

Interaction of predators and manmade object causes potentially significant mortality in a wintering shorebird population

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We repeatedly observed Dunlin *Calidris alpina pacifica* ($n = 30$) killed by collisions with a fence wire following raptor attacks at a single winter roost at Humboldt Bay, California, USA. If raptor-related collisions occurred at the observed rate over an entire winter, fatalities at the site represented approximately 4% of the local Dunlin population. The regularity of collisions may have promoted specialized behavior in individual avian predators (Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*) and scavengers (Western Gull *Larus occidentalis*) to exploit the situation. We are unaware of other reports of significant shorebird mortality resulting from the interaction of raptor attacks and a manmade object.

Key words: *Calidris alpina*, Dunlin, collision, mortality, predators, wire