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**Policy Decision Notice:**

**Title:**

Enhanced Wildlife Rehabilitation Program

**EBR Registry Number:** PB04E6022

**Ministry:** Ministry of Natural Resources

**Date Decision loaded to the Registry:**  
October 19, 2005

**Date Proposal loaded to the Registry:**  
December 15, 2004

**Decision on Policy:**

To proceed with the proposal as described, subject to the changes made below as a result of public consultation.

**Contact:**

Wildlife Section  
MNR Fish and Wildlife Branch  
5th Floor, North Tower, 300 Water Street  
Peterborough Ontario  
K9J 8M5  
Phone:  (705) 755-1940  
Fax: (705) 755-1900

**Comments Received on the Proposal: 196**

Public Consultation on the proposal for this decision was provided for 45 Days, from December 15, 2004 to January 29, 2005.

As a result of public consultation on the proposal, the Ministry received a total of 196 comments: 196 comments were received in writing and 0 were received online.

Additionally, a copy of all comments are available for public viewing by contacting the Contact person listed in this notice.

**Additional Information:**

**Effect(s) of Consultation on this Decision:**

The Ministry considered all input received during the EBR posting period and has incorporated many of the recommended changes into the wildlife rehabilitation program as follows:

**The documents linked below are provided for information purposes only**

All links will open in a new window

oe All rehabilitated immature wildlife outside a rabies High Risk Area (HRA) shall be released as close as possible to where it

1.  
<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/ebr/wildlif>

was found up to a maximum distance of 15 km. The maximum release distance for adult wildlife will remain at 1 km. [e\\_rehab/index.html](#)

2.

oe Rehabilitation of rabies vector species (RVS) (raccoon, skunks, foxes) will be permitted in the rabies HRA after an authorized custodian has completed mandatory RVS training. [http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/ebr/wildlife\\_rehab\\_fr/index.html](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/mnr/ebr/wildlife_rehab_fr/index.html)

oe All rehabilitated RVS wildlife inside a rabies HRA shall be released as close as possible to where it was found up to a maximum distance of 1km.

oe All rehabilitated immature non-RVS wildlife inside a rabies HRA shall be released as close as possible to where it was found up to a maximum distance of 15 km. The maximum release distance for adult non-RVS wildlife will remain at 1 km.

oe The proposal to restrict intake of RVS to within 50 km of a wildlife rehabilitation facility has been withdrawn.

oe Mandatory training for all wildlife custodians on the rehabilitation of RVS to begin January 2007. This new mandatory training will include bats as a RVS.

oe New basic skills course and exam for new applicants for a Wildlife Custodian Authorization.

oe Foster care individuals may continue to care for wildlife as an agent for their sponsor wildlife custodian.

oe Numerous other proposed conditions of authorization revised to respond to custodian concerns.

oe Implementation of the changes will be initiated on January 1, 2006. Some new conditions of authorization may require additional time and effort by custodians, and will be implemented January 1, 2007.

Below is the text of the proposal as it was first published.

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