



Avian Risk Assessment On-Site Evaluation

The risk of birds colliding with or being electrocuted by power lines can be assessed by documenting the characteristics and locations of facilities that could be hazardous, evaluating the risk based on an assessment of local habitat types, and collecting and interpreting information on past injuries or mortalities of birds.

Avian Risk Assessment Checklist

1. Evidence:

- ☐ Is there any evidence of birds using the structure or structures within the immediate area?
Y N Unsure
 - Look for raptor pellets, prey remains, whitewash, feathers, or nests.

2. General Habitat Risk Assessment:

- ☐ General location of the structure or line in a setting especially favorable to birds.
 - Is it located in/adjacent to grassland, pasture, hayfield that supports abundant prey (prairie dogs, voles, mice, rabbits)? Y N Unsure
 - Does the line border or bisect a water feature like a pond, river, lake, stream or wetland? Y N Unsure
 - Is it located near a soaring feature like a ridgeline, foothills or buttes? Y N Unsure
 - Does the pole provide the highest vantage point or is it the last pole on the line?
Y N Unsure
 - Are there raptors or other avian species observed in the immediate area? Y N Unsure
 - Is it located near a migratory corridor? (river valley, ridgeline) Y N Unsure
 - Is the pole/line located within threatened or endangered bird habitat? (whooping crane migration corridor) Y N Unsure
 - Presence of large avian nests within a half mile? (great blue heron rookery, raptor nests)

3. Configuration Risk Assessment:

- ☐ Is there a history of avian mortality at that pole/line? Y N Unsure

- ☐ Primary Wires:
 - Is there less than the minimum recommended separation between any exposed phase and neutral wires or primary jumpers? Y N Unsure

- ☐ Protective Devices
 - Are there exposed grounds or protective devices with less than 60" horizontal or 40" vertical? Y N Unsure

- ☐ Equipment
 - Are there exposed contacts on additional equipment (transformers, risers, regulators, capacitors, stingers)? Y N Unsure