Staff presented with a WILD ANIMAL species, hybrid, or question

Yes

NO

FOLLOW clinic’s WILDLIFE POLICY & update it as needed.

DOCUMENT as much information as the Good Samaritan or owner can provide.

Is it LEGAL to treat this species or hybrid?

YES

NO

Don’t Know

EMERGENCY EUTHANASIA METHODS

• AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
• AAZV Guidelines on Euthanasia of Nondomestic Animals

CALL appropriate authorities if required and PROPERLY DISPOSE of all remains (body, feathers, fur, claws, antlers, etc.).

Are you KNOWLEDGEABLE and PREPARED to treat this animal?

YES

NO

Does practice have trained / experienced staff, proper facilities / supplies, wildlife policy, etc.?

CALL/REFER

State Wildlife Management Agencies
#_______________________
Licensed Rehabilitators
#_______________________
Wildlife Referral Veterinary Clinic
#_______________________

PROVIDE BASIC MANAGEMENT per directions received and staff’s ability until transfer.

Is the animal suffering from imminently FATAL INJURIES (ones that are not survivable)?

YES

NO

CALL AUTHORITIES

1. Contact your State wildlife management agency.
2. Additionally, for cases suspected of involving:
   a. REPORTABLE or NOTIFIABLE DISEASES – call your State Veterinarian and your state’s USDA/APHIS/VS Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC).
   b. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (e.g. rabies, plague, tularemia) of public health concern – call your local Public Health Department.

Contact Information

State wildlife management agency #_______________________
Local / regional wildlife biologist #_______________________
Local game warden #_______________________
Local U.S. Fish & Wildlife agent #_______________________
Local Animal Control Office #_______________________
State Veterinarian #_______________________
AVIC #_______________________
Local Public Health Department #_______________________
State Diagnostic Laboratory #_______________________
Others #_______________________

Additional Resources

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
• Endangered Species Act, Endangered Species Resource Locator
• Migratory Birds: Code of Federal Regulations, USFWS Office
• Bald & Golden Eagles: National Eagle Repository, Q&A
• Wildlife Carcasses / parts: USFWS Office, Reporting Dead Wildlife
• Marine Mammals: NOAA Fisheries Service Regional Offices

AVMA Policies related to wild animal species and their hybrids

Questions or Concerns

Notes:

Prepared by the American Veterinary Medical Association with input from subject matter experts. For more information, please visit www.avma.org/wildlife.