



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Coordinating Agency

West Virginia Department of Agriculture
(WVDA)

Primary Support Agency

West Virginia Division of Homeland
Security and Emergency Management
(WVDHSEM)

Support Agencies and Organizations

West Virginia Department of Environmental
Protection (WVDEP)
West Virginia Division of Natural
Resources
WV Department of Transportation
(WVDOT)
West Virginia Department of Health and
Human Resources (WVDHHR)
West Virginia Department of Military
Affairs and Public Safety (WVMDAPS)
West Virginia State Police
West Virginia Division of Culture and
History (WVDCH)
West Virginia University Cooperative
Extension Service
West Virginia Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster (WVVOAD)
USDA Farm Service Agency
USDA Plant and Animal Services
West Virginia Farm Bureau
West Virginia Pets In Disaster Task Force
West Virginia Conservation Agency
County Sheriffs' Departments
County Emergency Management Agencies
Animal Shelters/Humane Officers
Humane Associations/Groups Volunteers
Agriculture businesses and organizations

Purpose

This annex establishes policies and procedures to support local authorities and the efforts of other state agencies to provide nutritional assistance, ensure the safety and security of the commercial food supply, control or eradicate, as appropriate, any outbreak of contagious or reportable animal disease or any outbreak of economically devastating plant pest or disease, protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties; and provide for the safety and well-being of household pets during an emergency response or evacuation situation.

Scope

A. The WVDA Donated Foods Program will assist in providing food items that are available via the USDA Commodity Food Program. The food items meet the menu needs of agencies providing meals to people impacted by a disaster.

B. Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11 includes implementing an integrated federal, state, and local response to either an outbreak of a highly contagious or reportable diseases, or an outbreak of an economically significant plant pest or disease. This ESF will ensure coordination with ESF 8 Public Health and Medical Services and other issues where agriculture and natural resources are effected in disaster situations.

C. Provide assistance for the safety and well-being of household pets. This ESF will include responsibilities in coordination with WVDHSEM, ESF 6 Mass Care, ESF 8 Public Health and Medical Services, and ESF 9 Urban Search and Rescue to ensure an integrated response that provides for the safety and well-being of household pets.

D. In coordination with ESF 8 Public Health and Medical Services, the ESF will encompass the safety and security of the commercial food supply. The WVDA will include the inspection and verification of food safety in slaughter and processing plants; products in distribution and retail sites; laboratory analysis of food samples; control of products suspected to be adulterated; plant closures; and conduct field investigations.

E. The WVDCH will identify, preserve, protect, promote and present the ideas, arts and artifacts of any agricultural and/or natural resource incident for the purpose of recording West Virginia’s heritage.

Policies

A. All agencies assigned responsibilities within this ESF will develop and maintain the necessary plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), mutual aid agreements, and model contracts to successfully accomplish their tasks.

B. Restoration of normal operations at energy facilities for food storage is the responsibility of the facility owners.

Organizational Structure

The West Virginia Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture is the lead agency for ESF 11 in the West Virginia State Emergency Operations Center (WVSEOC) and is responsible for the coordination of this function, and for the maintenance of this part of the State of West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (WVEOP). Each of the five ESF 11 functions is supported by federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector. Additional support agencies may be needed to provide the resources to assist with all five ESF 11 functions.

Concept of Operations

ESF 11 staff may respond to the WVSEOC when an incident threatens to disrupt the routine protection of the food supply and distribution systems, cause animal and/or plant disease outbreaks, endanger animal health, endanger historic, cultural or natural resources, or endanger the safety and well-being of household pets. ESF 11 will implement standard procedures and coordinate actions to assist local governments.

A. Nutrition Assistance

1. A catastrophic or major disaster will deprive substantial numbers of people access to food and/or the means to prepare food. The food supply and distribution network will be interrupted until roads are cleared and power is restored. Without power, many commercial cold storage and freezer facilities will be inoperable and much of the existing food supply inventory may be destroyed.
2. Disaster education initiatives by state and local government agencies and voluntary organizations will advise the public to stockpile food and water supplies sufficient for their household for 5 to 7 days. Residents in a disaster area must be prepared to care for themselves until the normal food supply and distribution system has been restored or supplemental food supplies have arrived.
3. During the increased readiness period, ESF 11 will develop estimates of the number of people who will need food based on damage projections.
4. The earliest situation reports and damage assessments will indicate the level of immediate human needs including food, and the condition of the infrastructure including the transportation system and the power grid.
5. WVDA will assist affected local governments as needed with the provision of essential food supplies to mass care facilities. Such assistance will include locating items and making them available and ensuring pick-up and delivery through other ESFs and the USDA Commodity Foods Program. This assistance will be provided only during that period when local governments/private and non-private organizations are unable to manage on their own due to disaster effects.
6. After the delivery of food supplies to the disaster area, it will be the responsibility of the receiving local government, and in part or whole by WVVOAD, to secure and distribute these supplies to disaster victims.
7. The delivery of food to victims of disasters is dependent upon food sources, food protection services, transportation resources and food delivery systems. Conditions in the disaster area determine the appropriate methods of delivering food to individuals. Food can be delivered to disaster victims

and relief workers by prepared meals in fixed or mobile feeding facilities, or by bulk through food banks or other volunteer agencies.

8. Priority will be to utilize food from known commercial food manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, retailers, and/or non-profit organizations that normally provide food and associated items. US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and/or WVDA donated foods will be used when other provider's supplies are exhausted.

9. Food supplies in the impacted areas must be from sources acceptable to WVDHHR and local health departments, before they can be used or distributed. This includes donated food and food services to disaster victims in mobile or fixed feeding facilities.

10. State agencies and food banks across the state that purchase, store, and deliver food as part of their normal operations will cooperate with WVDA in locating and providing surplus food for delivery to the disaster area. These agencies include those which operate food services for their own residential populations (prisons, colleges, hospitals) and those that assist with the distribution of food to local government facilities (schools and health departments).

11. WVDHHR and WVDA will coordinate with local officials and private and non-profit organizations to ensure the ample and timely delivery of essential food supplies. They will assess the effectiveness of the disaster relief food distribution operation and address any problems. WVDA and WVDHHR will assist with restoration of local commercial food supply and distribution system. Grocery stores and other food outlets should be able to resume normal operations within several days once road access and electric power have been restored.

B. Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response

1. WVDA has the primary responsibility for monitoring animal and plant diseases and pest infestations affecting agriculture.

2. WVDA has developed procedures to address animal diseases including quarantine, depopulation and disposal activities designed to stop the spread of the pathogen, limit the number of animals that must be euthanized and minimize the effect of the disease on people, the economy and the environment.

3. WVDA will utilize existing and most current international, national, state and other recognized subject matter experts and documents to assist in dealing with animal and plant diseases and pest infestations.

C. Safety of Household Pets

1. WVDA will assist in the coordination for the safety and well-being of household pets. Focus will be on missions to assist local organizations, pet shelters, non-profit and other related animal organizations. Local organizations are responsible for managing local pet shelters, but may request assistance through WVSEOC. These requests will be directed to the ESF 11 staff person.

D. Safety and Security of the Commercial Food Supply

1. A natural or manmade disaster could threaten the safety and security of the commercial food supply. Natural disasters may damage or destroy food storage facilities, cause floods and interrupt electrical power resulting in contamination and temperate abuse of food. Manmade incidents may result in food contamination by chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear or explosive agents. Fires and food-transporting vehicle accidents may also cause food contamination.

2. WVDA and WVDHHR have trained personnel and plans for responding to natural or manmade disasters that may have rendered food unsafe for consumption. The two agencies will coordinate activities to maximize the use of resources. When presented with a food safety or security mission, staff in ESF 11 will contact the Commissioner of Agriculture and Secretary of WVDHHR. These individuals will coordinate with staff to plan the response and keep staff in ESF 11 informed.

E. Protection of Natural, Cultural and Historic (NCH) Resources

1. During the recovery phase of a disaster, care must be taken to protect NCH resources. Personnel with the expertise on NCH resources do not normally staff ESF 11. ESF 11 will either be augmented, or a meeting will be called to address protection of a NCH resource. Participants may include WVDCH, WVDEP and other organizations as appropriate.

Agency Responsibilities Matrix

Supporting Agency	Acronym	Responsibilities
West Virginia Department of Agriculture	WVDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serves as state liaison with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. • Monitor the incidence rates of animal and plant diseases and pest infestations affecting agriculture. • Advise the public to stockpile food and water supplies sufficient for their household for 5 to 7 days. • Assist affected local governments as needed with the provision of essential food supplies to mass care facilities. • Locating and coordinating provision of surplus food for delivery to the disaster area. • Assists with the safety and wellbeing of household pets. • Identify animals that must be euthanized and minimize the effect of the disease on people, the economy and the environment. • Address the safety and wellbeing of household pets. • Keep accurate logs and other records of all emergency responses. Accomplish After Action Reports and other reports, as appropriate. • Review short-term recovery actions and develop long-term strategies to ensure adequate food supplies.
West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management	WVDHSEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activate the WVSEOC, if conditions and requirements exceed local resources and state resources are needed. • Assign state and local emergency response/damage assessment teams to the disaster area(s) to determine the extent of damage, industries involved, and the resources needed for energy restoration. These teams may require subject matter experts in order to make a good assessment. • Coordinate press releases concerning agriculture, food supply and natural/cultural resources -related issues using procedures outlined in ESF 15 External Affairs. • Coordinate and communicate specific ESF 11-related needs and requirements with county emergency management offices. • Collect, evaluate, and share information on damaged food distribution systems and estimate the impact within the affected areas. • Coordinate the implementation of voluntary and mandatory food supply measures once the Governor has declared a “state of emergency.”
West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection	WVDEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and assist with the coordination of disposal of food, animals and other items.
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources	WVDNR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide wildlife-related assistance.
West Virginia Department of Transportation	WVDOT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate transportation requests relating to food transportation distribution requirements. Refer to ESF 1 Transportation.
West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources	WVDHHR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist in acquiring and distributing food and water supplies, as necessary.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train personnel and plan for responding to natural or manmade disasters that may have rendered food unsafe for consumption.
West Virginia Division of Culture and History		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, preserve, protect, promote and present the ideas, arts and artifacts of West Virginia’s heritage.
West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety	WVDMAPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serve as primary agency for military support. (See Support Annex 2 Military Support) • Provide bulk food dispensing, as resources allow. • Provide emergency food supplies in coordination with WVDHSEM and WVDA as resources allow.

Authorities and References

Authorities

West Virginia Code §15-1

West Virginia Code §15-5

West Virginia Code §16

West Virginia Code §19

References

State of West Virginia Emergency Operations Basic Plan, as amended

Other Appendices as Developed and Published



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**
Attachment #1 – Providing Nutrition Assistance – TO BE PUBLISHED

Coordinating Agency

Support Agencies and Organizations

Primary Support Agency

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Emergency Support Function 11
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Attachment #2 – Animal and Agricultural Health Issues

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West Virginia Division of Natural
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WV Department of Transportation
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West Virginia Department of Health and
Human Resources (WVDHHR)
West Virginia Department of Military
Affairs and Public Safety (WVMDAPS)
West Virginia State Police (WVSP)
West Virginia National Guard (WVNG)
West Virginia State Fire Marshal’s Office
(WVSFMO)
West Virginia Division of Forestry
(WVDOF)
West Virginia Public Service Commission
(WVPSA)
West Virginia University Cooperative
Extension Service
USDA Farm Service Agency
USDA Plant and Animal Services
West Virginia Farm Bureau

Purpose

A. This attachment establishes specific policies and procedures to be used by the State of West Virginia when responding to, and recovering from, outbreaks of highly contagious and fast spreading foreign animal and poultry diseases that may threaten domesticated animals, poultry, and wildlife.

B. This attachment is intended to be consistent with the State of West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (WVEOP), the National Response Plan (NRP), and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Scope

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11 includes implementing an integrated federal, state, and local response to either an outbreak of a highly contagious or reportable diseases, or

an outbreak of an economically significant plant pest or disease. This ESF will ensure coordination with ESF 8 Public Health and Medical Services and other issues where agriculture and natural resources are affected in disaster situations.

Policies

A. All agencies assigned responsibilities within this Attachment will develop and maintain the necessary plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), mutual aid agreements, and model contracts to successfully accomplish their tasks.

B. Restoration of normal operations at energy facilities for food storage is the responsibility of the facility owners.

Situation and Assumptions

A. Situation

1. Natural, technological, or manmade disasters could affect the well-being of both domestic and wild animals.
2. Highly contagious animal and poultry diseases covered under this annex are identified by the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) Listed Diseases.
3. The State of West Virginia recognizes the need for coordinated response activities of various state agencies in the event of highly contagious animal or poultry diseases.
4. The State of West Virginia has partnered with local governments, municipalities, non-governmental organizations and volunteer groups for planned emergency operations, to mitigate or minimize suffering of animals during an emergency. This operational planning has included, where feasible, any animal in the state needing protection during an emergency, whether domestic or wild.
5. Suspected or actual outbreaks of infectious foreign animal or poultry diseases may result from a variety of sources, including importation of animals, animal products or other related items.
6. The outbreak of disease among domestic herds and flocks could seriously impact the economics of significant portions of the state through shortages of animals and animal products in local and state economics. The economic impact could financially

devastate farmers and adversely affect the prices of remaining animals and animal-related products.

7. The preponderance of wildlife within the state can exacerbate situations of infections within domestic herds and flocks due to their migratory activities within the normal ranges of domesticated animals.

8. The spread of infectious animal and poultry diseases could be the result of bioterrorism.

9. The outbreak of disease among domestic herds and flocks poses a serious health risk to native free wildlife. The transmission of disease from domestic animals to wildlife not only makes control and eradication of the disease difficult, if not impossible, but also would seriously impact the economic benefits derived from outdoor recreation and ecosystem balance provided by healthy wildlife populations.

B. Assumptions

1. If not properly planned for during an emergency, animal issues could escalate to the point of detracting from other higher priority emergency operations.

2. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has policies, procedures and guidance for the eradication of infectious foreign animal and poultry disease outbreaks.

3. The USDA has in place procedures for investigating a suspected foreign animal disease/emerging disease incident.

4. Animal disaster relief efforts are more efficient and effective if pro-active animal protection planning and coordination is carried out at all levels of government and within the communities.

5. Diseases of this nature can spread rapidly, reducing time available for deliberate response activities and necessitating quick response using standardized procedures at the state level to minimize further spread of disease.

6. Pre-disaster education is of the utmost importance to ensure the public has ample time to implement arrangements for both small and large animals.

7. The state may require outside assistance to carry out animal protection operations during an emergency.

8. An emergency in the state may warrant an immediate response from other states, along with federal response and support personnel and other organizations, to effectively carry out animal protection operations.
9. Coordination of disease epidemic containment with neighboring states is required.
10. Access to affected areas is to be restricted by quarantine.
11. In most emergency situations, outside animal protection and rescue assistance is likely to be available; however, a major emergency may compound animal protection operations due to the magnitude of the event and may require activation of additional specialized agencies through mutual aid.
12. Post-disaster planning should address animal protection operations for a seven-day period. After three (3) days, augmentation from mutual aid is probably needed to supplement state resources.

Organizational Structure

A. Organization

1. If a state of emergency is declared by either the USDA or the Governor of West Virginia, the response organization and policies contained in the West Virginia EOP are implemented.
2. The Commissioner of Agriculture has the authority by Chapter 19 of the West Virginia State Code to take whatever means necessary to suppress, control and eradicate any communicable animal or poultry diseases that are detected within the state.
3. The WVDA maintains coordination with WVDHSEM and the USDA and support agencies responding to, and recovering from, animal and poultry disease emergencies in the State of West Virginia.

B. Responsibilities

1. State Level

a. The Office of the Governor

- 1) Declare a state of emergency based on recommendations from the Cabinet Secretary of The Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety and the Commissioner of Agriculture.
- 2) Provide funds to support the emergency operations, as appropriate.
- 3) Coordinate and review information to be released to the public through the Governor’s Office of Communications.

b. Department of Agriculture

- 1) Advise the Governor on all matters of infectious animal and poultry diseases covered under this annex. Serve as the proponent agency for all matters of infectious animal and poultry disease.
- 2) Assign state and local emergency response teams and damage assessment teams to the disaster area(s) to determine the type and extent of contamination.
- 3) Determine when increased testing of domestic herds and flocks should begin, based upon the situation and in coordination with other agencies.
- 4) Determine when prophylactic vaccination of domestic herds and flocks should begin, based on the situation and in coordination with other agencies.
- 5) Determine when to limit or stop interstate shipments of possibly contaminated animals, animal products or other contaminated shipments.
- 6) Determine when to depopulate domestic herds and flocks and the appropriate methods of destruction and disposal of remains.
- 7) Provide guidance to the WVDOH on wording, size of lettering and size of signage to be used at all state border crossing points if border closure is warranted to restrict the spread of infected shipments.
- 8) Coordinate with the Governor’s Office of Communications for all press and public information releases. Timely information to the public on prophylactic

vaccination of herds, animal destruction and other actions is imperative for good public order.

9) Maintain contact with the USDA, APHIS and equivalent agencies in neighboring states.

10) Provide guidance to law enforcement agencies in the event of border closure.

11) Provide technical guidance to all personnel on appropriate methods of disposing of contaminated animal and poultry remains during incidents of infectious animal and poultry diseases.

12) Provide technical guidance to all personnel involved in decontaminating equipment and personnel during incidents of infectious animal and poultry diseases.

13) Provide safety guidance to all personnel involved in decontamination operations, to include disposal of contaminated waste, during incidents of infectious animal and poultry diseases.

14) Coordinate with the PSC for development of vehicle and shipment inspection standards and forms for all inbound shipments of animals and animal products. All such shipments must be inspected to determine if the vehicles or the shipment is carrying infected animals, animal products or other possible carriers.

15) Issue orders restricting bulk milk tanker trucks from leaving quarantine areas to reduce the spread of disease, based on the situation.

16) Determine the appropriate method for disposal of contaminated bulk milk and issue guidance to agencies responding to incidents of highly contagious animal diseases, as appropriate.

17) Maintain contact with WVDHSEM during all infectious animal and poultry disease incidents.

c. Cabinet Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety

- 1) Monitor all subordinate agencies in response to Highly Contagious Animal or Poultry Diseases (HCAPD) in West Virginia.
 - 2) Direct establishment of JOCs after initial deployment based upon information and recommendations.
- d. West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
- 1) Activate the SEOC, as appropriate.
 - 2) Establish initial JOC location in coordination with the WVDA and other state and local agencies, when directed.
 - 3) Coordinate press releases concerning infectious animal and poultry disease-related issues through the Communications Director in the Governor’s Office of Communications and the Director in the Office of the Commissioner of Agriculture, as appropriate.
 - 4) Coordinate and communicate specific disease identification and mitigation, animal destruction and recovery support needs and requirements with all supporting agencies and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- e. National Guard
- 1) Provide military support to infectious animal and avian disease emergencies.
 - 2) Provide wheeled and aviation transportation support for personnel and equipment responding to incidents of infectious animal and poultry diseases, as required.
 - 3) Provide earth moving equipment support for burial of livestock and poultry remains, as required.
 - 4) Provide equipment augmentation support to other support agencies, as resources allow. This support includes, but is not limited to, power generator equipment; lighting; tents for temporary housing; office space and personnel decontamination operations; personnel; and potable water transportation.

- 5) Coordinate with the WVDA for training of personnel to support decontamination of equipment used in the disposal of animal remains.
- 6) Provide trained and properly equipped personnel to support decontamination operations.
- 7) Maintain communications with the SEOC for the duration of all incidents of infectious animal and poultry disease.

f. Department of Health and Human Resources

- 1) Provide monitoring, surveillance, prevention and control services and activities related to human disease and animal disease that can be transmitted to humans.
- 2) Assess the potential for spread of human diseases or animal diseases that can be transmitted to humans.
- 3) Liaison with the United States Public Health Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- 4) Coordinate emergency medical services (EMS) to support the JOC and residents of quarantine areas.
- 5) Assess potential threats to public and private water and sewage systems. Coordinate with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), Office of Water Resources, to minimize the impact to drinking water supplies from ground and surface sources in the affected area.
- 6) Assist the WVDA in restricting bulk milk tanker trucks operating within a quarantined area from leaving the quarantined area. This measure is required to prevent the inadvertent spread of disease.
- 7) Provide technical assistance and education on the implementation of insect, rodent and bird control programs, as necessary, when these vectors are determined to be significant factors in the transmission of a disease affecting human health.

8) Coordinate with the WVDA on restrictions to be placed on importation of animals, animal products, equipment and other items that may transmit disease.

9) Provide advice, consultation and preventative public health information releases.

10) Serve as the point of contact and as the liaison for all local health departments and other health facilities. Inform and educate same on the prevention, diagnostic and treatment procedures relating to specific diseases.

11) Coordinate behavioral health response to psychological effects of disease outbreak within the general population.

g. Division of Forestry

1) Coordinate with the WVDA for assistance to determine the threat to state forests from any identified or suspected infectious animal or poultry diseases.

2) Prepare responses to all infectious threats to the state woodlands in cooperation with the WVDA, Animal Health Division.

3) Provide firefighting equipment to support area personnel and equipment decontamination under the supervision of WVDA personnel, as required. This support is to be in a secondary role to WVDOH for equipment decontamination.

4) Provide fire fighting equipment and personnel to suppress any wildfires that occur inside the quarantined area.

5) Maintain contact with the WVDHSEM during all infectious animal or poultry disease incidents.

h. Division of Natural Resources:

1) Advise the Governor on all matters of infectious diseases affecting wildlife.

2) Provide information on the abundance and distribution of wildlife that would aid in the control and eradication of a foreign animal or poultry disease capable of affecting domestic livestock and poultry, as well as wildlife.

- 3) Provide contact with (via telephone or other means) a Wildlife Biologist and a Conservation Officer as liaison between WVDHSEM and the Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR).

- 4) Provide wildlife-related materials and information for press and public information and assist in the dissemination of such information to wildlife user groups. Coordinate press and public information with the Governor’s Office of Communications.

- 5) Initiate surveillance of susceptible wildlife species, upon receipt of notification of a “Looks Likely” or “Looks Very Likely” for an OIE listed disease. This may involve WVDNR team(s) collecting wildlife samples within distances determined in conjunctions with USDA and WVDA. The WVDNR may also assemble additional technical teams from APHIS Wildlife Services and wildlife disease experts from a supporting wildlife disease laboratory at a school of veterinary medicine.

- 6) Depopulate, and coordinate any assistance necessary to depopulate, susceptible wildlife species within the quarantine zone to aid in controlling or eradicating a covered foreign animal or poultry disease in the event of a confirmed foreign animal disease outbreak. It is unlikely that a total depopulation of wildlife species is possible. However, susceptible species populations should be reduced to such a density as to curtail the spread of disease.

- 7) Provide surveillance outside quarantine zones by examining susceptible species at all hunter check stations and animals killed on the highways.

- 8) Provide advice in the selection of carcass disposal sites with regards to outdoor recreation sites and abundance of susceptible wildlife.

- 9) Suspend or limit hunting seasons in the quarantine zone to aid in disease control or eradication of diseases covered in this annex that can affect domestic livestock and poultry and wildlife species.

- 10) Coordinate the use of Natural Resources Police Officers(NRPO) with WVSP to supplement and support other law enforcement agencies, as needed.

- 11) Provide transport support for personnel and supplies using NRPO, as needed.

i. Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Air Quality

- 1) Provide advice and technical information related to the incineration or best practices for open burning of depopulated animals, if such disposal methods are necessary, in lieu of burial.
- 2) Review specific site open burning/incineration plans and provide advice concerning mitigation of air quality impacts upon residents of the affected areas.
- 3) Visually observe burning operations to determine the extent of smoke generation and areas potentially affected during the burning periods. Under specific circumstances, perform limited criteria air pollutant and/or meteorological monitoring at, or near, animal remains burning sites.
- 4) Aid other agencies, as required.

j. Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Water Resources

- 1) Coordinate with the WVDHHR, Office of Environmental Health Services, to minimize the impact to drinking water supplies in the affected area.
- 2) Provide advice and assistance in site selection for burial of animal remains, to reduce the effects on vulnerable and sensitive ground water areas and provide advice and technical information concerning the potential hydrologic connectivity of ground waters and surface waters and the effects on planned burial sites.
- 3) Provide advice on the construction of burial pits to minimize impacts to local area ground water.
- 4) Provide advice on ground water protection practices to minimize the impact on ground water and to public and private possible drinking water supplies.
- 5) Provide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) services and expertise.
- 6) Provide advice on the location and possible use of landfills in the event burial of animal remains is not possible.

7) Provide other advice and assistance to the Commissioner of Agriculture or the Secretary of WVDMAPS, as required.

k. Public Service Commission

1) Assist in the inspection, detection and detention of commercial motor vehicles transporting animals and animal products in, and/or through, West Virginia.

2) Assist in efforts to prevent transportation of animals or animal products by commercial vehicles in West Virginia.

l. West Virginia Department of Transportation, Division of Highways

1) Provide WVDOH owned heavy equipment with operators and coordinate private sector equipment rental as required (i.e. end loaders, backhoes, excavators, bulldozers, etc.) for disposal of animal remains, if needed.

2) Provide WVDOH trucks (open dump type with tarps) for transport of depopulated animal carcasses.

3) Provide transports for heavy equipment and potable water, as required.

4) Fabricate and erect appropriate highway signage for road closures and detours in affected areas.

5) Fabricate and erect appropriate highway and port signage at state borders and points of entry, should border closure be imposed.

6) Direct PSC Weight Enforcement Officers to monitor transportation of animals and poultry on the highway system in coordination with the WVDA.

7) Assist and advise in matters of road closures and detours, as required.

8) Maintain contact with the SEOC upon activation of the SEOC.

m. West Virginia State Police

1) Coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies in West Virginia. Those agencies include, but are not limited to:

- a) Public Service Commission, Motor Carrier Section;
 - b) Division of Natural Resources, Law Enforcement Section;
 - c) County Sheriff Departments;
 - d) Municipal Police Departments; and
 - e) Other agencies, as required.
- 2) Coordinate and assist in providing security to the following:
- a) Public officials;
 - b) Workers and equipment involved in response to disease outbreaks;
 - c) Affected residents land, property, equipment and personal possessions;
and
 - d) The general public.
- 3) Coordinate and assist in establishing road closures and roadblocks to prevent unauthorized personnel, equipment and livestock from entering or leaving areas that have been quarantined, or upon which other travel restrictions have been imposed.
- 4) Coordinate with the WVDOH and other appropriate agencies to provide alternative routes for travel and provide affected workers and the public with information about road closures and alternative routes of travel.
- 5) Provide security escorts, as required, for agencies that transport quarantined livestock, equipment and supplies.
- 6) Assist in prohibiting the movement of livestock, as required.
- 7) Provide general crowd control.

m. West Virginia State Fire Marshal's Office

- 1) Coordinate all structural fire suppression and structural fire protection activities to include West Virginia Division of Forestry and local municipal and volunteer fire services.
- 2) Coordinate decontamination support near established JOCs, as appropriate, to prevent further spread of disease based on directives issued by the WVDA.

n. West Virginia University Extension Service

- 1) Provide education services and support by:
 - a) Conducting educational training sessions on identification and handling of suspected OIE Listed Disease cases and other covered diseases for West Virginia University Extension Service faculty.
 - b) Disseminating policies and protocols provided by the Commissioner of Agriculture to livestock producers regarding reported incidents of suspected OIE Listed Disease cases and other covered diseases through the West Virginia University Extension Service faculty.
 - c) Distributing appropriate and accurate information to the public addressing concerns about covered diseases and food safety.
- 2) Distribute information to producers and the public using electronic and distance learning systems connecting with all 55 county extension offices across the state.
- 3) Aid other agencies, as required.

o. Volunteer Organizations

Provide support as needed. Volunteer organizations are to coordinate all activities through appropriate state agencies at the SEOC.

2. Federal

The USDA is to implement, as required, emergency-related functions under the National Response Plan and all USDA APHIS-related policies and procedures.

Concept of Operations

A. General

1. The response to any emergency involving highly contagious foreign animal or poultry diseases is to be a flexible, phased response. The Commissioner of Agriculture directs the level of response, based on the situation in domestic animals/herds/flocks.
2. Should an outbreak of infectious foreign animal or poultry disease threaten the national economy, the USDA may move aggressively to declare a national or international emergency. Should an outbreak of infectious foreign animal or poultry disease occur within the boundaries of West Virginia, the Governor may declare a state of emergency, as deemed appropriate.
3. The West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (WVDHSEM) activates the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and requests that representative staff be made available. The WVDHSEM identifies which support agencies are needed and activates those agencies, as needed.
4. The WVDHSEM coordinates with the Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety and the Commissioner of Agriculture to determine the appropriate response and recovery needs based on the disease and emergency involved.
5. Response operations are managed via the Incident Command System (ICS).

B. Phases of Management

1. Response Actions

a. **Level 1 Response - Preparedness.** This level of response includes all activities of planning for, and responding to, incidents of animal and poultry diseases before the onset of suspected or actual disease. These activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) Developing and refining plans at all levels of government to properly and adequately respond to the threat of covered animal and poultry diseases.

2) Procuring and stockpiling forecasted supplies of protective clothing, disinfectants and other materials required for immediate response to covered animal and poultry disease threats.

3) Preparing and disseminating information for public use on the covered animal and poultry diseases. This information must be informative and should include such topics as methods of preventing the spread of these diseases, identification of symptoms of covered diseases, methods of disinfecting personnel, clothing and equipment, methods of disease eradication and recovery resource information.

b. Level 2 Response - Suspected case of a covered disease. This level of response includes all activities taken in the event of a suspected case of a covered disease. These activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) Establishing a local Joint Operations Center (JOC) near the suspected case. Preparations would include delivery of equipment, materials and supplies required to establish the JOC by the supporting agencies.

2) Segregating suspect animals from neighboring animals and placing under the observation of representatives from the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, pending test results.

3) Taking tissue samples from suspect animals and shipping to the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), and designated lab for testing. Sampling of wildlife in proximity to suspect domestic animals is initiated after consultation with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

4) Determining the area and limits of a proposed quarantine if quarantine is required. This determination is to be made by WVDA, USDA and/or APHIS in conjunction with law enforcement and other agencies to coordinate future operations and to examine the effects on the local area. Area of quarantine is to be determined by Global Information System data.

5) Limiting contact with the suspected animals or poultry to only those personnel who are required to conduct testing and observation of the animals.

6) Requiring personnel involved with feeding, testing and monitoring the animals or poultry to wear appropriate protective clothing and equipment as specified by the Commissioner of Agriculture or a designated representative of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

7) Instituting aggressive hygiene, sanitation and decontamination measures as determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture or a designated representative of the Commissioner of Agriculture in conjunction with appropriate health officials for personnel involved with feeding, testing and monitoring the animals.

8) Monitoring of situation by the SEOC Operations Officer and/or the Director of Operations and maintaining the appropriate contacts after hours with the Call Center providing the initial contact point for WVDHSEM.

9) Developing plans for the delivery of food, drinking water and other items, as required, to people living in the proposed quarantine area.

c. **Level 3 Response** - Local quarantine imposed. The SEOC may be activated for operations involving Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) and may be activated for OIE Listed Diseases. This level of response includes activities required in the event of a local quarantine being directed by the Commissioner of Agriculture or a designated representative of the Commissioner of Agriculture. These activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) Activating and deploying the JOC to take charge of the local operations and expanding it with additional staffing, as may be necessary in cases of FAD.

2) Enforcing the local quarantine by appropriate law enforcement officials. Special consideration is made on a case-by-case basis for people living in the quarantine area for medical emergencies and other requirements.

3) Assessing the need to provide appropriate life support for people living in the quarantine area, by WVDA, in coordination with other local and state agencies. These activities are to include at a minimum: delivery of food and drinking water, disinfectant supplies, medical supplies and protective clothing for personnel involved directly with infected animals.

4) Instituting strict enforcement procedures for the use of protective clothing and equipment for all personnel that enter the quarantine area.

5) Instituting strict enforcement of proper decontamination of all personnel as they depart the quarantine area.

6) Instituting strict enforcement of proper disposal of contaminated waste resulting from decontamination operations.

7) Ordering the depopulation of infected herds or flocks by the Commissioner of Agriculture or designated representative, as appropriate. If animals are depopulated, the next priority is the proper disposal of the animal remains without affecting the local environment.

d. **Level 4 Response** - Recommendation to declare a state of emergency. The Secretary of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety and the Commissioner of Agriculture recommends the Governor declare a state of emergency. This recommendation may be the result of positive identification of especially contagious diseases or multiple outbreaks of diseases. Activities included in Level 3 Response are to continue. Upon receipt of positive laboratory results for an OIE Listed Disease, the Commissioner of Agriculture, or a designated representative, establishes an area quarantine surrounding the index case. This area quarantine is to be sufficient to prohibit further spread of the disease. As a planning factor, this quarantine area is to have a radius of approximately two (2) miles, four (4) miles, and six (6) miles, subject to revision by the Commissioner of Agriculture and the USDA.

e. **Level 5 Response** - Governor, or federal authority, declares a state of emergency. Once a state of emergency has been declared, the following activities occur, at a minimum:

1) Exercising direct authority over statewide response to the emergency by the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture or federal authority.

2) Activating and operating the SEOC on a 24-hour basis as described in this annex and the West Virginia EOP.

3) As appropriate, the closing of the State's borders by the Commissioner of Agriculture to all import of animals and poultry to reduce the risk of additional infection. The Division of Highways (DOH) performs closure of borders in coordination with the West Virginia State Police (WVSP) and the Public Service Commission (PSC).

4) Maintaining local authority to perform duties, as described above by the local JOC (s).

5) Coordinating support operations for local JOC(s) by the SEOC. In the event of multiple local outbreaks, the SEOC acts as the main clearinghouse for all support requirements thereby streamlining the communications channels.

f. **Level 6 Response - Recovery.** Actions during this level of response is to include the following, at a minimum:

1) Decontaminating the local area using approved methods, as directed by the Commissioner of Agriculture or a designated representative in consultation with the designated USDA representative. This would include land area, buildings, vehicles and equipment that may have been exposed.

2) Continuing monitoring local herds and flocks for additional symptoms of infectious disease.

3) Providing indemnification of farmers for animals that were depopulated because of orders from the Commissioner of Agriculture, or a designated representative, and pursuant to established USDA APHIS Chapter 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 56 – Voluntary Control Program and Payment of Indemnity.

4) Providing other disaster assistance to farmers, as authorized by current USDA guidelines or state law.

5) Restocking wildlife that has been depopulated, as practical.

Authorities and References

Authorities

West Virginia Code §15-5, as amended

West Virginia Code §16, Articles 1 and 3, as amended

West Virginia Code §19, Articles 2, 2B, and 9, as amended

West Virginia Code §20-1, as amended

References

State of West Virginia Emergency Operations Basic Plan, as amended

Title 9, Code of Federal Regulations, Subchapters B, C, D, and E, as amended



Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources
 Appendix 1 JOC Layout to Attachment #2 – Animal and Agricultural Health Issues

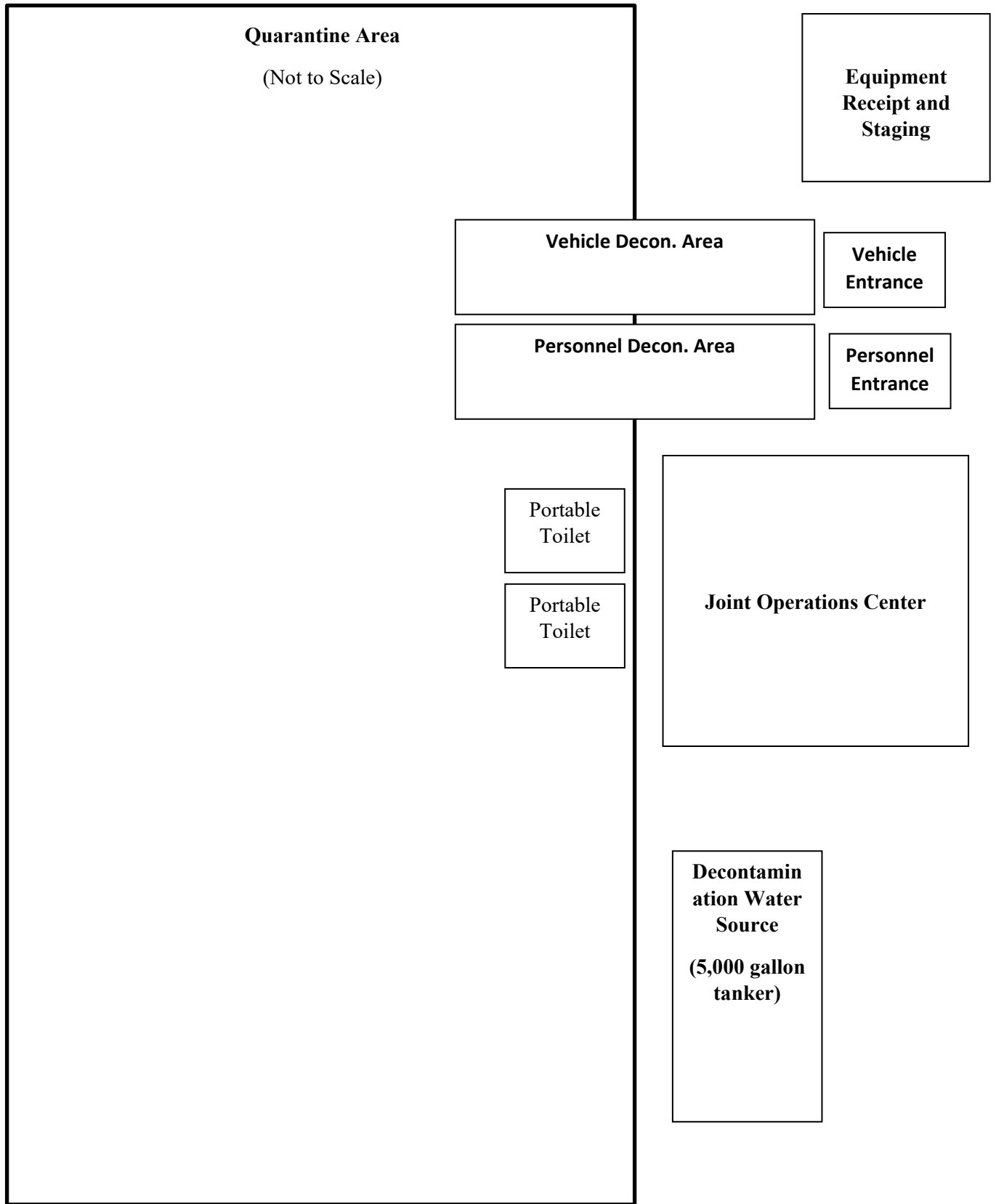
1. This attachment delineates the establishment of the Joint Operations Center (JOC) and required equipment and agencies responsible for the operations in the JOC.
2. The JOC is the on-scene command post for incidents of infectious disease. The JOC is also the local point of contact for all agencies working in the local disaster area.
3. The JOC may consist of the following:

Agency	Number of Personnel	Possible Equipment for JOC
Department of Agriculture	As required	Decontamination Supplies – Transport coordinated with WVNG or DOH, as required (Quantity of Equipment and Personnel will be situation dependent). Equipment & supplies
WVARNG Liaison	As required	Tent, GP Medium, Light Sets, 10kw AC Generator, Mobile Kitchen Trailer (only for internal feeding of personnel), Field Telephones (security), 400 gal. water trailers, 5T cargo trucks, field ambulances (Only for support to WVNG structure, if on scene) (WVNG may not be ordered to the JOC, based on recommendations at the time of the incident)
DNR – Law Enforcement	As required	
DNR – Wildlife	As required	
WV State Police	As required	Mobile Command Post, if required

Agency	Number of Personnel	Possible Equipment for JOC
Division of Highways	As required	GPS equipment, vehicle, communication equipment and two (2) powered steam cleaners
DHHR	As required	Health related equipment & supplies
WVU County Extension Faculty	As required	Communications with JOC
DEP – Water Resources	As required	
DEP – Air Quality	As required	
Local Law Enforcement	As required. Coordinated by State Police	Communications with State Police and vehicles, as required
Public Information Officer - from WVDHSEM	As required	
Division of Forestry	As required	Slip on Pumper Trucks, Tank and Pump Truck
USDA	As required	Equipment & supplies
WVDHSEM	As required	Mobile Operations Center with UHF, VHF, FM, Satellite Phone (one line) and Satellite.

- The actual layout of the JOC is dictated by the local situation and takes into consideration the local terrain, highway network, local population, weather and other aspects. The drawing on the next page will serve as a guideline for the local JOC establishment. Other areas not included in the drawing to consider are: housing for workers; administrative parking area; location of communications support equipment; additional portable toilets; portable shower facilities; hand washing area; location of power generation; food preparation area; dining area; location of drinking and food preparation water supply.

SPECIFIC PROTOCOLS FOR DIFFERENT INCIDENTS MAY CHANGE THE MAKE UP AND NUMBERS FOR THE RESPONSE.



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Appendix 2 Emergency Response Teams to Attachment #2 – Animal and Agricultural Health Issues



This appendix establishes the composition of various teams that respond to incidents of highly contagious animal and poultry diseases. These teams are to operate under the direction of the Commissioner of Agriculture or representative and may be augmented by assets from the USDA. The various teams that may be involved are as follows:

1. FAD/EDI Investigation Team. One veterinarian with the expertise to detect conditions that differ from those expected from domestic diseases. Duties include taking tissue samples and shipping the samples to the appropriate laboratory facility for evaluation. This team requires appropriate personal protective and sampling equipment.
2. Appraisal Team. Government or industry representatives to assign fair market value to any animals prior to depopulation as ordered by the Commissioner of Agriculture or other authority. This team is to be equipped with appropriate personal protection equipment.
3. Depopulation and Disposal Team. Teams with appropriate personal protective and other equipment are to depopulate animals in the designated manner.
4. Cleaning and Disinfection Teams. There may be multiple Cleaning and Disinfection Teams established based on the scope of the outbreak. There is to be a minimum of one Cleaning and Disinfection Team operating at the Entrance/Exit Point of the quarantine zone using procedures, supplies and equipment appropriate for the suspected disease agent. These teams require appropriate quantities of personal protective equipment.
5. Epidemiology Team. Teams to conduct trace-backs using appropriate diagnostic and protective equipment. Teams also designates exposed animals and issue quarantine directives. Duties to be determined by the Commissioner of Agriculture or representative on scene.
6. Vaccination Team. Teams with the knowledge and expertise to vaccinate under professional guidance. These personnel require appropriate protective equipment, refrigeration as appropriate, and vaccines in appropriate quantities.
7. Wildlife Assessment Team. Teams with rifle and/or animal capture and restraint equipment to obtain samples from susceptible wildlife in an area and in quantities as

determined in consultation with the Department of Agriculture and USDA. Such sampling is under authority of WV Code, Chapter 20.

8. Medical Support Team. Team to support medical requirements of the JOC. Treatment and transport of patients with medical emergencies, once decontaminated, will be provided by local Emergency Medical Services agencies. The field medical team is to maintain stocks of protective equipment for local Emergency Medical Services personnel to use in the event of emergency medical treatment and transport.

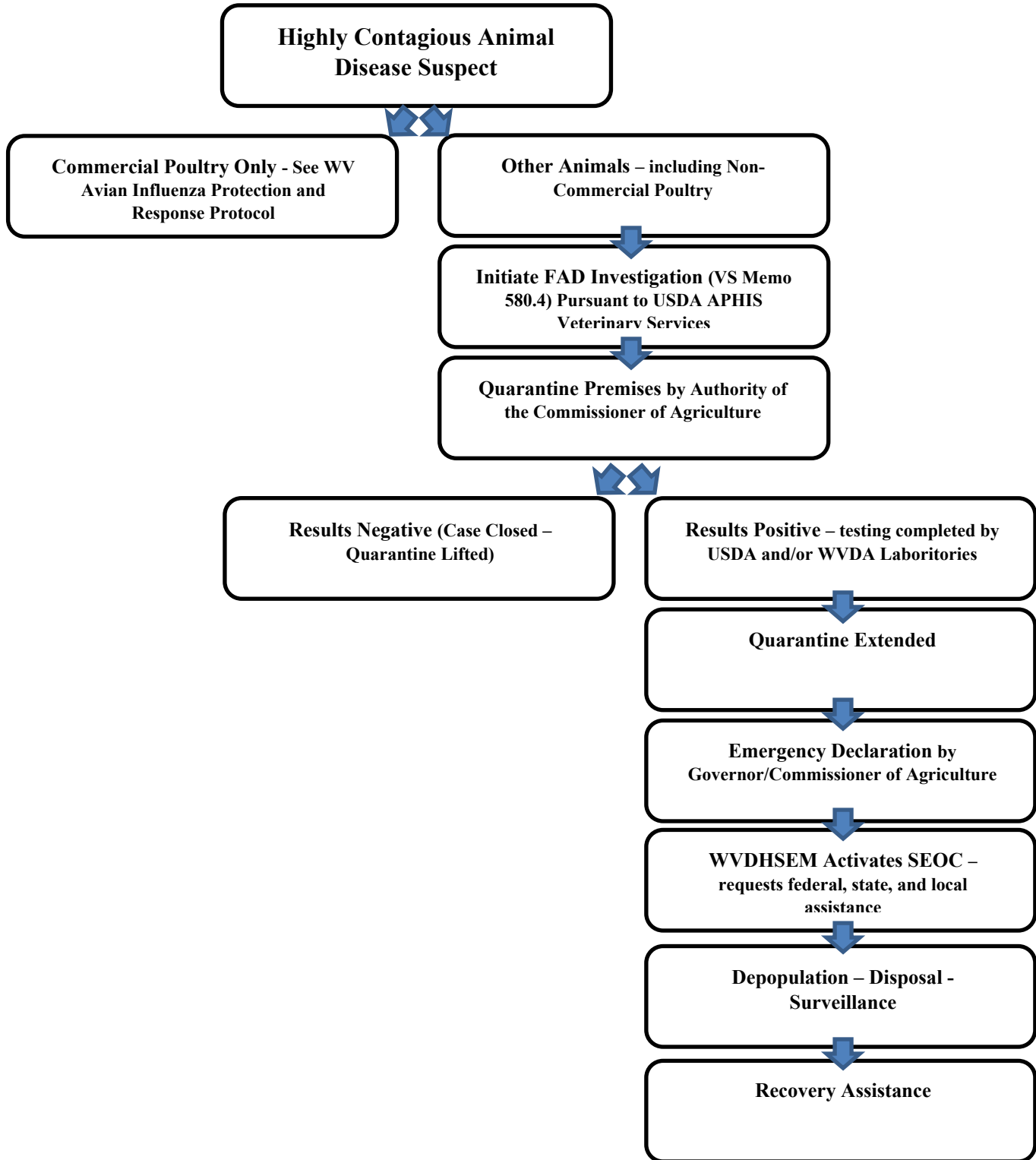
All personnel working within the infected zone are to be completely cleaned and disinfected prior to departing the area in accordance with directives from the Commissioner of Agriculture.

LISTED ARE SOME OF THE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS THAT MAY BE USED IN THE EVENT OF A DISEASE OUTBREAK. THIS IS NOT A COMPREHENSIVE LIST AND OTHERS MAY BE ADD OR REMOVED AT ANY TIME. THESE DOCUMENTS ARE MAINTAINED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

- I. U.S. Department of Agriculture Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Response Plan—"THE RED BOOK"—USDA APHIS
- II. WV H5/H7 Low Path Avian Influenzas Initial State Response and Containment Plan--WVDA
- III. National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)--WVDA
- IV. WV National Veterinary Stockpile Plan--WVDA
- V. Poultry company's plans, protocols, policies and procedures—Poultry companies and animal producers
- VI. Various secure agriculture products plan that have been and maybe developed—WVDA
- VII. Other related documents as determine appropriate



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**
Appendix 3 Highly Contagious Animal Disease Suspect Flow to Attachment #2 – Animal and Agricultural Health Issues





Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Attachment #3 – Animal and Agricultural Technical Expertise



Coordinating Agency

West Virginia Department of Agriculture
(WVDA)

Primary Support Agency

West Virginia Division of Homeland
Security and Emergency Management
(WVDHSEM)

Support Agencies and Organizations

West Virginia Division of Natural
Resources
WV Department of Transportation
(WVDOT)
West Virginia Department of Health and
Human Resources (WVDHHR)
West Virginia Department of Military
Affairs and Public Safety (WVMDAPS)
West Virginia State Police (WVSP)
West Virginia National Guard (WVNG)
West Virginia State Fire Marshal’s Office
(WVSFMO)
West Virginia Department of Environmental
Protection (WVDEP)
West Virginia Public Service Commission
West Virginia Division of Forestry
(WVDFOF)
West Virginia University Cooperative
Extension Service
West Virginia Voluntary Organizations
Active in Disaster (WVVOAD)
US Department of Agriculture (USDA)
Federal Emergency Management Agency
(FEMA)
West Virginia Pets In Disaster Task Force
County Emergency Management Agencies
Animal Shelters/Humane Officers
Humane Associations/Groups Volunteers

Purpose

This annex provides guidance and assignment of responsibilities for animal sheltering and evacuation before, during, and after an actual or potential emergency; and is designed to facilitate overall coordination of animal issues during emergency operations. This annex outlines the provision of emergency veterinary care to companion and farm animals injured during a disaster and provides a system for returning animals to their owners after a disaster event is over.

Scope

A. This annex provides guidance and assignment of responsibilities for animal sheltering and evacuation before, during, and after an actual or potential emergency; and is designed to facilitate overall coordination of animal issues during emergency operations. This annex outlines the provision of emergency veterinary care to companion and farm animals injured during a disaster and provides a system for returning animals to their owners after a disaster is over.

B. This annex is intended to be consistent with the State of West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (WVEOP), the National Response Plan (NRP), and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Policies

A. All agencies assigned responsibilities within this ESF will develop and maintain the necessary plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), mutual aid agreements, and model contracts to successfully accomplish their tasks.

B. Restoration of normal operations at energy facilities for food storage is the responsibility of the facility owners.

C. The WVDHSEM is responsible for the annual review, testing, and exercising of this appendix.

D. Preservation of records is to be accordance with current local, state, and federal records retention schedules.

E. The WVDHSEM and WVDA are responsible for the development of this appendix.

Situation and Assumptions

A. Situation

1. Natural, technological, or manmade disasters could affect the well-being of domesticated animals and livestock.

2. The State of West Virginia recognizes the need for pro-active, pre-disaster planning for animal protection during emergency situations.

3. The State of West Virginia has partnered with local governments, municipalities, non-governmental organizations and volunteer groups for planned emergency operations, to mitigate or minimize suffering of animals during an emergency.

B. Assumptions

1. Potential hazards such as flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes and hazardous materials incidents which may require the evacuation of citizens from selected areas of the state can occur. Typically, companion and farm animals are not permitted in human evacuation shelters, except for service animals that accompany citizens with special needs.

2. Animal owners are responsible for the protection of their animals and should plan for animal care during disasters as they develop their family preparedness plans. Counties protect animals that become homeless, lost or strayed because of disaster. Volunteer organizations assist in this effort.

3. West Virginia recognizes that companion animals and livestock are also victims of emergencies and disasters, and that a high degree of commitment exists between citizens and their animals. Frequently, citizens (especially the elderly) express extreme reluctance to evacuate a disaster area unless arrangements have been made for the care of their companion animals. Such refusals or delays begin a chain reaction that can seriously jeopardize the State's overall evacuation plan.

4. In an attempt to save animal's lives and reduce human anguish during these events, West Virginia, in conjunction with humane societies, animal welfare organizations, local veterinarians, and the local chapters of the American Red Cross, organizes programs to identify local resources for emergency animal shelters, emergency sources of animal food, medications and pet cages. Additionally, these groups will develop procedures for companion animals brought to human evacuation shelters.

5. West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) working with the West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (WVDHSEM) and many national, state and local, profit and non-profit organizations to educate the public on animal disaster planning and preparedness.

6. Pets may or may not be allowed in emergency shelters operated by the American Red Cross (ARC) and other organized volunteer groups. A service animal, however, is to be admitted to the shelter when it accompanies its owner.

Organizational Structure

A. Organization

1. If a State of Emergency is declared by either the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the Governor of West Virginia, the response organization and policies contained in the West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) are implemented.

2. WVDA maintains coordination with WVDHSEM and the USDA and support agencies responding to, and recovering from, animal emergencies.

B. Responsibilities

1. West Virginia Department of Agriculture
 - a. Facilitate state and local emergency response teams to assist with evacuation and sheltering of animals.
 - b. Facilitate plans and procedures to provide shelter and care to companion animals and livestock during natural and man-made disasters.
 - c. Assist local jurisdictions in identifying potential locations for fixed-facility and temporary companion animal and livestock shelters.
 - d. Determine estimated capacities and functional capabilities for fixed and temporary facilities.
 - e. Assist local agencies with the development of procedures for returning lost pets to their owners.
 - f. Coordinate press releases concerning animal evacuating and sheltering through the Governor’s Office of Communications and the Public Information Officer for WVDA. Provide technical guidance to all personnel on the proper disposal of animals.

2. West Virginia Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
 - a. Activate the SEOC, as appropriate.
 - b. Establish initial JOC location, when directed.
 - c. Coordinate press releases concerning animal evacuating and sheltering through the Governor’s Office of Communications and the Public Information Officer for WVDOA.

- d. Coordinate and communicate specific animal identification, location, and support needs and requirements with all supporting agencies and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
 - e. Has signed and keeps current MOU's with the following organizations: a) National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC) b) American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). These MOUs were respectively signed on DHSEM Director for and on behalf of DHSEM by Director Jimmy Gianato on May 3, 2016 and May 3, 2016. Copies on file with DHSEM and WVDA Homeland Security Unit.
3. Local Emergency Management Agencies
- a. Coordinate efforts to protect animals affected by any disaster to include rescue, shelter, control, feeding, and preventive immunization of animals left homeless, lost or strayed because of a disaster.
 - b. Coordinate volunteer agencies to assist in this effort.
 - c. Distribute information to citizens and pet owners about their responsibility to plan for their pets and the available resources for pet sheltering and evacuation during an emergency.
4. Volunteer Organizations
- a. Provide support, as outlined in Annex L, to the West Virginia EOP. Volunteer organizations coordinate all activities through appropriate state agencies at the SEOC.

Concept of Operations

A. General

- 1. Animal owners have the basic responsibility for the care and protection of their animals, including during an emergency.
- 2. Depending on the situation and availability of facilities, one or more of the following approaches are to be used to handle pets during emergencies.
 - a. Pet owners are to provide information on nearby kennels, animal shelters, and veterinary clinics that have agreed to temporarily shelter pets.

- b. Pet owners are directed to a public shelter that has covered exterior corridors or adjacent support buildings where pets on leashes and in carriers may be temporarily housed.
 - c. Temporary pet shelters are set up at fairgrounds, stock show barns, livestock auctions, and/or other similar facilities.
 3. WVDHSEM activates the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) and requests that representative staff be made available. The WVDHSEM identifies which support agencies are needed and activates those agencies, as needed.
 4. WVDHSEM coordinates with the Secretary of Military Affairs and Public Safety and the Commissioner of Agriculture to determine the appropriate response and recovery needs based on the event involved.
 5. Animal operations are managed via the Incident Command System (ICS).

B. Phases of Management

1. Preparedness
 - a. Level One - Development Phase
 - 1) WVDA facilitates the development of plans and procedures to provide shelter and care to an indeterminate number of companion animals and livestock during natural and man-made disasters.
 - 2) WVDA assists local jurisdictions in identifying potential locations for fixed facility and temporary companion animal and livestock shelters and determines estimated capacities and functional capabilities for these facilities.
 - 3) Counties, usually through their Animal Control Officers, protect animals affected by any disaster to include rescue, shelter, control and feeding. They recruit volunteer groups to assist with operations at shelter facilities.
 - 4) Individual counties, through their Emergency Management or Animal Control organizations, maintain lists of known local resources for veterinary services, animal medical supplies and vaccines for use at pet shelter facilities. The WVDA should maintain a statewide database of these facilities.
 - 5) Counties identify and maintain databases of resources for pet and animal food, cages and flea sprays/dips for use at pet shelter facilities. Counties

establish contractual agreements or memorandums of understanding with the people or organizations that can provide these services.

6) WVDA and WVDHSEM, in conjunction with other agencies, prepare brochures and handout materials on animal disaster planning for distribution to promote citizen awareness. These are made available through counties and this information should be available on each agency's web site.

7) WVDA works with the all appropriate animal and humane organization in WV including but not limited to the WV Pets In Disaster Task Force to assist with the development and maintenance of the plans and databases.

b. Level Two - Preparedness Phase

1) WVDHSEM coordinates the review of emergency animal shelter plans, as necessary.

2) WVDHSEM confirms task assignments and alerts key personnel and volunteer groups to put them on stand-by status.

3) WVDA facilitates the necessary forms for emergency requisition of pet and animal food and any medical supplies and vaccines that may be required in an emergency.

4) WVDA works with local organizations to reconfirm the availability of potential pet shelter sites.

5) WVDHSEM begins record keeping of disaster-related expenses and continue for the duration of the emergency event.

2. Response

a. WVDA responds to the SEOC, if activated.

b. WVDHSEM coordinates with the Governor's Office of Communications and the WVDHSEM Public Information Officer to disseminate pet evacuation and shelter information through the appropriate media outlets.

c. WVDA coordinates identified emergency veterinary teams for emergency medical care of injured animals, as necessary.

- d. Local jurisdictions provide timely situation reports to the SEOC of pet sheltering activities in the field and in the shelters.
- e. WVDHSEM coordinates requests for animal protection assistance and resources such as food, medicine, shelter material, specialized personnel, and additional veterinary medical professionals which will be transmitted from local emergency management offices to the SEOC.
- f. WVDHSEM coordinates requests for federal resources through the SEOC.
- g. WVDHSEM coordinates moving any exotic animals and animals that are usually kept in a controlled environment such as zoos, circuses or carnivals, with local Animal Control Officers, Wildlife Resources or Zoological personnel and the animal's return to controlled environments. Local animal control personnel and volunteer agencies are to handle domestic animals, livestock, and companion animals that are lost, strayed, homeless or otherwise in danger. Those animals are to be sheltered, fed, returned to their owners, if possible, or disposed of properly.

3. Recovery

- a. WVDA coordinates any disposal of animals. This action is to be carried out by the counties through contracted agreements or memorandums of understanding.
- b. WVDHSEM coordinates with local EOCs to establish lost and found resource listings through media and web sites.

Authorities and References

Authorities

West Virginia Code, Chapter 15, Article 5, as amended

West Virginia Code, Chapter 16, Article 1 and 3, as amended

West Virginia Code, Chapter 19-9-2, as amended

West Virginia Code, Chapter 20, Article 1, as amended

References

West Virginia Emergency Operations Plan

Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act

Federal Legislation 42 U.S.C 5196b



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**
Attachment #4 – Ensuring Food Supply Safety – TO BE PUBLISHED

Coordinating Agency

Support Agencies and Organizations

Primary Support Agency

Purpose

Scope

Policies

Organizational Structure

Concept of Operations

Authorities and References

Authorities

References



**Emergency Support Function 11
Agriculture and Natural Resources**

Attachment #5 – Protecting Natural, Cultural Resources, and Historical Properties (NCH) – TO BE PUBLISHED



Coordinating Agency

Support Agencies and Organizations

Primary Support Agency

Purpose

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Concept of Operations

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Authorities

References

