

Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Construction Projects

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Robert R. Harms

Migratory Bird Treaty Act

- Federal law-1918
- Against the law
 - Direct take
 - Intentional or unintentional means
- Citations and fines



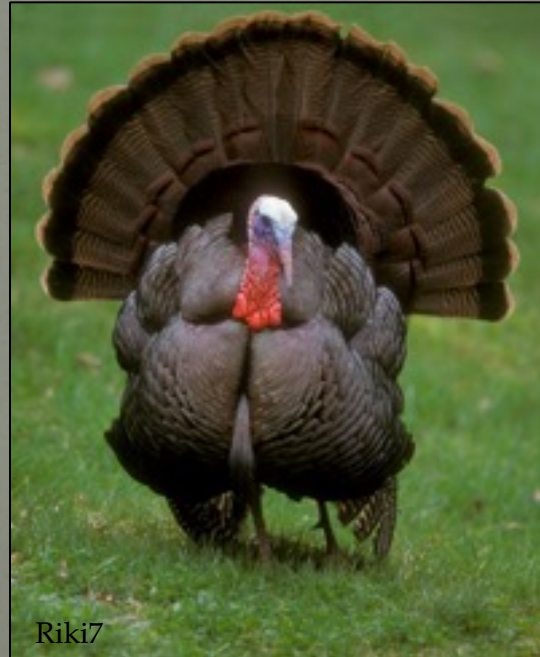
What is a migratory bird?



What is not?



Natural Photography



Riki7

Why are migratory birds protected?

- Public trust
- Conservation
- Environmental amenity
- Recreation



Where and whom does it apply to?

- U.S.
- Everyone



How do you avoid a violation?

- Don't wing it, deal with it
- Plan ahead
- Do clearing outside nesting season
- Survey during nesting season
 - April 1-July 15
 - Qualified
 - Document results
 - Take action



Netting



What if you find a nest?

- Leave it alone
 - Eggs
 - Nests
 - Adults
- Fledges or fails (predation)
- Alternative



Special Circumstances

- Call me ASAP
- Robert Harms
 - 308-390-0871
 - Robert_Harms@fws.gov
- Examples
 - I-80 Bridge construction over the Platte River
 - Sand and Gravel Company

Summary

- Migratory Bird Treaty Act
- Construction projects
 - Don't wing it, deal with it
 - Plan ahead and have contingencies
 - Call me

Questions?