Staff presented with a **WILD ANIMAL** species, hybrid, or question

Does your clinic have a **WILDLIFE POLICY**?

YES → **FOLLOW** clinic's **WILDLIFE POLICY** & update it as needed.

NO → This incident can help you create clinic's **WILDLIFE POLICY**.

DOCUMENT as much information as the Good Samaritan or owner can provide.

Is it **LEGAL** to treat this species or hybrid?

NO / **Don't Know** → CALL AUTHORITIES

YES →

Is the animal suffering from imminently **FATAL INJURIES** (ones that are not survivable)?

NO → Are you **KNOWLEDGEABLE** and **PREPARED** to treat this animal?

YES →

EMERGENCY EUTHANASIA METHODS

- AVMA Guidelines on Euthanasia
- AAZV Guidelines on Euthanasia of Nondomestic Animals

→ **CALL** appropriate authorities if required and **PROPERLY DISPOSE** of all remains (body, feathers, fur, claws, antlers, etc.).

Are you **KNOWLEDGEABLE** and **PREPARED** to treat this animal?

Does practice have trained / experienced staff, proper facilities / supplies, wildlife policy, etc.?

YES → Is the animal a **RESERVOIR** or **VECTOR SPECIES**? Do you suspect a **REPORTABLE**, **NOTIFIABLE**, or **ZOONOTIC** disease?

Consider – staff rabies vaccination and titer status; safety of clients, patients, staff, and public; proper personal protective equipment; etc.

YES → CALL AUTHORITIES

NO → **TREAT** the animal **APPROPRIATELY**.

Minimize animal distress, contact authorities if needed and not already done, complete / obtain any special documentation required, include official animal identification (band #, microchip, etc.) and owner permit # in records, need / feasibility of follow up, etc.

NO →

CALL/REFER

State Wildlife Management Agencies #_____

Licensed Rehabilitators #_____

Wildlife Referral Veterinary Clinic #_____

→ **PROVIDE BASIC MANAGEMENT** per directions received and staff's ability until transfer.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS

CALL AUTHORITIES

1. Contact your State wildlife management agency.
2. Additionally, for cases suspected of involving:
   a. **REPORTABLE** or **NOTIFIABLE DISEASES** – call your State Veterinarian and your state's USDA/APHIS/VS Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC).
   b. **NOTIFIABLE DISEASES** (e.g. rabies, plague, tularemia) of public health concern – call your local Public Health Department.

Contact Information

State wildlife management agency	#_____
Local / regional wildlife biologist	#_____
Local game warden	#_____
Local U.S. Fish & Wildlife agent	#_____
Local Animal Control Office	#_____
State Veterinarian	#_____
AVIC	#_____
Local Public Health Department	#_____
State Diagnostic Laboratory	#_____
Others	#_____

Additional Resources

Regional USFWS Permit Office:

- **Endangered Species** – Endangered Species Act, Endangered Species Resource Locator
- **Migratory Birds:** Code of Federal Regulations, USFWS Office
- **Bald & Golden Eagles:** National Eagle Repository, Q&A
- **Wildlife Carcasses / parts:** USFWS Office, Reporting Dead Wildlife

Marine Mammals: NOAA Fisheries Service Regional Offices

AVMA Policies and various State Laws

DISPOSAL OF REMAINS

- State wildlife management agency (local requirements and options)
- US Fish & Wildlife Services (endangered species, migratory birds, eagles, fresh water animals, etc.)
- NOAA Fisheries (marine animals – marine mammals, sea turtles, etc.)
- National Eagle Repository (Bald & Golden Eagles)
- Release to owner if legal to do so
- Animal Carcass Disposal (resources available to AVMA members only)

Determine the **APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION** of the animal.

Animal legal to own? Release to owner, rehab facility, sanctuary, agency, other – confirm with authorities. Provide client education, discharge instructions, etc.

SURVIVES → Determine the **APPROPRIATE DISPOSITION** of the animal.

DIES → **DISPOSAL OF REMAINS**