



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# Advisory Circular

**Subject:** Qualifications for Wildlife  
Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard  
Assessments and Training Curriculums for  
Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling  
Wildlife Hazards on Airports

**Date:** 01/31/2013

**AC No:** 150/5200-36A

**Initiated by:** AAS-300

**Change:** 1

## 1. Purpose.

This Change adds language requiring certificated airports to maintain documentation of airport wildlife biologist qualifications. This change is in response to an Office of the Inspector General safety recommendation.

## 2. Principal Changes.

This Change adds a new Paragraph 6(f) on page 4 and removes a single sentence from Section 1 on page 1. We have marked changed text with vertical bars in the margins.

### Page Control Chart

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\* Page break change only.

Michael J. O'Donnell

Director of Airports Safety and Standards

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## 1. Purpose.

This Advisory Circular (AC) has two purposes. First, this AC describes the qualifications for wildlife biologists who conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments (WHA) for airports certificated under Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 139 (14 CFR Part 139), and at non-certificated airports funded by a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) or Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Program. We recommend that airports, at a minimum, consult with a qualified airport wildlife biologist when developing a Wildlife Hazard Management Plan (WHMP).

Second, this AC addresses the minimum wildlife hazard management curriculum for the initial and recurrent training of airport personnel who implement an FAA-approved WHMP.

## 2. Applicability.

The standards and practices in this AC for public-use airports and for those who conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments and conduct required training are:

- a. Mandatory for airports certificated under Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 139 (14 CFR Part 139).
- b. Highly recommended for airports that have accepted AIP or the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Program funds.
- c. Highly recommended for all other airports that independently fund Wildlife Hazard Assessments.

## 3. Cancellation.

This AC cancels AC 150/5200-36, Qualifications for Wildlife Biologist Conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Training Curriculums for Airport Personnel Involved in Controlling Wildlife Hazards on Airports, dated June 28, 2006.

(4) Have successfully completed at least one of the following within five years of their initial FAA approved airport wildlife hazard management training course, and every five years thereafter:

- (i) An airport wildlife hazard management training course that is acceptable to the FAA Administrator (Appendix C) **or**,
- (ii) Attendance, as a registered participant, at a joint Bird Strike Committee–USA/Bird Strike Committee–Canada annual meeting **or**,
- (iii) Other training acceptable to the FAA Administrator.

**d.** Individuals who work under the direct supervision of a qualified airport wildlife biologist are allowed to conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments if the airport sponsor and the qualified airport wildlife biologist agree in writing to determine how the qualified airport wildlife biologist will:

- (1) Supervise how the individual(s) will conduct the Wildlife Hazard Assessment; and
- (2) Report progress of the Wildlife Hazard Assessment; and
- (3) Supervise the Wildlife Hazard Assessment report production.

**e.** Certificate Holders or Airport Sponsors must obtain documentation verifying the qualifications outlined in c (1) – (3) above of any person(s) conducting wildlife hazard assessments or providing requisite training.

**f.** Holders of Airport Operating Certificates issued under Part 139 must retain records documenting the airport wildlife biologist(s) qualifications to conduct Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans. These records must be retained for 10 years. If an airport conducts another WHA before the ten year expiration, the airport must maintain the qualification records for the previous WHA one year after the new WHA is completed.

## **7. Initial and Recurrent Training for Airport Personnel Actively Involved in Managing Hazardous Wildlife On or Near Airports.**

**a.** Personnel actively involved in implementing FAA-approved Wildlife Hazard Management Plans are subject to the requirements of 14 CFR Part 139.303. Section 139.303 requires a specific training regimen for all airport personnel. Section 139.303(c) and (e) require the holder of an Airport Operating Certificate issued under Part 139 to provide initial training and, every 12 months thereafter, recurrent training in wildlife hazard management to airport personnel actively involved in implementing FAA-approved Wildlife Hazard Management Plans. The required training must include “Any additional subject areas required under ... §139.337” [§139.303(c)(5)] and, “As appropriate, comply with the following training requirements of this part ... §139.337, Wildlife Hazard Management” [§139.303(e)(5)].

**b.** Appendix D outlines the minimum training requirements for airport personnel who carry out an airport’s Wildlife Hazard Management Plan. Depending on local wildlife and environmental issues, additional topics or more in-depth coverage of listed topics might be needed.

**c.** §139.337(f)(1) requires the Wildlife Hazard Management Plan to include a list of the individuals having authority and responsibility for implementing each aspect of the plan. This list identifies the individuals who must complete the required training.

**d.** §139.337(f) does not prohibit holders of Airport Operating Certificates from using a “train-the-trainer” approach when providing the requisite training, provided the trainers receive and successfully complete their initial and recurrent training from a qualified airport wildlife biologist. Trainers who are not qualified airport wildlife biologists are limited to providing training to their airport employees.

**e.** Holders of Airport Operating Certificates issued under Part 139 are required to make and keep records of all training for airport personnel involved in controlling wildlife hazards for at least 24 consecutive calendar months.[ §139.301(b)(1) and §139.303(d)].

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. O'Donnell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'M' and 'J'.

Michael J. O'Donnell  
Director of Airport Safety and Standards