

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

WS Directive

2.115 08/27/03

NATIONAL WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER

1. PURPOSE

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

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces ADC Directive 2.115 dated 03/26/93.

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 wildlife biology, ecology, wildlife diseases, chemistry, physiology, pharmacology, genetics, and molecular biology, statistics, computer programming, 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 numerous research field stations throughout the U.S. 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 NWRC is the Federal research institution, international in scope, devoted to resolving conflicts and damage resulting from the interaction of wild animals and human activities. The Center applies scientific expertise to provide practical management methods and essential information to resolve these problems and maintain the quality of the environments shared with wildlife.

Distribution:

Originating Office:

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. Methods developed by NWRC for managing wildlife damage and safety risks must be effective, biologically sound, and socially acceptable. Potential impacts on the environment are studied as part of NWRC research projects. Wildlife damage assessments and studies of wildlife biology, ecology, and behavior are common components of these projects. 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.

Deputy Administrator