

# Search and Rescue Break-out Session

Ways/Objectives For How SART Can Fill Unmet Needs

SART Planning Meeting  
Altamonte Springs, Feb 28-March 2, 2011

# Education

- Carcass management and decontamination options and resources – available on SART website at special URL but local and county levels were not aware. Need a better way to get information pushed down to local and county levels
- Guidance on definition of service vs. therapy animals – if it exists in state, new law in place as of March 1, 2011 but FL law may usurp that (e.g. does a shelter have to take in a service animal, then what about a therapy animal)
- Liability issues – does SART have lawyers?, good Samaritan law (limitations?) any guidance on liability for responders, shelter providers, etc.
- Outreach to more SART partners
  - FL Cattlemen's Assoc., Florida Dairy, FL AAEP, others

# Education cont.

- Mutual Aid Agreements – do they work in large disasters
- Animal Owner Responsibility
  - Species specific information – companion equine vs. 150 horses
  - Where to start as an individual or as a facility with animal evacuation or sheltering in place
    - Linking animal owners with some of the resources already available from AVMA website, HSUS, others
  - Best way to educate animal owners on diseases and risk to their animals from disease introduction by tourists/guests/strangers (biosecurity from commercial to backyard)
- Best ways to disperse/distribute this information (e.g. SART website?)
- Interactive website
  - Ability to post questions to SART members is currently available through listserve on FLSART.org but possibly add a discussion group aspect to website
  - Ability to update databases
    - Currently able to update resource list as a member if you are the designated county person – contact Mike Turner

# Planning

- SART helping with planning on local levels – creation, exercising, and updating
  - County EOC plans – collaboration with extension agencies, academic, NGOs, all stakeholder
    - Making sure plans are updated and also exercised
    - Helping them tailor to individual counties
    - How to get Citizen input into plans?
  - Greyhound kennel all hazard plan
  - Shelter all hazard plan
  - Exotic breeders, distributors, zoos, wildlife rehabilitators, etc.

# Databases/Information Sharing

- Database of alternate/special needs resources
- Database of available pastures/ areas to turn animals into by county in FL
- Database of available evacuation shelters by county for equine/large animals in FL
- Database of numbers and types of animals to anticipate resources needed during a hazard
  - FDACS GIS mapping has Gaps since only premise of owner is captured and not all the locations and number of animals
- Directory of who does what
  - e.g. who has responsibility for native wildlife, non-native wildlife, exotics in captivity (concern over birds, exotic vs. wild domestic), etc.
- Database of people trained in exotic handling/rescue and resources for exotics
  - FWC maintains those permitted and their hazard plans but plans are not shared at county level
- Who starts and then maintains all of these databases?

# Unified Message On Economic Impact/Public Relations

- Have one voice coming from Florida regarding messages on impact and if a commodity is affected (e.g. Florida shrimp is still safe as ever and has not been affected by Deepwater Horizon)

# Training

- Exotics
  - Most common species encountered, husbandry and handling
  - How to shelter exotics or do we even attempt to?
- Equine – loading and rescue (LART course – more opportunities for this training?)

# Equine

- Relook at previous recommendations to turn out into pasture or shelter in place versus evacuated and shelter elsewhere, previous evaluation of literature produced recommendations to release in pasture/open field, now there has been talk of evacuation into hurricane grade shelters
  - If evacuation is recommended – where to evacuate to
  - Database of available pastures/ areas to turn animals into
  - Database of available evacuation shelters for equine/large animals in FL
- Need definition of equine – livestock versus companion animal
- Horse registration – figuring out a way to reunite stray horse with owner (microchip?)