



# NEWS RELEASE

## 354<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing

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### AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION REPORT RELEASED FOR F-16C MISHAP

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska – The Pacific Air Forces has released the Accident Investigation Board report for the F-16C mishap that occurred on May 28, 2024, at Eielson Air Force Base. The incident involved an F-16C from the 18th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 354th Fighter Wing.

The investigation determined that the aircraft struck multiple birds shortly after takeoff, resulting in significant engine damage. In order to safely recover the aircraft, the pilot jettisoned two external fuel tanks, which impacted an undeveloped and unpopulated forested area west of the Eielson Air Force Base fence line. No injuries were reported, and the aircraft safely recovered at Eielson AFB.

The board concluded the mishap was caused by an unintentional collision with waterfowl that were not visible to aircrew or tower personnel.

You can read the report at [https://www.afjag.af.mil/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=uW5wk5V\\_KDw%3d](https://www.afjag.af.mil/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=uW5wk5V_KDw%3d).

For more information or updates, refer to our official wing Facebook page. For inquiries, media agencies can contact the 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs office at (907) 377-2116 or via email at [354fw.pa.publicaffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:354fw.pa.publicaffairs@us.af.mil).