

DRAFT

FIELD DIRECTIVE

Wildlife Encounter Response

Purpose

To provide AMAFCA staff with a consistent response when wildlife is encountered during planned or routine field activities.

STOP

Stop the specific activity that could injure wildlife or interfere with an animal's ability to safely leave the immediate work area.

- Secure equipment as necessary.
- Maintain a safe distance.
- Allow wildlife to leave on its own when it can do so safely.
- Establish a temporary buffer when needed.
- Do not chase, capture, handle, feed, transport, or relocate wildlife.

A wildlife encounter does not automatically require a full-site shutdown.

DOCUMENT

Document what was observed.

When practical, record:

- Date, time, and location
- Approximate number and general type of animals
- Wildlife activity or evidence observed
- Location within the work area
- Activity underway at the time
- Photographs or video from a safe distance
- Any dead or injured wildlife
- Relevant site conditions

Document observable facts and avoid speculation.

CONTACT

Notify AMAFCA Operations and Maintenance management:

1. Operations Manager
2. Director of Operations and Maintenance
3. Executive Engineer

O&M management will determine whether additional wildlife expertise or agency coordination is needed.

Wildlife Agency Contacts

City of Albuquerque Environmental Health Department

Urban Biology Division

505-452-5300

311 or 505-768-2000

City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department

Open Space Division

505-768-4200

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

Northwest Area Office, Albuquerque

505-222-4700

Outside agency coordination should normally be initiated by O&M management or their designee.

COORDINATE

When wildlife professionals or another agency become involved, AMAFCA will work closely with them in the field to develop and carry out a safe plan for continuing the work.

Work methods, sequencing, equipment operations, access, or other site activities may be adjusted as conditions change.

AMAFCA remains responsible for its personnel, equipment, facilities, and work activities. Wildlife professionals remain responsible for wildlife identification, handling, and relocation.

PROCEED

Work may proceed once a plan is in place to safely manage the wildlife encounter and the appropriate supervisor determines that work can continue.

Continue to monitor conditions as work progresses.

If conditions change or additional wildlife is encountered, reassess the plan and repeat the process as appropriate.

Dead or Injured Wildlife

- Stop work that could further affect the animal or immediate area.
- Do not handle or move the animal.
- Document the location and observable condition.
- Notify O&M management.
- Coordinate with the appropriate wildlife professional or agency before proceeding in the immediate area.

Do not make assumptions regarding the cause or timing of injury or death.

STOP. DOCUMENT. CONTACT. COORDINATE. PROCEED.