

ARS □ CSREES □ ERS □ NASS
Bulletin

Title: **Hunting on ARS Controlled Land**

Number: **05-151**

Date: **February 1, 2005**

Originating Office: **Facilities Division**

Distribution: **ARS Offices in Headquarters, Area, and Field Locations**

Expiration: **February 1, 2006**

This issuance provides policy, guidance and delegation of authority for hunting on land under the custody and control of ARS.

1. Policy.

It is the policy of ARS not to allow hunting on lands under the custody and control of ARS except at ARS locations with (1) a need for animal damage control or (2) an established tradition of allowing hunting and a strong local demand for access to ARS controlled land during hunting season.

2. Reference.

- a. 18 USC 930
- b. P&P 240.3, "Physical Protection, Security, and Conduct while on REE Facilities"
- c. Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Appropriation Act of 1986, Public Law 99-190.
- d. Departmental Regulation 1044-005

3. Possession of Firearms on Federal Real Property.

Reference a authorizes the possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in Federal facilities under the following conditions:

- a. The lawful performance of official duties by an officer, agent, or employee of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof, who is authorized by law to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of law;
- b. A Federal official or a member of the Armed Forces if such possession is authorized by law; or
- c. The lawful carrying of firearms or other dangerous weapons in a Federal facility incident to hunting or other lawful purposes.

Reference b prohibits the possession and use of firearms on ARS controlled property except in the performance of official duties or as outlined in this Bulletin.

4. Animal Damage Control.

Reference c established the Animal Damage Control program with USDA to control deer populations or other pests. The ADC program within USDA is managed by the Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Policy and procedures for possessing firearms for ADC have been established by APHIS, Wildlife Service - WS Directive 2.615, as revised.

5. Delegation of Authority.

The Area Directors have been delegated authority to approve hunting at locations within their Area in accordance with this policy.

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