

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

<b>DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION</b>		Number: 1043-27
SUBJECT Renewal of the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee	DATE: July 10, 2003	
	OPI: APHIS	

1 PURPOSE

- a This regulation renews the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee (Committee). The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on policies and program issues necessary to control damage caused by depredating wildlife to protect America's agricultural, industrial, and natural resources and to safeguard public health and safety. This program operates under the Act of March 2, 1931, (7 U.S.C. 426 et.seq).
- b The renewal of this Committee is in the public interest in connection with the duties and responsibilities assigned to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) by Public Law No. 99-190. These duties and responsibilities include carrying out a Wildlife Services (WS) research and operational program. The Committee provides an essential function of bringing together the various competing interests involved in this program.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATIONS

- a The purpose of the Committee could not be accomplished in less than 2 years. This regulation will terminate 2 years from the date of filing.
- b Departmental Regulation No. 1043-27, dated August 9, 2001, is hereby superseded.

### 3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The Committee Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson shall be elected by the Committee from among its members. The Deputy Administrator for WS will serve as the Executive Secretary and will provide the necessary staff support for the Committee. Members of the Committee will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture.
  
- b Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. Membership will be composed of persons representing a broad spectrum of agricultural, environmental, conservation, academic, animal welfare, and related interests. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

### 4 DUTIES

The duties of the Committee involve advising and counseling USDA on (a) overall policies for the operation of the WS program; (b) problems associated with various methods of control; (c) changing practices in livestock and crop production, and the effect of depredating animals; (d) impact of animal damage control on wildlife conservation; (e) public health problems created by wildlife; (f) safety hazards created by birds and other wildlife

at airports; (g) environmental issues resulting from the use of pesticides; and (h) research needed to improve control methods.

5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

The annual costs are estimated at \$18,099 and .030 staff years.

6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Meetings will be held annually or more often if the Secretary of Agriculture deems necessary.

7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

The Committee will report to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs. A representative of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will provide the necessary staff support for the Committee.

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