

APPENDIX 7  
HAZARDOUS SPECIES IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

<p><b>White-tailed Deer</b> <i>(Odocoileus virginianus)</i></p>	<p>The coat is a reddish-brown in the spring and summer and turns to a grey-brown throughout the fall and winter. They can be recognized by the characteristic white underside to the tail. Male deer usually weigh around 45 kg (100 lb), but in rare cases, males in excess of 125 kg (275 lb) have been recorded. The females usually weigh from 40 to 90 kg (88 to 198 lb).</p>	
<p><b>Canada Goose</b> <i>(Branta canadensis)</i></p>	<p>Is a large goose species with a black head and neck, white cheeks, white under its chin, and a brown body. Canada geese range from 75 to 110 cm (30 to 43 in) in length and have a 127–185 cm (50–73 in) wingspan. The male Canada goose usually weighs 2.6–6.5 kg (5.7–14.3 lb).</p>	

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<p><b>Black Vulture</b> <i>(Coragyps atratus)</i></p>	<p>Is a large bird of prey with plumage that is mainly glossy black. The head and neck are featherless and the skin is dark gray and wrinkled. They measure 56–74 cm (22–29 in) in length, with a 1.33–1.67 m (52–66 in) wingspan. Weight for black vultures ranges from 1.6 to 3 kg (3.5 to 6.6 lb). The bases of the primary feathers are white producing a white patch on the underside of the wing's edge, which is visible in flight. The tail is short and square, barely reaching past the edge of the folded wings.</p>	 <p>The top photograph shows a Black Vulture perched on a wooden branch, facing left. Its head is featherless and wrinkled, and its body is covered in dark, glossy feathers. The bottom photograph shows a Black Vulture in flight against a clear blue sky. The bird's wings are spread, revealing a white patch on the underside of the wing's edge.</p>
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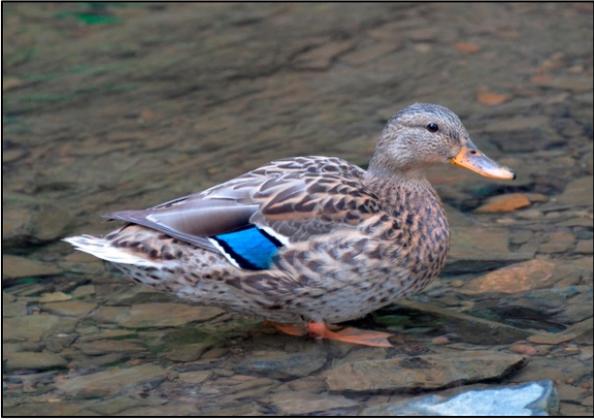
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<p>Northern Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)</p>	<p>The breeding plumage of the male is a chocolate-brown head and white breast with a white stripe extending up the side of the neck. Its upperparts and sides are grey, but elongated grey feathers with black central stripes are draped across the back from the shoulder area. Tail is sharply elongated and pointed.</p>	
	<p>The adult female is mainly scalloped and mottled in light brown with a more uniformly grey-brown head. Its pointed tail is shorter than the male. It is a large duck with a wingspan of 80–95 cm (31–37 in). The male is 59–76 cm (23–30 in) in length and weighs 450–1.36 g (0.99–3 lb). The female is 51–64 cm (20–25 in) long and weighs 454–1.13 g (1.0–2.5 lb).</p>	

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<p><b>Turkey Vulture</b> <i>(Cathartes aura)</i></p>	<p>The body feathers are mostly brownish-black. The flight feathers on the wings appear to be silvery-gray beneath, contrasting with the darker wing linings. The adult's head is small in proportion to its body and is red in color with few to no feathers. It also has a relatively short, hooked, ivory-colored beak. A large bird, it has a wingspan of 160–183 cm (63–72 in), a length of 62–81 cm (24–32 in), and weight of 0.8 to 2.41 kg (1.8 to 5.3 lb).</p>	 A photograph of a Turkey Vulture perched on a light-colored rock. The bird is dark brown with a prominent red head and a hooked beak. It is facing left. The background shows a chain-link fence and some dry vegetation.
<p><b>Swainson's Hawk</b> <i>(Buteo swainsoni)</i></p>	<p>Most adults are white on the underparts with a dark, reddish "bib" on the chest and a noticeable white throat and face patch. The underwings, seen as the bird soars, have a light leading edge and a dark trailing edge. The tail is grey-brown with about six narrow dark bands and one wider sub-terminal band. The upperparts are brown. Swainson's hawk average length is 43–56 cm (17–22 in) long, and weighs 0.5–1.7 kg (1.1–3.7 lb).</p>	 A photograph of a Swainson's Hawk perched on a thin, green branch. The bird has brown upperparts and a white underbelly with dark spots. It has a dark "bib" on its chest and a white patch on its face. The background is a blurred natural setting.

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<p><b>Pied-billed Grebe</b> <i>(Podilymbus podiceps)</i></p>	<p>Pied-billed grebes are small, stocky, and short-necked. They are 31–38 cm (12–15 in) in length with a wingspan of 45–62 cm (18–24 in) and weigh 253–568 g (8.9–20.0 oz). They are mainly brown with a darker crown and back.</p>	
<p><b>Mallard</b> <i>(Anas platyrhynchos)</i></p>	<p>The breeding male has a glossy bottle-green head and a white collar that separates the head from the purple-tinged brown breast, grey-brown wings, and a pale grey belly. The rear of the male is black, with white-bordered dark tail feathers. The bill of the male is a yellowish-orange tipped with black. That of the female is generally darker and ranging from black to mottled orange and brown. The female is predominantly mottled, with each individual feather showing sharp contrast from buff to very dark brown. It has buff cheeks, eyebrow, throat, and neck, with a darker crown and eye-stripe. It is 50–65 cm (20–26 in) long, has a wingspan of 81–98 cm (32–39 in), and weighs 0.72–1.58 kg (1.6–3.5 lb).</p>	 

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<p>Other Ducks</p>	<p>All duck species are hazardous to a safe flying environment due to their body mass and flocking tendencies. There are around twenty-eight total species of ducks that regularly live in North America so listing all are not listed here. The three species shown are (from top to bottom) blue-winged teal (<i>Spatula discors</i>), green-winged teal (<i>Anas carolinensis</i>), and northern shoveler (<i>Spatula clypeata</i>) which represent a few of the common species that may use an airfield environment. Two additional species (northern pintail and mallard) have their own slots on this list as they have been involved in a number of damaging strikes.</p>	  
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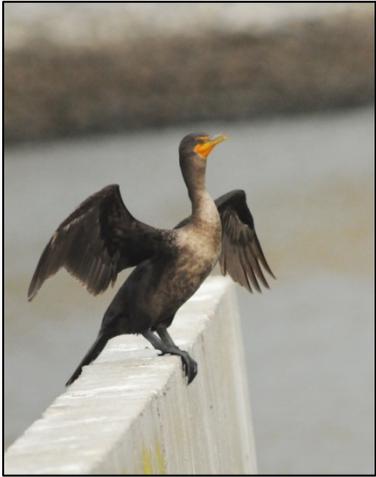
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**Red-tailed Hawk**  
*(Buteo jamaicensis)*

Highly variable hawk with light, dark, and intermediate plumages. A whitish underbelly with a dark brown band across the belly, formed by horizontal streaks in feather patterning, is present in most color variations. This feature is variable in eastern hawks and generally absent in some light plumages. Most adult red-tails have a dark brown nape and upper head which gives them a somewhat hooded appearance, while the throat can variably present a lighter brown “necklace”. In flight, adults usually have dark brown along the lower edge of the wings, against a mostly pale wing, which shows light brownish barring. Individually, the upper wing can range from all dark to off-whitish (most often more heavily streaked with brown). Male red-tailed hawks can reportedly measure 45--60 cm (18--24 in) in total length. Females can measure 48--65 cm (19--26 in) long. The wingspan typically can range from 105--141 cm (3 ft 5 in--4 ft 8 in).



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<p><b>Double-crested Cormorant</b> <i>(Phalacrocorax auritus)</i></p>	<p>The double-crested cormorant is a large waterbird with a stocky body, long neck, medium-sized tail, webbed feet, and a medium-sized hooked bill. This species has dark-colored plumage with facial skin that is yellow or orange. An adult in breeding plumage will be mostly black with the back and coverts being a dark grayish towards the center. It will have a body length of between 70–90 cm (28–35 in) long, a wingspan of between 114–123 cm (45–48 in), and weigh between 1.2–2.5 kg (2.6–5.5 lb).</p>	 
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**Herring Gull**  
*(Larus argentatus)*

A heavily built, large gull with a long powerful bill, full chest and sloping forehead. Breeding adults have a white head, rump, tail, and underparts and a pale gray back and upper wings. The legs and feet are typically pink and the bill is yellow with a red spot on the lower mandible. First-winter birds are grey-brown with a dark tail, a brown rump with dark bars, dark outer primaries and pale inner primaries, dark eyes, and a dark bill, which usually develops a paler base through the winter. The head is often paler than the body. Second-winter birds typically have a pale eye, pale bill with black tip, pale head and begin to show gray feathers on the back. Third-winter birds are closer to adults but still have some black on the bill, some brown on the body and wings, and have a black band on the tail. Males are 60–66 cm (24–26 in) long and weigh 1,050–1,650 g (2.31–3.64 lb). Females are 53–62 cm (21–24 in) long and weigh 600–900 g (1.3–2.0 lb). The wingspan is 120 to 155 cm (47--61 in).



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<p><b>Bald Eagle</b> <i>(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)</i></p>	<p>The plumage of an adult bald eagle is evenly dark brown with a white head and tail. The tail is moderately long and slightly wedge-shaped. The beak, feet and irises are bright yellow. The plumage of the juvenile is a dark brown overlaid with messy white streaking until the fifth year, when it reaches sexual maturity and the adult plumage is displayed. The bald eagle has a body length of 70–102 cm (28–40 in). Typical wingspan is between 1.8 and 2.3 m (5.9 and 7.5 ft) and mass is normally between 3 and 6.3 kg (6.6 and 13.9 lb).</p>	
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Great Blue Heron  
(*Ardea herodias*)

Features of great blue herons include gray-blue flight feathers, red-brown thighs, and a paired red-brown and black stripe up the flanks. The neck is rusty-gray with black and white streaking down the front.

The head is paler with a nearly white face and a pair of black or slate plumes running from just above the eye to the back of the head. The feathers on the lower neck are long and plume-like. It also has plumes on the lower back at the start of the breeding season. The bill is dull yellowish, becoming orange briefly at the start of the breeding season, and the lower legs are gray, also becoming orange at the start of the breeding season. It is the largest North American heron with a head-to-tail length of 91–137 cm (36–54 in), a wingspan of 167–201 cm (66–79 in), a height of 115–138 cm (45–54 in), and a weight of 1.82–3.6 kg (4.0–7.9 lb).



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<p>American Coot (<i>Fulica americana</i>)</p>	<p>Adult coots have a short, thick, white bill and white frontal shield, which usually has a reddish-brown spot near the top of the bill between the eyes. Males and females look alike, but females are smaller. They measure 34–43 cm (13–17 in) in length and 58–71 cm (23–28 in) across the wings with the weight of females range from 427 to 628 g (0.9 to 1.3 lb) and males from 576 to 848 g (1.2 to 1.8 lb).</p>	
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<p><b>Osprey</b> <i>(Pandion haliaetus)</i></p>	<p>The osprey's back is a deep, glossy brown. The breast is white and sometimes streaked with brown, and the underparts are pure white. The head is white with a dark mask across the eyes, reaching to the sides of the neck. The irises of the eyes are golden to brown, and the transparent nictitating membrane is pale blue. The bill is black and the feet are white with black talons. A short tail and long, narrow wings with four long, finger-like feathers, and a shorter fifth, give it a very distinctive appearance. The osprey is 0.9–2.1 kg (2.0–4.6 lb) in weight and 50–66 cm (20–26 in) in length with a 127–180 cm (50–71 in) wingspan.</p>	
<p><b>White-winged Dove</b> <i>(Zenaida asiatica)</i></p>	<p>White-winged doves are large doves at 29 cm (11 in). They are brownish-gray above and gray below, with a bold white wing patch that appears as a brilliant white crescent in flight, and is also visible at rest. Adults have a patch of blue, featherless skin around each eye and a long, dark mark on the lower face. Their eyes are bright crimson. The sexes are similar, but juveniles are darker than adults. They have a blue eye ring, and their legs and feet are brighter pink/red.</p>	

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<p><b>Cattle Egret</b> <i>(Bubulcus ibis)</i></p>	<p>Cattle egrets have a relatively short thick neck, a sturdy bill, and a hunched posture. The non-breeding adult has mainly white plumage, a yellow bill and greyish-yellow legs. The cattle egret is a stocky heron with an 88–96 cm (35–38 in) wingspan. It is 46–56 cm (18–22 in) long and weighs 270–512 g (9.5–18.1 oz).</p>	
<p><b>Mississippi Kite</b> <i>(Ictinia mississippiensis)</i></p>	<p>Adults are gray with darker gray on their tail feathers and outer wings and lighter gray on their heads and inner wings. Males and females look alike, but the males are slightly paler on the head and neck. Young kites have banded tails and streaked bodies. The adult is 12 to 15 inches (30–37 cm) beak to tail and has a wingspan averaging 3 feet (91 cm). Weight is from 214 to 388 grams (7.6-13.7 oz).</p>	

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<p><b>Common Grackle</b> <i>(Quiscalus quiscula)</i></p>	<p>Adults have a long, dark bill, pale yellowish eyes and a long tail. Feathers appear black with purple, green or blue iridescence on the head, and primarily bronze sheen in the body plumage. The adult female, smaller than the male, is usually less iridescent. Her tail in particular is shorter, and unlike the males, does not keel (display a longitudinal ridge) in flight. The tail is brown with no purple or blue gloss. The juvenile is brown with dark brown eyes. Adult common grackles measure from 28 to 34 cm (11 to 13 in) in length, span 36–46 cm (14–18 in) across the wings, and weigh 74–142 g (2.6–5.0 oz).</p>	
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1. Hazardous list developed by USDA using combined data from USN and USAF.
2. Species descriptions from [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org).
3. Photo credits: Ian Trefry (white-tailed deer); Tim Burr (Canada goose, black vulture-bottom, northern pintail-top, turkey vulture, mallard-top, northern shoveler, American coot, osprey-top); Chris Eberly (black vulture-top, blue-winged teal, green-winged teal); Doug Burkett (Swainson's hawk); Paul Block (pied-billed grebe, mallard-bottom, double-crested cormorant-top, herring gull-top and bottom, great blue heron-top, osprey-bottom, white-winged dove, cattle egret); Patrick Schiesser (red-tailed hawk-top and bottom, double-crested cormorant-bottom, bald eagle-top and bottom, great blue heron-bottom); Randy Tate (Common grackle); [www.avibirds.com](http://www.avibirds.com) (Mississippi kite), and USFWS Digital Library (northern pintail-bottom).