

Poster Presentation

GSM---Based Telemetry to Define Turkey Vulture Movements at Key West Naval Air Station

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ABSTRACT: Throughout its North American range, the turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*) appears to be thriving. Turkey vulture populations wintering at Key West Naval Air Station (KWNAS), Florida are no exception to this trend. As vulture numbers continue to increase, so do potential conflicts with human activities. Abundant feeding opportunities and ample roost sites create ideal circumstances for wintering vultures. The increasing TUVU winter population is of particular concern because of the potential interaction with aircraft using the landing facility at KWNAS. Prior to developing vulture management recommendations at KWNAS, we needed to learn more about TUVU activity and movement patterns. Here we present results from 2013-2014 on trapping and marking efforts, with emphasis on vulture movement data acquired using GSM transmitters.

Key Words: GSM transmitters, Key West Naval Air Station, turkey vulture, wintering

Proceedings of the 16th Wildlife Damage Management Conference.
(L.M. Conner, M.D. Smith, Eds). 2016. Pp. 92.