

# WS Directive

2.115 07/21/08

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## NATIONAL WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER

### 1. PURPOSE

To state the responsibilities and duties of the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC).

### 2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive revises WS Directive 2.115 dated 08/27/03.

### 3. BACKGROUND

The NWRC is the research and scientific arm of the Wildlife Services (WS) program and has a worldwide reputation as a center of excellence in research and methods development for wildlife damage management. The NWRC scientific staff consists of experts in animal behavior, chemistry, ecology, wildlife genetics, molecular biology, toxicology, wildlife biology, wildlife diseases, pharmacology, physiology, economics, statistics, library science, and other specialties. A cadre of professional research managers, administrative, and office business process specialists complete NWRC staffing. The work force is located in Fort Collins, Colorado, and at several research field stations throughout the United States. The NWRC staff has extensive experience in conducting international consultancies and wildlife damage research projects in other countries, as part of cooperative research efforts among the USDA, host nations and international donor organizations.

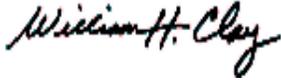
### 4. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the NWRC is to apply scientific expertise to resolve human-wildlife conflicts while maintaining the quality of the environment shared with wildlife. NWRC develops methods and information to address human-wildlife conflicts related to the following: agriculture (crops, livestock, aquaculture, and timber), human health and safety (wildlife disease, aviation), property damage, invasive species, and threatened and endangered species.

### 5. POLICY

NWRC is responsible for the discovery, development, and improvement of techniques and information to resolve human-wildlife conflicts with focus on agricultural damage problems and risks to human health and safety. NWRC developed methods must be

effective, biologically sound, and socially acceptable. Wildlife damage and environmental assessments, as well as studies of wildlife biology, disease, ecology, and behavior are common components of NWRC research. Also, studies are conducted for registration of chemical management agents through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Food and Drug Administration, and other Federal, State, and local agencies.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William H. Clay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "W".

Deputy Administrator