OPNAV INSTRUCTION 3750.21

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: POLICY FOR ADMINISTERING THE BIRD/ANIMAL AIRCRAFT STRIKE HAZARD PROGRAM IN THE U.S. NAVY

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3750.6S
     (b) OPNAVINST 5090.1D
     (c) DoD Manual 4150.07-V3, DoD Pest Management Training and Certification Program Manual, 23 May 2013

Encl: (1) Wildlife Management and Control Techniques at CNIC Installation Airfields

1. **Purpose.** To establish United States Navy Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) Program policy and assign specific responsibilities for implementing reference (a).

2. **Scope and Applicability.** This instruction is applicable to all Navy commands that operate aircraft at shore-based airfields and to other Navy commands that enable or support flight operations through airspace control, range monitoring, facilities maintenance, natural resources management, and weapons handling and storage oversight.

3. **Background.** Many Navy bases around the world are located in areas where wildlife hazards present significant risks for air and ground strikes from birds and other wildlife. Such strikes can result in potential loss of life for flight crews or ground personnel, costly aircraft damage, and degradation of mission capability for Navy installations and their customers. A well-planned and executed BASH program, structured according to safety management system principles established in reference (a), provides a proven means for identifying aviation safety hazards and effectively mitigating the associated risks.

4. **Policy.** BASH planning will be considered a key component of overall aviation safety risk management at shore-based airfields. The designated program manager will direct and monitor an integrated BASH effort among naval aviation stakeholders that comports with the guidelines established in references (a), (b), and (c), and that is strategically focused to sustain the safest possible airfield operating environments, enhance fleet operational readiness, and protect limited Navy resources. Specific objectives of the Navy BASH program are to:

   a. Reduce injury to personnel and damage to aircraft and infrastructure resulting from wildlife strikes through proactive hazard monitoring, evaluation, management, and mitigation.
b. Document the effects of wildlife strikes on naval aviation operations to include injury, damage, and resulting costs.

c. Maintain BASH program compliance with Federal environmental laws and regulations and avoid significant negative impacts to natural resources within installation ecosystems.

5. Responsibilities

a. Director, Shore Readiness (OPNAV N46) is responsible for providing overarching Navy BASH program policy and for serving as BASH resource sponsor for Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) installation airfields.

b. Director, Energy and Environmental Readiness (OPNAV N45) is responsible for ensuring environmental program support to and alignment with Navy BASH program management objectives at CNIC installation airfields.

c. CNIC is responsible, as program manager and single process integrator, for executing and monitoring the Navy BASH program across program stakeholders and at CNIC installation airfields.

d. Commander, Naval Air Forces (COMNAVAIRFOR) is responsible for implementing Navy BASH policy in alignment with overall program objectives throughout the operational naval aviation community.

e. Commander, Naval Safety Center (NAVSAFECEN) is responsible for providing risk management, technical, and communications support to CNIC and COMNAVAIRFOR for BASH program safety policy alignment and performance monitoring.

f. Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFACENGCOM) is responsible for providing facilities sustainment, grounds maintenance, environmental management, and natural resources support for execution of Navy BASH program objectives at CNIC installation airfields.

6. Action

a. OPNAV N46 will:

(1) Establish policy for the Navy BASH program; and

(2) Validate and resource requirements for operations and maintenance of BASH support equipment and manpower at CNIC installation airfields and their associated outlying fields.
b. **OPNAV N45** will:

   (1) Support BASH programs and objectives through environmental and natural resources program management;

   (2) Following reference (c) integrate BASH wildlife objectives and other natural resources requirements into installation Integrated Natural Resources Management Plans (INRMP) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plans.

c. **CNIC** will:

   (1) Develop BASH implementing guidance for execution of the CNIC BASH program in alignment with references (a), (b), and (c) that incorporates the wildlife management techniques outlined in enclosure (1).

   (2) Conduct liaison with Department of Defense (DoD), and other Federal and non-Federal organizations on BASH program issues.

   (3) Establish and chair a Navy BASH working group to discuss requirements, procedures, and other related issues among all aviation stakeholders.

   (4) Centrally fund the United States Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services for wildlife biologists assigned to installation air operations departments to perform integrated wildlife damage management and monitoring efforts in support of command BASH programs.

   (5) Centrally fund the Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Laboratory to receive, process, and identify bird strike remains submitted by installations and tenant aviation commands.

d. **COMNAVAIRFOR** will:

   (1) Participate in the Navy BASH working group and assist CNIC and NAVSAFECEN in the administration, reporting, and monitoring of the BASH program.

   (2) Require installation tenant wings and squadrons to fully support installation BASH program management objectives through participation in BASH working groups, proper reporting of all BASH incidents, timely submission of bird remains to the Smithsonian Institution Feather Identification Laboratory for species identification, and participation in annual BASH program inspections and reviews.
e. NAVSAFECEN will:

(1) Provide a reporting tool and strike identification database for all naval aviation commands to report wildlife strikes and near misses.

(2) Participate as a member of the Navy BASH working group, promote BASH through NAVSAFECEN media outlets, publish annual BASH statistics to the fleet, and maintain an informative BASH Web page for all commands to use as a planning tool.

f. NAVFACENGCOM will:

(1) Ensure that project planners include BASH mitigation objectives during the project planning process.

(2) Ensure that environmental directors and natural resource program managers participate in installation BASH working groups. Assist in the preparation and implementation of installation BASH instructions and wildlife hazard management plans.

(3) Ensure that BASH programs are addressed in the installation INRMP and IPM plans, and are in compliance with applicable state and Federal laws, reference (b) guidelines, and any mitigation actions agreed upon by all parties concerned.

(4) Participate as a member of the Navy BASH working group and in on-site technical reviews of installation BASH programs during periodic NAVSAFECEN surveys, CNIC airfield evaluations, and annual BASH program self-assessments.

7. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per the Secretary of the Navy Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

8. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, OPNAV N46 will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, Secretary of the Navy, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40. This instruction will be in effect for 5 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 5-year anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1.
9. **Information Management Control.** OPNAV 3750-19 from reference (a) covers data collection for BASH reporting.

Releasability and distribution:
This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site, [http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil](http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil)
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL TECHNIQUES AT CNIC INSTALLATION AIRFIELDS

1. **Active Controls**
   a. USDA Wildlife Services Biologists
   b. Wildlife detection and dispersal teams
   c. Depredation (firearms)
   d. Pyrotechnics
   e. Air rifles
   f. Bio-acoustics
   g. Propane gas cannons
   h. Falconry
   i. Dogs
   j. Radio-controlled units
   k. All-terrain vehicles
   l. Effigies

2. **Passive Controls**
   a. Grass management
   b. Forest management
   c. Herbicide and pesticide applications
   d. Landscaping
   e. Removal of edge effect
   f. Airfield wetland and water management

Enclosure (1)
g. Storm water management
h. Wastewater treatment facility management
i. Soil cementing
j. Sanitary landfill management
k. Agricultural outlease management
l. Fencing