

Brannen John

From: Sully, Thomas [WHQFS] [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 12:02 PM
To: Brannen John
Cc: Plantz, Jeff [WHQFS]
Subject: FW: UAL 1475

Hi John,

I thought you'd be interested in this, the type of bird that hit 1475 was a [White-faced Ibis](#).

Thomas Sully
Investigator – Flight Safety

United | 233 S. Wacker Drive 16th Floor WHQFS | Chicago, IL
Tel. [REDACTED] | Mobile [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Hodson, Levi - DIA [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2012 11:36 AM
To: Sully, Thomas [WHQFS]
Subject: UAL 1475

Thomas,

I am sure you have already received this information but I wanted to pass it along. Below is the updated strike information regarding UAL 1475 on 7/31/2012.

UAL flight 1475 struck a bird 25 miles from DIA on descent to land on 16R (approx.. 9,000'). The pilot initiated an emergency landing due to limited visibility (bird remains on the windscreen) and loss of air-speed sensor (damage to PIC side Pitot). Tower adjusted the flight plan for a straight-in landing on RWY 26.

In addition to the hole in the nose of the 737-900 and damage to the pitot tube, a dent and wildlife remains were noted on the vertical stabilizer as well. Wildlife remains were collected from within the nose, on the pitot, the windscreen, as well as from a piece of fiberglass recovered from the runway. Following feather and DNA analysis, the species was identified as [White-faced Ibis](#).

White-faced Ibis' are wading birds with long, downward curved bills common to Colorado during migration and locally (although not on DIA property) during breeding. Average size of an adult Ibis is 23" long with a 36" wingspan weighing between 18 and 20oz. (1.3lbs).

Below is the completed Wildlife Strike Report from the FAA National Strike Database.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Levi E. Hodson
USDA-Wildlife Services
Denver International Airport
[REDACTED]

Strike Report Submittal

Confirmation Number:

2012-7-31-132715

Revision Number:

3

Enter <http://wildlife-mitigation.tc.faa.gov/wildlife/strikeprint.aspx?ConfID=2012-7-31-132715>

The following is a Quick Look of the transmitted data:

REPORT_NUM	2012-7-31-132715
AIRLINE_OPERATOR	(UAL) UNITED AIRLINES
AIRCRAFT	Boeing 737-900
REG	N37420
FLT	1475
REMAINS_COLLECTED	Yes
REMAINS_SENT	Yes
INCIDENT_DATE	Jul 31 2012
LOCALTIME_HR	9
LOCALTIME_MIN	10
LOCALTIME_AM_PM	AM
AIRPORT	(KDEN) DENVER INTL AIRPORT - CO
HEIGHT	5500
PHASE_OF_FLT	F. Descent
STR_RAD	Yes
DAM_RAD	Yes
STR_NOSE	Yes
DAM_NOSE	Yes

STR_TAIL	Yes
DAM_TAIL	Yes
DAM_OTHER	Yes
OTHER_SPECIFY	Pitot
SKY	No Cloud
PRECIP_NONE	Yes
SPECIES	White-faced Ibis (Plegadis chihi);see remarks.
NUMBER_STRUCK_1	Yes
REMARKS	Aircraft struck bird (suspected 1) 25 miles east of KDEN on descent through 9,000'MSL (~5500' AGL). Re-routed flight to nearest runway (RWY 26 rather than RWY 16R)due to loss of airspeed sensor and limited visibility. Remains collected at the gate by USDA. No additional remains collected by UAL Mechanics upon disassembly/repair at the hangar. No estimated cost of repairs or AOS available at this time. R3:material from a/c and from runway all = White-faced Ibis.
REPORTED_NAME	Operations - Levi
REPORTED_TITLE	USDA Wildlife Biologist
REPORTED_DATE	Jul 31 2012
REPORTED_EMAIL	[REDACTED]
REPORTED_PHONE	[REDACTED]
REVISION_COMMENTS	R3:revise field 17 wildlife info+ remarks.
CREATE_DATE	Aug 10 2012 3:26PM
REVISER_NAME	M Heacker
REVISER_TITLE	Smithsonian
REVISION_DATE	Aug 10 2012
REVISER_EMAIL	[REDACTED]
REVISER_PHONE	[REDACTED]