wes Jones, Treasurer, W8773 Pond View Drive, Shell Lake, WI 54871, Phone: (715) 468-2038

Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Home

Address: _____ Phone: (____)_____ - _____ Office

Additional Address Info: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Dues: $_____ Donation: $_____ Total: $_____ Date: _____

Membership Class: Student $10.00 Active $20.00 Sponsor $40.00 Patron $100 (Circle one)

Check or Money Order payable to NADCA

Select one type of occupation or principal interest:

[ ] Agriculture
[ ] USDA - APHIS - ADC or SAT
[ ] USDA - Extension Service
[ ] Federal - not APHIS or Extension
[ ] Foreign
[ ] Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator
[ ] Other (describe) _____
[ ] Pest Control Operator
[ ] Retired
[ ] ADC Equipment/Supplies
[ ] State Agency
[ ] Trapper
[ ] University

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