



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Issuance of a Migratory Bird Depredation Permit to USDA-APHIS-Colorado Wildlife Services for resident Canada geese

Finding of No Significant Impact

Prepared by:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mountain-Prairie Region

Division of Migratory Bird Management

134 Union Boulevard, Lakewood, Colorado 80228

May 2019

Finding of No Significant Impact and Decision

For

Bird Damage Management in Colorado

The proposed action is for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to issue a Migratory Bird Depredation (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.41) permit to USDA-APHIS-Colorado Wildlife Services (WS) that would allow for the removal of up to 2,000 resident Canada Geese from Colorado in 2019. The permit would allow WS to respond to requests for bird damage management (BDM) to protect human health and safety, agricultural resources such as livestock feed, livestock, livestock health, aquaculture, and crops, property such as turf, landscaping, and structures, and natural resources such as threatened and endangered (T&E) species, other wildlife, and forestry in Colorado, and more specifically, as it relates to resident Canada Geese.

Public Involvement

The Environmental Action Statement (EAS) analyzing potential effect of our decision, was sent out for a 30 day comment period.

Public Comments

We received no public comments.

Major Issues

None

Affected Environment

The proposed action was to issue a Migratory Bird Depredation permit to WS in order to continue the current portion of the bird damage management program as it relates to resident Canada Geese in Colorado.

Alternatives Analyzed in Detail

The only other alternative was not to issue the permit which would not allow the continued use of the current portion of the WS bird damage management plan as it relates to resident Canada Geese in Colorado.

Alternatives Considered but Not Analyzed in Detail

There were no other alternatives considered.

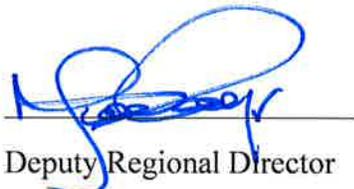
Finding of No Significant Impact

The decision to adopt the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) developed by WS (2013) and continue with the current portion of the WS bird damage management plan as it related to resident Canada Geese in Colorado by issuing a Migratory Bird

Depredation Permit (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.41) is warranted. Our analysis in the EAS indicated that there will not be significant impact, individually or cumulatively, on the quality of the human environment as a result of the proposed action. I agree with this conclusion and therefore find that an additional Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement need not be prepared by USFWS. This determination was based on factors that were already addressed in the 2013 EA prepared by WS.

Decision

I have carefully reviewed the EAS and believe our decision to adopt the EA and FONSI developed by WS and our action to issue a Migratory Bird Depredation (Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 50 CFR 21.41) permit to USDA-APHIS-Colorado Wildlife Services (WS) allowing for the removal of up to 2,000 resident Canada Geese from Colorado in 2019 are both warranted. This will allow WS to respond to requests for bird damage management (BDM) to protect human health and safety, agricultural resources such as livestock feed, livestock, livestock health, aquaculture, and crops, property such as turf, landscaping, and structures, and natural resources such as threatened and endangered (T&E) species, other wildlife, and forestry in Colorado, and more specifically, as it relates to resident Canada Geese.



Deputy Regional Director

Mountain-Prairie Region

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

5.30.19

Date

