



Fish and Wildlife: Guide for Public Inquiries

Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Services is responsible for enforcing regulations related to fish and wildlife management in Alberta, providing public safety, and ensuring compliance with laws. The following is a guide of what can be referred to Fish and Wildlife, as well as other wildlife services.

Moose, Elk, Bears, Cougars, and Wolves

In urban areas, the public can contact [Report a Poacher, 24/7, at 1-800-642-3800 \(more than just a poaching line\).](#)

Nuisance Animals:

Fish and Wildlife **do not** respond to nuisance animals. Most nuisance animals can be referred to a pest control company. Many deterrents are available for purchase. A few of the more common nuisance animals are listed:

- Coyotes
- Bobcats
- Badgers
- Foxes
- Bats

- Deer
- Crows/ravens/magpies
- Ducks/geese
- Woodpeckers
- Pigeons

- Seagulls
- Skunks
- Rabbits
- Raccoons
- Gophers/groundhogs

Exceptions: Bobcats and Coyotes

Fish & Wildlife officers will respond when there is a threat to public safety (i.e. behaving aggressively toward people: charging at, nipping or biting) or when the animal is so sick or injured it cannot move (bedded down). The public can contact [Report a Poacher, 24/7, at 1-800-642-3800 \(more than just a poaching line\).](#)

Injured Deer

If an injured deer is moving around and feeding, Fish & Wildlife officers **do not** respond. Deer with a broken or missing limb can adapt and successfully recover from these injuries.

Exception: If gravely injured or ill (i.e. bedded down and not moving), unable to leave a confined space, or has attacked a person contact [Report a Poacher \(RAP\), 24/7, at 1-800-642-3800.](#)

Injured/Orphaned Wildlife

For injured wildlife native to Alberta contact the [Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation at 403-946-2361](#) or the [Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society at 403-214-1312](#). Most rescue organizations do not take in deer. Share with the public that it is common and normal (especially in spring) for the mother to temporarily abandon the baby while the mother forages for food. Handling baby wildlife can lead to actual abandonment.

Dead Birds

Avian Flu Reporting: If the public encounter '**groups**' of dead or dying waterfowl (particularly ducks, geese, and swans) gulls or raptors, they can contact [310-0000 or 780-427-3448](#). **They should not touch the birds.**

Crows, magpies, and ravens can be disposed of. The provincial wildlife disease specialist has determined that there are no disease issues. These are typically naïve young birds that generally die due to trauma, predation, or being abandoned.



Migratory Birds (Federal Jurisdiction):

Deterrence: Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker. Refer the public to Environment and Climate Change Canada at ec.prpermisscf-cwspermitpr@ec.gc.ca.

Nest Reporting: Geese, Ducks, Robins, etc. can be reported to Environment and Climate Change Canada Public Inquiries Centre at enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca or 1-800-668-6767.

Unlawful removal of nests and eggs can be reported to ec.dalf-albertawed-alberta.ec@canada.ca

Pick-up of Dead Animals

Fish and Wildlife officers **do not** pick up dead wildlife from municipal roadways or private property. For dead animals on provincial highways, call [Volker Stevins Highways Ltd. at 403-297-6311](tel:403-297-6311) or 1-888-877-6237.

Wildlife and Pets

Fish and Wildlife **do not** respond to pets that have been injured or killed by wildlife.

Exception: In cases where the pet was on a leash, contact [Report a Poacher \(RAP\), 24/7, at 1-800-642-3800](tel:1-800-642-3800).

Rabies: Bats/Other Animals

If a person has had physical contact with a bat or an animal known to carry rabies, they can contact [Health Link - 811 or the Rabies Hotline at 1-844-427-6847](tel:1-844-427-6847).

For pets that have had contact with an animal known to carry rabies, owners should contact a veterinarian prior to calling the Rabies Hotline.

For sick or injured bats, contact the [Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation at 403-946-2361](tel:403-946-2361) or the [Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society at 403-214-1312](tel:403-214-1312).