

#### **R12-4-421. Wildlife Service License**

- A. Any individual or company that provides, advertises, or offers assistance with nuisance wildlife to the general public with or without a fee shall obtain a wildlife service license. A wildlife service license allows an individual to capture, remove, transport, and relocate to the wild designated live wildlife if the wildlife causes a nuisance, property damage, poses a threat to public health or safety, or if the health or well-being of the wildlife is threatened by its immediate environment. A wildlife service license holder may euthanize designated wildlife, but only as prescribed by the Department. For the purposes of this Section, the following are designated live wildlife:
1. Furbearing wildlife;
  2. Javelina (*Tayassu tajacu*);
  3. Nongame wildlife;
  4. Predatory wildlife; and
  5. Small game wildlife.
- B. An employee of a governmental public safety agency or incorporated business authorized to provide public safety measures is not required to possess a wildlife service license if the employee is acting within the scope of the employee's official duties.
- C. An applicant for a wildlife service license shall apply on a form provided by the Department and available from any Department office. The applicant shall provide the following information:
1. Name, address, telephone number, birth date, physical description, and (if applicable) Department ID number;
  2. If the applicant will perform license activities for a commercial purpose, the name, address, telephone number, and hours and days of the week when the applicant will be available for service of the applicant's business;
  3. The designated wildlife species or groups of species listed in subsection (A) that will be used under the license;
  4. The methods that the wildlife license holder will use to perform authorized activities;
  5. A typewritten, computer or word processor printed, or legibly handwritten description of the following:
    - a. The applicant's experience in the capture, handling, and removal of wildlife;
    - b. Specific species that the applicant has had experience capturing, handling, or removing;
    - c. The general location and dates when the activities listed in subsection (C)(5)(b) were performed;
    - d. The methods used to carry out the activities; and
    - e. The methods used to dispose of the wildlife;
  6. The general geographic area where services will be performed;
  7. Documentation that clearly proves that the applicant has a minimum of six months of full-time employment or volunteer experience handling wildlife of the species or groups of species listed in subsection (C)(3); and
  8. The applicant's signature and the date of signing. By signing the application, the applicant attests that the information they have provided is true and correct to their knowledge and that the applicant's live wildlife privileges are not revoked in this state, any other state, or by the United States.

- D. The Department shall issue a wildlife service license as prescribed in R12-4-106. If the Department denies the application for a wildlife service license, the Department shall proceed as prescribed by R12-4-409(D).
- E. A wildlife service license holder shall possess a copy of the license at all times when performing activities authorized by the license.
- F. A wildlife service license holder shall capture, remove, transport, and relocate designated wildlife as follows:
  - 1. In a manner that is least likely to cause injury to the wildlife;
  - 2. In a manner that will prevent the wildlife from coming into contact with the general public;
  - 3. If the license holder intends to capture, remove, transport, relocate, or euthanize javelina, the license holder shall obtain special authorization from the Department by contacting the Department regional office that has jurisdiction over the area where the activities will be conducted; and
  - 4. If the license holder traps wildlife, the license holder shall comply with A.R.S. § 17-361(B) and (C).
- G. A wildlife service license holder may euthanize wildlife taken under authority of the license only if authorized to do so under the license. If authorized, the license holder shall euthanize the wildlife by the safest, quickest, and most humane method available. Unless otherwise stipulated in the license, a license holder shall dispose of all wildlife that is euthanized or that otherwise dies while held under license by burial or incineration within 30 days of death.
- H. Except as allowed by R12-4-427, a wildlife service license holder shall not possess designated wildlife beyond the period of time necessary to transport and relocate the wildlife to the wild, or to provide euthanization. Wildlife shall not be displayed or exhibited at any time when it is possessed under this license.
- I. A wildlife service license holder shall release captured designated wildlife as follows:
  - 1. Without immediate threat to the animal or injurious contact with humans;
  - 2. During an ecologically appropriate time of year;
  - 3. Into a habitat suitable for sustaining it;
  - 4. In the same geographic area as the animal was originally captured, except that birds may be released at any location statewide within the normal range of that species in an ecological suitable habitat;
  - 5. In an area designated by the Department regional office that has jurisdiction over the area where it was captured; or
  - 6. Injured or orphaned wildlife may be given to an Arizona wildlife rehabilitation license holder.
- J. A wildlife service license holder shall inform the Department in writing within five working days of any change in telephone number, area of service, or business hours or days previously submitted to the Department.
- K. A wildlife service license holder may, at any time during the license period, make a written request to amend the license to add or delete authority to control and release designated species of wildlife, provided that any addition requested meets the requirements of subsection (A).
- L. A wildlife service license holder that seeks renewal of a wildlife service license without change to the species or species groups that the license holder is authorized to handle under

the license may reference supporting materials submitted previously, rather than submitting copies of the materials with the application for renewal.

- M. Before January 31 of each year, a wildlife service license holder shall file a written report on activities performed under the license for the previous calendar year. A wildlife service license holder shall submit an annual report on a form available from the Department as prescribed by R12-4-409(O). The annual report shall also include a list of all services performed under the license during the preceding calendar year, including for each service:
  1. The date and location of service;
  2. The number and species of wildlife removed; and
  3. The method of disposition for each animal removed, including the location and date of release.
- N. A wildlife service license holder is subject to R12-4-409 and R12-4-428.