



June 9th 2020

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Wildlife Services
4820 Route 711
Suite A
Bolivar, PA 15923
724-238-7320

The USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services, National Rabies Management Program (NRMP) will be conducting an Oral Rabies Vaccination (ORV) program for raccoons in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The ORV project will include the use of fixed wing-aircraft and helicopters to distribute baits. The fixed-wing distribution will occur over mostly rural areas while the helicopter distribution will occur over suburban/urban areas.



The NRMP will be utilizing agency-owned helicopters to distribute baits around the Greater Pittsburgh Area. The helicopters are Hughes OH-6 Cayuse and Airbus H120 helicopters with the following tail numbers: N5187Y, N332AB, and N58479, N250WH and N260WH. The aircraft are red with black stripes along the body. The helicopters will be flying terrain at approximately 200 feet above ground level

while distributing the ORV baits. The helicopter ORV operations will be based from the Beaver County Airport (BVI), Pennsylvania. The anticipated dates of the helicopter operations are August 10-17th, 2020. These dates could shift due to weather.



The NRMP has contracted with Dynamic Aviation for the use of five King Air A90 aircraft to distribute the ORV. The aircraft are white with thin red and blue stripes along the body of the aircraft. As of the date of this letter, the following tail numbers have been tasked for this operation: N7199H, N72L, N75N, N75V and N75Z. The aircraft will be flying VFR at approximately 500 feet above ground level while distributing

the ORV baits. The fixed-wing operations will be based from Youngstown Elser Metro Airport (4G4), Ohio, for areas north of Pittsburgh, and from Upshur County Airport (W22), West Virginia, for areas south of Pittsburgh. The anticipated dates of the operation are from August 15th – August 26th, 2020. These dates could change due to weather.

NRMP and WS pilots will coordinate all flight plans with Pittsburgh International Airport, Beaver Valley Airport, and the FAA prior to starting the project. Flight operations will occur daily from sunrise until sunset. The pilots will be in constant communication with Pittsburgh Air Traffic Control as well as other emergency agencies during this time.

If there are any questions regarding any of the ORV operations please contact Rabies Biologist Amy Hess at (office) 724-238-7320 or (cell) 724-554-0618.