

**APPENDICES****Reports of the Sub-committees on Animal Industries**

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## APPENDIX 1

### SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE (LIVESTOCK) IVMA Disaster Preparedness Plan Committee

February 16, 1994

Present (committee members): Robert Gillespie, Michael Kopp, Dave Petritz, Sebastian Heath

Guest: Brett Marsh

**The purpose of this meeting was to prepare a suggested outline for a disaster response plan for livestock**

#### **Definitions:**

Livestock: Domestic ruminants, equids, cervidae, camelids, fowl, ratites. These have recently been defined in the Indiana legislature.

#### **Potential situations where animals may be affected**

Floods, ice storms, tornadoes, high winds, snow storms, earthquakes, fires on farms, fires in forests, chemical spills, transportation wrecks, oil spills

#### **Concerns that would have to be dealt with**

Transport of animals and large quantities of feed, sources of large amounts of feed and water, electricity supply for milking and controlled environments, injuries, slaughter, disposal of carcasses.

#### **Disaster Response**

The disaster response plan for livestock would be activated once a disaster has been declared and the veterinarian at the Emergency Operations Center receives requests to deal with livestock. The veterinarian at the EOC would request the assistance of veterinarians in the vicinity of the disaster. These practitioners can be accessed through the state veterinarian's data base. The practitioners (field veterinarians) would become temporary employees of the state and would be reimbursed for any expenses they incur. The field veterinarian would oversee all activities relating to animals affected by a disaster and report these back to the veterinarian at the EOC.

#### **Situations and Resources**

Restoration of Veterinary Practices. This has a high priority in disaster situations. The need to do so would come as a response from the practitioners that have been affected by the disaster. The veterinarian in the EOC would coordinate the supply of resources to get practices operational again. This may involve the use of army or air force facilities.

Feed supply: There is probably enough feed for livestock in Indiana. Potential sources of feed are major feed mills, where much of the feed stored is already government property. The Agricultural and Soil Conservancy Service has a data base with a listing of all of these resources. The need for feed and water would be determined by the field veterinarian and their supply would be coordinated through the veterinarian at the EOC.

Water supply: The large amounts of water needed to feed herds or flocks of animals can probably only be provided in sufficient quantity through INDOT, the army or National Guard.

Generators: These will be needed to maintain controlled environments, as well as to be able to continue to milk dairy cows. Many producers have their own generators, but others may require additional ones. Potential sources include army and National Guard and neighboring farmers. The transport of the generators to the farms, where they are needed, may be taken care of by INDOT, army or National Guard. Cooperative Extension agents would be a good source of information where additional generators may be stored

*Medications:* There are several wholesale drug suppliers in Indiana that have enough medications in stock to deal with most emergencies. These are Midwest Drug Supplies and Butlers. In the event of a disaster the field veterinarian should determine the need for medications and request that the veterinarian at the EOC coordinate their supply. In some cases field veterinarians may use their own supplies initially. The cost for all drugs used will be reimbursed by the state.

Vaccinations may be necessary on large scale. Recommendations for these will be developed by the IVMA or the guidelines of the AVMA will be followed. The supply and use of these should be the same as for other medications. All vaccinations will be overseen by the field veterinarian.

*Injuries:* Veterinarians and veterinary technicians should attend to injured animals if the owners are not able to do so themselves. These veterinary health professionals should be identified and recruited by the veterinarian at the EOC.

*Slaughter.* The appropriateness to slaughter animals would be made by the field veterinarian. The suitability of slaughter animals for human food consumption should be overseen by the state veterinarian's office (ante mortem) and Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) (post mortem).

Losses to the producer due to a disaster will be determined based on the producers' own insurance and FEMA compensation guidelines.

*Disposal of carcasses:* Small numbers of dead animals can be dealt with by rendering companies. Larger numbers of dead animals require other means of disposal. Potential methods include burial, incineration, composting and fermentation. Preparation of the sites would require INDOT, army or National Guard resources. Appropriate methods should be worked out ahead of time with Indiana Department of Environment and Management.

#### **Additional components to a plan**

*Communications:* A number of large animal practitioners are accessible through cellular phones. These could become valuable assets in the event of a disaster. The IVMA could keep a list of who has this form of communication and what the phone numbers are. The optimal use of communication during a disaster is if everybody involved is on the same frequency. This could be achieved by providing all field veterinary practitioners with a crystal for their radio that could be inserted into their cellular phones in the event of a disaster. This would allow the field veterinarian and the EOC to communicate on the same frequency.

Additional information on the number of farms, types of farms, resources on individual farms, and general useful information could be obtained from the local Cooperative Extension Service officer in the vicinity of the disaster area. Retrieval of this information could be through the veterinarian at the EOC. To facilitate this the Cooperative Extension Service should provide the State veterinarian's office with a list of agents familiar with large animals throughout the state.

*Veterinary Technicians:* The Indiana Veterinary Technician Association should prepare and provide the state veterinarian with a data base of veterinary technicians that would be available to respond in a disaster.

*Feed Testing:* Feed may become contaminated during a disaster, and should therefore be tested before it is fed to animals. The state chemist should have this function. If the state chemist is overburdened he/she should have the authority to commission other (commercial) laboratories to analyze the samples. The safety of the feed should, however, only be determined by the state chemist.

*Post mortem examinations for liability claims:* Post mortem examinations for purposes of determining liability should only be done at State Diagnostic Laboratories. If the State Diagnostic Laboratories are overwhelmed additional resources could be sought. These may include the Armed Forces Institute of Pathologists and field veterinary practitioners.

#### **Liability and Cost**

Field veterinarians and veterinary technicians would be reimbursed for any expenses incurred during the time in which they were operating as a state employee under a declared disaster situation. The state would also accept the liability for these representatives. If producers are employed to take care of their own animals they will be enrolled as volunteers.

**Some suggested plans of action**

Arrange meeting between ASCS and Farmers Home to define the optimal flow chart for dealing with provision of feed for livestock.

Contact INDOT, army and National Guard to get their input on transport of animals, feed, water, generators.

Discuss with Indiana Department of Environment and Management options for disposal of large numbers of dead animals. They might also like to think about the need for large scale producers to prepare contingency plans too.

**APPENDIX 2**

**SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE (COMPANION ANIMALS)**  
**IVMA Disaster Preparedness Committee**

Summary of Meeting of January 28, 1994

Present: Teresa Luley, Max Champion, Anne Trout

**Mission:** To assist people during a disaster by providing options for and assistance in protecting and caring for the animals (companion animals, production livestock, exotics and wildlife) that enrich their lives.

**Goals:**

- 1) devise an animal emergency management plan that can be incorporated into the Indiana State Emergency Management Plan.
- 2) implement the plan
- 3) develop educational materials and programs for the general public.

**COMPANION ANIMAL SUBCOMMITTEE:**

This committee should include dogs, cats, horses, and other pets (e.g. cage birds, hamsters guinea pigs, etc.)

**Four divisions were suggested:**

**1) Veterinary Response Unit**

The primary purpose of this division will be to restore the local practitioners in the disaster area to full function as soon as possible by providing whatever support might be needed. This "support" could be as simple as providing various medical supplies and/or equipment needed to treat animal patients to providing means to restore electrical power and water supplies. In extreme cases it might be necessary to provide temporary manpower relief, veterinarians and/or technicians, or even MASH type unit.

**2) Animal Control Unit**

This division will be responsible for the capture of free roaming animals, the rescue of abandoned or stranded animals, and the transport of said animals to the appropriate shelter or veterinary facility.

**3) Shelter Unit**

The duties of this division are to:

- a) identify facilities where people can stay with their pets
- b) identify kennels/stables/facilities where pets can be housed during or after a disaster
- c) develop a system to identify and track animals
- d) develop a foster care network with established forms and procedures
- e) develop waste management procedures

**4) Resources Unit**

This division will be responsible for identifying sources of feed, bedding, water, medical supplies, equipment, etc. and procuring, storing, and distributing said supplies in the event of a disaster.

## APPENDIX 3

### SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE (WILDLIFE) IVMA Disaster Preparedness Plan Committee

January 31, 1994

Present: Rose Baker, Sebastian Heath,

Absent: Doug Pond

**The purpose of this meeting was to prepare a suggested outline for a disaster response plan for wildlife.**

#### **Definitions:**

Exotics: Native and Non-native wildlife. Includes large (wildlife) and small (companion) species. This term is too broad for use in this area of the plan.

Native wildlife: wild animals that are indigenous to Indiana. These animals are not privately owned. They fall under the supervision of Department of Natural Resources (Fish and Wildlife Services)

Non-native wildlife: animals commonly kept in zoos, private collections, circuses etc. These animals are privately owned.

Livestock: Domestic ruminants, equids, cervidae, camelids, fowl, ratites. These have been defined in the Indiana legislature.

#### **Potential populations of animals affected under this part of the plan**

Zoos, private collections, circuses, exotic animals dealers, exotic animals traveling through the state of Indiana

#### **Disaster Response**

The disaster response plan for wildlife would be activated once a disaster has been declared and the veterinarian at the Emergency Operations Center receives requests to deal with wildlife. In the case of native wildlife the Fish and Wildlife Services would be notified, and they would deal with the issue according to their own protocols. In the case of non-native wildlife the person on emergency at an accredited zoo in proximity to the event would become a temporary employee of the state. This person would be given the authority to deal with the situation using the zoo's own guidelines for dealing with non-native wildlife escapes.

Alternatively, in the event of registered non-native wildlife, for which the owner has an animal escape plan that is considered feasible under the circumstances by the state authorized non-native wildlife representative, that plan may be used at the discretion of the official designate of the state.

#### **Resources**

All accredited zoos have animal escape plans, as well as qualified persons and resources to deal with their own animals. These are believed to be sufficient for dealing with most non-native wildlife disaster situations in Indiana. These plans include provisions for specialized equipment, tranquilization, feed, enclosures, cages, as well as protocols on how to deal with dangerous and endangered species, and lists of qualified persons to deal with species requiring specialized handling, such as elephants. (This may include the owner). The non-native wildlife state representative should be able to request additional resources, such as feed, fencing, caging and additional qualified persons, as well as suggest where these may be found. The supply of additional resources would be coordinated by the veterinarian at the EOC and in response to needs identified by the non-native wildlife field response person.

**Liability and Cost**

The zoo would be reimbursed for any expenses incurred during the time in which one of their members was operating as a state employee under a declared disaster situation. The state would also accept the liability for the zoo representative.

**Suggested plan of action**

For the Indiana EMA to tap into this resource it is suggested that they negotiate contracts with each of the accredited zoos that could help. These are: Indianapolis Zoo, Indianapolis; Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, Fort Wayne; Patawatame Zoo, South Bend; Mesker Park Zoo, Evansville; and Cincinnati Zoo, Cincinnati OH.

To obtain a registry of exotic animals in Indiana the Department of Natural Resources can be contacted. In preparation for an eventual disaster a contact person at D.N.R. should be identified now who would be able to provide a list of exotic animals in an affected area. This would allow for better anticipation of what type of species to expect problems with.