

## Birdstrike risk forecast for the mid till the end of January 2022

Geese, swans and cranes currently pose a risk for the aviation on their commuting flights between resting, roosting and foraging areas near airports. The same applies to local flights of heavy bird species executing evasive movements in snow and frost. Overall, these flights are mostly limited to heights below 600 ft. The abundances of Nordic geese have slightly increased, while the sightings of Nordic swans remain constant, and cranes are clearly seen less frequently. Floodplains, wet grass areas and fields in the north and east of Germany are the preferred resting and foraging areas for these species.

The population of reported common wood pigeons, starlings and thrushes is increasing and they are largely spread across Germany. Though, the risk to the air traffic is rather low except for the common wood pigeons. The large green areas of airports currently often attract large abundances of gulls, crows, thrushes or flocks of raptors, which is why these species always must be expected here. In addition to the common kestrels and the common buzzards (see below), which are present all-season, rough-legged buzzards (see below) as guests from Northern Europe might occur as well. Overall, the birdstrike risk stays rather low until the end of January and the radar pictures currently do not show large migration moves.

For your flight preparation please also use the birdtam chat provided under the following link <https://www.notams.faa.gov/common/birdtam.html>



Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), Female above left, Male above right;  
Common Buzzard (*Buteo buteo*), below left; Rough-legged Buzzard (*Buteo lagopus*), below right.