

# 2025

# SART PLANNING WORKSHOP

PROGRAM  
MAY 28 - 30, 2025

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ST. PETE BEACH, FL  
SIRATA BEACH RESORT



FLORIDA SART

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# WELCOME



Welcome to the 2025 Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) Planning Workshop! We are very excited to have you all here with us in sunny St. Pete Beach, Florida as we plan together disaster preparedness for animals and agriculture. This workshop will touch on many different aspects of animal and agriculture-related emergency situations. We will also learn about the important roles that our Florida SART partners play in disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and resources available to your jurisdiction to be more prepared.

Since our last planning meeting in 2023 so much has happened with major weather events like Hurricanes Idalia, Debby, Helene, and Milton, historic winter storms, tornado outbreaks and major floods, international emergency evacuations of U.S. citizens with their animals, and animal disease outbreaks – all of which necessitated significant support for Florida's animal and agricultural sectors. The state's Emergency Support Function (ESF) 17 and Florida SART responded to all these incidents to support an effective and coordinated incident response for the animal and agricultural sectors in the state of Florida. Agriculture is vital not only to the state of Florida but to the entire nation. Florida is a major agricultural producer and exporter, with \$8.88 billion in agricultural products sold annually as of the latest USDA agricultural census. Agriculture makes up one of the largest portions of Florida's \$1.2 trillion gross domestic product, and it is critical that this engine of our economy has the resources they need to continue to operate, which includes people and organizations like you.

These events emphasize the importance of working together as a SART team to create one coordinated and efficient response when disaster strikes. Florida SART is a multi-agency coordination group consisting of governmental and private entities dedicated to strengthening all-hazard disaster capabilities through partnerships. By having this wide variety of experiences and resources, our Florida SART team can create a disaster response that is full of tools, resources, and knowledge that better helps our animal and agricultural communities recover. As they say, "Teamwork makes the dream work!"

During this workshop we would like each one of you to build relationships with our Florida SART leaders and other experts in the field. Take some time to increase your knowledge and take advantage of the trainings offered so that you can apply it to your home area. Learn more about the specialized resources that are available to you and your residents before, during, and after a disaster. And, of course, enjoy St. Pete Beach! We sincerely hope you enjoy the workshop!

Best wishes,  
LeiAnna Moorhead, Emily Nolen, and Josh Wells  
FDACS ESF 17 and Florida SART Coordinators

## Purpose of workshop

Sponsored by the Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART), the 2025 SART Planning Workshop is a statewide workshop serving Florida's county emergency management professionals and SART partner agencies. The purpose of the workshop is to present a statewide forum where SART leaders and experts in the fields of animal care and agriculture can share best practices and resources for integrating animal care and agriculture into disaster planning.





DAY 1  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28 (TRAINING DAY)

12:00PM-5:00PM	Animal Technical Rescue Awareness Level (Mediterranean Palm Room)	UF College of Veterinary Medicine
1:00PM-5:00PM	Small Animal Emergency And Disaster Sheltering Course – Awareness Level - Session 1 of 2 (Date and Blue Palm Room)	Florida State Animal Response Coalition
1:00PM-5:00PM	G0191: Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface - Session 1 of 2 (Majestic Palm Ballroom)	NSB Advanced Enterprises
3:00PM-3:30PM	BREAK / REFRESHMENTS	

DAY 2  
CONTINUED

1:00PM	Panel: Working with UF/IFAS Extension in Blue Skies & Beyond	Dr. Saqib Mukhtar, Professor and Associate Dean for Extension, UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
2:00PM	Food and Agriculture Sector Threats: Foreign and Emerging Animal Diseases	Dr. Tracie Guy, DVM, Veterinarian Manager, FDACS
3:00PM	BREAK / BOOTH VISITS / REFRESHMENTS	
3:30PM	Florida Veterinary Corps: Building Community Partnerships with Veterinarians	Dr. Terry Clekis, DVM, Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair, Florida Veterinary Medical Association
4:00PM	The Hurricane Bonus Prize: The little surprise that “bugs” recovery efforts and what you can do about it	Marah Clark, Environmental Administrator, FDACS
4:30PM	Captive Wildlife Critical Incident and Natural Disaster Response	Lt. Louis Hinds IV, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
5:00PM	Closing Remarks and Adjourn	

DAY 2  
THURSDAY, MAY 29 PLENARY SESSION  
(ALL ATTENDEES, MAJESTIC PALM BALLROOM)

8:00AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks Pinellas County Emergency Management Agency	Stephanie Hendrix, Planning and Preparedness Manager, Pinellas County Emergency Management
	Commissioner Wilton Simpson	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
8:30AM	Florida ESF 17 and SART: Concept of Operations	LeiAnna Moorhead, Emergency Programs Manager and ECO ESF17, FDACS
9:00AM	Agricultural Protection and Security in Florida	Colonel Lee Adams, Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement, FDACS
10:00AM	BREAK / BOOTH VISITS / REFRESHMENTS	
10:30AM	Agricultural Economic Impacts and Data Tools You Can Use for Threat Assessment	Dr. Christa Court, Associate Professor of Regional Economics & Director, Economic Impact Analysis Program, UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
11:30AM	LUNCH ON YOUR OWN	

DAY 3,  
FRIDAY, MAY 30 (TRAINING DAY)

8:00AM-12:00PM	Small Animal Emergency and Disaster Sheltering Course – Awareness Level - Session 2 of 2 (Date and Blue Palm Room)	Florida State Animal Response Coalition
8:00AM-12:00PM	G0191: Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface - Session 2 of 2 (Majestic Palm Ballroom)	NSB Advanced Enterprises
8:00AM-12:00PM	Animal All Hazards Awareness (Mediterranean Palm Room)	UF College of Veterinary Medicine
10:00AM-10:30AM	BREAK / REFRESHMENTS	

Thank you!



# SPEAKER BIOS



## STEPHANIE HENDRIX

PINELLAS COUNTY EM DIRECTOR

Stephanie has worked with Pinellas County since 2013 with a strong focus on planning and preparedness. She is the County's Planning Section Chief and has worked multiple emergency activations in the County Emergency Operations Center, most recently the three hurricanes impacting Pinellas County in 2024, coordinating response and recovery between multiple county, municipal, and state agencies.



## WILTON SIMPSON

COMMISSIONER, FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

Wilton Simpson, Florida's 13th Commissioner of Agriculture, is a fifth-generation Floridian and proud to be born and raised in the Sunshine State. A lifelong Florida farmer and entrepreneur, Commissioner Simpson has deep personal and professional roots grounded in agriculture.



## LEIANNA MOORHEAD

EMERGENCY PROGRAMS MANAGER, EMERGENCY COORDINATING OFFICER

LeiAnna is dedicated to strengthening all-hazard disaster capabilities through partnerships to support an effective and coordinated incident response for Florida's animal and agricultural sectors.



## COLONEL LEE ADAMS

DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Lee Adams was appointed to the position of Director/Colonel in January 2023 by Commissioner Wilton Simpson. Colonel Adams has more than 30 years of law enforcement experience and oversees the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement and its more than 290 sworn law enforcement officers.



## DR. CHRISTA COURT

DIRECTOR OF UF/IFAS ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS PROGRAM

Christa Court is an Associate Professor in the Food & Resource Economics Department at the University of Florida (UF), Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) and serves as Director of the UF/IFAS Economic Impact Analysis Program, which specializes in regional economic modeling and analyzes a wide range of events, activities, and industries. The UF/IFAS EIAP leads efforts to estimate the economic contributions of agriculture, natural resource, and food related industries in the state of Florida and to rapidly assess the agricultural impacts of disaster events that impact the state.



## DR. SAQIB MUKHTAR

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR EXTENSION, UF/IFAS

Saqib Mukhtar serves as the associate dean, assistant director and program leader of Agriculture and Natural Resources at University of Florida, in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension. Saqib serves as the lead contact and liaison for State Ag Response Team for UF/IFAS. He is an Agricultural Engineer and Professor in the Ag and Biological Engineering Department at UF.



## TRACIE GUY, DVM

PROGRAM MANAGER OF SWINE AND SMALL RUMINANTS PROGRAM

Dr. Tracie Guy serves as the Swine and Small Ruminants Program Manager for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. With a strong commitment to animal health, Dr. Guy oversees animal disease surveillance efforts and coordinates disease investigations. She is passionate about training field personnel, equipping them with the expertise to safeguard Florida's livestock industries.







## DR. TERRY CLEKIS, DVM, MS

DISASTER COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Medical Director of the Florida Veterinary Corps and Chair of the FVMA Disaster Preparedness Committee, Dr. Clekis has over 40 years of veterinary practice. His disaster response work was inspired by Hurricane Hugo and Florida's 2004-2005 hurricanes. He has led statewide training, developed response protocols, and served with the National Veterinary Response Team in major disaster zones. A dedicated educator, he manages logistics and partners with agencies to enhance animal emergency preparedness, shaping Florida's leadership in veterinary disaster response.



## MARAH CLARK

ENVIRONMENTAL ADMINISTRATOR

Marah Clark is as an Environmental Administrator in the Bureau of Scientific Evaluation and Technical Assistance within the Division of Agricultural Environmental Services, managing education programs directed to mosquito control programs, pest control operators and consumers about Formosan termites and bed bugs, and pollinator protection. With over 25 years of mosquito control experience, she also serves as the vector entomologist of the Department's Mosquito Control Incident Response Team.



## LIEUTENANT LOUIS HINDS IV

LIEUTENANT, FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Lt. Louis Hinds IV, 25 years with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Spent 19 years in Field Law Enforcement Operations and has been with the Captive Wildlife Division since 2019.



## DR. LARRY GARCIA

MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA VETERINARY EMERGENCY TREATMENT SERVICE (UF VETS) TEAM

Dr. Lawrence Garcia is the Medical Director for the University of Florida Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service (UF VETS) Team. He's led two field hospital deployments and participated in multiple state exercises. His team is equipped to provide care to animals following both natural and man-made disasters.



## BRANDI PHILLIPS

ANIMAL TECHNICAL RESCUE INSTRUCTOR

Brandi Phillips has been a member of the UF Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service team since 2011 and has served as Technical Rescue Branch Director since 2019. She also serves on National Fire Protection Association committees for Standards 2500 and 1006 pertaining to technical rescue.



## DAWN EYESTONE

FLORIDA SARC INSTRUCTOR

Dawn is an adjunct professor in the English department at the University of South Florida. She began disaster response work in 2005 after hurricane Katrina and working with FL SARC in 2015.



## ANDY BASS

FLORIDA SARC INSTRUCTOR

Andy has vast experience helping animals, with nearly 30 years in animal rescue, He has been involved in more than 50 operations and been with FL SARC from its inception.



## EMILY NOLEN

GOVERNMENT ANALYST I AND SART COORDINATOR FOR ESF 17, DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

As a Certified Veterinary Technologist, I am so very excited for the opportunity to work with the ESF 17 team, and I hope to make a positive impact in our Florida communities with the Division of Animal Industry!



# TRAINING DESCRIPTIONS



## JOSH WELLS

GOVERNMENT ANALYST I AND ESF 17 COORDINATOR, DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY

Josh Wells has worked in emergency management for almost ten years in various roles and capacity. He currently works as an ESF 17 Coordinator for Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



## JEREMY HILLENGAS

FLORIDA SARC ADMINISTRATOR

Jeremy is an experienced emergency management professional specializing in disaster and animal emergency response, with experience leading operations during hurricanes, wildfires, floods. He works to ensure communities and there aren't animals are protected when crisis hits.



## BOB KING

NSB INSTRUCTOR

Robert "Bob" King has more than 43 years of emergency services experience and 33 years of emergency management and instructional experience. He served as the Emergency Manager for the City of Rochester, Fire Chief and Emergency Manager for the City of Kissimmee, Florida, and the Director of Emergency Management for Osceola County, Florida.



## STEVE LITSCHAUER

NSB INSTRUCTOR

A dedicated and seasoned professional within emergency management and public safety, Stephen Litschauer brings over five decades of comprehensive experience to the table. From his tenure as Chief of Emergency Management in Manatee County to his extensive involvement in emergency response teams and law enforcement agencies, Stephen has honed his expertise in disaster management, incident command systems, and crisis negotiations.

## ANIMAL TECHNICAL RESCUE AWARENESS LEVEL

### MEDITERRANEAN ROOM

Presented by the UF College of Veterinarian Medicine (UF CVM VETS Team). This is the foundation course for more advanced levels of our training program. This course is eight (8) hours of Continuing Education credit. This course has been designed to bring together various agencies in a community to aid in networking and connecting resources. Participants will get an overview of the need for animal technical rescue, resources to activate, how to assist rescue teams, scene safety in animal emergencies, and common techniques and tools used in responses. Target audience is livestock owners, Fire/Search and Rescue, Animal Control, Veterinary Professionals, other livestock stakeholders, and Extension Agents.

## SMALL ANIMAL EMERGENCY AND DISASTER SHELTERING COURSE – AWARENESS LEVEL

### DATE AND BLUE PALM ROOM

Presented by the FL State Animal Response Coalition (SARC). This awareness level class will give you knowledge, expertise and practical experience you need to work in an emergency/evacuation animal shelter. This course is eight (8) hours of Continuing Education credit. This course is also required to become a deployment member of FL SARC's incident response team. This course is FEMA approved and certified/ accredited by the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

## GO191: EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER/INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM INTERFACE

### MAJESTIC PALM ROOM

This course meets requirements for the FEMA Advanced Professional Series (APS) certificate. The goal of this professional development course is to enable the students to develop an effective interface between the Incident Command/Unified Command and the Emergency Operations Center by applying the National Incident Management System principles. It is intended for federal, state, tribal, territorial, local level, private industry, volunteer, and non-governmental emergency management personnel who are active in a community's ICS and EOC activities. Prerequisites: IS-100, IS-200 (or IS-2200), IS-700, and IS-800.

## ANIMAL ALL HAZARDS AWARENESS

### MEDITERRANEAN ROOM

Presented by Dr. L. Garcia from the UF CVM VETS Team. This series of presentations is designed to support animal and agricultural first responders by enhancing their preparedness, response capabilities, safety, and well-being. Topics include:

"How to prepare for disaster":Preparing yourself, family, pets, home, and workplace for anticipated and unanticipated disasters.

"Common disasters and Response types":Discusses disaster types, their impacts on animals, and adaptable response strategies. Includes UF VETS resources.

"Emergency Responder safety for hoarding cases":Highlights field adaptations and supplies for managing animal hoarding cases.

"Compassion fatigue Strategies":Helps animal care professionals recognize and address compassion fatigue and build sustainable self-care habits.



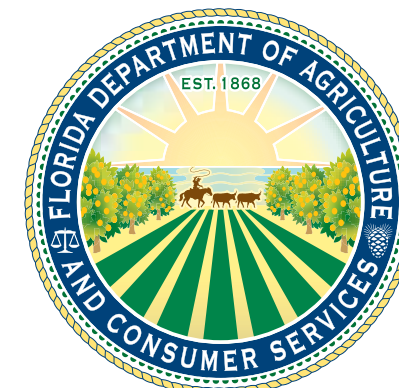


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# SART PARTNERS



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND CONSUMER SERVICES



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF  
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USDA/FARM SERVICE AGENCY



USDA/APHIS/VETERINARY SERVICES



FLORIDA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION



FLORIDA VETERINARY MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE



FLORIDA ANIMAL CONTROL ASSOCIATION



FLORIDA NURSERY, GROWERS AND  
LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION



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FLORIDA FISH AND WILDLIFE  
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OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS



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SHELTER MEDICINE PROGRAM



UNITED DAIRY FARMERS OF FLORIDA



## FLORIDA SART CONTACTS

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PICK UP A  
ESF 17 DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE GUIDE INCLUDE:

- Pets and Animal Shelters
- Horses
- Livestock
- Dairies
- Captive Wildlife
- Food Safety
- Mental Health
- Apiaries
- Vector Control
- Radiological Emergencies
- Aquaculture
- Florida Veterinary Corps
- Animal Disease Biosecurity
- And much more!



Note: All county emergency management agencies will receive copies!

AN ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS GUIDE FOR ESF 17

www.flsart.org

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## NOTES

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# FLORIDA SART

Coordinating Disaster Response for Animals and Agriculture

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