ANIMAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING TOOLKIT

A step-by-step guide to building an animal emergency plan and developing the necessary response capacity for your community.

AEMP
Animal Emergency Management Program

A program of the
Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation

DENVER URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVE
PREVENT. PROTECT. RESPOND. RECOVER.

A Training Tool Created in Partnership with

READYColorado

"Throughout the years Jefferson County has had to evacuate tens of thousands of people due to wildfires. We've learned that every time you move people, you move animals. In fact, many times folks won't leave without them, or they try and sneak back into an evacuated area to go get them. In each of these cases it becomes dangerous for citizens, law enforcement, and firefighters.

Animal evacuation teams are a huge resource.—they're trained, they're organized, and they do a fantastic job getting animals safely out of harm's way. In Jefferson County, we have incorporated an Animal Evacuation Branch into our County Incident Management Team. We realize the importance of having an immediate connection between the command post and the animal evacuation teams.

It is so much safer having everyone respond in a coordinated effort."

Tim McSherry
Director, Emergency Management
Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

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About this Toolkit

BACKGROUND

This toolkit will help emergency managers and community partners in Colorado counties to create an agreed upon framework for preparedness, response and recovery efforts related to the management of animals. Depending on the community, animals may fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Pets
- Livestock
- Working
- Service

Because each county and community have different needs, the intent of the toolkit is to help key stakeholders—emergency managers, partners, and citizens—work together through the suggested steps in order to formulate a useable plan that can quickly be put into action during emergency events.

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING

Having meetings and conversations with stakeholders is important to successful planning. It's important to not make assumptions about what different individuals need and want; involving others in planning allows you to directly interact with, and learn from, the people you may be working side-by-side with during an emergency. Communication and planning also maximizes resources and allows for successful outcomes.

Stakeholders you might include in plan development include:

- Veterinarians
- Animal Control
- Humane Societies
- Public Safety Officials
- Emergency Responders
- State and Local Regulatory Agency Staff
- Public Health Officials
- Agricultural Representatives
- American Red Cross Representatives
- County Office of Emergency Management Staff

Once created, the plan can be submitted to become part of your County's Emergency Response Plan.

"Planning for animals is an integral part of the emergency management process. Citizens are more likely to take steps to protect themselves when they know their pets will be cared for during a disaster."

Dave Hard, Director
Colorado Division of
Emergency Management

Overview of Emergency Response

WHY PLAN?

The animal-human bond is a strong one. Many people view their pets as members of the family. They have an expectation that their pets will be cared for during an emergency. If services are not available, pet owners may put themselves and first responders at risk by either refusing to evacuate or re-entering an evacuation zone to rescue their pet. To help address this issue, Congress passed the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Safety (PETS) Act in October 2006. It requires that states and local jurisdictions have a plan in place for household pets and service animals.

In some communities, resources operate informally to address animal needs often outside the incident command system. This can lead to confusion and interference with formal response operations. Additionally, volunteers acting on their own or informally could be liable for their actions. Colorado law requires that volunteers must be identified in the emergency operations plan and be properly trained and exercised to be eligible for liability protections.

WHO WILL RESPOND?

Organizations that have a mission to serve animals are often the best resources for animal emergency response. They have sheltering and animal handling skills and often have an existing network of volunteers. These organizations may be willing to volunteer for certain animal response activities during an emergency. Their staff and volunteers may need additional training and exercising on emergency response, but they bring knowledge of animals and an infrastructure that can support response efforts.

THE PLANNING PROCESS

This toolkit is a step-by-step guide to building an animal emergency plan and developing related response capacity for your community. By bringing together your community's animal resources, you will help assure that the required support will be available to meet your community's needs during an emergency event.

An animal emergency response plan is critically important. If one is not in place, pet owners and first responders may be a greater risk because of refusal to evacuate or trying to rescue animals in evacuation zones.

A coordinated and clearly planned response will help all involved to have successful outcomes.

Step One: Assess Risk

As with any emergency response, understanding the likelihood of certain events to occur is critical to planning. Identify those that are most likely to occur in your jurisdiction and will have the most impact on your community's animal and human population.

CHECKLIST OF HAZARDS

Check all that apply and add any that are not listed.

	Tornado
	Flood
	Blizzard
	Wildfire
	Blizzard
	Ice Storm
	Animal Disease
	Nuclear Radiological
	Hazardous Chemical
	Hail
	Terrorist
	Infrastructure Failure
	Mudslide
	Urban Fire
	Transportation Accident
	Earthquake
	Avalanche
	Volcanic Eruption
	Other:
	Other:
	Other:
	Other:

For more info...

- ✔ cvmf.org/aemp
- ✔ readycolorado.com
- ✔ ready.gov/caring-animals
- ✔ fema.gov/individual/animals.shtm

Step Two: Identify Animals

Identify the types of animals in your jurisdiction. Is there a critical mass of these types that will require services during an event? Don't forget to include animal facilities such as zoos, research laboratories, and sanctuaries.

CHECKLIST OF ANIMALS

Check all that apply and add any that are not listed.

Pets	
	Dogs
	Cats
	Birds
	Rabbits
	Fish
	Reptiles
	Small mammals
Livestock	
	Horses
	Pigs
	Sheep
	Goats
	Poultry
	Llamas/Alpacas
	Cattle
Wildlife	
Captive Wildlife	

Ask yourself...

- ✔ Do you have personnel available who are certified to handle wildlife?
- ✔ Does your community have backyard livestock?
- ✔ Does your community have commercial livestock?
- ✔ Have you considered animals in facilities such as zoos?

Step Three: Identify Services

Not every community will offer the same animal emergency response services. Identify those services that are most likely to be needed in your community.

CHECKLIST OF SERVICES

Check all that apply and add any that are not listed.

Evacuation	
	Small animal
	Large animal
Animal Search & Rescue	
	Small animal
	Large animal
Small Animal Sheltering	
	Existing facility
	Temporary facility
	Foster care
Large Animal Sheltering	
	Existing facility
	Temporary facility
	Foster care
Veterinary Services	
	Shelter
	Field
Other	

Ask yourself...

- ✔ To what extent will veterinary services be provided?
- ✔ What are your options for location hosting?
- ✔ Where are you going to put the animals?

Step Four: Identify Resources

Your community will have a unique combination of animal resources. Think "out of the box" as to what might be available to you. For example, dog mushers in one community became an animal evacuation team. They own vehicles that can carry multiple animals in separate compartments and they all have excellent animal handling skills.

CHECKLIST OF RESOURCES

Check all that apply and add any that are not listed.

Animal Control
Animal Day Care
Animal Protection

Examples of possible community resources:

- Animal Response Team
- Emergency management
- Law enforcement
- Animal control
- Veterinary professionals
- Cooperative Extension
- Animal shelter(s)
- Animal rescue organizations
- County fairgrounds
- Livestock associations
- Commercial livestock producers
- Public health
- Fire, EMS, SAR
- County mapping
- Zoos, wildlife organizations
- Wildlife Officers
- Kennels
- Brand Inspectors
- Animal related businesses
- Colleges, universities
- Research facilities
- Companion animal associations
- Others

Animal Rescue
Animal Trainers
Animal Welfare

Animal Fairgrounds
Brand Inspector
Extension/4-H
Horse Boarding Facilities

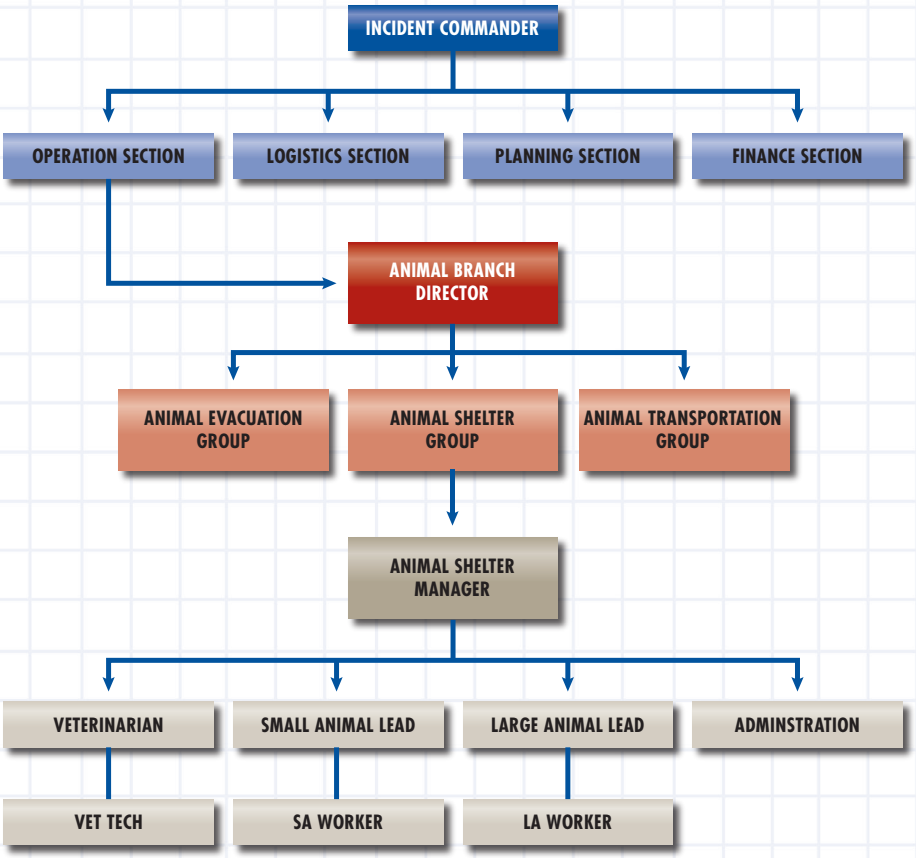
Kennels
Livestock Associations
Livestock Producers

Clinics
Wildlife Resources
Zoos
Other

Step Five: Identify Assignments

Now that you have determined which animal response services your community will provide and what your community's resources are determine what resources will provide which service. Remember that an organization can provide more than one service. These assignments will be built into your plan and should include reference to who is serving as the lead and who is providing support.

SAMPLE INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM FOR ANIMAL RESPONSE



Create a "call down" list (see Appendix A). Develop appropriate Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with your organizations that outlines roles and responsibilities as they related to animal emergency response.

Fill out the **Concept of Operations** on the next page.

CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

SUMMARY MATRIX FOR _____COUNTY

Identify the function of each agency by marking one of the following letters: L = Lead organization U = Unified Lead S = Supporting	FUNCTIONS																	
	Rapid needs assessment	Evacuation/transportation: Livestock	Evacuation/transportation: Companion and other animals	Sheltering: Livestock	Sheltering: Companion/other animals	Animal food and water	Animal control/stray management	Animal search and rescue	Wildlife management	Veterinary Medical Care	Animal decontamination	Animal disease management	Animal mortality management	Animal/owner reunion and recovery	Volunteer and donations management	Communication/public information	Training and exercises	Preparedness outreach
AGENCIES																		
Emergency Management																		
EOC[1] Donations Mgmt. Team																		
American Red Cross, local																		
Animal Control																		
Animal Shelter																		
Rescue group(s)																		
ARES[2] (HAM radio)																		
Boarding Kennels																		
Business Community																		
CERT[3] (potential roles)																		
County Fairgrounds																		
CSU Cooperative Extension																		
CO Divison of Wildlife																		
CO Department of Agriculture																		
CO Brand Inpsector																		
Equestrian associations																		
Fire Department(s)																		
Environmental health/land fill																		
Law enforcement/sheriff																		
Livestock association(s) and individual producers																		
Joint Information Center/PIO4																		
Mapping/GIS[5]																		
Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)																		
Public Health local																		
Public Works/facilities																		
Search & Rescue																		
Veterinary Community																		
VOAD[6] or equivalent orgs																		
Wildlife organizations (local)																		
Zoos																		

[1]EOC = Emergency Operations Center, [2]ARES = Amateur Radio Emergency System, [3]CERT = Community Emergency Response Team, [4]PIO = Public Information Officer, [5]GIS = Geographic Information Systems, [6]VOAD = Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

Step Six: Identify Equipment and Supplies

In addition to personnel, it is important to identify what equipment and supplies you will need. Many of these items may already be available through your volunteer organizations and private citizens. You can access word documents electronically at www.cvmf.org/animaltoolkit for you to complete and detail the potential animal response equipment and supplies you will need. For a comprehensive equipment and supply list see Appendices B-E.

Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG), State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and the Citizen Corps Program (CCP) are all potential public funding sources for the purchase of equipment and supplies. Private foundation grants also may support these types of requests.

Resource:	**Animal Protection: Animal Response General Supplies**			
Category:	**Animals and Agriculture Issues: Companion Animals and Non-Commercial Livestock**			
Contact Information:				
Component	**ITEM**	**Quantity**	**Location**	**Comment**
Disposables	Barricade Tape			
	Batteries			
	Biohazard Bags			
	Bleach			
	Dawn Dishwashing Liquid			
	Duct Tape			
	Ear Plugs			
	Electrical Tape			
	First Aid Kit			
	Garbage Bags			
	Hand Sanitizer			
	Kleenex Tissues			
	Newspaper/Butcher Paper			
	Nylon Ties			
	Paper Towels			
	Rags			
	Scrub Brush			
	Shelter Disinfectant			
	Squirt Bottle			
	Sponge			
	3M Pad			
	Wire roll			
	Ziploc Bags			
Equipment/Hardware	Broom			
	Bucket			
	Bulk Plastic Sheeting (for under cages/kennels)			
	Bulk Water Container			
	Bungee Cord			
	Can Opener			
	Cell Phone			
	Chair			

For a list of preparedness, planning and training resources, visit www.cvmf.org/aemp

Step Seven: Determine Training and Exercises

There is no required training program for animal emergency responders. However, it is recommended that at a minimum all responders complete FEMA ICS 100 and NIMS 700. Additionally, the Community Animal Response Team (CART) training, offered by the Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation is available in seminar, webinar or on-line format (www.coaemp.org/cart) at no charge. It is strongly suggested that volunteers complete this introductory training.

Additional animal disaster response courses have been approved by FEMA and are eligible for funding. A number of national animal response groups also provide training.

Step Eight: Meet with Partners

Include your community partners in the planning process. As the subject matter experts on animal services, their insight will be valuable. Animal emergency response is unique in that it relies primarily on volunteers, whether they are organizations or individuals, to achieve its mission. If the American Red Cross is the primary provider of human shelter services, invite them to the table to discuss how co-located animal and human shelters can work.

Like human services, animal emergency services are most likely to be needed by the vulnerable members of your community. Be sure to include representatives of organizations who are most closely connected to serving these populations, particularly if the neighborhoods are susceptible to hazards.

Step Nine: Complete Your Animal Response Annex

Now that you have identified the key players in animal response and the services you plan to provide, review the annex provided in Appendix F. If this annex does not meet your needs, take a look at the plans that other counties in your area have created or draft your own. There is no perfect plan. Your plan should reflect your community's needs and resources to address the most likely hazards in your area.

By using the annex provided in this workbook as a guide, you and your community partners will be sure to create the necessary procedures for an effective animal response including:

- Organization and assignment of responsibilities
- How resources will be mobilized
- Communication procedures

Continued on next page

- Distribution of public information
- How an animal needs assessment will be conducted
- Policies and procedures for the delivery of services
- Credentialing
- Forms
- Training requirements
- Shelter locations

Step Ten: Educate the Community

All hazard animal preparedness is a critical component of animal response. The more citizens are prepared to take care of themselves and their animals during an emergency event, the greater the ability of disaster responders to target critical community resources to help those who have special needs or are more severely impacted by the disaster.

It is crucial to understand that "one size does NOT fit all" when it comes to preparedness messaging. Likewise, how the message can be effectively communicated can vary depending on your target population. Discuss with your community partners about how animal preparedness should be addressed in your community.

Colorado already has pet and livestock preparedness brochures, in English and Spanish, which can be a component of your community's animal preparedness campaign. The more your citizens are prepared for themselves and their pets, the less likely they are to need services during an emergency event.

Find educational materials and information about pet and livestock preparedness at readycolorado.com. Click on "Get Materials" and then "Brochures and Handouts."

APPENDICES

You can access word documents electronically at www.cvmf.org/animaltoolkit for the appendices provided on the following pages:

APPENDIX A: COMMUNICATIONS AND CALL DOWN LIST
APPENDIX B: ANIMAL RESPONSE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES
APPENDIX C: SMALL ANIMAL SHELTERING
APPENDIX D: LARGE ANIMAL SHELTERING
APPENDIX E: ANIMAL SEARCH AND RESCUE
APPENDIX F: ANNEX

The ANNEX document can be completed using the worksheets and planning materials from the ten steps covered in the toolkit. Add or subtract content as needed from the annex word document to create your customized plan which you can then submit to your County.

APPENDIX A: COMMUNICATIONS AND CALL DOWN LIST

FUNCTION	Name	Phone Number	Alt Number
Animal Branch Director			
Animal Shelter Manager			
Veterinarian			
Veterinary Technician			
Small Animal Evacuation Team Leader			
Small Animal Sheltering Team Leader			

Add or subtract rows to meet your needs under each category.

APPENDIX A: COMMUNICATIONS AND CALL DOWN LIST

FUNCTION	Name	Phone Number	Alt Number
Large Animal Evacuation Team Leader			
Large Animal Sheltering Team Leader			
Animal Search and Rescue Team Leader			
Small Animal Shelter Worker			
Large Animal Shelter Worker			

Add or subtract rows to meet your needs under each category.

FUNCTION	Name	Phone Number	Alt Number
Large Animal Evacuation Worker			
Search and Rescue Worker			
Transportation			
Administration			
Safety			

Add or subtract rows to meet your needs under each category.

RESOURCE:	ANIMAL PROTECTION: ANIMAL RESPONSE GENERAL SUPPLIES			
CATEGORY:	ANIMALS AND AGRICULTURE ISSUES: COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK			
CONTACT INFORMATION:				
COMPONENT	ITEM	QUANTITY	LOCATION	COMMENT
DISPOSABLES	Barricade Tape			
	Batteries			
	Biohazard Bags			
	Bleach			
	Dawn Dishwashing Liquid			
	Duct Tape			
	Ear Plugs			
	Electrical Tape			
	First Aid Kit			
	Garbage Bags			
	Hand Sanitizer			
	Kleenex Tissues			
	Newspaper/Butcher Paper			
	Nylon Ties			

								With or without stand								
Copier	Digital Camera	Dust Pan	Electric Fan	Extension Cord	Flashlight	Freezer/Cooler	Generator	Halogen Work Light	Hand Truck	Hose	Hose Adapter	Laptop	Large canopy or tent	Memory Card	Mister	Mop	Pallet

		FRS	Frequency or band														
Power Tools	Printer	Radio (portable)	Radio (Two Way)	Rake	Shovel	Space Heater	Squeegee	Shovel	Surge Protector	Table	Tarp (sun shading)	Tarp (under cages, kennels)	Trash Can	Utility Rope	Wheelbarrow	White Board	Wooden Stakes

Other	Other	Other	Clipboard	Colored Dots	Copy Paper	Easel	File Boxes	File Folders	Highlighter	Hole Punch	Labels	Lined Pad	Magic Markers	Paper Clips	Pens	Photo Paper	Plastic Sheet Protector
			Office Supplies														

RESOURCE:	ANIMAL PROTECTION: SMALL ANIMAL SHELTERING						
CATEGORY:	ANIMALS AND AGRICULTURE ISSUES: COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK			ORGANIZATION:			
CONTACT INFORMATION:							
COMPONENT	TYPE	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	LOCATION	COMMENT	STATUS
ANIMAL CONTAINMENT	Airline Carrier	40” X 27” X 30”	XX Large				
	Airline Carrier	36” X 25” X 27”	X Large				
	Airline Carrier	28” X 20” X 21”	Large				
	Airline Carrier	26” X 18” X 18”	Medium				
	Airline Carrier	24” X 16” X 15”	Small				
	Airline Carrier	20” X 13” X 11”	X Small				
	Aquarium						
	Bird Cage						
	Ferret Cage						
	Heat Lamp						
	Heat Rocks						
	Heating Pad						

			Chain link				Rear door	No rear door	Rear door	Rear door	Rear door	Rear door	Rear door	
								Small mammal	Cat	Raccoon/Cat/ Small Dog	Medium Dog	Large Dog	X large dog	
Lights	Mesh Cover	Modular Kennel Panel	Portable Run	Rabbit Hutch	Squeeze Panel	Terrarium	Transfer Cage	Trap	Trap	Trap	Trap	Trap	Trap	Trap
							20" X 11" X 12"	24" X 8" X 7"	30" X 9" X 11"	36" X 12" X 14"	42" X 17" X 24"	48" X 20" X 26"	60" X 22" X 28"	

Wire Cage	48" x 30" x 33" (W X L X H)	Folding											
Wire Cage	42" x 28" x 30"	Folding											
Wire Cage	36" x 23" x 25"	Folding											
Wire Cage	30" x 19" x 21"	Folding											
Wire Cage	24" x 18" x 19"	Folding											
Wire Cage	22" x 13" x 16"	Folding											
Wire Cage	18" x 12" x 14"	Folding											
Wire Cage													
Wire Pens		no top or bottom											
ANIMAL CAPTURE AND HANDLING	Cable Leashes												Coated cable or heavy
Cat Bag													
Chemical Capture Equipment													
Clip Leash													
Graspers													

			Extendable												
nylon				Flexible plastic with leash end											
	3 ft	6 ft	7 ft – 12 ft	4”	Slip Lead	Snappy Snare	Squeeze Bag	Squeeze cage	Other	Other	Other	Hoop Bag	Snake Bag	Snake Hook	Snake Tongs
	Ketch Pole	Ketch Pole	Ketch Pole	Leash Pole								**SNAKE EQUIPMENT**			

Other	Other	Other	Drawstring Net	Freeman Net	Large Mesh Net	Long Handled Net	Net Gun	Small Mesh Net	Throw Net	Other	Other	Other	Gauntlet Gloves	Leather Gloves
			NETS										**GLOVES**	

Nitrile Gloves	Rabies Gloves	Talon Gloves	Other	Other	Other	**Muzzles** Cage Muzzle	Cat Muzzle	Cloth Muzzle	Quick Muzzle	Other	Other	Other	**Animal Identification** Collar and ID Tag	ID Band	Microchip Scanner

Microchips	Other	Other	Other	Bedding	Blankets	Cat Litter	Cat Litter Box	Cat Litter Scoops	Crematorium	Disposable Cage Pad	Food Tray	Grooming Supplies	Pooper Scooper	Towels
				ANIMAL SUPPLIES										

Wash Tub	Water Bottle	Water Bowl	Other	Other	Other	Cloth Coverall	Foot Covers	Latex/Nitrile Gloves	N-95 Mask	Reflective Safety Vest	Rubber Boots	Safety Goggle	Surgical Mask	Tyvek Coverall	Waders or Waist Boots
						PPE									

Other	Other	Other	Exam Table	Medical Cache	Stretcher	Vaccines	Veterinary First Aid Kit	Other	Other	Other	ACO Vehicle	Ambulance	ATV	Big Rig	Mobile Clinic
			Veterinary Supplies								**Vehicles**				

Mobile Kennel	Panel Truck	Trailer (Large Animal)	Trailer (Utility)	Van	Other	Other	Other

RESOURCE:	ANIMAL PROTECTION: LARGE ANIMAL SHELTERING						
CATEGORY:	ANIMALS AND AGRICULTURE ISSUES: COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK			ORGANIZATION:			
CONTACT INFORMATION:							
COMPONENT	TYPE	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	LOCATION	COMMENT	STATUS
ANIMAL CONTAINMENT	Barns						
	Corrals						
	Electric Fence						
	Fence Panels						
	Plywood						
	Snow Fence						
	T-Posts						
	Other						
	Other						
	Other						
LARGE EQUIPMENT	ATV						

Bobcat	Cattle Truck	Flat bed Trailer	Forklift	Front End Loader	Loading Chute	Horse Trailer	Snow plow	Tractor	Other	Other	Other	Anderson Sling	Halters	Lassos	Lead Ropes
												ANIMAL CAPTURE AND HALTERING			

Pig Board	Twitch	Wagon	Webbing	Other	Other	Other	Grease Pens/ Livestock Crayons	Microchips	Neck Banding	Paint	Scanners	Other	Other	Other	Bedding/Straw
							Animal Identification								**Animal Supplies**

Blanket	Feed Bins	Grain	Grooming Supplies	Hay	Hay Nets	Tank Heaters	Towels	Trough	Utility Rope	Other	Other	Other	Cloth Coverall	Foot Covers	Latex/Nitrile Gloves
													PPE		

Other	Other	Other	ACO Vehicle	Ambulance	Big Rig	Mobile Clinic	Panel Truck	Trailer	Van	Other	Other	Other
			VEHICLES									

RESOURCE:	ANIMAL PROTECTION: SEARCH AND RESCUE						
CATEGORY:	ANIMALS AND AGRICULTURE ISSUES: COMPANION ANIMALS AND NON-COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK			ORGANIZATION:			
CONTACT INFORMATION:							
COMPONENT	TYPE	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	LOCATION	COMMENT	STATUS
BOAT GEAR	Anchor and Line						
	Air Horn						
	Boat						
	Boat Ladder						
	Buoy Throw					With floating rope	
	Dry Suit						
	Flares						
	Floatation Device					With floating rope	
	Gas Can					Full	
	Grappling Hook						
	Helmet					Water or climbing	

				Rescue with safety hook								NFPA Approved
Large Pole Net	Mooring Line	Oars	Throw Bag	USCG Approved PFD	Other	Other	Other	Bandana	Emergency Scanner	Fireproof Gloves	Fire Shelter	Hazmat Protective Jacket and Pants
								FIRE GEAR				

			N95										
Helmet	NWCG Incident Response Guide	Protective Eye Wear	Ventilator Mask	Walking Stick	Other	Other	Other	**GENERAL GEAR** Animal First Aid Kit	Animal Traps	Binoculars	Bite Gloves	Body Bags	Cable Noose

Carriers	Cat Bags	Compass	Field Intake Cards	Folding Lock Knife	Food Incentives (Treats)	Garbage bags (dark)	Hazmat waterproof gloves	Hazmat jackets	Human First Aid Kit	Ladder	LDS Flashlight

			Nitrile, Latex										
Leather Gloves	Maps	Muzzle	Plastic Gloves (disposable)	Pike Pole	Pole Net	Protective Goggles	Reflective vest	Shovels	Slip Leads	Snake Tongs	Storm Alert Radio	Toss Catch Net	Towels

							Multiple sizes or adjustable									
Tyvek Suits with Booties	Vehicle Signage	Waterproof Hat	Whistle	Other	Other	Other	Halter	Lead Rope (cotton)	Plastic Snow Fence	Rescue Straps	Stock Panels	Thin diameter ropes	Webbing	Other	Other	Other
							LARGE ANIMAL GEAR									

_____ County Animal Emergency Response Annex

(Date) _____

This plan provides a collaborative framework for prevention, protection, preparedness, response and recovery efforts related to management of companion animals, livestock, and other animals during emergency events and was developed in partnership with the Colorado's North Central Region/ Denver UASI Animal Emergency Committee.

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Note: This Table of Contents reflects the pagintion of the word document template that is provided online at www.www.cvmf.org/animaltoolkit for you to use to build your Annex. Final page numbers will vary based on the content you enter and the sections you include.

_____ County

Animal Emergency Response Annex

I. Purpose

This plan provides a collaborative framework for prevention, protection, preparedness, response and recovery efforts related to management of companion animals, livestock, and other animals during emergency events.

II. _____ is the Lead Agency that _____ County will contact to request that the Animal Emergency Response plan is activated.

III. Support Agencies

Agency Name	Contact Name	Contact Cell Number

IV. Scope

This plan addresses emergency management issues for _____ County related to companion, service/assistance animals, police or search and rescue animals, non-native captive wildlife, native wildlife, livestock, and other animal species.

V. Situation

- **Authorities:**
  - _____(Cite local statutory authorities)
  - Colorado Disaster Emergency Act, 24-32-21creates the Colorado Division of Emergency Management and 24-32-2107 charges each political subdivision with creation of a local emergency management agency.
  - The Colorado Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry, has statutory authority related to animal health (State Veterinarian 35-50), in the prevention of animal cruelty and neglect (Colorado Bureau of Animal Protection, 35-42), the

regulation of companion animal industry (Pet Animal Care Facilities Act, 35-80) and the supervision of branded livestock identification, movement and ownership issues (Colorado Brand Board, 35-41).
    - The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (multiple sections under Title 25, CRS) has authorities related to public health that will intersect with animal health and local jurisdictional public health authorities.

- **Activation:**
  If in the event of an emergency or evacuation the _____ will assess whether a shelter need to be established. This decision will be based on size of evacuated area, number of homes in the area, and the anticipated length of evacuation. If a shelter is required the _____ will contact the Lead Agency to open the shelter. Information provided will be:
    - Evacuated area
    - Number of homes
    - Anticipated population to be evacuated

The Lead Agency will contact _____ Animal Response Team members and members will report to their designated location with the appropriate clothing, supplies and equipment.

VI. Planning Assumptions

- Prioritized concerns for emergency management include:
    1. Life safety for people
    2. Protection of property (with animals considered by many families and individuals as their highest property priority)
    3. Protection of the environment
- Inability to evacuate animals is a leading cause of evacuation failure in disasters.
- Failure to evacuate may both endanger citizens and the emergency responders who attempt to protect those citizens.
- The American's Disabilities Act mandate that service animals must be treated as an extension of a disabled person and must receive all needed services.
- Consideration for the care of search and rescue and law enforcement animals should be incorporated into emergency plans.
- While most owners of pets and livestock will take reasonable steps evacuate, shelter and provide for their animals, others cannot or will not take adequate actions for the protection of their animals due to, for example, special needs, senior citizen issues, limited mobility, large numbers of animals in their possession, language or cultural barriers.
- Some state agencies such as Colorado Division of Wildlife or Colorado Department of Agriculture may have certain statutory responsibilities and local emergency plans must be executed in cooperation with those agencies.
- Animal populations should be estimated for each jurisdiction.
    - The average number of households with companion animals is approximately 60%. The number of dogs, cats, and pet birds is approximately 2.5 per household in suburban areas and as low as 2.0 per household in high density urban neighborhoods.

- Other pets are harder to calculate but will include significant number of rabbits, rodents, ferrets, reptiles (snakes, lizards and turtles), amphibians, fish and other species.
- Zoological parks and wildlife sanctuaries may be present within local communities and should be considered in the planning process.
- Livestock: CSU cooperative extension should be helpful in estimating the numbers of equids (horses, ponies, mules and donkeys), Camelids (llamas, alpacas and vicunas), poultry, "backyard/non-commercial" livestock, and commercial livestock each your jurisdiction.

VII. Concept of Operations

- _____ Animal Response Team
  - The _____ Animal Response Team (Team) is a network of community animal agencies, organizations, businesses and volunteers organized to assist the county/community/region in addressing animal issues during emergencies. The Team will assist the county through:
    - Planning assistance
    - Acquisition of equipment and supplies
    - Training
    - Participation in exercises
    - Community preparedness outreach
    - Response
    - Recovery
  - _____ (e.g. County Animal Control) will serve as the lead agency in the development and supervision of the Team and serve as the primary contact for Team network resources by the local emergency operations center and incident command.
  - The _____ Team will coordinate with other Animal Response Teams with the _____ Homeland Security Region and the Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation's Animal Emergency Management Program (AEMP) concerning planning, training, outreach and resource mobilization.
- Command and management:
  - Incident command: All animal response resources will be mobilized into the incident command system authorized for response to the event. Self-deployment of unauthorized resources will not be allowed as part of this plan.
  - Multi-agency Coordination: Community animal resources will be coordinated through the Team liaison to the county emergency operations center in accordance with this plan.
- Communications
  - The County emergency operations center (EOC) will include a Team liaison when animal issues are a significant element of an emergency.
  - The lead agency will coordinate with incident command, county agencies:
    - Appropriate radio communications as necessary with Team response groups during an incident.
    - Appropriate telephone, Internet, or direct communications with Team support groups (sheltering, etc.)

- Team affiliated organizations will maintain appropriate contact with incident command and the county EOC through the lead agency.

- Public information and warning pertaining to animal issues
  - All incident information will be communicated to the public through the Joint Information Center (JIC) in coordination with both the Incident Command and County Emergency Operations Center
  - Individual organizations may communicate organizational information to the public directly (contact, mission, etc.) and but information concerning public instructions, incident updates and public resource requests must be managed through the JIC.

VIII. Animal Mission Essential Tasks

Refer to the Summary Matrix on page 12 to identify lead and support entities for each mission area.

1. *Rapid needs assessment:* _____
   a. After an incident, animal care and production resources must be assessed for damage, including:
      i. Veterinary hospitals
      ii. Animal shelters
      iii. Livestock production and market facilities
      iv. Wildlife facilities
      v. Feed, agricultural supply, kennel, retail and other support facilities
   b. The Team network, with CSU Cooperative Extension acting as the lead entity, will develop and maintain a damage assessment team familiar with county animal infrastructure to assist the county EOC in obtaining damage assessments.

Identify damage assessment team.

2. *Animal evacuation and transportation:*_____
   a. Public transportation will allow service animals to be transported with their owners during an evacuation.
   b. When possible, the dispatch for companion animal transport should be coordinated with dispatch for human transport in order for animals to be evacuated to the same locations as their owners.
   c. Animal transportation resources should be mobilized, provided identification and staged to an appropriate location to support the movement of companion animals and livestock.

Identify lead and support entities for animal evacuation and transportation.

3. *Animal sheltering:* _____
   a. Emergency shelters for citizens will provide sheltering services for service animals in the possession of disabled persons.
   b. The Team will identify potential animal sheltering locations, including:
      i. Animal sheltering locations in proximity to human sheltering locations that will enable owners to help care for their own animals.
      ii. Existing animal housing facilities that might be used during a disaster (animal shelters, kennels, veterinary hospitals, etc.)
      iii. Additional facilities that might be used for sheltering livestock and companion animals (fairgrounds, warehouses, etc.)
   c. Team will acquire needed equipment and supplies for emergency animal sheltering and provide necessary training for Team personnel.

4. *Animal food and water:* _____
    a. Providing animal feed and water to pets, livestock and other animal populations sheltering in place in areas impacted by a disaster.

5. *Animal control/stray management:* _____
    a. Basic animal control functions should be maintained during disasters to the extent possible. Such functions include:
        i. Responding to public reports related to stray animals or animal problems
        ii. Animal bites
        iii. Collection of stray animals

Identify lead and support entities for animal control/ stray management.

6. *Animal search and rescue:* _____
    a. Animal search and rescue (ASAR) must be coordinated with urban search and rescue teams (USAR) and law enforcement.
    b. Only qualified and credentialed Team personnel should be allowed to enter the disaster site to perform animal search and rescue operations
    c. Animal search and rescue personnel will need to support USAR efforts, allowing rescued people to evacuate their animals.
    d. Technical animal rescue (TAR) is defined as utilizing special equipment and techniques to extract animals (including livestock) from hazardous circumstances such as vehicular accidents, swift water, flood water, ice, collapsed buildings and other difficult situations. TAR teams should be fully trained and equipped. TAR teams may need to be mobilized from outside the community if no TAR trained personnel exist in the county.

Identify lead and support entities for animal search and rescue (if applicable).

7. *Wildlife management:* _____
    a. Wildlife issues are under the statutory authority of the Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW).
    b. Local jurisdictional authorities and Team should coordinate with DOW on the management of wildlife issues during disasters.
    c. If the community contains zoos, wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife exhibition facilities or wildlife rehabilitation facilities, those entities should coordinate with DOW and the Team on emergency issues.

Identify lead and support entities for wildlife management.

8. *Veterinary medical care and services will be needed for the following:*
    a. Care of injured or ill animals- _____
    b. Triage of animals recovered during animal search and rescue operations- _____
    c. Veterinary care and infection control programs at animal sheltering sites- _____
    d. Coordination with public health on zoonotic disease management- _____
    e. Animal disease management

Identify lead and support entities for veterinary medical services.

9. *Animal decontamination capabilities:* _____
    a. Citizen decontamination is needed and companion animals accompany those citizens.
    b. ASAR teams remove animals from a hazardous site

Identify lead and support entities for animal decontamination.

c. Animal disease management requires decontamination of animals prior to movement

10. Animal disease management: _____

a. Animal disease management may include emergencies involving foreign animal disease (economically significant animal diseases not found in the USA) or zoonotic disease (infecting both people and animals).
b. Animal disease management may involve multiple authorities, including federal, state and local jurisdictions.
c. Sub-tasks within animal disease management include:
   i. Clinical diagnosis and laboratory confirmation
   ii. Quarantine/enforcement
   iii. Surveillance
   iv. Epidemiology (tracing back and forward)
   v. Appraisal and government indemnity payments
   vi. Mortality management
   vii. Decontamination
   viii. Movement permits and compliance agreements
   ix. Bio-security and producer education
   x. Mental health support for citizens impacted emotionally and economically
   xi. Public outreach
   xii. Repopulation and recovery

Identify lead and support entities for animal disease management.

11. Animal mortality management: _____

a. Mortality management may include:
   i. Euthanasia or injured or diseased animals or animals exposed to foreign animal diseases.
   ii. Management of carcasses of dead animals secondary to disease or disaster

Identify lead and support entities for mortality management.

12. Animal/owner reunion and recovery: _____

a. Identification and tracking systems for displaced animals
b. Lost and found data management, including Web-based information when needed
c. Transportation of pets and livestock to their original locations
d. Team participation in long-term recovery efforts and un-met needs committee

Identify lead and support entities for reuinion and recovery.

IX. Volunteer, Resource and Donations Management Pertaining to Animal Response

1. Volunteer management

a. The Team lead agency shall be responsible for developing a volunteer management system in cooperation with the County Emergency Manager.

(Note: in some counties, Teams have direct volunteer supervision roles and in other counties, the Team is a network of agencies and organizations and volunteers are affiliated with the participating organizations rather than with the lead agency.)

b. Mobilization: Team affiliated volunteers will be mobilized through a request to the Team lead agency through incident command or the _____County EOC.
c. Self-mobilization of volunteers without such a request will not be allowed.

d. Section on workers compensation: The following issues should be discussed with the local emergency management agency and elected officials.

2. *Pre-credentialing and training standards*
   a. These training standards will be applicable to:
      i. Volunteers affiliated with Team directly
      ii. Supervisory personnel from affiliated organizations that may be supervising Team volunteers during emergency situations.
      iii. Volunteers that want to be available for mobilization to another jurisdiction through the Colorado Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps (COVMRC) and inter-jurisdictional mutual aid agreements.
   b. Volunteers used by individual organizations for services provided normally by those organizations (e.g. regular volunteers for an animal shelter providing animal sheltering for that organization) are not subject to these training standards.
   c. Team basic training standards will include:
      i. IS-100 Incident Command Systems
      ii. IS-700 National Incident Management System
   d. Community Animal Response Introductory Training: A one-day awareness level training available through AEMP.
   e. Additional training recommended for supervisory personnel includes:
      i. IS-10 and IS-11: FEMA Animal in Disaster independent study modules
      ii. IS-111: Livestock in Disasters (FEMA Independent Study)
      iii. IS-200: Incident Command System

3. *Resource management*
   a. The Team will compile a list and contact information for county animal and agricultural resources. This list will help provide information on available resources as well as an inventory of resources that need to be evaluated during damage assessment operations.
   b. Any animal or agricultural resources that can be typed using NIMS resource typing standards should be entered into Colorado Connect through the local emergency management agency.
   c. Additional resources that are not "typed" should be listed separately in a manner useful to the Team liaison at the local EOC.
   d. During emergencies, requests for additional resources should be routed through:
      i. Incident command
      ii. Local EOC
      iii. AEMP

4. *Donations management*
   a. All requests for donations by the Team or Team affiliated organizations will be processed through the Donations Management Team at the county EOC.
   b. All public information releases requesting donations should be routed through the Joint Information Center and coordinated with both the incident command and county EOC.

Questions:

- Will the county provide workers compensation/ volunteer injury coverage for Team volunteers?
- If not, will Team volunteers be asked to sign a release acknowledging this lack of coverage and agreeing that they are responsible for their own injury/disability protection?

Questions:

- Will Team volunteers be required to sign an agreement undergo a criminal background check?
- Will the county issue credentials for identificaiton as a Team responder?

Identify those responsible for entering resources into Connect Colorado.

X. Preparedness

Public outreach

I. Citizen preparedness
- Citizen preparedness outreach activities for the county should include messages encouraging owners to include pets and livestock within their family emergency plan.
- The Team should coordinate outreach actions with local emergency management, local chapters of the American Red Cross and messages from other voluntary organizations.

II. Business contingency planning for animal and agricultural facilities
- Team affiliated organizations that operate animal facilities will develop basic business emergency contingency plans for those facilities, including evacuation, shelter in place, and basic business continuity elements.
- The Team should encourage all animal and agricultural facilities within the county do develop basic business emergency plans.
- The Team should identify high risk facilities such as zoos, wildlife sanctuaries, research facilities with laboratories, large agricultural production operations, and large boarding facilities for pets/horses. Whenever possible, plans for such facilities should be coordinated with the County Animal Emergency annex and such plans considered when doing a rapid needs assessment after an incident.

Training and exercises

1. The _____ Animal Response Team and affiliated organizations should provide periodic training for individual volunteers and organizations.
2. The _____ Animal Response Team will be asked by emergency management to participate in all appropriate emergency training and exercises.
3. The lead agency will work to ensure that Team representatives are present at all appropriate planning meetings and emergency exercises.

XI. Review and Modification: This plan will be reviewed by emergency management and the Team on an annual basis.

A Training Tool Created in Partnership with

READYColorado

AEMP

Animal Emergency Management Program

A program of the Colorado Veterinary Medical Foundation

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