

Using the “Pray-and-Spray” Technique

How to photograph birds in flight:

- 1** Acquire the bird in the viewfinder.
- 2** "Ballpark" focus on the bird manually.
- 3** Position the center AF target on the bird, and activate AF by pressing the shutter button halfway down.
- 4** Track the bird with the camera, keeping the AF point on the bird.
- 5** When the image looks sharp in the viewfinder, fully depress the shutter button to take a quick burst of images.
- 6** Continue to pan with the camera to track the bird until a couple of beats after the last exposure has been made.

Text by Mike Stensvold Outdoor Photographer Magazine April 26, 2011