



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Wildlife Services

Washington, DC

Date

From: Bill Clay
To: See Distribution
Subject: WS Research Needs Assessment – 2011

Wildlife Services' (WS) research and methods development priorities are established largely through the WS Research Needs Assessment (RNA) process conducted every five years. Along with Congressional Directives and decisions from the WS Deputy Administrator and the NWRC Director, the RNA helps to determine the WS National Wildlife Research Center's research focus, hiring priorities, and resource allocation.

In September, the WS Management Team reaffirmed the value of updating the RNA during FY2011. By this memorandum, I am soliciting your input to the 2011 RNA for proposed research and/or methods development topics. Your input should address existing and emerging wildlife damage management issues and research needs in your state or region. Please make it a priority to complete the RNA online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/WSRNA>. The assessment should take approximately 20 minutes. Please also share this request with your State Directors, and/or research scientists.

The NWRC has an effective research project management system whereby 3 to 5-year projects are identified to address WS program and stakeholder research needs. These projects have precise goals, clearly defined objectives, periodic reviews, and expected outputs by which research can be initiated and measured. The 2011 RNA is another important step to ensure the WS program's research efforts address high priority and newly identified wildlife issues. .

I encourage strong participation in this assessment. The survey should be completed by April 23, 2011.

William H. Clay
Deputy Administrator

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