

**Animal Damage Management Program Sate-Wide Policies as established by the Animal
Damage Management Board**

**General Policies as adopted May 3, 2000, Amended May 17, 2001, Amended July 19, 2002,
Amended January 7, 2004, Amended October 8, 2008:**

The following policy statements for the Animal Damage Management Program provide guidance for how program objectives will be achieved. It is intended that policy will be added, deleted or modified as conditions require.

1. Protect target and non-target animal populations by exercising needed management using environmentally responsible management techniques and methods.
2. Protect sheep, goats, cattle, hogs, poultry, and other domestic livestock by preventing or reducing mammal and/or bird predation.
3. Protect standing and stored agricultural crops, by preventing or reducing mammal and/or bird depredations.
4. Protect wildlife by preventing or reducing mammal and/or bird depredations.
5. Protect human health and safety by resolving wildlife-caused threats and nuisance situations by preventing the spread of animal-borne diseases.
6. Protect urban, residential, and industrial property by disseminating information on methods of preventing or reducing mammal and/or bird damage or when cooperating funds are available, by conducting urban programs.
7. Assure all animal damage management programs are conducted in an environmentally sound manner.
8. Support “best management practices” in animal damage management by providing assistance to ongoing wildlife research efforts.
9. When feasible, resolve problems caused by individual animals or local populations of wildlife, as contrasted to population management over vast areas.
10. Provide assistance to reduce conflicts between predators and livestock by encouraging the use of appropriate livestock husbandry techniques.
11. Management methods shall be used in the most selective and humane manner possible.
12. The ADMB and its cooperators will comply with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

13. Wildlife damage management on public lands will be conducted in accordance with memorandums of understanding/agreements between land management agencies and wildlife services, or local county predator management districts.
14. The ADMB will encourage research and consideration of use of non-lethal, non-capture management methods (such as scare devices, aversive agents and fencing) and intensive husbandry techniques and practices.
15. The ADMB may cooperate in research activities when it is compatible with ADMB program needs and priorities.
16. The ADMB will encourage, universities, State governments, manufacturers of damage management tools, groups adversely affected by wildlife and others to support animal damage management research.
17. The ADMB will encourage an interchange of information among Federal and State agencies and pest management operators to assist others and maintain and improve professional competency.
18. Only those animal damage management activities that are biologically sound, economically feasible, and environmentally acceptable will be encouraged. All new methods will be thoroughly tested for effectiveness and impacts prior to their use or recommended use by the ADMB.
19. The ADMB will not fund bounties as a management method.
20. Lethal techniques to manage wildlife-caused conflicts will be used or recommended so long as there is no negative impact on national or regional population levels.
21. Effective liaison will be maintained with all parties interested in the Animal Damage Management Program.
22. Individuals and/or agencies receiving economic or other benefits from the program, or agencies primarily concerned with such assistance should contribute funds and/or manpower support for the conduct of such activities.
23. Extension and educational assistance may be provided to resolve conflicts involving domestic and feral animals, commensal rodents, and bird/aircraft problems (except in cases of human health emergencies).
24. Direct competition in the same geographic area with other Federal or State agencies, commercial operators or individuals will be avoided where they can provide adequate management assistance and protect the environment.

25. The ADMB may provide assistance to private animal damage management efforts on an extension basis or may serve in an advisory capacity to make such efforts more selective and effective.
26. The final determination as to ADMB participation in a requested management project will rest with the Board. In making this final determination, the ADMB will rely on the land and resource managing agencies, public health organizations, industry and agriculture, State wildlife agency, other cooperating agencies and organizations, the public, and elected representatives to help determine when and where there is a demonstrated need for management within their areas of jurisdiction or concern. If the ADMB determines that there is a need for wildlife damage management action, the degree and type of assistance will depend on availability of funds and manpower in relation to total program needs.