

# Passive Relocation

## Important Facts

1.

**What is it?** Passive relocation is a process that manipulates the habitat of prairie dogs, causing them to move out of disputed areas **without handling the animal**. There are several methods, including the use of vegetation strategies (i.e. grazing, mowing, growing) and Reverse Dispersal Translocation (RDT), developed by Pam Wanek at Prairie Preserves LLC., shown in the diagrams below.

2.

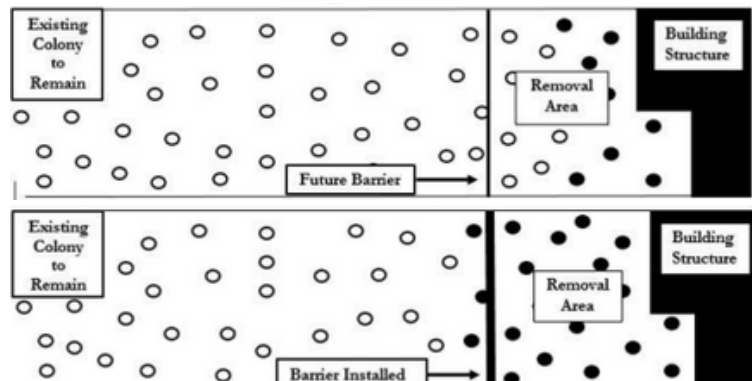
**Why should I use it?** Passive relocation can be an alternative to lethal control, especially if only a portion of a colony is in conflict, rather than the removal of an entire colony. Because the animals are not being handled, the permitting process is different than active translocation.

3.

**How do I implement it?** Successful passive relocation requires that burrows must be available within a reasonable distance of the original site to receive the prairie dogs that are moving. The process should ideally be performed in late summer or fall when populations are biologically lower and most active for greater success.

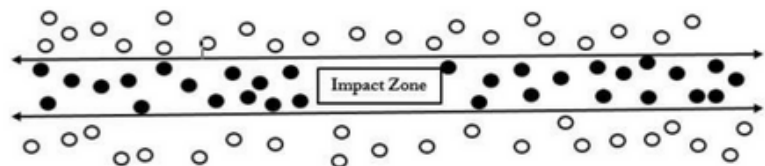
### The Roll Method with RDT

Prairie dogs are gradually “rolled” out of the conflict area and acclimated into the acceptable area. Rolling may require several stages. For large conflict areas, prairie dogs must be progressively rolled to discourage them from reopening originally closed burrows.



### Part the Sea Method with RDT

This method is for use during temporary impact projects such as construction. Close burrows within entire construction footprint. In some cases, a temporary barrier may need to be installed to keep prairie dogs away from the impact zone.



**Pro Tip!** Successful passive relocation requires seeing the site from the prairie dog’s point of view. Consider if there are a sufficient number of existing burrows in the adjacent colony and if the timing within the recommended window.