

DD.16 International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species

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WEAVING CONNECTIONS:
Celebrating Migration, Traditional Knowledge,
and Innovation across our Flyway

12th Meeting of Partners of the
East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership



OFFICIAL

Background



- Light pollution is growing almost 10% per year globally.
- Light Pollution is artificial light that alters the natural patterns of light and dark in ecosystems.
- For migratory species, light pollution can be harmful and even deadly. Birds that migrate at night use the stars and moon to navigate.
- Birds can fail to take their first flights, become confused, veer off course, or collide with structures when artificial lights from cities, homes, ships, or other lighting infrastructure misorients them.



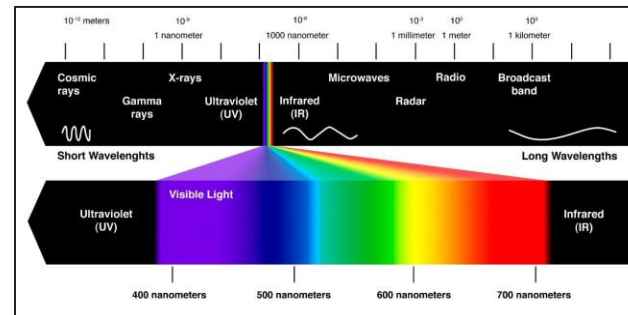
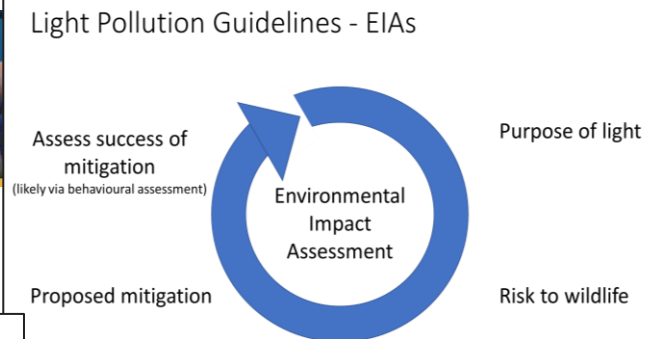
International Light Pollution Guidelines

- The CMS, in partnership with the Government of Australia, developed the **International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species**.
- These were adopted at COP14 in 2024.
- Builds on Australia's world-leading 2022 National Guidelines.



International Light Pollution Guidelines

- Provides best practice lighting design principles
- Provide a risk-based adaptive management framework for assessing and managing the impacts of artificial light
- Technical information on light
- Taxa-specific guidance for seabirds, shorebirds, landbirds, turtles and bats



MOP12 Decision

- **Endorse** the International Light Pollution Guidelines for Migratory Species.
- **Integrate** them into environmental planning and infrastructure projects where possible.
- **Support** research and monitoring to improve our understanding of the impacts of light pollution and ways to mitigate its effects on wildlife.
- **Promote** these guidelines across multilateral environmental agreements.
- **Raise awareness** of light pollution.