WILDLIFE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH AIRPORTS

1) Adequate fencing that provides a game-proof barrier is the only permanent solution to ungulate wildlife problems associated with airports. While FWP may be able to provide technical assistance related to fencing systems, responsibility for erecting a suitable fence, including cost, materials, and labor, lies with the municipality owning the property.

2) General hunting seasons, with hunters regulating wildlife populations at tolerable levels, is the preferred method for regulating wildlife populations. This usually is not a viable solution to problems associated with airports in populated areas.

3) Special hunting seasons may be used under the following conditions:
   a) during the period from August 15th through February 15th;
   b) when reasonable hunter access is available to allow for adequate harvest;
   c) when enough animals are involved to justify public hunting;
   d) when damage, or wildlife presence, is a recurring problem and animals are normally unavailable during the general hunting season.

4) Repellents do not provide a permanent solution, but may work as a temporary solution if animals are focusing on a very specific food source found on airport property. FWP may provide repellent material, but will not assume the cost of these materials if used over a long period of time as an alternative to more effective control measures.

5) Dispersal, by use of various pyrotechnics such as cracker shells and scareguns, can be effective as a temporary measure. Effectiveness increases if devices are moved regularly and employed at irregular intervals. FWP may provide dispersal devices, but will not assume the cost of these materials if used over a long period of time as an alternative to more effective control measures.

6) Herding, as a temporary measure, may also be effective. Herders must be hired by the municipality and paid for by the municipality.

6) Kill permits may provide a short-term solution. They will not be provided on a regular basis in cases where crops attractive to wildlife are planted on airport property and where ungulate-proof fencing has not been erected. Kill permits may be activated by the region if a decision is made that kill permits are the most practical method of addressing the problem or if previously-mentioned methods have proven to be unsuccessful or are not possible. Kill permits must be approved by the Regional Supervisor or designee and are issued, on a case-by-case basis, for a specified time period or for a specified number of animals. The person or entity to whom the kill permit is issued will be responsible for killing and field-dressing the appropriate number of animals. FWP personnel will be responsible, upon being contacted, for delivery of the field-dressed animals to the appropriate public or charitable institution.

FWP Game Damage Policy, January 2007