

**Department of
Energy and Environmental Protection**

Public Act 11-80, effective July 1, 2011, established the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection as the successor agency to the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Public Utility Control, and the energy group within the Office of Policy and Management.

See next page for Directive content.

Department of
Environmental Protection

DIRECTIVE FORM

SUBJECT: PHEASANT DISTRIBUTION - GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR FALL STOCKING

1. The primary purpose of stocking pheasants during the hunting season is to provide hunting for the greatest number of sportsmen over the longest period of time.
 - a. Pheasants are to be used to supplement native game bird populations or to restock covers which have been depleted.
 - b. The covers stocked should primarily include regulated areas under Department control (state-owned, state-leased, permit-required). A limited number of birds will be allotted to "open" areas which are private, unposted parcels of suitable cover and which receive substantial pheasant hunting pressure. Birds allotted to regulated areas must not be stocked on "open" areas.
2. Liberations are to be made only on lands open to public hunting.
3. Pheasants should be released in accordance with distribution schedule and only on areas for which an allotment is made. Stocking of areas other than above must be only with approval of the Wildlife Bureau and/or District Wildlife Biologist.
4. PHEASANTS SHOULD BE RELEASED IN SMALL NUMBERS AT ANY ONE POINT.
 - a. Large numbers of birds released at one place are likely to remain together and provide hunting for only a small number of hunters over a short period of time.
 - b. Releases on any given area during any release period (approximately 7 days) should be made on two or more occasions. This is highly impractical for some but where pheasants can be released on a given area at least twice a week, you will find a more equitable harvest among sportsmen. The timing of releases to coincide with highest use days (Saturdays, Holidays) is especially important.

(MORE)

Issued by: *D. DeCarli*
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Distribution:
All Supervisors
Law Enforcement Personnel

Special Instructions: Replaces Manual Code 2471.1 D1, dated September 24, 1975

5. Large cornfields along edges of swales, heavy hay fields, weed patches, and grain plantings are especially suitable points for release. Other areas may be less ideal but if they are the best available they may have to be used; use discretion.
 - a. Suggestions from local sportsmen's clubs may be considered in regard to location of liberation points.
6. Prevent birds from flying too great a distance from the liberation point by releasing birds in heavy cover.
 - a. Liberations in large expanses of cover may be "flown" in without regard to distance and direction.
7. Pheasant stocking is privileged information and information should only be given to authorized persons.

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