

AIP CANADA (ICAO) SUPPLEMENT 6/19

RESIDENT SNOW GOOSE HAZARD VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (CYVR) RICHMOND, BRITISH COLUMBIA OCTOBER 2018 TO APRIL 2019

Since 2015, the Vancouver Airport Authority has documented an increasing trend of bird strikes involving snow geese weighing between 2.2 kg and 2.5 kg for aircraft landing on Runways 08R and 08L. In 2017, four aircraft were damaged by snow geese strikes, including two aircraft that ingested birds into both engines while arriving on Runways 08L and 08R, respectively.

The increase in strikes coincides with an increase in the Fraser-Skagit Snow Goose subpopulation from October to April and a shift in local bird distribution with flocks using habitats along the Fraser River delta near Sea Island. Most strikes occur at night when geese attempt to land in the western foreshore to feed on bulrush rhizomes. The greatest hazard is below 400 feet altitude above ground level (AGL) up to 1 km west of the western end of the parallel runways.

The Preferential Runway Use section of the CYVR Noise Abatement Procedures prescribes Runway 08 for arrivals between 23:00 and 06:00 local time, during calm wind conditions (i.e., tailwind not exceeding 5 knots). Per the irregular airfield operations exemption listed for this section, the Airport Authority authorizes the use of Runway 26 for arrivals between the hours of 23:00 and 06:00 local time, during calm wind conditions. The period of authorization is from 1 October 2018 to 30 April 2019 inclusive.

In addition to conducting intense wildlife management, Avian radar tracking, and focused 24-hour deterrence of snow geese feeding the YVR airport authority is carrying out the following measures:

1. changing the preferred night-time arrival Runway to 26L/R to reduce bird strike risk; and
2. urging departures from Runway 26L/R to maximize their altitude crossing the west shore of Sea Island.

The effect of the noise abatement change is to **Defer to westerly flow**.

The Airport Authority discussed this plan at the CYVR Chief Pilot's meetings, hosted on 3 May 2018 and 11 October 2018. No comments were received. The Airport Authority will conduct a mid-term review in December 2018 and another in May 2019 to assess the effectiveness of the change.

For further information, please contact CYVR at:

Vancouver International Airport (CYVR)
PO Box 44638
YVR Domestic Terminal
RPO Richmond, BC V7B 1WZ
Attn: David Bradbeer, Wildlife Program Specialist

Tel.: 604-619-7700
24 hr: 604-276-6600
E-mail: David_Bradbeer@yvr.ca

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Ferrier', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James Ferrier
Director, Aeronautical Information Management