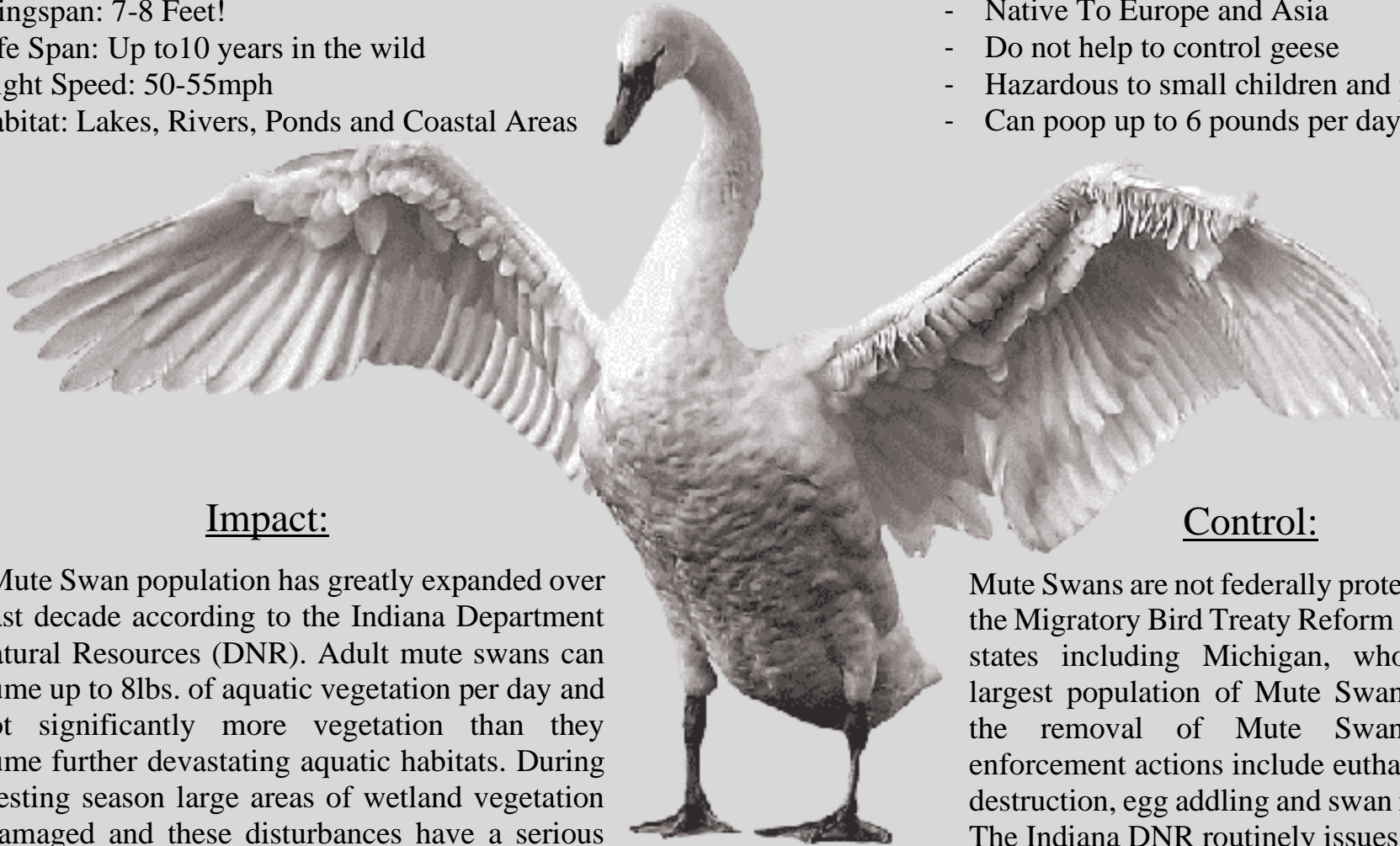


Mute Swans

Quick Facts

- Weight: Up to 26 pounds
- Wingspan: 7-8 Feet!
- Life Span: Up to 10 years in the wild
- Flight Speed: 50-55mph
- Habitat: Lakes, Rivers, Ponds and Coastal Areas
- Can have up to 11 offspring per year
- Native To Europe and Asia
- Do not help to control geese
- Hazardous to small children and pets
- Can poop up to 6 pounds per day in the lake



Impact:

The Mute Swan population has greatly expanded over the last decade according to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Adult mute swans can consume up to 8lbs. of aquatic vegetation per day and uproot significantly more vegetation than they consume further devastating aquatic habitats. During the nesting season large areas of wetland vegetation are damaged and these disturbances have a serious impact on water quality and the aquatic habitat of fish and other wildlife. The DNR further identifies the Mute Swan as one of the worlds most aggressive waterfowl species that can injure, kill or displace native birds and other waterfowl.

Control:

Mute Swans are not federally protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Reform Act. Many states including Michigan, who has the largest population of Mute Swans, enforce the removal of Mute Swans. These enforcement actions include euthanasia, nest destruction, egg addling and swan relocation. The Indiana DNR routinely issues permits to land owners and lake associations to take adult Mute Swans and/or destroys Mute Swan nests.