

A photograph of a red livestock trailer that has rolled over onto its side in a field at night. The trailer is heavily damaged, with its front end crushed. Several emergency responders in reflective gear are visible around the scene. The background shows dark trees and a fence line.

# Coordinating Livestock Trailer Rollover Accidents

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# Upcoming Accident Scenario

**This workshop may include graphic images of animal injury and mortality. Viewer discretion advised.**

**Pictures are sourced from different incidents to support the scenario and discussion in this presentation.**



# What is a Livestock Trailer Rollover Accident?

A vehicle accident involving a livestock trailer hauling animals that has been overturned, where persons and animals may be injured or deceased.



# Begin Scenario



# Scenario

**At 8:30am on Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020**

A livestock trailer driver hauling 83 head of cattle falls asleep at the wheel and overturns on I-75 near the Florida Turnpike Interchange in Sumter County.

- 19 cows deceased upon arrival on the middle lane of I-75.
- 5 cows down in the median and seriously injured.
- Remaining cows trapped inside the overturned trailer, on its side.



I-75 SB AT MM 327.3  
LOOKING: SE









# Group Discussion

- Scene size up.
- How do you approach the scene safely?
- What to do?
- What *not* to do?
- First steps.



# Scene Size Up

- Human safety is always more important than livestock safety.
- Limit use of sirens, horns, and other loud noises.
- Limit use of flashing lights, especially at night.
- Do not immediately attempt to get animals up or moving.
- Move slowly with patience is always best when moving or handling farm animals.



# Scene Size Up

- Animals become nervous after disaster. To help prevent injuries, limit the number of people on scene.
- If the animal is loose, containing the animal should be top priority.
- When approaching the animal, remain calm and quiet. Always keep your escape route open for safety.
- Have a designated animal monitor during a rescue.
- Leave extraction efforts to the professionals (**Brandi will cover this 😊**).



# Group Discussion

- Who do you call when on the scene?
- What resources do you need?
- Who do you call to locate the owners of the livestock?
- Create a call tree.

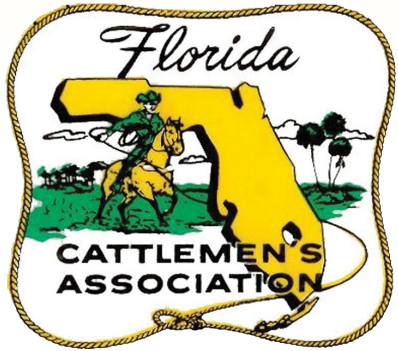


# Who do you call?

- Sherriff's Office
- FDACS-Ag Law
- Animal Control
- Veterinarian
- County Emergency Management
- FDACS-ESF 17 Specialist
- County Extension
- Animal Technical Rescue Team – UF VETS, local fire dept.



Who do you call  
to locate the  
owners?



# Hyperthermia (heat exhaustion/heat stroke)



# Humane Euthanasia

The objective of humane euthanasia is a “good death” whereby life is ended without additional pain or distress to the animal. Requires techniques that induce immediate loss of consciousness followed by cardiac and respiratory arrest, which results in loss of brain function and death.

It is important to remember that animals are property and are therefore owned. If an animal needs to be euthanized, this can only happen in one of two ways:

- **WITH the consent of the animal owner or designate**
- **BY way of a veterinarian**
- **BY the owner or designee**



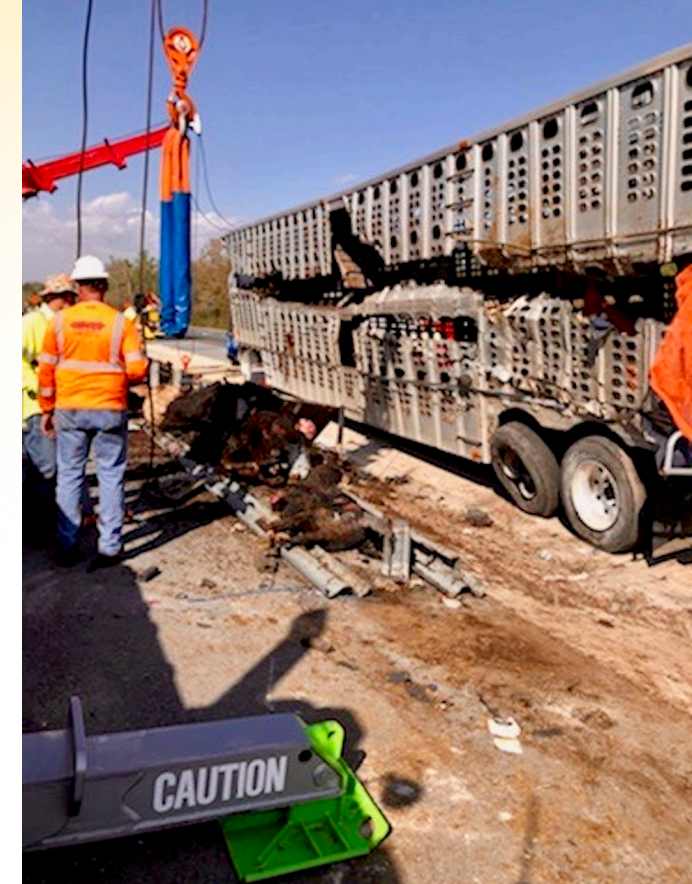


# End Scenario.

## *What happened in the end?*

- I-75 remained closed for hours.
- Crews were able to back up a second livestock trailer to the original overturned trailer to transfer the trapped cows to through the rear opening.
- Total of 83 cows transported.
- 19 cows deceased and disposed of appropriately.
- 5 cows loaded and rescued with the Animal Technical Rescue Team and transported to University of Florida for medical treatment.

*Scenario Credit: Cow truck overturns on Sumter County (wesh.com)*





Questions?

# Animal Technical Rescue

*Brandi Phillips, University of Florida Emergency Treatment Service*

