



YUROK TRIBE

190 Klamath Boulevard • Post Office Box 1027 • Klamath, CA 95548

Injured Wildlife and Domestic Animal Euthanasia Regulation

I. AUTHORITY

The Injured Wildlife and Domestic Animal Euthanasia Regulation (Regulation) is established by the authority of the Yurok Tribal Council (Council) pursuant to the authority delegated by Article IV, Section 5 of the Constitution of the Yurok Tribe, as ratified on November 19, 1993.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Regulation is to establish protocols and authority regarding the euthanasia of sick, injured, seriously wounded or dangerous wildlife and/or domestic animals on and around the Yurok Reservation by Yurok Tribal Public Safety officers.

III. FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

The Yurok Tribal Council finds and declares

- a. Lead ammunition left in carcasses poses a threat to the health of scavenging wildlife, including species of cultural and ecological concern to the Yurok Tribe;
- b. There is a high incidence, both on and surrounding the Reservation, of sick and injured wildlife and domestic animals resulting from: regular illness, injuries due to interactions with humans (collisions with automobiles, power lines, and building windows; animal abandonment or abuse; and shot animals unrecovered from hunting activities). These animals may be available for consumption by scavenging wildlife after death;
- c. Sick, injured, or dangerous animals may pose a threat to humans and other wildlife;
- d. It is common practice for federal and state agency law enforcement to euthanize injured wildlife and domestic animals via discharge of ammunition into the head or neck when found on public domain, in order to provide for the humane and instantaneous death of an animal in the field, and for human safety;
- e. Yurok Tribe Public Safety officers can and will be called on to euthanize sick, injured, or dangerous animals as a public service to ensure the safety of the surrounding community.

IV. PROCESS SECTION

- a. Officers will approach seriously wounded or dangerous animals in a safe manner in accordance with Department of Public Safety policy.
- b. The dangerous or seriously wounded animal will be euthanized in a manner to ensure a quick and painless kill if possible.
- c. Euthanasia shall be achieved, when necessary, via discharge of non-lead ammunition by Public Safety Officers. Discharge should be through the head and brain tissue if possible to ensure a quick and painless process except as in Section IV(d) below.
- d. Officers should use extreme caution in cases of a suspected rabid animal. Officers should attempt to aim so as to avoid disrupting the brain and spinal column of a suspected rabid animal. Leaving these structures intact preserves them for testing the

tissues for rabies should the procedure be necessary. Officers will note: Rabies is transmissible through brain tissue, spinal cord tissue, and the clear fluid surrounding the brain and spinal cord (cerebral spinal fluid).

- e. Once the euthanasia procedure has been performed, officers shall check to make sure the animal's death is certain. If the animal is not dead within one minute, repeat the emergency euthanasia procedure. Any handling of the animal, before or after death should be done with thick impermeable gloves to protect from blood born disease or animal defense mechanisms such as use of horns, hooves, teeth or talons.
- f. It will not be public safety's responsibility to remove the animal. Public Safety will attempt to contact other agencies to procure removal.
- g. Officers will complete a report concerning the discharge of a firearm as per departmental policy. A copy of the report will be made available to the Wildlife Program upon request when a seriously wounded or dangerous animal has been euthanized.

V. AUTHORITY OF OFFICER/TRAINING

- a. Law enforcement officers vested with authority under the Office of Yurok Tribe Public Safety and the Del Norte and Humboldt County sheriff offices will be responsible for the euthanasia of any dangerous, seriously wounded, injured or otherwise incapacitated wildlife and domestic animals, in accordance with all established laws and regulations as they pertain to human safety.
- b. All Yurok Tribe Public Safety officers will train in the use of non-lead ammunition through target practice prior to use in field operations, in order to ensure sufficient skill to accurately hit preferred target areas, including the head or neck. Animals should only be shot from a distance, judged by the responding officer, to be within their shooting ability to ensure an accurate shot. Public safety officers will be provided with non-lead ammunition for target practice in order to ensure sufficient skill to accurately euthanize the seriously wounded or dangerous animal. Officers will be required to train with non-lead ammunition at least twice annually during normal firearms qualifications.

VI. EQUIPMENT PROVISION AND STORAGE.

Yurok Tribe Public Safety officers will be provided with appropriate, non-lead handgun ammunition for use solely in the euthanasia of animals. Officers will be supplied with ammunition cases to be placed in field kits, specifically to be used for non-lead ammunition. A limited number of rounds will also be supplied to public safety officers for range use to become familiar with this ammunition and the ammunition's particular performance and to ensure adequate feeding and functioning of the ammunition in officer's duty sidearm. All surplus ammunition will be stored at the Yurok Tribe Public Safety Office in a secure manner.

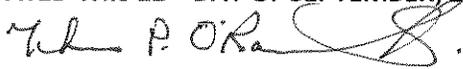
VII. SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Regulation is deemed invalid, said portion of the Regulation may be stricken or amended but under no circumstances shall the remaining portions of the Regulation be affected thereby.

C*E*R*T*I*F*I*C*A*T*I*O*N

THE FOREGOING REGULATION, ENTITLED THE Injured Wildlife and Domestic Animal Euthanasia Regulation, WAS PASSED AT A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE YUOK TRIBAL COUNCIL ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2011, AT WHICH A QUORUM WAS PRESENT AND THAT THIS REGULATION WAS APPROVED BY A VOTE OF 7 FOR, 0 OPPOSED, WITH 0 ABSTENTIONS

DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2011.



Thomas P. O'Rourke Sr.
Tribal Chairman

Attest

