

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

WS Directive

2.515 07/30/03

DISPOSAL OF WILDLIFE CARCASSES

1. PURPOSE

To provide guidance to WS personnel for disposal of wildlife carcasses.

2. REPLACEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

This directive replaces ADC Directive dated 04/08/94.

3. POLICY

All wildlife carcasses, whether whole or in part, will be disposed of in a manner consistent with Federal, State, county, and local regulations.

WS personnel will make a reasonable effort to retrieve wildlife carcasses that result from WS wildlife damage management activities, and dispose of such carcasses, unless arrangements are made with the cooperator to do otherwise.

Wildlife carcasses being transported or temporarily stored in a vehicle should be covered. Vehicles shall be kept clean of associated materials fur, feathers, blood, and other parts, etc.

4. DISPOSAL

Methods listed below are approved for disposal of wildlife carcasses, or parts thereof.

- a. Field Disposal and Burial. A wildlife carcass(es) may be discarded or buried on the property where it was recovered or deposited on another cooperator's property if approved by the respective property owner. All disposals will be made in a manner which demonstrates WS' recognition of public sensitivity to the viewing of wildlife carcasses.
- b. Landfill sites. Wildlife carcasses or parts may be disposed of at public or private landfills if approved for animal disposal. Carcasses should be placed in plastic bags or other wrapping. Carcasses should not be deposited in roadside dumpsters or household trash containers.

c. Incineration and Field Burning. Carcasses may be incinerated in approved facilities that comply with Federal, State, and local regulations. Open burning should be avoided due to potential fire hazards except when this method is required by regulations and can be conducted safely.

Donation. Wildlife carcasses may be donated to various organizations. Refer to ADC Directive 2.510, Fur, Other Animal Parts, and Edible Meat, for guidelines.

5. REFERENCES

ADC Directive 2.510, Fur, Other Animal Parts, and Edible Meat (under review)

Deputy Administrator