

## STRATEGY FOR STAFFING ANIMAL DISEASE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS

Teams
Surveillance Teams
Euthanasia Teams
Disposal Teams
Cleaning and Disinfectant Teams
Biosecurity Teams
Sources of Team Staff
Veterinarians
Veterinary Technicians/Paramedics
Industry Experts/ Animal Handlers
Enforcement Officers
Disposal Specialists

### TEAMS

Teams can be comprised of two or more individuals who travel and work together in response to an animal disease outbreak or threat.

Whenever possible, each team should include experts who have prior training specifically for the assigned task. Additional personnel can be recruited and trained in relevant procedures and protocols, depending on the job. Only personnel with prior training should investigate disease and supervise diagnosis, sampling, and euthanasia. Biosecurity training and materials can be more easily provided, even on-site.

SURVEILLANCE TEAMS should consist of

- Veterinarian or veterinary paramedics capable of recognizing the disease and initiating diagnosis
- Animal handlers or experienced staff familiar with farms and livestock and trained in Biosecurity
- Drivers, preferably enforcement officers, to facilitate locating, entering, and quarantining farms

If a highly contagious and pathogenic disease is discovered, members of the team normally

- Cannot go onto another farm for 48 hrs;
- Remain at the infected farm and participate in the protocols there;
- Initiate biosecurity and tracebacks;
- Supervise the arrival of additional support and teams (listed below).

EUTHANASIA TEAMS may include:

- Veterinarians or veterinary paramedics trained in euthanasia
- Animal handlers equipped to capture, restrain and move animals
- Trained slaughter personnel
- Private contractors
- Representatives from humane organizations
- Industry representatives

DISPOSAL TEAMS may include:

- DEM representatives trained to evaluate sites
- USDA NRCS trained representatives
- Heavy equipment operators trained in biosecurity
- Truck drivers and haulers trained in biosecurity

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION (C&D) TEAMS may include:

- Hazmat trained teams – local, state, federal
- Private contractors
- National Guard
- RIDART
- Local public works

BIOSECURITY TEAMS may include:

- Agriculture staff (trained)
- Federal Staff (trained)
- DEM hazmat
- Local fire department Hazmat responders
- Private contractors
- Industry staff

## **SOURCES OF TEAM STAFF**

### **VETERINARIANS**

- State
- Federal – USDA
- Federal VMATS
- Private practice – RIVMA, RIDART
- Research/ University – URI, Brown, RIHOSP
- Zoos
- Military – NG, ARMY, Naval Base

### **VETERINARY TECHNICIANS/PARAMEDICS**

- State
- Federal – USDA
- Federal – VMAT, DMAT
- Private – RIVMA, RIDART
- Research University – URI, Brown, RIHOSOP
- Zoos
- Military – NG, Army, Navy Base
- Shelter Staff
- Pound staff

## INDUSTRY EXPERTS/ ANIMAL HANDLERS

- Zoos
- University
- Agriculture Council
- RIDART
- Associations
- Slaughter houses
- Livestock Dealers
- Private sector
- Wildlife rehabilitators
- DOH FSIS

## ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

- Animal Control
- Local Police
- State Police
- DEM Enforcement
- USDA FEDERAL investigators
- US F&W
- National Guard
- Biosecurity
- Hazmat teams – Local, State, Federal
- Private security contractors
- Agriculture Staff
- Federal Staff
- VMATS
- EPA Staff
- DOH/FSIS
- Public works

## DISPOSAL SPECIALISTS

- DEM Waste, Water, Air etc.
- USDA/NRCS
- DOT
- National Guard
- Private Contractors – Waste haulers heavy equipment
- Private Environmental Contractors
- Public works