

AIP CANADA SUPPLEMENT 14/23

MIGRATORY BIRD HAZARD AT CYVR

Introduction

The Vancouver Airport Authority identified a new flight pattern of migratory geese in March 2022. This new phenomenon occurs at dusk in March, when flocks of Snow Geese fly from roosts on the marsh to inland feeding sites.

The flocks fly north/northeast across the Vancouver International Airport and frequently cross Runway 08R-26L. As light conditions are reduced at dusk, the flocks may not be visible to ATC, flight crews or airport wildlife management personnel. Departing aircraft have struck these flocks of geese, resulting in airframe damage and alterations to flight plans.



Hazard Mitigation

The Airport Authority is using several mitigating measures to manage this new hazard:

The Authority will work with NAV CANADA to publish a special ATIS message, 1 hour prior to dusk, to inform flight crews of the extreme goose activity that occurs at dusk. The message will run for 2 hours, each night in March.

The Authority will further manage the goose hazard by attempting to flush the flocks in a controlled manner. During this operation, the runway may be closed to departures for a period of 10 minutes, or less. Arriving aircraft may be notified of the hazard directly by ATC.

Further Information

For questions about this hazard, contact YVR Wildlife Program Specialist, David Bradbeer (david_bradbeer@yvr.ca), or YVR Airport Operations (Tel.: 604-207-7022).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Bowden', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Chris Bowden
Director, Aeronautical Information Management and Flight Operations