

## ANNEX 17 (ESF-17)

### ANIMAL/AGRICULTURE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

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PRIMARY: Clemson University Livestock-Poultry Health (CULPH)

SUPPORT: Clemson University Regulatory Services (CURS); Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service (CUCES); SC Association of Veterinarians (SCAV); SC Animal Care and Control Association (SCACCA); South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA); Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC); Clemson Experiment Station (CES); Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division and Land, Water and Conservation Division; SC Forestry Commission (SCFC); SC National Guard; Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing (LLR); SC Farm Bureau Federation

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- A. A disaster may adversely affect both the multi-billion dollar agricultural livestock/poultry and plant/crop industries (agribusinesses) in South Carolina, as well as private businesses involving companion animals. Lives of animals may be threatened, as well as the disruption of evacuation or the interruption/destruction of the various businesses involving animals may occur. Also, substantial damage to plants/crops would have significant and long-lasting negative impacts on the state's economy through disruption of food supply, trade, and tourism.
- B. Because more than 60% of households have companion animals, not counting the hundreds of thousands who have livestock/horses, it is critical that animal emergency plans are developed which coordinate with plans for human emergency response, in order to facilitate, and not disrupt, human emergency response.
- C. Natural disasters, as well as man-made disasters, may negatively impact crops and the various animal industry and companion animal populations. Naturally, accidentally, or intentionally (bioterrorist) introduced disease may threaten the animal or plant industry, or zoonotic disease may threaten public health as well as animal health. Therefore, disaster planning efforts are based on an "all hazards" concept.
- D. Efficient response and recovery efforts assure rapid return to economic soundness of SC agribusinesses. These efforts also ensure public health protection and support the; benefits from the human-animal bond in the recovery process following a disaster.

**II. PURPOSE**

To provide animal and plant emergency management and response throughout South Carolina, before, during, and after disasters.

**III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

- A. ESF-17 consists of components responsible for emergency response for animals and animal-related agricultural assets; emergency response for issues related to plants, crops and horticulture; emergency response related to agricultural chemicals such as fertilizers and pesticides; and emergency response related to food products from animal sources (includes meat, poultry, dairy).
- B. Clemson University Livestock-Poultry Health (CULPH) is responsible for the coordination of all ESF-17 administrative, management, planning, training, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating, and maintaining ESF-17 Standard Operating Procedures. All ESF-17 supporting agencies must assist CULPH in the planning and execution of the above. All ESF-17 personnel will be trained on the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command and integrate those principles into all ESF-17 planning and response operations.
- C. During an event affecting agriculture in the state, CULPH will delegate responsibility related to plants/crops and/or agricultural chemicals to Clemson University Regulatory Services (CURS). CURS is the agency authorized by the state to enforce laws related to these commodities.
- D. Critical ESF 17 functions include, but are not limited to developing:
  - 1. Veterinary medical care and plant health programs at all levels (local, state, national) as necessary to protect animal health, the animal and plant industries, and public health.
  - 2. A backup support service at a local and state level to assist animal owners when necessary in protecting and caring for their animals during and after disaster.
  - 3. Prioritized updates of plant and animal pests/diseases of national and jurisdictional significance.
  - 4. A public information program enabling the majority agricultural premises to develop and carry out their own individual emergency response plans under most circumstances.

5. Plans dealing with the threat of bioterrorist attack consistent with overall efforts of homeland defense to include an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease, or an economically devastating plant pest infestation.
  6. Plans to coordinate agriculture related data during and after emergency response.
- E. Under the general coordination of CULPH, appropriate agencies/groups will provide assistance to agricultural entities throughout the state in order to provide maximum safety, veterinary medical care and to assist in public health protection for the state. Each agency/organization will operate under its mandated federal, state, or organizational regulations and will maintain complete administrative and financial control over their activities. The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, Division of Professional and Occupational Licensing (LLR), and Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners will, as necessary and as able, assist to secure temporary licensing for invited veterinary professional emergency responders who are not currently licensed in SC.
  - F. In coordination with, and in support of, the State Assessment Team (SAT), ESF-17 will assess the situation (both pre- and post-event), and in coordination with local emergency management officials, develop strategies to respond to the emergency.
  - G. As the primary coordinating agency, CULPH will gather information from support agencies and other plant and animal related organizations throughout the state concerning their level of preparedness, and level of risk in the face of various emergencies. With appropriate feedback from local and county representatives, CULPH will compile a status report, which will be provided to the SEOC and the represented organizations/agencies of ESF-17.
  - H. Animals in disaster situations may be displaced and/or without known owners. Another population of animals in disasters may be owned animals, such as those that accompany their owners in evacuation, or those (e.g. livestock) on owners' premises. Resources needed for these two groups of animals may vary in type and scope.
  - I. State ESF-17 will collaborate at the SEOC with State ESF-6 and ESF-15 in the determination of sheltering needs to assist citizens evacuating with household pets and service animals. CULPH, with support from the South Carolina Association of Veterinarians (SCAV) and the SC Animal Care and Control Association (SCACCA), will assist local entities when needed to coordinate resources for companion animal evacuation, sheltering, rescue, veterinary medical care and disposition. Temporary emergency

animal shelter sites may be needed for displaced, at-large animals that are separated from owners, as well as for animals that evacuated, pre-disaster, with their owners.

- J. CULPH, in consultation with SCAV, Clemson University Cooperative Extension Services (CUCES), and the SC Department of Agriculture, will oversee equine, livestock and poultry emergency response.
- K. CULPH will develop MOUs with appropriate groups such as livestock interest groups (e.g. South Carolina Horsemen's Council, the SC Cattlemen's Association) as well as pre-designated humane organizations.
- L. CULPH will consult, with SC DHEC, SC Department of Agriculture, and SCDNR to coordinate public health and zoonotic disease issues, including disposal.
- M. CURS will develop MOUs with appropriate plant/crop related organizations, such as Certified Crop Advisors and SC Nursery and Landscape Association.
- N. CULPH delegates the coordination of native and free-ranging wildlife species emergency response to the SC Department of Natural Resources.
- O. ESF-17 agencies will provide limited assistance, if available, to exotic animal owners in case of emergency. Exotic animal owners are urged to maintain full preparation and response capabilities, as specialty facilities for their animals may not be available through regular support channels. Also, public safety considerations may severely limit disaster support for exotic animal evacuation or temporary housing, especially in the case of dangerous animals.
- P. In the event of a disaster affecting animal research facilities within the state, ESF-17 agencies will provide assistance as needed. Animal research facilities should prepare plans for disaster response.
- Q. The SEOC will be the point of contact for all requests for plant and animal related assistance. CULPH and ESF-17 support agency personnel will staff the Animal/Agricultural Emergency Response support function in the SEOC.
- R. General Services Division, State Budget and Control Board, will manage donated goods and volunteer services through ESF-18.
- S. All agencies are encouraged to maintain their own emergency funds for basic emergency preparedness. In the event of a major disaster, Clemson University Foundation houses and manages a central state emergency fund

for donated monies. This Fund will be managed by Clemson representatives. An advisory board, made up of representatives from selected support agencies, may be consulted for award decisions.

#### **IV. ESF ACTIONS**

##### **A. Preparedness**

1. Develop plans for the protection of animal and plant health and security, including the response to an outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation whether accidentally or intentionally introduced.
2. Develop plans for sampling and analysis of plants/crops contaminated with chemical or biological agents.
3. Develop plans for the safety of livestock, poultry and companion animals prior to, during and after a natural or man-made event.
4. Develop plans for the protection of animal health to include ensuring the safety of the manufacture and distribution of foods and distribution of drugs given to livestock, poultry and companion animals.
5. Participate in state exercises and conduct an annual ESF-17 exercise to validate this annex and supporting SOPs.
6. Develop and deliver training about animal/agriculture preparedness, response and recovery for county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators and other interested persons, as resources are available.
7. Release information on disease and disaster planning and safety for animals and plants/crops through news releases, brochures, or websites.
8. Develop and maintain a database of locations and contact information for animal and agricultural premises, including supporting industries.
9. Develop and maintain a database of all county animal and agriculture emergency plans and a list of all county animal and agricultural emergency coordinators.

10. Develop and maintain a database of veterinary medical and non-medical volunteers and agencies that will provide care assistance.
11. Assist with development and maintenance of a listing of emergency animal shelters and confinement areas for South Carolina for companion and large animals (and possibly zoo and exotic animals) by county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators. The listing will include personnel and resource information. When feasible, assist county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators in identifying suitable facilities for shelters and confinement areas.
12. Communicate with ESF-18 concerning storage of animal and plant-related donated goods preceding a known disaster.
13. Ensure all ESF-17 personnel integrate NIMS principles in all planning. All ESF personnel must complete all required NIMS training, as outlined in Department of Homeland Security (DHS) training guidance.
14. Maintain interagency collaboration to develop and implement plans and systems which will mitigate the public health threat of animal, plant, and food issues.
15. Maintain a program for agrichemical dealer and distributors to monitor fertilizers that could be made into explosives.
16. Promote security assessments and have the agrichemical industry (dealers and distributors) do a security self-assessment.
17. Perform surveillance through laboratory diagnosis of plant problems following the Plant Disease/Pest Response Plan.
18. Publish annually a list of reportable plant disease/pests for South Carolina to include those already present in the United States but of limited distribution as well as exotic pest threats from outside US borders.
19. Encourage participation with commodity origin and/or registration programs that aid in trace forward/back investigations.
20. Ensure procedures are in place to document costs for any potential reimbursement.

21. Support the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) by ensuring ESF personnel are trained on EMAC responsibilities, by pre-identifying assets, needs and resources that may be allocated to support other states, and by maintaining related information in WebEOC.
22. Collaborate with responsible state agencies to ensure safety of the food supply.
23. Provide ESF representation on the Recovery Task Force.

B. Response

1. Coordinate and manage an animal or plant disease outbreak or incident that would affect animal or plant health.
2. Provide for inspection and assessment of food processing facilities and product storage in order to protect public health.
3. Provide consultation and coordinate response for animal and agricultural issues which impact animal, plant, or public health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, and waste and carcass disposal); take reasonable measures to protect animals under emergency care from disease and injury.
4. Provide animal safety through coordination of additional emergency animal sheltering and stabling for both large and small animals, rescue and transportation to shelter.
5. Coordinate triage and follow-up veterinary medical care for animals.
6. Coordinate public information through ESF-15.
7. Track the activities, data and statistics from activated agencies before, during, and after the disaster. This information will be summarized for situation reports to ESF-5 and captured for final compilation.
8. Coordinate with ESF-7 regarding storage sites and staging areas for animal food, medical supplies, and for agricultural chemicals.
9. Organize and manage animal and plant response donations in coordination with ESF-18.

10. Coordinate eradication, crop destruction, and animal depopulation operations including support of other ESFs, including ESF-10, ESF-11, ESF-13 and ESF-19, as applicable.
11. Coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8, and ESF-10, for the removal and proper disposal of contaminated plants, contaminated soil, animal waste, dead animals and agricultural products, in accordance with environmental policies.
12. Decontaminate animals and animal products as needed to prevent disease and protect public health.
13. Properly collect, identify, and label diseased/contaminated plants or plant pests.
14. Coordinate the integration of veterinary medical assistance teams, requested from outside the state.
15. Identify and provide a liaison officer for each EMAC request, to facilitate arrival and onward movement of EMAC support at appropriate staging area.

C. Recovery

1. Assist as able with animal rescue, transportation, and care, as well as set-up and staffing of temporary emergency animal shelters in coordination with SCAV, county emergency management directors, pre-designated humane organizations and other appropriate, qualified responders.
2. Assist with producing and releasing of public service information to assist public in locating animal emergency shelters as well as for animal emergency response guidance. This information would be released through the ESF-17 SERT, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
2. Coordinate damage assessment information from affected counties.
3. Coordinate repopulation of animals or reestablishment of plants into recovered areas.
4. Assist ESF-18 with disposition of animal-agriculture-related donated goods.

5. Organize and publicize lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Coordinate final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of animals that cannot be returned to their normal habitat or that have been separated from their owners.
6. Continue to coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8, and ESF-10, as applicable, for the removal and proper disposal of contaminated plants, contaminated soil, animal waste, dead animals, and agricultural products.
7. Continue to coordinate the assignment of relief personnel and the distribution of supplies from supply areas or staging areas.
8. Assist in long-term maintenance of impacted areas to include the development of environmental recovery plans in impacted areas.
9. Ensure ESF team members and agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
10. Support long-term recovery priorities as identified by the Long-Term Recovery Committee and Recovery Task Force.

D. Mitigation

1. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
2. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within review.
3. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
4. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

V. **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. General: All government or government affiliated agencies in ESF-17 will train personnel on EMAC procedures to include: identifying agency resources to sustain emergency operations, pre-scripting anticipated needs on specific EMAC messages, and listing agency resources available for interstate and intrastate mutual aid missions.

B. Clemson University Livestock-Poultry Health

1. Preparedness

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Develop operating procedures to implement the Animal/Agriculture Emergency Response functions of ESF-17, including an alerting list of CULPH and ESF-17 support agency response teams for the EOC.
- c. Protect animal health through coordination of animal disease prevention, surveillance (to include tracking animal movement), diagnostics, control and eradication consistent with agency mission.
- d. Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease.
- e. Develop plans for the security of livestock and poultry.
- f. Develop plans for the safety of livestock, poultry and companion animals prior to, during and after a natural or man-made event.
- g. Develop plans for ensuring the safety of the manufacture and distribution of feeds and distribution of drugs given to livestock and companion animals.
- h. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures and will ensure that all support agencies are included in training and testing functions as appropriate.
- i. Coordinate meetings as necessary of the State Animal/Agriculture Response Team (SART), a statewide committee made up of representatives of involved agencies or organizations, in which members discuss the operational preparedness and response actions necessary for ESF-17 coverage.
- j. Release information annually on disease and disaster planning and safety for animals through news releases, brochures, websites or other means.

- k. Develop and maintain a database on locations and contact information for animal premises, including other premises related or supplying these industries.
  - l. Develop and maintain a database of all county animal/agriculture emergency plans and a list of all county animal/agriculture emergency coordinators.
  - m. Develop training programs for county animal/agriculture emergency coordinators and other interested persons, as resources are available.
  - n. Develop and maintain a database of veterinary medical and non-medical volunteers and agencies that will provide care assistance.
  - o. Coordinate communication with ESF-18 concerning storage of animal and plant-related donated goods preceding a known disaster.
  - p. Assist with coordination of large animal emergency rescue teams, made up of volunteers to work with county rescue and fire personnel.
  - q. Train personnel on EMAC procedures to include: identifying agency resources to sustain emergency operations, pre-scripting anticipated needs on broadcast messages, and listing agency resources available for interstate and intrastate mutual aid missions.
  - r. Develop state level plan to assist counties in evacuating and sheltering animals.
  - s. Publish annually a list of reportable animal diseases.
2. Response
- a. Provide CULPH staff to SEOC, as requested, alerts ESF-17 support agency responders, notifies all ESF-17 supporting agencies upon activation.
  - b. Coordinate resources to assess and respond to animal needs in the emergency area. Coordinate activities of support agencies, compile a situation report for the SEOC, and gather other pertinent statistics and data for compilation.

- c. Relay and delegate assistance requests to proper agency through Operations Tasking Group (OTG), and assures final disposition of tasks assigned. This may include, but is not limited to, providing emergency transportation, medical care, or shelter and food for animals in need.
- d. Coordinate and manage an animal disease outbreak or incidence through diagnosis, control, and eradication consistent with agency mission.
- e. Provide for inspection and assessment of food animal processing activities and products storage through SC Meat and Poultry Inspection Department and related food protection units in order to protect public health.
- f. Provide consultation and coordinate response on animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bio-terrorist attack, waste, and carcass disposal).
- g. Assist with coordination of large animal emergency rescue team (LART) activation and assignment.
- h. Track the activities, data and statistics from activated personnel before, during, and after the disaster. This information will be summarized for situation reports to ESF-5 and captured for final compilation.
- i. Coordinate public service information through Clemson University, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
- j. Coordinate with ESF-7 regarding storage sites and staging areas for animal food and medical supplies.
- k. Organize and manage animal response donations in coordination with ESF-18.
- l. Coordinate animal depopulation operations including support of other ESFs, including ESF-13 and ESF-19, as applicable.
- m. Coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8 and ESF-10 for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste, dead animals, and animal agricultural products.

- n. With SCEMD, coordinate assistance from resources outside South Carolina, if needed.
3. Recovery
- a. Coordinate the phase-down of animal emergency services through various support agencies, and within framework of EOC and ESF guidelines.
  - b. Coordinate animal disease diagnosis, control, eradication, removal and repopulation consistent with agency mission.
  - c. Continue to coordinate the animal medical services as needed.
  - d. Organize and publicize lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Coordinate final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of displaced animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
  - e. Coordinate animal depopulation operations including support of other ESFs, including ESF-13 and ESF-19, as applicable.
  - f. Continue to coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8 and ESF-10 for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste, dead animals, and animal agricultural products.
  - g. Coordinate with counties involved to collect appropriate data on animal services rendered, animals affected and damage assessment, and to compile such data for a final report.
  - h. Continue to coordinate the assignment of relief personnel and the distribution of supplies from supply areas or staging areas.
  - i. Ensure donated pet food and other goods are coordinated through ESF-18.
  - j. Ensure ESF-17 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

4. Mitigation
  - a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
  - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
  - d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

C. Clemson University Regulatory Services (CURS)

1. Preparedness
  - a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
  - b. Develop operating procedures to implement the plant emergency response functions of ESF-17, including a contact list of CURS and ESF-17 support agency response teams.
  - d. Coordinate detection and identification of diseases, pests and invasive species and toxic substances with state, regional and national laboratories.
  - e. Develop plans for the maintenance of plant health and security, including the response to an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest.
  - f. Develop plans for sampling and analysis of plants/crops contaminated with chemical or biological agents.
  - g. Maintain a program for agrichemical dealers and distributors to monitor fertilizers that could be made into explosives.

- h. Promote security assessments and encourage the agrichemical industry (dealers and distributors) to conduct a security self-assessment.
- i. Coordinate with Clemson Extension agents in each county to participate in and provide information for each County Animal/Agriculture Response Team (CART).
- j. Develop a training program for county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators and other interested persons, as resources are available.
- k. Participate in meetings at the county level to facilitate development of County Animal/Agriculture Response Teams in each county, which function under the county Emergency Management Director (or equivalent title).
- l. Maintain a database of all county agriculture emergency plans and a list of all county animal/agriculture emergency coordinators. CULPH and CURS will share this database.
- m. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures and ensure that all support agencies are included in training and testing functions as appropriate.
- n. Coordinate meetings as necessary of the State Plant Response Team (SPRT), a statewide committee composed of representatives of involved agencies or organizations, in which members discuss their operational response, resolve problems and prevent duplication of effort.
- o. Release information as appropriate with regard to disease and disaster planning and safety of plants/crops.
- p. Publish annually a list of reportable plant disease/pests for South Carolina to include those already present in the United States as well as exotic pest threats from outside US borders.
- q. Develop and maintain a database of locations and contact information for plant/crop premises, including supporting industries.
- r. Encourage participation with commodity origin and/or registration programs that aid in trace forward/back investigations.

- s. Oversee coordination of plant containment or eradication teams made up of agency personnel and volunteers to work with Emergency Management leadership.

2. Response

- a. When ESF-17 is activated, alert support agency responders. Provide laboratory services and analysis for plant disease or pest infestations and for agricultural chemicals.
- b. Coordinate State Plant Response Team [SPRT] agencies to assess and respond to plant needs in the emergency area and compile situation reports. Coordinate activities of support agencies and gather pertinent statistics and data for compilation.
- c. Properly collect, identify, and label diseased/contaminated plants or plant pests.
- d. Coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8, and ESF-10, as applicable, for the removal and proper disposal of contaminated plants, soil, and plant-related agricultural products.
- e. Provide consultation and coordinate response for agricultural issues which impact plant or public health.
- f. Coordinate with ESF-7 regarding storage sites and staging areas for agricultural chemicals.
- g. Organize and manage plant response donations in coordination with ESF-18.
- h. Coordinate plant pest and disease containment, eradication or crop destruction activities.
- i. Coordinate public service information through Clemson University, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
- j. Track the activities, data and statistics from activated agencies before, during, and after the disaster. This information will be summarized for situation reports to ESF-5 and captured for final compilation.

3. Recovery
  - a. Coordinate phase-down of plant emergency services through the various support agencies within the framework of the EOC and ESF guidelines.
  - b. Coordinate plant disease/pest diagnosis, control, containment, eradication or removal and reestablishment of plants/crops consistent with the agency mission.
  - c. Continue to coordinate with ESF-1, ESF-3, ESF-8 and ESF-10 as applicable for the removal and proper disposal of contaminated plants, and soil and plant-related agricultural products.
  - d. Assist in long-term maintenance of impacted areas to include the development of environmental recovery plans in impacted areas.
  - e. Coordinate with the counties involved to collect appropriate data on services rendered and damage assessment and compile data for a final report.
  - f. Ensure that ESF-17 team members or their agencies maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
  
4. Mitigation
  - a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
  - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
  - d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

D. Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service (CUCES)

1. Preparedness

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Coordinate operating procedures to implement Annex-17, including an alerting list of CUCES responders.
- c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- d. Develop training programs for county animal and agriculture emergency coordinators and other interested persons, as resources are available.
- e. Coordinate with, participate in and provide information on the Animal/Agriculture Emergency Response Teams.
- f. Develop and maintain public service announcements for disaster planning and safety for animals and plants/crops through news releases, brochures, websites or other means.

2. Response

- a. Provide CUCES staff to SEOC as requested.
- b. Coordinate through county extension agents to assess local situation and identify animal emergency coordinator in each county (assigned under the county emergency management director).
- c. Supply personnel for damage assessment teams, or observation teams, as requested.
- d. Assist with containment, surveillance, and eradication efforts, as well as livestock relocation.
- e. Assist in producing and releasing public service information through Clemson University, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.

3. Recovery

- a. Assist CULPH by providing manpower on a local basis (county extension agents) to monitor recovery efforts and

collecting data on damage assessment and ongoing needs and activities of livestock and equine. Report the collected data regarding activities and assessments to CULPH.

- b. Assist with disposition of displaced large animals that cannot be returned to their normal habitat or that have been separated from their owners.
- c. Assist CURS by providing manpower on a local basis to monitor recovery efforts and collect data on damage assessment and ongoing needs and activities in plant agriculture. Report the collected data regarding activities and assessments to CURS.
- d. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

4. Mitigation

- a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
- c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

E. South Carolina Association of Veterinarians

1. Preparedness

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation.
- b. Develop procedures to implement Annex 17.
- c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.

- d. Under direction of CULPH, assist with planning for the coordination of companion animal care/sheltering activation in emergencies.
  - e. Identify, train, and assign personnel as Veterinary Liaison Officers who will assist, as requested and as able, at the county, regional, or state level with issues related to veterinary medical care before, during and after a disaster.
  - f. Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease.
  - g. Provide instructional/educational material to veterinary members to assist them in participation with local animal emergency programs.
  - h. Assist SCACCA and CULPH in planning and carrying out volunteer/public education and training programs for animal emergency response.
  - i. Maintain web page for animal emergency information.
2. Response
- a. Monitor and, as able, provide veterinary medical care in affected counties and provide status reports to state ESF-17.
  - b. Communicate requests for animal medical assistance (non-medical supplies, medical supplies, or veterinary manpower) to state ESF-17, with assistance of ESF-18 and ESF-7 when appropriate.
  - c. Implement plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease.
  - d. Assist SCACCA, county emergency management directors and pre-designated humane organizations, when applicable, to implement companion animal care/sheltering.

- e. Assist with public information dissemination of animal care information.
  - f. Provide medical care, within valid client/patient/doctor relationship and guidelines, to owned animals in emergency temporary shelters and animals belonging to citizens in the affected areas, when requested and as able.
  - g. Assist in producing and releasing public service information through ESF-17, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
3. Recovery
- a. Continue to provide veterinary medical care.
  - b. Assist CULPH and DHEC in informing public of and carrying out proper public health protection measures.
  - c. Assist with collection of morbidity and mortality figures as appropriate.
  - d. Assist with the organization and publication of lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Assist with final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of displaced animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
  - e. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
4. Mitigation
- a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
  - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.

- d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

F. South Carolina Animal Care and Control Association

1. Preparedness

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation.
- b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex 17.
- c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- d. Assist with development of protocols to implement animal rescue, transportation, care and sheltering in emergencies.
- e. Coordinate with appropriate organizations to provide broad-based education/training materials to local animal emergency response volunteers.
- f. Provide public service announcements and information throughout the year to encourage individual owner preparedness prior to emergency.
- g. Maintain and update the current “List of Pet-Friendly Hotels and Motels in South Carolina” every other year” or as needed.
- h. Maintain list of animal services available in each county to include government and non-profit animal shelters.

2. Response

- a. Assist as able with animal rescue, transportation, and care, as well as set-up and staffing of temporary emergency animal shelters in coordination with SCAV, county emergency management directors, pre-designated humane organizations and other appropriate, qualified responders
- b. Assist with producing and releasing of provision of public service information to assist public in locating animal emergency shelters as well as for animal emergency

response guidance. This information would be released through the ESF-17 SERT, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.

3. Recovery
  - a. Assist with the organization and publication of lost and found data to achieve animal/owner reunion. Assist with final return to owner, long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of displaced animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
  - b. Assist in phasing down any temporary shelters/holding areas as need diminishes.
  - c. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
  
4. Mitigation
  - a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
  - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
  - d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.
  
- G. SC Department of Agriculture (SCDA)
  1. Preparedness
    - a. Maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation.
    - b. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.

- c. Provide public service announcements and information throughout the year to encourage individual preparedness prior to emergency.
  - d. Assist ESF-18 with preparation for donated hay, food, and non-medical large animal supplies.
  - e. Provide a list of chemicals (in food and plants) for which laboratory analyses are available.
  - f. Encourage participation with commodity origin and/or registration programs that aid in trace forward/back investigations.
2. Response and Recovery
- a. Provide consultation and coordinate response on plant, seed, pesticide, or animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).
  - b. Collect samples for pet food, livestock hay and feed and perform laboratory tests for contamination and pesticide residue, if required.
  - c. Collect samples of forage crops and perform laboratory analyses for contamination and pesticide residue, if required.
  - d. When resources are available, provide limited laboratory services for toxic substance incidents.
  - e. Where the safety of the public is assured, SCDA will coordinate salvage programs for agricultural products in areas partially affected by plant diseases or disasters.
  - f. Coordinate locating food and arranging for and feeding distressed, disaster impacted, and evacuated animals. Organize and manage hay and feed donations for large animals in coordination with ESF-18.
  - g. Serve as a response point for livestock and equine related disaster assistance and assists with identification and location of housing and other related services for livestock. Coordinate with other large animal support agencies.

- h. Assist with disposition of displaced large animals which cannot be returned to their normal habitat or which have been separated from their owners.
      - i. Assist in producing and releasing public service information through ESF-17, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
      - j. Ensure that team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
  - 3. Mitigation
    - a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
    - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
    - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
    - d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.
- H. Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC)
  - 1. Preparedness
    - a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. Upon request, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
    - b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex-17.
    - c. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
    - d. Provide public health guidelines.
  - 2. Response and Recovery

- a. Provide consultation and coordinate response on animal issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bio-terrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).
- b. Coordinate public service information with ESF-17, ESF-15, and the Joint Information Center (JIC) at SCEMD for release.
- c. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
- d. If needed, DHEC will assist the South Carolina LLR Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in securing temporary licensing for emergency veterinarians invited from out of state or unlicensed in-state veterinarians to assist in disaster response.
- e. SC DHEC Divisions have responsibilities with animal emergencies as follows:
  - 1) Office of Public Health Preparedness:
    - a) Coordinate dissemination of information regarding public health related to animal, plant and food issues.
    - b) Coordinate DHEC animal emergency response activities.
  - 2) Environmental Health: Provide dairy product and producer support, and sampling.
  - 3) Disease Control: Provide epidemiology and public health support.
  - 4) Environmental Quality Control – Waste Management: Provide support for the disposal of agricultural waste and carcasses.

3. Mitigation

- a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Mitigation Plan.

- b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
- c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

I. Clemson Experiment Station (CES)

1. Preparedness

- a. Provide a current level of knowledge about plant disease and pest organisms. Assess their effects upon biological systems, and predict their potential for adverse economic and environmental impacts on SC agriculture.
- b. Provide information to CULPH, CURS and CUCES for the development of fact sheets and action plans to release to appropriate audiences in the event of an agricultural incident.

2. Response and Recovery

- a. Provide plant technical expertise to the SEOC, supporting agencies, and elsewhere as needed.
- b. Assist in determining long-term impacts of a catastrophic agricultural incident.

3. Mitigation

- a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan
- b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.

- c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

J. Department of Natural Resources

1. Wildlife and Fresh Water Fisheries Division

a. Preparedness

- 1) Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation. Upon request, staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- 2) Develop operating procedures to implement Annex 17.
- 3) Develop plans to respond to the outbreak of a highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, which includes or affects native or free-ranging wildlife species.
- 4) Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.

b. Response and Recovery

- 1) Provide native or free-ranging wildlife species support within agency policy and statutory guidelines.
- 2) Provide consultation and assistance on animal and plant issues which impact public or animal health (disease outbreak, bio-terrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal.)
- 3) Provide limited assistance, if available, to coordinate zoo and exotic animal situations.
- 4) Consult and coordinate with CULPH regarding any response actions involving native or free-ranging wildlife species. Assist with resources, including

personnel, transportation and equipment, if available.

- 5) Provide activity and assessment reports to assist in producing and releasing situation reports.
- 6) Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

c. Mitigation

- 1) Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- 2) Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
- 3) Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- 4) Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

2. Land, Water and Conservation Division

a. Preparedness

- 1) Identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepared to execute missions in support of ESF-17 during periods of activation.
- 2) Develop operating procedures to implement Annex 17.
- 3) Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.
- 4) Develop plans to prevent and control aquatic invasive species problems in public waters.

b. Response and Recovery

- 1) Provide consultation and assistance on issues regarding natural resource areas which impact public, animal, or plant health (disease outbreak, bioterrorist attack, waste and carcass disposal).
- 2) Implement plans to restore aquatic habitats impacted by invasive species.
- 3) Provide activity and assessment reports to assist in producing and releasing situation reports covering natural resource areas.
- 4) Ensure that team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.

c. Mitigation

- 1) Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- 2) Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
- 3) Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
- 4) Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

K. South Carolina Forestry Commission (SCFC)

1. Preparedness

- a. Identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF-17 in the SEOC.
- b. Develop operating procedures to implement Annex 17.
- c. Coordinate with the CUCES in providing first detector training for the forestry industry.
- d. Participate in exercises to test operating procedures.

- e. Prepare forest disaster plans to address the salvage, harvesting, and marketing of forest products damaged by pests or diseases.
  - f. Develop field detection plots or other field methods to detect disease and/or pest threats to the state's forests.
  - g. Identify and provide lists of volunteers from private organizations to be trained as first responders.
  - h. Assist CURS in the development of lists of forestry diseases and pests of national and jurisdictional significance.
  - i. Develop public service announcements for forestry disaster planning and safety.
2. Response and Recovery
- a. Provide staff to SEOC as requested.
  - b. Provide consultation on forestry issues to SCEMD and CURS.
  - c. Survey forest disaster areas to delineate heavy, medium, and light damage, salvage volume, anticipated logging conditions, market potential, and provide situation reports to the SCEMD.
  - d. Provide coordination and planning for the systematic salvage all forest products damaged by disease and pests or other disaster.
  - e. Compile data on losses, cost of containment including volunteer time and donated use of equipment and supplies and prepare a summary report.
  - f. Ensure team members maintain appropriate records of costs incurred during the event.
  - g. In concert with CURS and SCEMD, make declaration of containment of forest diseases and pests after the emergency situation is contained.



- b. Coordinate with County EMD Directors to participate in and provide information, volunteers and equipment, where available, for assistance for County Animal/Agriculture Response Teams (CARTs).
2. Response and Recovery
- Provide volunteers and equipment, as available, to assist with damage assessment, response, and recovery missions at the county, regional and state levels.
3. Mitigation
- a. Support and plan for mitigation measures including monitoring and updating mitigation actions in the State Hazard Mitigation Plan.
  - b. Review, evaluate and comment on proposed State Hazard Mitigation Plan amendments, upon initiation and within the review period.
  - c. Support requests and directives from the Governor and/or FEMA concerning mitigation and/or re-development activities.
  - d. Document matters that may be needed for inclusion in agency or state/federal briefings, situation reports and action plans.

## VI. FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

- A. Although this Annex has no direct counterpart in the National Response Framework (NRF), South Carolina State ESF-17 (SC ESF-17) most closely aligns with Federal ESF-11 (Fed ESF-11), with major responsibilities corresponding with 3 of the 5 Fed ESF-11 Components. SC ESF-17 also has significant components that relate to Federal ESF-8 and ESF-6. Other activities of SC ESF-17 relate to Federal ESF's listed in D.d. below.
- B. State ESF-17 personnel will be familiar with the NRF and the corresponding annex with Federal counterpart concepts, actions and responsibilities. This familiarization will include but not be limited to the makeup, functions and responsibilities of the Incident Management Assistance Teams (IMAT) and Joint Field Office (JFO).
- C. State ESF-17 will coordinate with the appropriate Federal ESF as needed to request Federal assets. Federal ESFs may have representatives in the JFO or other FEMA groups related to the FEMA Region IV RRCC and its

support. APHIS provides a full-time ESF-11 Coordinator to serve the FEMA RIV RRCC in Atlanta. Backup and staffing for JFO's, etc. is provided by personnel in VS, PPQ, and other Fed ESF-11 support agencies.

- D. Related Federal Annexes:
1. Fed ESF-11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources) USDA is the Federal Coordinator, and APHIS is delegated to represent ESF-11 to coordinate and direct USDA's response. APHIS coordinates with all other Fed ESF-11 support agencies. SC ESF-17 relates directly to 3 of the 5 components of Fed-ESF-11:
    - a. Food safety and security: Federal support through USDA agencies that deal with production agriculture would be Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) as lead, with Veterinary Services (VS) and Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) providing support. Non USDA Agencies such as FDA are also involved and may take the lead in food-borne disease or public health implications. FDA is also the lead in animal feed production/safety.
    - b. Animal and Plant Diseases: Federal support for animal and plant disease incursions would be through USDA agencies with core mission responsibilities dealing with livestock/poultry animal disease (VS), plant disease or pests (PPQ) or wildlife disease (WS). In addition, USDA has broadened its response through the NRF to include supporting response to natural (weather disasters) or man-made (terrorism) events that threaten or involve animal health.
    - c. Safety and well-being of companion animals: USDA APHIS Animal Care (AC) is involved in support for developing and carrying out companion animal evacuation and sheltering plans.
- E. Fed ESF-8 (Public Health and Medical Services): DHHS has a number of agencies in support of public health and medical services that relate to SC ESF-17 (and Fed ESF-11). FDA is involved in food safety and security. HHS is involved in providing for veterinary medical care and the safe production of veterinary care products. In addition, if federal assets were needed in a zoonotic disease event, Fed ESF-8 (DHHS) will be the lead for public health, and would coordinate with Fed ESF-11 for the animal disease component of response.
- F. Fed ESF-6 (Mass Care): In response to the Post Katrina Emergency Reform Act, FEMA has done outreach with partners to develop and implement plans for companion animal evacuation, shelter and care. USDA APHIS Animal Care (Fed ESF-11) can provide technical expertise, training, and assistance for these issues.

- G. Other Fed ESF's through which SC ESF-17 could require assistance include these:
1. ESF-3 Carcass Removal
  2. ESF-10: Hazardous agents and contaminated agriculture.
  3. ESF-14: Recovery through emergency loans, grants, etc. (USDA Farm Services Agency (FSA) and Rural Development (RD))

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