

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

WS Directive

2.310 07/28/03

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES

1. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for WS activities associated with federally listed endangered and threatened species.

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces ADC Directive 2.310 dated 3/26/93.

3. POLICY

WS will conduct its activities to minimize impact on any federally listed endangered or threatened species or adversely modifying listed critical habitat.

The Director of the WS Operational Support Staff is responsible for notifying WS State Directors of any new or proposed Federal listings of endangered or threatened species. State Directors are responsible for knowing all federally proposed and listed endangered and threatened species and designated critical habitats that occur in their area of responsibility, and for conducting their program activities in a manner consistent with this policy.

WS State Directors will assure that all of their WS employees (Federal and non-Federal) are familiar with the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, as amended. WS employees will also be familiar with Section 7 biological opinions on listed species potentially impacted by their wildlife damage management activities. WS State Directors will initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) if new damage management programs, new methods, or newly listed species result in the potential for adverse impacts.

During routine work activities, incidents involving impacts on listed species will be reported by WS field personnel within 24 hours to the appropriate WS supervisor.

Distribution:

Originating Office:

Unless otherwise authorized, the location of dead or seriously injured listed species will be immediately reported to the appropriate FWS Law Enforcement Office and State wildlife representative.

When endangered species are responsible for causing damage, the WS State Director will work with the FWS to determine if acceptable solutions for controlling damage can be agreed upon and implemented.

When a managing agency (Federal, state, tribal) requests WS assistance in protecting listed species or controlling damages caused by listed species, the requesting agency will bear responsibility for funding the work. The WS State Director will coordinate with appropriate Federal, state, and local agencies to arrange funding and determine acceptable control procedures.

4. REFERENCES

50 CFR Part 17 - Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants
50 CFR Part 402 - Interagency Cooperation
Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), as amended

Deputy Administrator