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## Resolution 2006-02-03 Regarding Consultation with USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service on Proposed Rulemaking

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

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**Resolution 2006-02-03**

**REGARDING CONSULTATION WITH USDA - ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE ON PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)-Veterinary Services has broad statutory authority through the Animal Health Protection Act of 2002 to implement disease control and/or eradication actions for wildlife under certain conditions, and, specifically, in the case of an extraordinary disease emergency, the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture has broad and expansive authority to seize and dispose of any animal, including wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, any policy or rule adopted pursuant to this broad authority could significantly impact native and exotic wildlife species, and the states' ability to manage and regulate wildlife populations, including distribution and density, as well as its harvest as game.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-Veterinary Services consult with the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, and other federal agencies, prior to and during the development of any federal rules or policy related to disease control in wildlife in order to ensure that the interests and concerns of state wildlife agencies and other federal agencies are adequately addressed in the rule-making process and to ensure that state management authority over native and exotic wildlife is not diminished.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service-Veterinary Services recognize the authority, interests, and concerns of state fish and wildlife agencies and other federal agencies and include these agencies in the rule-making process.