

Wildlife Services

Protecting People
Protecting Agriculture
Protecting Wildlife

FY 2008

Resolving Wildlife Damage to Protect People, Agriculture and Wildlife



Contact Information:

In any state, call 1-866-4USDA-WS
(1-866-487-3297)
For national issues, call 301/734-7921
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4700 River Road, Unit 87
Riverdale, MD 20737-5157
www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage

Wildlife are a valuable natural resource, long enjoyed throughout the Nation for aesthetic, recreational, and economic reasons. Native wildlife in over abundance or encroached upon by increasing human populations can lead to conflicts. Introduced, or invasive, species may endanger native fauna. Wildlife can destroy crops and livestock, damage property and natural resources, and pose serious risks to public health and safety.

Wildlife Services (WS), a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, provides Federal leadership and expertise to resolve these conflicts and create a balance that allows people and wildlife to coexist peacefully. As wildlife damage occurs more frequently and evolves into new challenges, WS' knowledge and skills are increasingly required.

Mandated primarily with management of agricultural damage, the mission of WS has expanded to include resolution of wildlife conflicts in urban areas, preservation of natural resources, and protection of public, private and industrial property as well as threatened and endangered species. Increasingly, WS is responsible for minimizing wildlife threats to public health and safety, as well as to the Nation's vital agricultural base. The biosecurity challenges of the new century span invisible boundaries and WS has responded with domestic and international programs to protect people, agriculture, and wildlife.

WS' success is based in its complimentary branches of field, or operational, work and research. Internationally recognized as a leader in wildlife damage management science, WS' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) conducts research and develops tools to address the dynamic challenges of wildlife damage management. WS field specialists and NWRC researchers work in collaboration, ensuring that WS will continue to resolve wildlife conflicts effectively and humanely, using the most advanced science and technology.

Updated biannually, the WS Informational Notebook provides an overview of current research and operational projects and detailed State program reports to provide a better understanding of the work performed daily by the dedicated WS biologists, scientists, and specialists.



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

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