

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE POLICY AND PROCEDURE	Page: <u> 1 </u> of <u> 13 </u>
	Effective: Mo: <u> 2 </u> Yr: <u> 04 </u>
	Amendment # _____
	Approved by: <i>Terry R. Cunniff</i>

TITLE: **HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICTS: Management and Resolution of Nuisance Wildlife Complaints; & Designation of Positions With Duty to Control Wild and Predatory Animals.**

AUTHORITY: NRS 503.470, NRS 503.540, NRS 503.595, NRS 453.056, NRS 453.126, NRS 453.226 sub. 3 (a), NRS 453.375, NRS 453.377, NAC 453.150, Title 21 U.S.C. Ch. 13.

REFERENCES: California Dept. of Fish & Game’s “Wildlife Restraint Manual” (2001 ed); Comprehensive Mountain Lion Management Plan (NDOW; 1995 draft); Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage – 1994, University of Nebraska – Lincoln; NDOW’s Chemical Restraint of Wildlife Policy and Procedure.

PURPOSE: To provide agency policy, guidance and procedures to Department personnel regarding the receipt and handling of human-wildlife conflicts that involve nuisance, dangerous, injured, orphaned or displaced wildlife to reasonably fulfill public expectations of achieving a desirable outcome. In addition, designate the employees and/or positions whose duties will include the control of wild and predatory animals in order to comply with the provisions of NRS 453.375, which grants the authority to lawfully possess and administer controlled substances within legal guidelines.

POLICY: The Department is committed to providing the highest quality service to the public while continuing to efficiently manage the wildlife resource. Therefore, except for those individuals and/or positions specifically exempted, each employee will take reasonable and appropriate action to personally resolve conflicts between humans and live wildlife. Employees will operate under the concept that a physical response to the scene of a human-wildlife conflict is neither necessary nor reasonable for every situation. A physical response to the scene of a human-wildlife conflict should be considered a solution of last resort except for situations that involve a threat to public safety.

When a physical response is required or warranted (refer to pages 5 and 6), the primary responsibility is assigned to regional law enforcement personnel, except as otherwise indicated in this document.

Each employee will adhere to Department policy that human-wildlife conflicts can and will be resolved by numerous methods, short of a physical response to the scene, including:

- X Providing verbal direction and guidance
- X Directing the caller to NDOW’s website for information regarding conflict (www.ndow.org)
- X Copying and mailing of pertinent literature or pamphlets
- X Transfer to the appropriate agency (e.g., Wildlife Services, U.S. Fish & Wildlife)
- X Lending of live-traps (NDOW and Wildlife Services)
- X Referral to an individual permitted by NDOW to control unprotected species

Exempt Personnel: Personnel in the following offices, sections or assignments are not required to resolve human-wildlife complaints. Should these personnel receive a complaint they will forward it to the appropriate regional office where the conflict is occurring:

- X Administrative Services (administrative personnel assigned to headquarters, not regional, positions; includes all Kietzke Lane personnel)
- X Air Operations
- X Business Management
- X Communications
- X Data Entry for Wildlife Diversity
- X Dispatch Center (will resolve if time permits)
- X Engineering
- X Federal Aid
- X Human Resources
- X Information Technology
- X License Office Section personnel assigned to Dept. headquarters (Application Hunts, SLAP, Boat Registration & Titling; License Agents, Data Entry – all Kietzke Lane personnel)
- X Executive Office (Director, Deputy Director, Executive Assistant)

DEFINITIONS:

"Administer" refers to the direct application of a controlled substance to the body of an animal by an authorized employee or a practitioner whether such application is by injection, inhalation, ingestion, or any other means.

"Controlled Substance" means a drug or other substance, regulated by federal and state law, which is listed in Schedule I, II, III, IV or V.

"Depredating Wildlife" refers to a type of human-wildlife conflict where land or property, including, livestock, agricultural crops, riparian vegetation, is being damaged or destroyed or is in danger of being damaged or destroyed by wildlife. **NOTE:** Handling of such animals will be addressed by application for a depredation permit, the use of department personnel who have been assigned depredation duties, or referral to a cooperating agency such as Wildlife Services. (Ref. NRS 503.470, 503.540, & 503.595 & NAC 503.710)

"Human-Wildlife Conflict" refers to any situation where there is a negative interaction, actual or perceived, between humans and wildlife. Two types are recognized: nuisance and depredation.

"Inherently dangerous wildlife" refers to a black bear, a mountain lion or similar large carnivore, a rabies vector species (coyote, fox, raccoon, skunk, and bat) that appears to be rabid or is behaving strangely, or a venomous reptile that is present in: a homes, an urban area frequented by humans, private and public buildings, schools, or densely populated settings.

“**Nuisance Wildlife**” refers to a type of human-wildlife conflict where wildlife, including inherently dangerous wildlife, is causing or creating:

- X A threat to public safety due to its presence in relation to the public or reporting party;
- or
- X A level of anxiety or concern on the part of the caller due to the animal’s presence, injury, strange behavior or inability to escape. This includes wildlife that is or appears to be orphaned or abandoned.

“**Threat to Public Safety,**” for the purpose of this policy, refers to a human-wildlife conflict where there is a reasonable or predictable risk of injury or death to a human. In other words, a person could get hurt. Examples:

- X A mountain lion or black bear that remains unusually close to populated areas for sustained periods of time (notable exception is black bear in the Tahoe basin - they live there!);
 - X A wild animal (skunk, raccoon, coyote, fox) that appears rabid;
 - X A venomous reptile observed within a house, school, business or public building that is open to the public, and
 - X A wild animal “trapped” on a highway or airport runway;
- automatically fall into this category.

Additional Considerations to Help Recognize a “Threat to Public Safety.” A mountain lion, black bear (or a similar carnivore) or a rabies vector species (coyote, fox, skunk, raccoon or bat) exhibits one or more of the following behaviors:

- X Aggressive actions directed toward a person, including but not limited to charging, false charging, growling, teeth popping and snarling.
- X Breaking into or attempting to break into a residence.
- X Attacking – *not defending against* – a pet or domestic animal.
- X Loss of wariness of people, displayed through repeated sightings of the animal near a home, school or business that is used regularly by people.

“**Wildlife**” means any wild mammal, wild bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, mollusk or crustacean found naturally in a wild state, whether indigenous to Nevada or not and whether raised in captivity or not.

PROCEDURES:

Determining the Type of Human-Wildlife Conflict.

A report of a human-wildlife conflict will typically fall into one of two categories: Nuisance or depredation (refer to Definitions).

- X Nuisance wildlife complaints will be resolved as described in this policy, accompanying attachments and references. (Game wardens will also comply with the Bureau of Law Enforcement’s directive addressing resolution of nuisance wildlife complaints.)

- X Depredation complaints will be handled in accordance with:
 - X existing Department policy and procedure titled Wildlife Depredation.
 - X provisions of NRS 503.470, 503.540, & 503.595.
 - X permitting processes described in NAC 503.710 – 503.760, inclusive.
 - X any agreements with government entities, for example, Wildlife Services of USDA.

General Responsibilities To Resolve Human-Wildlife Conflicts Involving Nuisance Animals.

- X The resolution of a nuisance wildlife complaint is the responsibility of the region where the conflict is occurring. Calls will be transferred to headquarters staff as a last resort.
- X When a physical response is required or warranted, the primary responsibility is assigned to regional law enforcement personnel.
- X Phone calls regarding nuisance wildlife will not be forwarded to the dispatch center unless:
 - X There is a threat to public safety, or
 - X No one is available in the regional office or a field office to resolve the complaint with the reporting party and dispatch services are required to locate a warden.

Responsibilities of an Employee to Resolve Human-Wildlife Conflicts Involving Nuisance Wildlife.

- X Except for those positions and employees specifically exempted by this policy, the responsibility for resolving a human-wildlife complaint of a ‘non-public safety’ nature lies with the Department employee who receives the complaint first.
- X Regional supervising game wardens, or their designee, have primary responsibility to provide basic training and orientation to regional personnel who may or will receive calls or walk-in traffic dealing with human-wildlife complaints. During the training and orientation process, supervisors will review the contents of this policy and procedure, related attachments, the agency call list, basic resolution processes, the Damage Prevention and Control Methods Manual (Univ. of Nebraska), and the Human-Wildlife Conflicts report form.
- X Each employee who receives a complaint will attempt to resolve the complaint to the best of his or her ability by utilizing advice and direction outlined in this document, and related attachments and references. Providing advice will solve many conflicts. For example, “pigeons are not wildlife, so you may wish to contact the local humane society,” “you can put the baby bird back in the nest,” “leave the orphaned animal where you found it and the parent will probably come back,” or “we have a live-trap that we can lend to you.”
- X To minimize frustration to the reporting party and other employees, telephone and walk-in complaints will not be routed or transferred to another employee until initial steps at resolution have failed to satisfy the complaining party.

If routing or transferring of a complaint – not involving public safety – is necessary, it will be routed to the appropriate regional office located in Reno, Elko, or Las Vegas, followed by field offices.

Other Agencies. Other agencies may have jurisdiction over some types of wildlife conflicts, for example, Nevada Department of Agriculture for rodents and pest bird species on agricultural land. A partial list is provided with this document. Supervising Game Wardens have the responsibility to update the list and copy to all regional personnel, annually or as necessary.

A Physical Response to Wildlife Complaint Should be Considered an Option of Last Resort.

The Department has limited resources in terms of manpower. Responding an employee to the scene of each human-wildlife conflict may negatively impact program functions and activities. Concepts and strategies to consider:

X Providing verbal advice, direction, informational materials, and directions for access to the agency website will resolve the conflict in many, if not most, instances. Utilizing this approach will help minimize impacts to the Department's workforce.

X Except for conflicts that pose a threat to public safety, the objective of Department personnel is to obtain the cooperation of the reporting party in resolving the conflict himself, whenever possible.

X Employees should stress long-term solutions to human-wildlife conflicts. Depending on the situation, provide suggestions such as – remove pet food and water which act as attractants to wildlife; secure garbage; leave the young animal where it was found so its parents will return; shoo ducks away from your pool the first day they arrive; wash down a bird's nest with a hose and water before it is completed; or, install netting around the garden.

X Do not commit agency personnel for short-term solutions such as trapping and relocating a nuisance animal. Such actions will only solve the conflict temporarily if the attractants (pet food, water, garbage) are not removed as well. When it is appropriate, do not hesitate to inform the public that if we are forced to trap an animal, such as a skunk or raccoon, it will be humanely killed. Unfortunately, this action is necessary: to prevent the spread of disease, to avoid stress and competition created by putting the animal into a habitat already occupied by another animal of the same species, and to prevent the problem from reoccurring due to simply moving the problem around.

When a Physical Response to a Nuisance Wildlife Complaint is Required or Warranted.

A response is required when:

X There is an immediate or predictable threat to the public's safety (e.g., death, injury, potential automobile or aircraft accidents) due to the presence of:

X A black bear, mountain lion, or a similar dangerous wildlife species.

- X A high-risk rabies species that appears rabid (raccoons, skunks, coyotes, fox, bats).
- X A high-risk rabies species (raccoon, skunk coyote, fox, or bat) in a residence, on school grounds, in a public building or business during business hours.
- X A venomous reptile in a residence, on school grounds, in a public building or business.
- X Wildlife on a highway which is unable to escape due to barriers or injury, thereby creating a risk of an automobile accident.
- X Wildlife on or adjacent to an airport runway that is causing flights to be delayed or diverted due to the animals inability to escape.

A response is warranted when:

- X The complaining party has taken appropriate steps to correct the underlying causes of the nuisance-wildlife conflict (food or attractants have been removed, garbage covered, etc.) but the problem is still occurring 4-5 days after the corrective action was implemented.
- X The presence of injured, orphaned or unusual wildlife in an urban or suburban setting is creating a public attraction and the likelihood of media involvement is predictable.
- X Another agency is on the scene and requests our assistance.

If a Game Warden Is Unable to Respond.

- X If a physical response is required or warranted and a game warden is unable to respond in a timely manner, regional biological personnel will respond and attempt resolution. Response will occur in the following order: Wildlife Diversity, Game, Habitat, Fisheries. Dispatch will attempt to locate and respond a game warden to the scene to assist or relieve the biologist. The warden will respond to the scene unless he is advised that the biologist has resolved the conflict.

Suggestions for Resolving Telephone and Walk-in Complaints Involving Wildlife.

A Department employee who receives a phone call or walk-in should use the following fact-gathering approach as appropriate to the situation and circumstances. Completing a “Human Wildlife Complaint” form (copy attached) during the fact-gathering stage will facilitate this.

- X Immediately determine if there is a threat to the public’s safety by asking the following:
 - X What type of animal is it? (Determine if it falls into the “inherently dangerous animal” category – a black bear, a mountain lion or similar large carnivore; a coyote, fox, raccoon or skunk which appears to be rabid; a venomous snake)
 - X Where is the animal right now? (or, Where was it last seen?) – get specific addresses and locations.

X How long it has been since you have seen the animal?

X Why do you believe the animal poses a danger?

If the party hasn't seen the 'dangerous animal' for two or more hours, instruct him to call the dispatch center (775-688-1331) if the animal returns. The employee will contact the dispatch center to briefly advise them of the details concerning the complaint – species, location, time of last sighting.

If the party can see or hear the animal at the time of the call or it has been less than two hours since it was last seen, forward the caller to the dispatch center so a dispatcher can obtain necessary information and locate a game warden for appropriate response.

X A nonthreatening situation. If you have determined that there is no threat to public safety, attempt to identify the caller's expectations quickly (i.e., is he looking for verbal solutions & advice, copies of technical advice, a loaner trap, or physical response of a Department employee?) and tailor your response to meet those expectations whenever possible. If the caller's expectations are not reasonable for the situation, advise the caller at the earliest appropriate time as to the limits of what response may be available.

Be clear that we do not respond employees to trap raccoons or skunks (unless the caller indicates the animal is in a residence, school, business or public building, or the animal appears rabid and is in an urban location). We will lend the caller a live-trap to catch the raccoon or skunk.

Be clear that we do not respond employees to complaints involving pigeons. Pigeons that live in and around cities and feedlots are not wildlife.

X Be polite, responsive and informative. In many cases, simply listening and providing general information about the animal in question can resolve the issue with the caller. Convey an awareness of an animal's basic needs, i.e., an animal needs food, shelter, water, and space to conduct its life. Pet food, water, garbage or shelter may be attracting the animal to that location. If the source of attraction is removed, the animal will probably leave within a short time. (Refer to specific species solutions which are attached or included.)

X Acknowledge the caller's concerns, but stress the positive aspects of having wildlife in the community. Wildlife will naturally seek-out comfortable habitats and can coexist with us without problems arising.

X Empathize with the caller, but advise that he, and possibly neighbors, shares a responsibility in solving the problem before it gets out of control.

X Stress long-term solutions – removal of attractants, modification of existing habitat to limit access or desirability, and developing an appreciation & tolerance for the presence of wildlife. Downplay short-term solutions, i.e., those involving a response and animal removal.

If You Are Unable to Resolve a Conflict and a Response Is Not Required or Warranted.

X If an employee is unable to resolve the nuisance wildlife complaint to the satisfaction of the reporting party, by providing advice and recommendations contained in or with this policy, transfer the party to the regional supervising game warden, or his designee.

X If a supervising game warden, or his designee, isn't available in the regional office, the call will be routed to other personnel available in the office, in the following order:

- A field game warden
- A field or supervising wildlife diversity biologist
- A field or supervising game biologist
- A field or supervising habitat biologist
- A field or supervising fisheries' biologist

X If the steps outlined above don't work, transfer the caller to the voice mail of the warden supervisor or his designee. If the caller is adamant to speak to a warden, obtain his name and number and advise that a warden will be contacting him. Depending on your location, contact the dispatch center to relay the information to a warden near the complaint, or contact a warden using the radio system located in the regional office.

General Guidelines and Tips to Provide Regarding Contact With and/or the Transport of Injured Wildlife or Wildlife That is Known to be Orphaned.

X **Provide a Clear Cautionary Advisement That "Looks Can Be Deceiving."** When first approached, an animal may appear calm and docile. In reality it may be stunned or in a state of shock. Once the animal regains its senses it may bite, claw, kick, flap or fly and potentially injure the handler or occupants of a vehicle, and possibly contribute to a vehicle accident.

Orphaned Wildlife. Orphaned animals should be left alone. Many times the animals' parent is away feeding and the continued presence of the human will just make the situation worse. Adults generally won't return while a human is present.

Orphaned Wildlife Where the Parent Animal is Known to be Dead. If the reporting party can see that the parent of the 'orphaned' animal is dead, he should be advised that he can leave the animal there and let nature take its course, or he can transport the animal to a wildlife rehabilitator only if he has suitable equipment.

High-risk rabies species. A wildlife rehabilitator is prohibited from possessing and rehabilitating these animals, so this is not an option. It is unlawful for the person to keep and care for the animal himself. Coyote, fox, raccoons, skunks or bats should never be handled by hand, should only be transported if the animal is in live-trap or secure wooden box with holes, and should never transported inside the passenger

compartment of a vehicle because of rabies and fleas. Such animals may only be transported to an office of the Department or Wildlife Services equipped to handle the animal.

Transporting Injured or Orphaned Animals. Due to concerns involving plague and other diseases, wildlife rehabilitators are prohibited from rehabilitating rats, mice, and ground squirrels. If the person is willing to transport injured or orphaned wildlife to a wildlife rehabilitator, he should be **strongly cautioned** not to transport live wildlife inside a motor vehicle unless the animal is properly caged prior to transport.

Glove up. The handler should wear thick, heavy gloves whenever possible to protect against injury, disease or parasites. It is a good idea to wear latex gloves under the heavy gloves, if they are available.

Live Deer. Live deer, antelope and similar animals should never be transported inside the passenger compartment of a vehicle no matter how calm it appears.

Eagles, Hawks and Owls. Injured hawks and owls should be covered with a blanket or heavy coat to calm the bird. The bird should then be picked-up by firmly grasping around the entire body. Advise the person to be particularly cautious of the talons (feet). The talons are usually more dangerous than the beak. If the caller isn't able to transport the bird in a wooden box or pet carrier, he should be discouraged from transporting the bird.

Animals trapped in a yard or garage. Ask the caller if he has a dog or other pet which is keeping the wild animal trapped or cornered. If the answer is yes, have them put the dog or other pet inside the house and leave the wild animal alone; tell the person to open the garage door or gate so the animal can escape.

It never hurts to repeat the caution to the caller that any animal or bird that can, bite, kick, claw or scratch or fly **should not** be transported unless it is properly secured in a sturdy cage, live-trap, box with air-holes or a pet carrier.

“Loaner” Traps. Most regional offices and field offices will have a few live-traps that can be loaned to the public for the purpose of capturing raccoons, marmots and similar sized animals. A live-trap for capturing skunks will also be available. Traps will be permanently marked with the initials NDOW.

- X The person must come the office and sign-out for a live-trap.
- X Advise the caller that if he captures a skunk, raccoon, fox, coyote, or bat, the animal will have to be humanely killed. (.22 short between the eyes - outside the city limits, euthanasia chamber where available – LV office may have one)
- X Rabies vector species (skunk, raccoon, fox, coyote, and bats) are not to be released.
- X The caller may kill the animal himself or bring it to the office and department personnel will handle it. Don't transport mammals inside a passenger compartment due to disease risks posed to humans and pets by fleas.
- X The person borrowing the live-trap will provide his or her name, address, and phone number on the “Loaner-Trap” form.

- X Obtain a photocopy of the persons' identification or drivers license whenever possible.

Basic Equipment & Supplies for Capturing & Restraining Nuisance Wildlife. The Department will provide the following basic equipment and supplies to each game warden. These items will be provided to duty stations in a prioritized manner. Provisioning will begin with officers assigned to duty stations along the Sierra front and key officers, selected by the LE supervisors, located in the Las Vegas Valley.

Game Wardens.

- Ketch-All pole (5')
- 4-foot snake tongs
- A medium to large pet carrier (for raptors, badgers, marmots)
- HD talon or welding gloves (protection against bites, scratches)
- 4' Cast net (capturing ducks, goslings)

Basic Equipment & Supplies for Capturing & Restraining Nuisance Wildlife. (con't)

- or Oversize fishing net (31" wide, 4-8' handle)
- Rope, leather or nylon hobbles for ungulates
- Blindfolds for ungulates
- Latex surgical gloves

Regional and/or Field Office

- "Hot" box – 5 gal. bucket with a screw lid (for transporting venomous snakes)
- Live traps (loan to the public; use by personnel) 36"x11"x12"
- Skunk live-trap 24"x11"x12"
- A body bag
- Litter (for carrying bear, lions, deer.)

Controlled Substances. Drugs used to immobilize and restrain wildlife are potent and dangerous. Most, if not all, are classified as controlled substances and are regulated by both Federal and State law. The following sections provide a very brief overview regarding controlled substances. Refer to the agency's Chemical Restraint of Wildlife Policy & Procedure for in-depth, detailed procedures.

- X Under most circumstances an individual must possess both a federal and state "certificate of registration" to acquire, possess and administer controlled substances.
- X When not being prepared for use in the field for a specific control purpose, controlled substances must be stored (locked-up) in compliance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
- X An employee who discovers a theft of controlled substances must report it to the regional office of the DEA at the time the theft is realized – 255 East Temple Street, 20th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012, (888) 415-9822. Local enforcement must be notified.

- X All records concerning the receipt, possession and use of controlled substances will be maintained in accordance with federal and state law.

Assignment of Duty to Control Wild and Predatory Animals With Controlled Substances.

Pursuant to the provisions and requirements of NRS 453.375, which grants limited authority to possess and administer controlled substances under certain circumstances, each game warden is assigned the duty to control wild and predatory animals. The law specifically authorizes a wildlife biologist to possess and administer controlled substances for the purpose stated above.

- X Except as provided immediately below, the primary responsibility for controlling nuisance wildlife with chemical immobilization is assigned to game wardens.
- X The game biologist position in Carson City has primary responsibility for controlling black bears and mountain lions which pose a nuisance in Carson and Douglas counties, as well as the Lake Tahoe basin.
- X Game wardens will provide assistance to the Carson City game position whenever requested and will assume the responsibility when the biologist is unable to respond.

Equipment and Supplies. The Department will provide designated personnel with all necessary equipment and supplies for the proper use and storage of controlled substances.

Disposition, Destruction, Relocation or Release of Nuisance Wildlife.

Destruction of Black Bear & Mountain Lion. If immediate destruction at the scene is not necessary, a bear or mountain lion that displays one or more of the following actions and/or behaviors will be transported from the scene of trapping or capture and humanely killed:

- X The animal takes aggressive actions directed toward a person, including but not limited to charging, false charging, growling, teeth popping and snarling.
- X The animal shows an unnatural interest or curiosity in humans.
- X The animal exhibits a predacious or stalking behavior toward humans.
- X The animal attacks or kills a domestic animal in the presence of humans, but not in self-defense.
- X The animal has broken into an occupied residence or business, or a residence or business normally occupied on a frequent basis.
- X The animal demonstrates a loss of wariness of humans, displayed through repeated sightings of the animal during the day near a permanent structure, building or dwelling frequently used by humans.

Rabies Vector Species. Any coyote, fox, raccoon, or skunk that is live-trapped will be humanely killed. For purposes of public safety and public relations such an animal will be transported, if necessary, to a suitable location before it is dispatched. Bats which appear to behaving normally may be released near the site of capture. With the exception of bats, rabies vector species will not be released after capture. This action is necessary to prevent:

- X the potential spread of diseases;
- X competition with the same species in adjacent habitats;
- X future human-wildlife conflicts by that animal

Ear Tagging. Each game mammal that has been chemically immobilized will be fitted with an ear-tag prior to release. The tag will be marked, using indelible ink, with the date when the animal is considered safe to consume.

Sensitivity to Public Perception. Whenever an animal is killed in view of the public, it is very important to handle the situation professionally and with an air of sensitivity. The carcass should be handled with a degree of respect and dignity. It should not be treated roughly or like a piece of trash.

Wildlife That Dies During or After Chemical Immobilization. Except as provided in the next section, an animal that dies during or after being chemically immobilized must be burned, buried or otherwise disposed of in accordance with local ordinances. Under nocircumstances will the carcass or any of its parts be donated to charity or other entities due to risks posed by contamination with controlled substances.

Wildlife That Has Bitten, Attacked or Killed a Human. If an employee is first on-scene, contact emergency medical services if the injury appears severe or the person is in shock. If the attack involved a bear, mountain lion or similar large carnivore, bobcat or coyote, contact law enforcement personnel and advise your location. Glove-up and check the victim. Provide first-aid within your abilities. Secure and protect the scene. Only allow emergency personnel into the scene.

X **Bear and Mountain Lion.** The carcass of such an animal will be delivered to the coroner for postmortem examination unless the coroner directs otherwise.

X **Rabies Vector Species.** The carcass of such an animal should be delivered to the Animal Disease Laboratory, 350 Capitol Hill Avenue, Reno, 89502, for rabies testing. An employee should avoid shooting such animals in the head whenever practical to minimize destruction of brain tissue. Carcasses should not be frozen as this affects the brain tissue. Refrigeration is fine.

The employee must report, without unreasonable delay, the bite or attack by a rabies vector species to the following entity:

Clark County:	Clark County Health District
Washoe County:	Washoe County Health Department
Other counties:	State Health Div./Epidemiology 775-684-5900

Use of Firearms. There is potential for substantial liability to the agency and employee for a firearm discharge that causes injury or death to another human being or property damage. An employee must exercise considerable judgement and ensure appropriate safety precautions when he determines that it is necessary to kill an injured or dangerous animal with a firearm. If it is necessary to discharge a firearm within city limits or congested areas, the employee will contact the local law enforcement agency either directly or indirectly (via NDOW dispatch) to advise the time and specific location where the firearm discharge will take place. The Department will provide, in a prioritized manner, .22 caliber rifles to game wardens for the destruction of wounded and nonreleaseable animals.

Documenting Human-Wildlife Conflicts Involving Nuisance Wildlife. Except for an “exempt” employee who immediately routes a call, each employee who resolves a nuisance wildlife complaint will complete and submit a “Human-Wildlife Conflict Report” form to the regional supervising game warden in the region where the conflict was resolved. The report will be submitted within three (3) days of resolution.

X The supervising game warden will submit a summary of the reports to the Chief Game Warden on a monthly basis. The summary will include a total of calls, mileage and time.

Other Reports. Whenever an employee kills a mountain lion or black bear, he will complete the appropriate mountain lion or black bear Harvest Report Form and submit it through proper channels.