34.01.04 Wildlife Damage Management

Approved July 28, 2025

Next Scheduled Review: July 28, 2030



Regulation Summary

This regulation addresses the need for a unified approach to the management of wildlife that cause damage to property, research assets, or products, or endanger human health and safety on a property owned or controlled by a member of the Texas A&M University System (system). This regulation does not pertain to structural pest control services or animals subject to research protocols.

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Regulation

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 1.1 Each system member with ownership or control of a property experiencing wildlife damage shall establish a written wildlife damage management (WDM) plan in consultation with Texas Wildlife Services. This plan will set standards for evaluating damage and making decisions about when to employ management techniques according to best available science for each wildlife species causing damage.
- 1.2 Each system member with ownership or control of a property experiencing damage associated with wildlife, both native and invasive/exotic, will designate an employee or department responsible for writing and updating WDM plans. System members will establish a process for approval and updates to WDM plans.
- 1.3 WDM plans will be reviewed and revised at least every five years, in consultation with Texas Wildlife Services, to ensure approaches and methods are consistent with current best management practices. System members will be responsible for ensuring that management plans are in compliance with relevant local, state, and federal regulations and property owner requirements.

2. MANAGEMENT OF DAMAGE FROM NATIVE WILDLIFE

2.1 Native wildlife causing damage to system properties, assets, or operations will be managed in a WDM plan to limit the damage from these species while maintaining their presence in the ecosystem at appropriate levels and densities for available habitat.

3. MANAGEMENT OF DAMAGE FROM INVASIVE/EXOTIC WILDLIFE

- 3.1 Feral hogs pose a significant risk to human health and safety, water quality, and national security within the United States. All system members will develop a WDM plan to remove any feral hog(s) present on properties they own and/or control to the greatest extent possible.
- 3.2 Other exotic wildlife or exotic fowl will be managed in a WDM plan to limit damage caused by these species on properties owned or controlled by system members.

4. SELECTION OF WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAFF

- 4.1 When available and appropriate, system members will utilize the services of the Texas Wildlife Services program to conduct activities associated with the WDM plan.
- 4.2 System members may utilize employees with appropriate experience and expertise to conduct the activities outlined in a WDM plan within the course and scope of their duties.
- 4.3 System members are responsible for ensuring that any third parties conducting wildlife management services on property owned or controlled by a system member are professional wildlife damage managers whose activities strictly follow the member's WDM plan and other applicable system requirements.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (fws.gov)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Regulations - TPWD (texas.gov)

Overview: Fur-bearing Animal Regulations — Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

System Regulation 24.01.02 Risk Transfer

System Regulation 34.01.01 Health and Safety Programs

System Regulation 34.06.02, Weapons

Texas Wildlife Services

Texas Structural Pest Control Act

Member Rule Requirements

A rule is not required to supplement this regulation.

Contact Office

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