

**ESF 17  
and the Florida  
State Agricultural  
Response Team**

LeiAnna Tucker,  
Co-ECO of ESF 17 and  
SART Administrator



# Introductions to Emergency Programs



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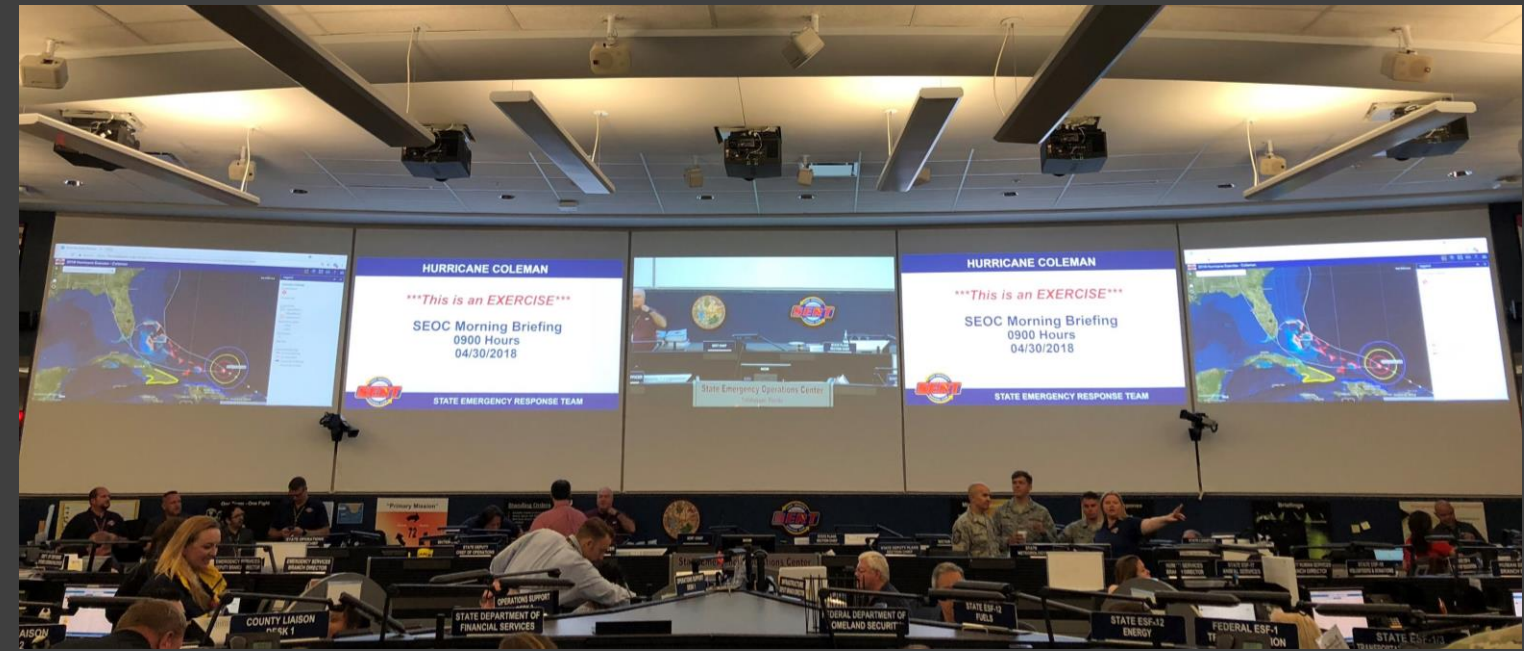


# Emergency Support Function 17 (ESF 17)

- FDACS is the lead agency for ESF 17.
  - Chapter 252, Florida Statutes (Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan)
- ESF 17 mission: Coordinate the state's response for animals (livestock, companion animals, exotic, and wildlife), agricultural and vector control issues during an emergency or disaster situation.
- ESF 17 is a very broad mission area.



# State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)



# Florida's Emergency Response Structure

*Until the county's resources are exhausted or beyond the capability/responsibility of the county.*

**Local Emergency First.  
County Responsibility to Respond**

**County requests assistance from the SEOC.**

**SEOC assigns request to ESF 17 (mission request).**

**ESF 17 coordinates request and provides assistance to the county.**

# Florida State Agricultural Response Team

- ESF 17 coordinates mission requests with SART partners
- SART mission



# What is SART?

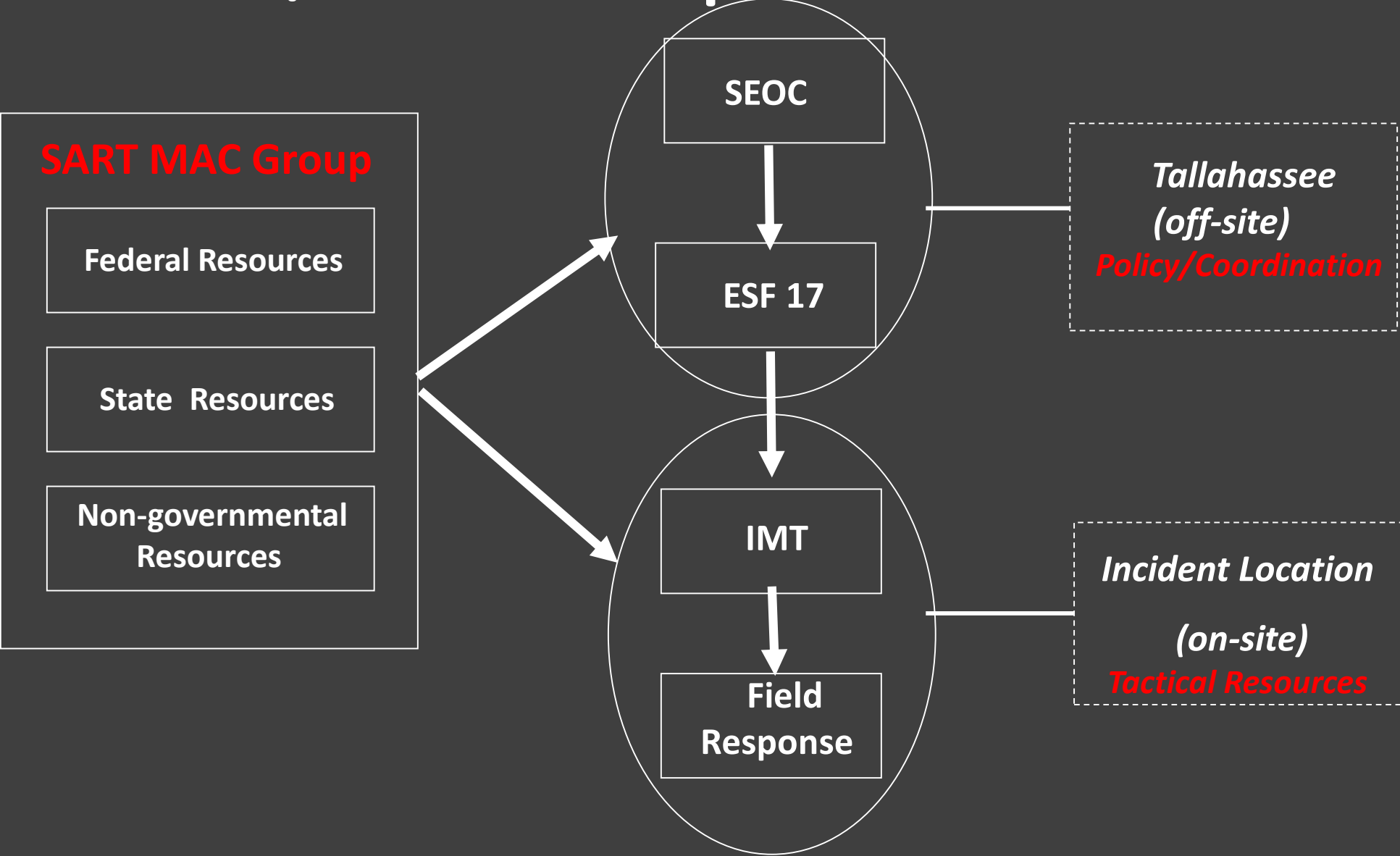
- **Statutory Authority for SART** (Section 252.3569, Florida Statutes)
- **Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) GROUP**
  - Policy guidance + Resource Prioritization = MAC Group
- **Consists of 25+ partner agencies**
  - Federal, state and NGOs partner agencies.
- **Supports ESF 17 preparedness and response**
  - Provides resources (personnel, volunteers, equipment, etc.).
  - Provides technical assistance and subject matter experts.
  - Coordinates information and communication flow.
  - Prioritizes response actions.

# Who is SART?

- *Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services*
- *University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences*
- *University of Florida/College of Veterinary Medicine*
- *Extension Disaster Education Network*
- *USDA/Farm Service Agency*
- *USDA/APHIS Animal Care*
- *USDA/APHIS Veterinary Services*
- *USDA/APHIS/Wildlife Services*
- *Florida Department of Health*
- *Florida Farm Bureau Federation*
- *Florida Veterinary Medical Association*
- *Florida Animal Control Association*
- *Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association*
- *Southern Plant Diagnostic Network*
- *Florida Cattlemen's Association*
- *Florida Association of Kennel Clubs*
- *Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association*
- *Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission*
- *American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals*
- *Florida Wildlife Rehabilitators Association*
- *Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association*
- *Florida State Animal Response Coalition*
- *Florida Veterinary Technician Association*
- *Southeast Milk, Incorporated*
- *Humane Society of the United States*
- *American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals*



# ESF 17/SART Response Structure





*SART = Team*

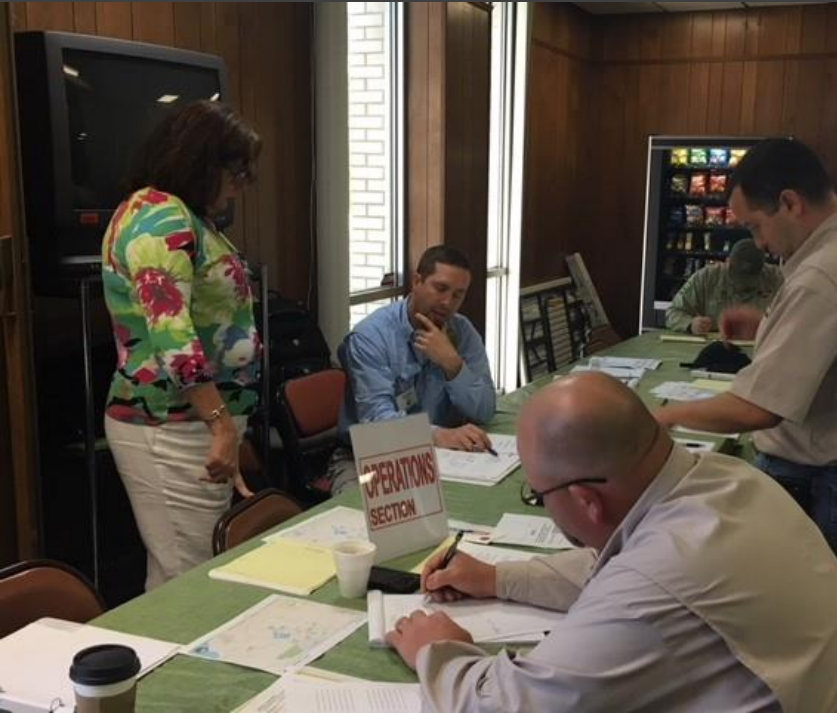


# SART Supports Counties

- Counties must address agriculture, animal and vector control incident response issues, but may not have the resources needed.
- SART responds to counties' requests for assistance through the cooperative efforts of its partner agencies.
- SART “fills a gap” for ESF 17 incident response at the local and state level.
- Annual ESF 17 County Meetings
- SART Planning Conferences

# SART Supports Trainings

- Incident Command System (ICS) Training
- Tactical Response Training and Exercises
- Specialized training



# SART Supports Response Teams

- ESF 17 Incident Management Team (IMT)
- Veterinary Emergency Response
- Animal Sheltering
- Animal Rescue, and much more!



# SART-Supported Equipment

- **Animal Sheltering Equipment**
  - Mobile Animal Response Equipment (MARE) Unit
- **Livestock Trailers**
- **Livestock Panels**
- **Animal Technical Rescue Equipment**



# Web Resources

## Florida SART Website

Sign up to become a member...it's free!

[www.flsart.org](http://www.flsart.org)

**THE SENTINEL**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA STATE AGRICULTURAL RESPONSE TEAM

Note: The cone contains the probable path of the storm center but does not show the size of the storm. Hazardous conditions can occur outside of the cone.

Whether it's agro-terrorism or hurricanes (as we saw recently), FLSART is working together to provide the response.

**Florida's Preparedness for an Agro-terrorism Disaster Applies to Hurricane Response**

The Sunshine State is no stranger to natural disasters -- hurricanes, floods, droughts and wildfires have done their share of damage in Florida. With 14 seaports and over 800 airports and airfields, the state is also at risk for man-made disasters.

75 million tourists and billions of tons of freight enter Florida each year, making it vulnerable to threats like disease introduction and agro-terrorism.

This past month, Food Safety Magazine published a story entitled "How Current World Threats May Impact Food Safety." The report focuses on capabilities of rogue nations such as North Korea could use to impact the food and agriculture supply chain.

In summary, "A major bioterrorism event on our food supply or our agricultural systems would be expected by many experts to cost us well into the hundreds of millions or even billions of dollars."

The report goes on to state, "Food and agriculture are critical infrastructures, essential to our well-being and national security. Any looming threat to our nation will generally entail a threat at some point to our food supply."

To read the full story, visit <https://www.foodsafetymagazine.com/enewsletter/how-current-world-threats-may-impact-food-safety/>

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**Special Features of this Issue:**

- Special Section: Hurricane Irma Response
- Enrollment Open: Livestock Education and Certification for Agriculture Law Enforcement (LECALE)
- SART Offers K9 Handler/First Responder Advanced Scope 2-day Training Class

"I've not heard of catastrophic damage. "It doesn't mean it doesn't exist. It means it hasn't gotten to us yet."

— Bryan Kaon  
Director, Florida Division of Emergency Management  
(Said shortly after Hurricane Irma hit Florida)

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Thank you!

Questions?

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