

Instructional Scenario

Wildlife and Agriculture Interactions



Course/Duty Area: Introduction to Natural Resources & Ecology Systems/Exploring Government Policies, Agencies, and Regulations

Scenario:

As an employee of your county's parks department, you manage the demonstration farm petting zoo. You have chickens, calves, and pigs on the farm. Lately, black vultures have been congregating around your farm. They are roosting over the pens and defecating all over the fences, gates, and structures. The farm visitors are upset and want you to do something. You are frustrated and want to remove and/or deter them, but they are protected by law and you cannot discharge firearms in town.

Big Question:

What can legally be done to manage wildlife that are negatively impacting a farm?

Focused Questions:

- How can you find out what laws pertain to managing black vultures?
- What government agencies are involved in managing wildlife populations and human/wildlife interactions?
- What legal actions are available to deter the vultures from your petting zoo?
- What other wildlife and human interactions might have complicated legal consequences?

Student Project or Outcome:

Create a recommendation presentation for the director of the county parks department that summarizes the problems with the vultures, the legal issues, and the government agencies involved. Propose a solution to the farm's vulture problem.

Teacher Resources:

- [Help with Human-Wildlife Conflicts](#), Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
- [Wildlife Damage Operational Activities](#), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture

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