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Concluding Remarks: Fourth Bird Control Seminar

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Conference Chairman; Bowling Green State University

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CONCLUDING REMARKS

William B. Jackson
Conference Chairman

Thank you Phil. I'll learn to put you on last; you took my speech. We had as many of you know, an afternoon on informal redwinged blackbirds. Tom Stockdale did prepare a brief summary, but I think most of the salient points that came out in that discussion on Monday afternoon have filtered in one way or another through the conference during the last two days, and I will not take time to rerun these ideas.

Interestingly in trying to run through and fix some of the ideas that had been important, I came up with much the same line that Phil had. I sat back there looking at my notes while Phil was running down his list saying, "Well, that one's off, that one's off, etc."

I had three basic ideas. One: that we were talking about bird management, not bird control. This is a recurrent theme through all four of our conferences I think. We're saying secondly that spot control, taking care of this problem at this place with this specific technique, is important and we need more tools; but we need to look at the larger aspect of the environment, the population, and its relationship—an ecological approach. Thirdly, communication, whether it be with the general public or specific interest groups or among this group of professionals involved in bird management, is important; and we need to find new avenues and new vehicles. This seems to me to be the essence of some of the things we have been asking for the last three days.

This brings us to the end. The conference would not have been possible had it not been for a great many people. A number of long, hard-working graduate students here at Bowling Green have suffered and have taken time (while I've been trotting around the world) to handle details. They have functioned here at the conference working in the background. Dave Schneider will have much of the burden of editing the Proceedings and getting it into print. In addition I should cite the cooperation of Phil Spear, the NPCA, Fish and Wildlife Service personnel, the assistance of our conference bureau here at the University, and most of all the cooperation of yourselves. You've been a most attentive audience. I must say that this is the first conference that I've been to in a long time where nobody went to sleep. This is unusual, and I think it indicates something in terms of both the speakers and your concern for the subject.

This is it. Hope to see you in two years.