



BIRD PROTECTION STANDARDS AND POLICIES

CALIFORNIA STATE CODE:

3503. It is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation made pursuant thereto.

3503.5. It is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds of prey) or to take, possess or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by this code or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto.

FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT:

703. Taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds unlawful.

"...it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to barter, offer to purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, export, import, cause to be shipped, exported, or imported, deliver for transportation, transport or cause to be transported, carry or cause to be carried, or receive for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export, any migratory bird, any part, nest, or eggs of any such bird, or any product, whether or not manufactured, which consists, or is composed in whole or part, of any such bird or any part, nest, or egg thereof..."

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

Field employees of Great Scott Tree Service, Inc. (GSTS) take part in the TLC Wildlife Aware Program when offered. Without knowing, tree care professionals risk being fined thousands of dollars every day for harassing a protected species that live in the trees being worked on. Most tree care professionals are unaware that most wildlife living in trees are protected. TLC Wildlife Aware is a program that educates tree care professionals on the laws and regulations surrounding the protected wildlife.



BIRD NESTING PROCEDURE

Prior to commencing work, GSTS crews will conduct a visual inspection of the entire tree. If a nest is present, the certified crew leader will further inspect to determine if the nest is active or inactive. If an inactive nest is present, the crew will carefully and strategically prune around the nest location without disturbing its shelter and protection from weather elements and potential predators. Notification will be made to the proper customer authority that a nest is present. If an active nest is present, pruning may be delayed until birds have vacated the nest.

In the event that a young bird has been displaced from a nest and appears to be healthy, a certified Wildlife Aware crew member will carefully place the bird back into the nest. If the entire nest has fallen, a crew member will attempt to return it to its original location. If the such location can not be found, the nest will be left as is for the mother to return to. Birds that have fallen and appear injured, will be placed in a clean cardboard box, with air holes, lined with either clean paper towels or a clean towel. There will be no attempt to feed or try to have the bird drink. Notification will immediately be made to the property manager, city official, or State of California Department of Fish and Game.

Preserving Trees for Today and Future Generations