



Baldwin County Commission Work Session
Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 14, 2021
8:30 AM

Baldwin County Foley Satellite Courthouse, Large Meeting Hall
201 East Section Avenue, Foley, Alabama 36535

Commissioners present:

District 1 – Commissioner James E. Ball
District 2 – Commissioner Joe Davis, III
District 3 – Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood
District 4 – Commissioner Charles F. Gruber

Commissioners absent:

None.

Staff present:

Wayne Dyess, County Administrator
Sherry-Lea Bloodworth Botoy, Director of Public and Government Affairs
Anu Gary, Administrative Services Manager
Jeannie Peerson, Commission Executive Assistant
Brian Peacock, CIS Director
Lisa Sangster, Administrative Support Specialist IV
Cian Harrison, Clerk Treasurer
Ron Cink, Budget Director
Katrina Taylor, Grants Coordinator
Ann Simpson, Accounting Manager
Matthew Brown, BRATS Director/Interim Planning Director
Buford King, Development Review Planner
Deidra Hanak, Personnel Director
Joey Nunnally, County Engineer
Sarah Hart Sislak, Metropolitan Planning Coordinator
Gina Jones, Animal Control Officer
Ashley Campbell, Natural Resource Officer

Staff present via teleconference:

Wanda Gautney, Purchasing Director
Felisha Anderson, Director of Archives and History/Special Historic Project Coordinator

Also present:

Brad Hicks, County Attorney

After the welcome, invocation and pledge of allegiance, the following agenda items were reviewed and/or discussed:

A ADOPTION OF MINUTES

June 1, 2021, Regular Meeting

No discussion.

B ACTION ITEMS

BA ADMINISTRATION

- BA1** Alabama Department of Senior Services/Senior Community Service Employment Program Host Agency Agreement **21-0944**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BA2** Resolution #2021-086 of the Baldwin County Commission - September 21, 2021, Special School Tax Election Regarding the Adoption, Levy, Assessment and Collection of a Special Three (3) Mill Ad Valorem Tax in the District 5 (Am. 382) School Tax District in Baldwin County (Robertsdale, Silverhill, Loxley), Alabama **21-0965**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BA3** Revision of County Take Home Vehicle List - June 2021 **21-0943**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BC ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

- BC1** Gulf Coast Resource Conservation and Development Grant for Historic Sites in Baldwin County for Educational Outreach and Economic Development and Tourism **21-0939**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BD BALDWIN REGIONAL AREA TRANSIT SYSTEM (BRATS)

- BD1** Submission of Fiscal Year 2022 Section 5311 Rural Public Transportation Grant and 5311 CARES Rural Public Transportation Grant Application **21-0963**

Ann Simpson, Accounting Manager, discussed the Fiscal Year 2022 BRATS Section 5311 Grants.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BE BUDGET/PURCHASING

- BE1** Competitive Bid #WG21-26 - Plumbing System Upgrades in the Baldwin County Courthouse Located in Bay Minette, Alabama, for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0926**

Commissioner Gruber; Ron Cink, Budget Director; and Wanda Gautney, Purchasing Director, discussed the plumbing system upgrades for the Bay Minette Courthouse and bringing the needed upgrades to upcoming budget deliberations for the Commission's consideration.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE2** Competitive Bid #WG21-28 – Provision of Regular Unleaded Gasoline And No. 2 Diesel Fuel for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0949**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE3** Competitive Bid #WG21-29 – Provision of Aftermarket Heavy Duty Truck Parts for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0934**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE4** Competitive Bid #WG21-30 – Provision of Finished Road Signs for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0924**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE5** Competitive Bid #WG21-36 – Provision of HVAC Chiller Annual Preventative Maintenance Services for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0942**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE6** Final Design of the Baldwin County Magnolia Landfill Wash Bay Expansion Located in Summerdale, Alabama, for the Baldwin County Commission **21-0928**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BE7** Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering/Environmental/Design Services for a New Pedestrian Bridge Connecting Bicentennial Park **21-0932**

and Live Oak Landing

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BM FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

BM1 Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds 21-0950

Sherry-Lea Bloodworth Botoy, Director of Public and Government Affairs, discussed the ARPA funds recommendations. Cian Harrison, Clerk Treasurer, discussed the funding and the projects staff have selected. Brian Peacock, CIS Director, discussed a meeting with cable providers, and providing a recommendation to the Commission at a later date, once more information has been gathered. Further discussion followed regarding administrative costs, reimbursements, additional projects, Emergency Rental Program, and federal guidelines for the program.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BN HIGHWAY

BN1 Case No. S-17014 - Hidden Lakes, Phase II - Release Maintenance Bond 21-0947

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BN2 Eastern Shore Metropolitan Planning Organization - Resolution #2021-085 and Agreement for Administering U.S. Department of Transportation Financial Assistance for Transportation Planning 21-0960

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BN3 License Agreement #21006 - Cedar Point - Right-of-Way 21-0933

Pulled from agenda, will be brought back to a future meeting.

BN4 Memorandum of Agreement Regarding the Administration of Federal Transit Administration 5307 Funds for the Pensacola, Florida-Alabama Urbanized Area 21-0914

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ PERSONNEL

BQ1 Building Inspection Department - Personnel and Position Changes 21-0951

Deidra Hanak, Personnel Director, explained Item BQ1 has a replacement item due to incorrect pay grade in staff recommendation #1 and applicant rescinding the offer for employment in staff recommendation #8.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ2 Communications and Information Systems Department – Title Change For Web Developer II Position **21-0952**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ3 Highway Department (Construction Engineering) - Employment of One (1) Engineering Technician I Position **21-0953**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ4 Highway Department (Pre-construction Engineering) - Personnel Changes **21-0954**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ5 Juvenile Detention Center – Employment of Two (2) Detention Technician Positions **21-0956**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ6 Personnel Department – Employment of One (1) Benefits Specialist Position **21-0957**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ7 Solid Waste Department (MacBride Landfill) – Promotion of Employee Into Landfill Equipment Operator III Position **21-0958**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ8 Correction to Agenda Item BQ2 – May 18, 2021, Baldwin County Commission Regular Meeting **21-0948**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BQ9 Personnel Department - Employee Handbook Changes **21-0955**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

BR PLANNING AND ZONING

- BR1** Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – Letter in Support of Acquisition of Land along the Bon Secour River – National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program **21-0962**

Ashley Campbell, Natural Resource Officer, discussed the request for the letter of support for the land acquisition along Bon Secour River.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BR2** 2021-2026 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) Permit Renewal **21-0961**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

- BR3** Text Amendments to Baldwin County Zoning Ordinance – Incorporation Of Site Plan Approvals for Certain Developments **21-0964**

Matthew Brown, Interim Planning Director, discussed the proposed text amendments to the Baldwin County Zoning Ordinance, having the public be more engaged in the process, special uses for property, and special conditions and uses.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

C PRESENTATIONS

D PUBLIC HEARINGS

DA ADMINISTRATION

- DA1** Case No. LV-202101 - Alcohol License Application for Lucky Dogg, LLC d/b/a Lillian's Front Porch **21-0871**

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Public Hearings.

DR PLANNING AND ZONING

- DR1** Case No. S-21047 Blackwater Farms Subdivision – Appeal from the Baldwin County Planning and Zoning Commission Denial of Subdivision Development Permit **21-0936**

Matthew Brown, Interim Planning Director, discussed Case No. S-21047 Blackwater Farms Subdivision and the appeals process.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Public Hearings.

E COMMITTEE REPORTS

EA FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

EA1 Payment of Bills **21-0941**

No discussion.

EA2 Notification of Interim Payments Approved by Clerk/Treasurer as Allowed Under Policy 8.1 **21-0940**

No discussion.

F DISCUSSION ITEMS

FB ANIMAL CONTROL

FB1 United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services – Discussion Of Collecting Wildlife for Rabies Samples **21-0945**

Gina Jones, Animal Control Officer, discussed the request from the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services for the Baldwin County Animal Shelter to participate in the USDA National Rabies Management Program to prevent the spread of raccoon rabies. Mr. Justin Reynolds with USDA discussed the program and the process of collecting the wildlife rabies samples and provided [information regarding Preventing the Spread of Raccoon Rabies, USDA National Rabies Management Program](#) to the Commissioners.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Addenda.

G COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Commissioner Underwood discussed the Commission pursuing a noise ordinance for the unzoned, unincorporated areas of Baldwin County. Further discussion took place regarding the ways to adopt a noise ordinance, involving the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation in the process, and concerns regarding additional stress the enforcing of the ordinance could bring to the Baldwin County Sheriff's Deputies. It was decided that Wayne Dyess, County Administrator would set up a meeting with the Legislative Delegation to discuss the noise ordinance and possibly passing a local act.

H ADDENDA

HA GENERAL

HA1 Real Estate Lease Agreement with Baldwin County E-911 Emergency Communication District for Old E-911 Building in Robertsdale, Alabama **21-0946**

Commissioner Ball discussed utility bills and insurance costs for the old E-911 building and if all the necessary information is not received regarding the costs, pulling Item HA1 from the agenda.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

HA2 Tyler Technologies - Purchase of Asset Performance Module **21-0979**

Joey Nunnally, County Engineer, discussed the request to purchase an Asset Performance Module from Tyler Technologies which would help the Highway Department manage reporting, funds, calls and various other functions. Brian Peacock, CIS Director, discussed the additional costs that would be incurred for the purchase.

Moved to June 15, 2021, regular meeting, Consent Agenda.

HA3 Request for the Use of Baldwin County Central Annex Parking Lot – City of Robertsdale’s First Centennial Kick-off Celebration **21-0980**

Removed from agenda.

I ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

None.

J COUNTY ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

K PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

L PRESS QUESTIONS

None.

M COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

N ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood, seconded by Commissioner James E. Ball, to adjourn the June 14, 2021, Baldwin County Commission Work Session at 10:03 a.m.

The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - James E. Ball, Joe Davis III, Billie Jo Underwood, and Charles F. Gruber

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Davis III". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "J" and a prominent "D".



USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

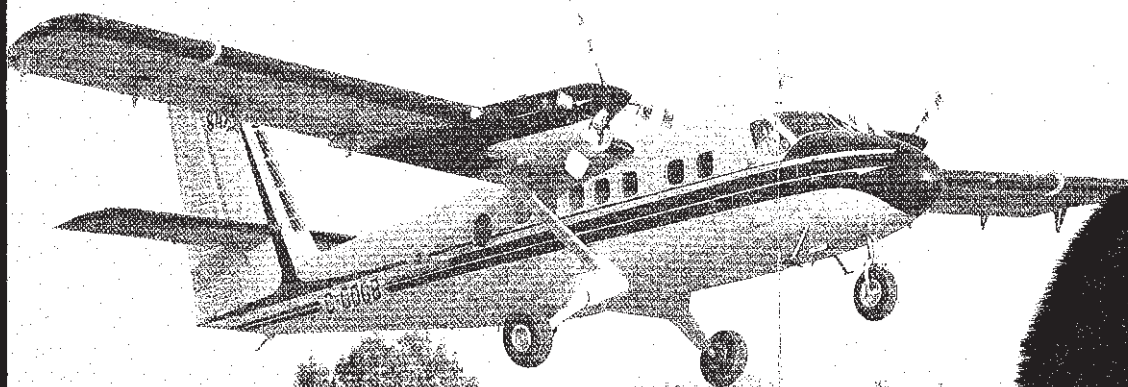
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Program Aid No. 193

WS Wildlife Services

Protecting People | Protecting Agriculture | Protecting Wildlife

Preventing the Spread of Raccoon Rabies

National Rabies Management Program



Wildlife Services

Protecting People
Protecting Agriculture
Protecting Wildlife

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Wildlife Services (WS) — a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service — works to limit the spread of rabies nationwide as part of its mission to minimize wildlife damage to agricultural, urban, and natural resources. An important part of WS' mission includes cooperating in wildlife disease-management efforts in order to protect public health and safety.

WS established its National Rabies Management Program in recognition of the changing scope of rabies. The program aims to prevent the further spread of rabies by containing the raccoon variant and, eventually, to eliminate terrestrial rabies in the United States through an integrated program involving the use of oral rabies vaccination (ORV) of wildlife.



Pictured are some of the wildlife species that commonly spread rabies—coyote, fox, and skunk.

Background

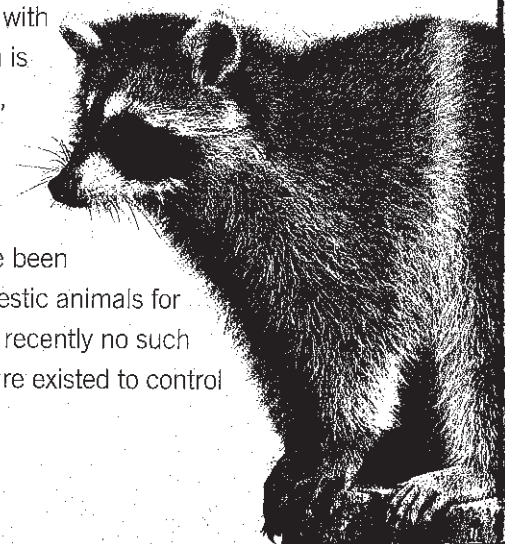
Raccoons are one of the most recognizable wildlife species. Whether you have seen raccoons on television or in your backyard, rummaging through a trashcan, they are easily identified by their black face mask and ringed tail. Although you might view them as cute and cuddly, raccoons are one of the species most often responsible for transmitting rabies and should be left alone.

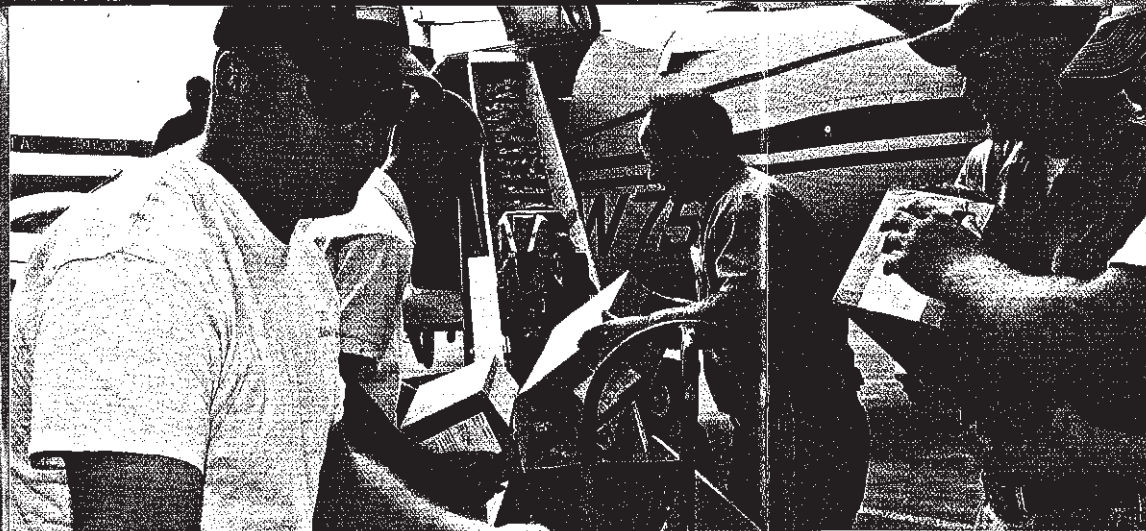
Rabies is caused by a virus that affects the central nervous system in mammals and is almost always transmitted through saliva when an infected animal bites an uninfected animal or person. Untreated, rabies is always fatal; however, effective vaccines are available to protect people and pets.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 90 percent of rabies cases reported in the United States each year are found in wildlife. Several

different variants of the rabies virus exist in this country. Each variant is spread predominantly by one wildlife species, but all variants are capable of infecting warm-blooded mammals, including humans. Raccoons and skunks account for the most reported cases, but bats, foxes, and coyotes are also among the commonly infected wildlife species.

The cost of living with rabies in America is high and growing, exceeding \$300 million per year. Although rabies vaccinations have been available for domestic animals for many years, until recently no such preventive measure existed to control rabies in wildlife.





Aerial drops of ORV baits are the most cost-effective way to distribute vaccine in rural areas. Here, WS employees load baits onto a fixed-wing aircraft.

ORV Efforts

Since 1995, WS has been working cooperatively with local, State, and Federal governments, universities, and other partners to address this public health problem by distributing ORV baits in targeted areas. While raccoon vaccination is the largest of WS' efforts, the program has been involved in a cooperative ORV operation in Texas that targets canine rabies in coyotes and a unique variant of the disease in gray foxes. Scientists at WS' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) are conducting research in Arizona to learn more about the use of ORV in skunks and feral dogs.

At this time, the raccoon rabies variant is found only in the Eastern United States. A vaccination zone has been established stretching from Maine to Alabama to prevent the westward spread of the virus that causes raccoon rabies.

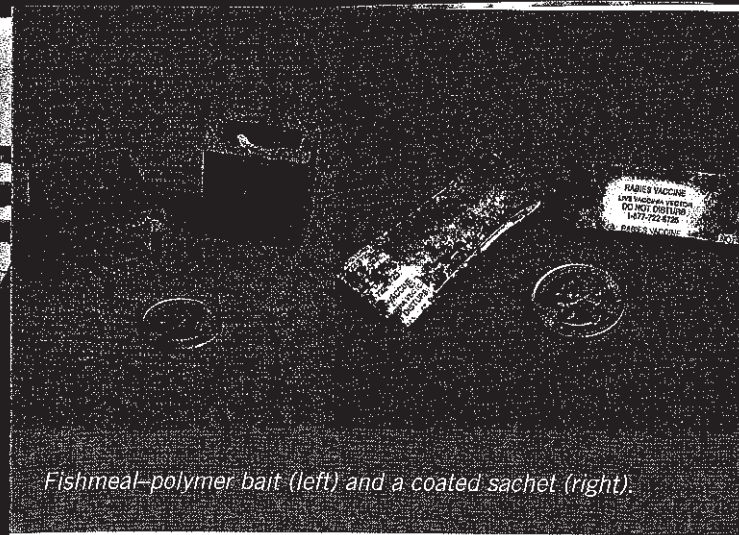
Annually, WS and cooperators distribute about 6.5 million baits in selected States to create a zone where raccoon rabies can be contained. In setting up that zone, WS wildlife biologists made sure to incorporate

features of the natural landscape that can help the containment effort (e.g., mountain ranges and large bodies of water that can act as natural barriers). For instance, the densely forested habitats at high elevations of the Appalachian Mountains limit raccoon movements and help slow the spread of raccoon rabies virus west of this mountain range.

In 2006, the program shifted the Appalachian Ridge ORV zone 5 miles to the east, an important step toward the longrange goal of eliminating raccoon rabies. The goal is to continue shifting the zone eastward until raccoon rabies has been eliminated all the way to the east coast.

Raccoon movements in the Northeastern United States are a concern as well. Since the year 2000, cooperative efforts between the United States and Canada have maintained a zone to contain raccoon rabies within its present boundaries. The northeastern part of WS' program includes New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Baits are distributed along the border to prevent the northward spread of raccoon rabies into Canada.

A vaccination zone has been established stretching from Maine to Alabama to prevent the westward spread of the virus that causes raccoon rabies.



Fishmeal-polymer bait (left) and a coated sachet (right).

Distributing the Vaccine

The ORV baits, developed and manufactured by Merial Inc., in Athens, GA, consist of a sachet, or plastic packet, containing the Raboral V-RG® rabies vaccine. To make the baits attractive, the sachets containing vaccine are sprinkled with fishmeal coating or encased inside hard fishmeal-polymer blocks about the size of a matchbox. As other private companies work to develop and license effective vaccines, WS may integrate these baits into the program as well.

When a raccoon finds a bait and bites into it, the sachet ruptures, allowing the animal to swallow the vaccine. Raccoons that swallow an adequate dose of the vaccine develop immunity to rabies. As the proportion of vaccinated animals in the population increases, they act as a buffer to stop the spread of the disease to other wildlife, domestic animals, and people.

Field crews distribute the ORV baits by air or ground baiting. Fixed-wing aircraft are the most effective means for distributing large numbers of the ORV baits. Hand-baiting is important for reaching urban areas, where there may be safety risks associated with distributing



What To Do If You Find One of Our Baits

If you come across a bait, please leave it where you found it. Do not attempt to remove a bait from your pet's mouth; doing so may cause you to be bitten. Raboral V-RG is safe for more than 60 species, including domestic dogs and cats. The vaccine does not contain the live rabies virus.

If you come into contact with the pink liquid vaccine, wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water and call the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services office at **1-866-4-USDA-WS** (1-866-487-3297) for further information and referral.

WS employees take samples from an anesthetized raccoon. Results of tests on the tissues will reveal whether or not this animal ingested enough rabies vaccine to be protected.

Determining the Effectiveness of the Program

After the baits have been distributed and raccoons have had a chance to find and consume them, WS works with cooperators to measure the success of every ORV campaign. Live traps are set throughout ORV zones with marshmallows, vanilla, sardines, and other attractants used to lure raccoons into the traps.

The traps are checked regularly and affixed with labels to inform the public about WS' trap-and-release program. Wildlife biologists and technicians temporarily anesthetize every captured raccoon so that they can take blood samples and remove the first premolar, a small tooth. Once the effects of the anesthetic have worn off, the biologists release the captured raccoons back into the wild.

Next, WS sends all samples to cooperating Federal and State laboratories, where tests determine the rabies antibody level for each raccoon sample to see if the animal has had contact with the oral vaccine. In addition, WS submits all tooth samples to laboratories for sectioning to determine if they contain a tetracycline biomarker that indicates that the bait was ingested by the raccoon. When tetracycline is consumed, it stains teeth and bone.



Future

WS' NWRC in Fort Collins, CO, is a key component of the National Rabies Management Program. NWRC scientists investigate raccoon behavior, develop biomarkers and alternative vaccines, and research vaccination rates. NWRC researchers are also working on better baits to use for delivery of the oral rabies vaccine in raccoons. NWRC personnel are performing field studies in five States to evaluate the effectiveness of these experimental baits.

In collaboration with various universities, WS scientists are also conducting research on raccoon and skunk ecology in urban and rural settings and on gray fox ecology in Texas. Investigators are also working to develop better techniques to estimate raccoon density and to assess the effects of density and target-population distribution on the placement of vaccine baits. Studies will soon be underway to evaluate the persistence of the protective rabies antibody once an animal has been vaccinated.

Field studies and research continue to be crucial to the accomplishments of the program. Success in south Texas with the canine variant of rabies has shown that elimination is possible. With the combined benefits of ongoing research and committed staff and cooperators, WS continues to reach milestones that bring the program closer to its ultimate rabies management goals.

Mention of companies or commercial products does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture over others not mentioned. USDA neither guarantees nor warrants the standard of any product mentioned. Product names are mentioned solely to report factually on available data and to provide specific information.

Photo credits: The raccoon pictures on the front cover and the image of employees working with an anesthetized raccoon were taken by APHIS photographer R. Anson Eaglin. Inside the leaflet, the pictures of the gray fox and the coyote came from the APHIS photo collection. The pictures of the skunk and the raccoon are from Getty Images. WS employee John Forbes took all three pictures of baits. APHIS public affairs specialist Brienne German took the image of WS employees loading boxes of baits onto a plane for aerial bait-drop activities and the



Have you seen these?

These are oral rabies vaccination baits. They are being distributed in your area by fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, and ground personnel to vaccinate raccoons against the virus that causes rabies. The vaccine in these baits cannot cause rabies and has been shown to be safe in more than 60 different species of animals, including cats and dogs.

If you find a bait, please leave it alone unless it is on your lawn, driveway, or some other area not likely to attract a raccoon. While wearing a glove or other protective covering (e.g., plastic bag, paper towel), you can move the bait to an area of thicker cover, where a raccoon will be more likely to find it.

If you should pick up a bait without wearing a glove, wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water. Also, do not handle partially eaten or damaged baits with bare hands. Damaged baits should be placed in a bag and disposed of with normal trash. Do not attempt to remove a bait from a pet's mouth (especially a dog's mouth). Doing that might cause you to be bitten.

If you have any questions, please visit the National Rabies Management Program Web site at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ws/rabies/index.html> or call the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services toll-free number:
1-866-4-USDA-WS.



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
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Program Aid No. 1934
Issued June 2007
Reprinted June 2013



If you see a wild animal:

- Stay away and keep children away.
- Keep pets indoors.

If you are bitten by an animal, domestic or wild:

- Immediately wash the wound with lots of soap and running water.
- Call your doctor or local health department.
- If it's a domestic animal, get the name and address of the animal's owner.
- If it's a wild animal, contact a professional trapper to confine the animal. It's best not to try to trap the animal yourself to prevent further injuries.

- If the animal is dead and needs to be picked up for testing, wear gloves or use a shovel to place the carcass into a heavy plastic bag and put it in a cold place away from people and other animals.

To prevent wildlife encounters:

- Don't feed, touch, or adopt wild animals or stray dogs or cats.
- Vaccinate your dogs, cats, and ferrets against rabies.
- Keep garbage secure in an enclosed trashcan.
- Feed pets indoors or immediately remove all food when they are done eating outdoors.
- Teach children to appreciate wildlife from a distance.

Photo credits: The raccoon image was taken by APHIS photographer R. Anson Eaglin. The shots of the sachets and polymer baits were taken by Wildlife Services employee John Forbes.