Use of Federal Resources in Disaster
Animal and Agricultural Response

APHIS Animal Care
Brenton Cox
May 2019
TERMINAL PERFORMANCE

OBJECTIVE

Through a presentation and lecture, the participant will gain a basic understanding of federal resources in an emergency or disaster.
Enabling Performance Objectives

EPO 1: Describe the main functions of Animal Care.

EPO 2: Recognize the different types of federal roles.

EPO 3: Identify the FEMA resource typing library.
APHIS Overview

- Animal Care (AC)
- Biotechnology Regulatory Service (BRS)
- Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)
- Veterinary Services (VS)
- Wildlife Services (WS)
Animal Care overview

• Animal Welfare Act  
  – 1966
• Horse Protection Act  
  – 1970
• Emergency Management  
  – 2008
APHIS Animal Care Regional Emergency Coordinators (REC)

- Assigned for each FEMA Region
- Work with ESF #11, FEMA, States and many partners
- Extensive training
  - ICS
  - Coordination Center support
Federal ESF #11 missions

1. Providing nutrition assistance
2. Responding to animal and agricultural health issues
3. Providing technical expertise in support of animal and agricultural emergency management
4. Ensuring the safety and defense of the Nation’s supply of meat, poultry and processed egg products
5. Protecting Natural, Cultural, and Historical (NCH) resources
Federal roles
Animals and agriculture

- Statutory
  - Animal and plant diseases
  - USDA State Emergency Boards

- Stafford Act – under FEMA authority
  - FED Ops Support
  - Direct Federal Assistance

- Non-Stafford Act
  - Other Federal authority
Federal coordination and support
Animal and agricultural issues

• Subject matter experts:
  – Animals- livestock, pets, wildlife, zoos, research, fish, bees
  – Crop and other agriculture
  – Disease and quarantine issues
  – Food processing and food supply

• Support of coordination centers (upon request)
  – FEMA: national, regional, incident level
  – State, territorial, tribal
  – USDA and APHIS EOCs
FEMA Resource Typing Library

https://rtlt.preptoolkit.fema.gov/Public

- **Individuals**
  - Veterinarian/assistant
  - Care and handling
  - Animal control
  - Behaviorist
  - Animal search and rescue technician
  - Shelter manager
  - Identification, Tracking, and Reunification
  - Assessment

- **Teams**
  - Animal Evacuation, Transport, and Re-entry
  - Animal Decontamination
  - Animal Sheltering
  - Animal Search and Rescue
  - Veterinary Medical Team
  - Assessment
  - Depopulation
Operational support
FEMA mission assignments

• Examples from past incidents
  – Assessment Teams
  – APHIS Incident Management Team personnel
    • Usually supporting State-led teams
  – Veterinary teams (HHS)
  – Animal/plant health support (USDA)
    • Animal shelter-in-place support
    • Carcass management
    • Animal welfare assessments
    • Wildlife management (USDA & DOI)
    • Air operations (APHIS WS)
Logistics support

• Generally through FEMA Logistics Section upon State request
  – Transportation
  – Purchasing, leasing, contracting
    • Supplies, equipment or vehicles
    • Communication
    • Contracts for services
  – Examples:
    • Debris removal/perimeter fence repair at zoos
    • Transportation of bulk pet food and supplies
    • Carcass removal
Resource pathways summary

Incident IMT

Local EOC

State EOC

FEMA and Federal ESFs

Other Local Jurisdictions

Other State EOCs

Non-governmental organizations
Business sector
Contractors
Can be deployed from all levels of coordination
Summary - response

• FEMA-deployed Federal resources aren’t utilized in 90+ percent of local emergencies and disasters

• Federal animal and agricultural resources in disasters are most often used for logistical, coordination and expertise support roles

• Federal resources can provide operational support, particularly in overwhelming situations upon State request
Conclusion

EPO 1: Describe the main functions of Animal Care.

EPO 2: Recognize the different types of federal roles.

EPO 3: Identify the FEMA resource typing library.
Speaker contact information:

Brenton J Cox
APHIS/USDA/AC
FEMA Region IV Emergency Coordinator
507-269-9315
Brenton.j.cox@usda.gov