

ESF 18

DOMESTIC ANIMAL CARE

CONTENTS	PAGE
I. PURPOSE	ESF 18.1
II. SITUATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS	ESF 18.1
A. Situations	ESF 18.1
B. Assumptions	ESF 18.2
III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS	ESF 18.3
A. General	ESF 18.3
B. Operational Time Frames	ESF 18.4
IV. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES	ESF 18.6
A. Primary Agency	ESF 18.6
B. Support Agency	ESF 18.7
C. State Support Agency	ESF 18.8
D. Federal Support Agency	ESF 18.8
V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL	ESF 18.8
VI. CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS	ESF 18.9
VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS	ESF 18.9
VIII. ESF DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE	ESF 18.10
IV. REFERENCES	ESF 18.10
APPENDICES	
1. Activation List	ESF 18.12
2. Organizational Chart	ESF 18.13

ESF 18

DOMESTIC ANIMAL CARE

PRIMARY AGENCY: Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri

SUPPORT AGENCIES: City of Battlefield
Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management
Humane Society of Southwest Missouri

I. PURPOSE

This ESF is designed to identify, manage, and organize the response efforts pertaining to domestic animals. Resources will also be needed to provide the animals affected by disaster with emergency medical care, evacuation, rescue, temporary confinement, shelter, quarantine, food, water, identification and reunification with owner.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. Greene County and the City of Battlefield are subject to a number of disasters that could cause the displacement of domestic animals from the affected areas (**see All-Hazards Mitigation plan**).
2. The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri will lead efforts to treat animals affected by a disaster. Local veterinary clinics and sheltering agencies may provide medical care and sheltering services to disaster victims' domestic animals as part of the broad program of disaster relief for the affected areas.
3. Emergency response personnel will have access to an animal response trailer to treat injured and displaced domestic small animals through the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM).
4. Evacuation and sheltering operations inevitably involve those affected by a disaster with domestic animals. Emergency shelters do not accept domestic animals due to health and safety regulations. If there is no opportunity to bring their pets with them to safety, some pet owners will refuse to evacuate or will delay evacuation. According to a Fritz Institute survey (2005), approximately 44% of the people who did not evacuate for Hurricane Katrina stayed, at least in part, because they did not want to leave their pets behind.
5. The planning basis for sheltering humans is for approximately 20% of the affected population to seek public shelter and approximately 50% of all households in Greene County own a pet. Meaning about half of the affected population seeking public shelter will need to shelter their domestic animal(s).
6. Facilities may be available in Springfield-Greene County and its municipalities to temporarily shelter and feed domestic animals evacuated or displaced by a disaster. A significant emergency could overwhelm resources and capabilities in providing animal care, regulation and veterinary services.

7. As affected members of the population seek public shelters, they might either bring their own domestic animal(s) or a domestic animal they found along the way. When shelter facilities have been identified, a system is in place to track and provide medical care, until they can either be reunited with their owners or a new home can be found.
 - American Red Cross (ARC) mass care shelters do not take domestic animals. However, ARC welcomes the presence of service animals in its shelters.
8. A significant population of domestic and wild animals resides in Greene County, and in a large-scale disaster these animals may be affected. There may also be large numbers of the population and animals that may be deceased or injured.
9. Domestic animals will need medical care and sheltering until reunification with their owners is possible. Some of the deceased human individuals will undoubtedly possess domestic animals that will then need to be put into adoption systems.

B. Assumptions

1. City of Battlefield Officials will determine the best option for domestic animal care and will take action to implement this strategy while effectively communicating these decisions with the public.
2. During a large-scale disaster, pet ownership may affect the behavior of large segments of the population at risk. These actions may deter them from seeking help for themselves for fear of leaving their pets behind.
3. Pet owners, when notified of an impending emergency will take reasonable steps to protect and care for their animals, and if evacuated will normally take their animals with them, or place them in prearranged private boarding kennels. Some domestic animals may be left at or near their damaged homes.
4. There will be circumstances when pet owners will not be able to protect their animals during an emergency, or will abandon their pets during an emergency or disaster. This includes unscheduled drop-offs at animal care facilities.
5. The magnitude of damage to structures and lifelines in a disaster will rapidly overwhelm the capacity for local government to assess the disaster and respond effectively to provide aid and sheltering to the animals in need.
6. Damage to roads, airports, communications systems, utilities, etc. will hamper emergency response efforts. The movement of emergency supplies may be seriously impeded.
7. A certain percentage of domestic animals will require sheltering for an extended period of time. Many of these animals may be placed in a long-term shelter.
8. A significant emergency or disaster could overwhelm resources and capabilities in providing animal care and sheltering.

III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

1. Domestic animal care and sheltering operations will be directed and coordinated by the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri. During declared disasters or emergencies, the Primary Agencies are responsible for implementing this ESF when needed.
2. Initial response activities will focus on meeting urgent needs of human disaster victims, once stabilized, efforts will be made on the urgent needs of domestic animals. Initial recovery efforts may commence as response activities are taking place.
3. Shelters for Domestic Animal Care will be established next to or in close proximity of a Red Cross Shelter.
4. Domestic Animal Care and Sheltering operations encompass the following:
 - a. **Mass Shelter:** The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri in coordination with the City of Battlefield, may designate emergency shelters for displaced domestic animals. This includes the use of pre-identified shelter sites in existing structures; creation of temporary facilities or the temporary construction of animal shelters; and use of similar facilities outside the disaster-affected area. The shelters are required to provide appropriate, feeding and administer necessary medications to the domestic animals being sheltered and cared for.
 - b. **Domestic Animal Care:** The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri provides care for domestic animals in their facility and other veterinary facilities designated by the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri.
 - c. **Distribution of Emergency Relief Items:** Sites may be established within the affected area for distribution of emergency relief items to meet the needs of the affected animals.
5. Animals not being cared for by their owners may be sheltered, fed and if possible and practical, returned to their owners or placed up for adoption.
6. If any animals are a danger to the public or themselves they will be disposed of in a humane and expeditious manner.
7. Wild animals will normally be left to their own survival instincts. Wild animals that have strayed out of their natural habitat and are injured or a danger to the public or themselves will be the responsibility of the Missouri Department of Conservation and local law enforcement. When possible, these animals will be returned to their natural habitat.
8. Coordinate with Public Health and Medical (**ESF 8**), concerning the involvement of the treatment of animals in accordance with applicable operational guidelines.
9. A representative of the primary agencies will be available in the EOC or the incident command post during activation if requested.
10. This ESF will coordinate and monitor domestic animal care, regulation, and veterinary activities being conducted in conjunction with emergency operations.

11. After the disaster or emergency, an assessment will be conducted to provide the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri the degree of support required from local, regional, state and federal resources.
12. The Springfield-Greene County Health Department Director or designee and/or the Battlefield Emergency Management Director or designee may deviate from established procedure when it is assessed immediate and direct action is necessary to protect the public's safety, which takes priority over animal protection.
13. Coordinate with Public Information (**ESF-15**) to ensure that information regarding the location of animal shelters and other animal-related matters is provided to the community before, during and after the disaster.
14. This ESF will coordinate with Donations Management (**ESF-19**) and Volunteer Management (**ESF-20**), with regard to warehouse and distribution issues for water, food, medicine, along with additional pet supplies, etc.

B. Actions to be taken by Operating Time Frames

1. Mitigation

- a. Continue to identify and train all personnel and identify resource requirements to perform assigned missions.
- b. Continue pre-disaster strategies to shelter and provide effective medical aid to the animals prior to a disaster occurring.

2. Preparedness

- a. Recruit and enlist other organized groups (humane society, animal control, Springfield Animal Advocacy Foundation (SAAF) house, Castaway Animal Rescue Effort (CARE), etc.) to assist with animal care operations.
- b. Participate in training with shelter managers and staff.
- c. Coordinate public education efforts (i.e. brochures distributed to veterinary offices) to emphasize the importance of disaster planning for animals.
- d. Analyze pending emergencies and alert appropriate animal care personnel and/or groups and organizations.
- e. Participate in at least one program annually to help find and address issues dealing with this ESF, ensuring it works appropriately and efficiently.
- f. Annually release information on disaster planning and safety for animals. Coordinate with Public Information (**ESF-15**), Battlefield Emergency Management and the OEM.
- g. Inform local veterinarians of the Missouri Department of Agriculture training and planning concerning a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) event.
- h. Analyze the impact of a cross-species disease outbreak and observe sheltered animals for signs of FAD.

- i. The Springfield-Greene County OEM will provide training for volunteers in basic animal sheltering practices through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
- j. Identify plausible relocation areas for displaced animals prior to the disaster.
- k. Analyze the number of domestic animals that may be affected by a disaster in Battlefield by contacting local veterinarians and determining the number of animals each is caring for.
- l. Maintain statuses of veterinary and animal hospital capabilities.

3. **Response**

- a. Assess the disaster situation and forecast animal care response needs, and anticipate future animal care requirements if applicable.
- b. In the occurrence of an emergency disaster, local animal shelters should be opened and staffed to care for the injured and displaced animals upon word from the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri.
- c. Maintain communications with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- d. Assist in locating and reuniting displaced animals with their families.
- e. Provide an information service for rapid determination of where each animal is being sheltered and the amount of care the animal required.
- f. Support in capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitats.
- g. Provide humane handling and care of animals after the disaster(s) by providing animal shelters, as well as treatment/euthanasia assistance as needed.
- h. Ensure shelters have adequate quarantine areas and procedures to check incoming animals for serious illness/disease to reduce the chance of an outbreak.
- i. Check domestic animals for an identity microchip and their collars for identification tags and record any findings in an effort to reunite them with their owners post-disaster.
- j. Coordinate the delivery and supply of food, medicine and equipment.
- k. Coordinate with Public Information (**ESF-15**) to
 - Ensure information is provided on the location of animal shelters.
 - Coordinate public education efforts.
 - Discourage abandonment of animals due to both the animals and the public.
 - Broadcast emergency information to help ensure the public is informed. Provide listings of activated shelters to applicable officials.
- l. Brief key government officials and department heads (**Basic Plan**).
- m. Support and coordinate with Public Health and Medical (**ESF-8**) to provide rabies control and monitoring.

- n. Collect and dispose of dead animals as provided by applicable laws.
- o. In case of a FAD event, take initial steps to contain the incident and notify State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), MDA and/or the Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) of any suspected FAD or act of agro-terrorism that may pose a substantial threat to the State (**ESF-11**).
- p. Provide additional volunteer support to temporary domestic animal shelter locations as needed/possible through the CERT Animal Response Team (ART) (**ESF-20**).
- q. The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri will designate the initial animal care and shelter destinations at the time of disaster. In the event these facilities becomes overwhelmed, additional shelters will be setup at other vet clinics as well as other animal shelters to provide adequate care.

4. **Recovery**

- a. Monitor the release from shelters.
- b. Continue to assist in locating and reuniting pets with their families/relatives.
- c. Prepare after-action reports regarding treatment administered to sheltered and injured animals.
- d. Coordinate the consolidation or closing of animal shelters and distribution of personnel and supplies as needed.
- e. Assist support agencies for long term maintenance, placement, or disposition of animals that cannot be returned to their normal habitats or that have been separated from their owners.
- f. Ensure shelters have necessary animal medications and supplies needed for the sheltered animals.
- g. Coordinate with Public Health and Medical (**ESF-8**), Public Works and Engineering (**ESF-3**) and Friends of the Family for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste and dead animals.
- h. Contact the Missouri Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) to aid in receiving veterinary medical services to expedite the recovery process.

IV. **ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

A. **Primary Agency:**

Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri

- 1. Provide emergency medical needs to companion/domestic animals during disaster incidents.
- 2. An emergency response trailer (no medications) is located at the OEM. Items in the trailer, include, but are not limited to:
 - Syringes
 - Surgical Gloves
 - Coveralls

- Masks
 - Micro chips/ with scanner
 - Large/Small cages
3. The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri stores all medications (controlled and uncontrolled) for emergency response. Medications are rotated to ensure current supply is within expiration date.
 4. The Animal Care Coordinator for Greene County is a designee from the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri in cooperation with Battlefield and the OEM.
 5. The Animal Care Coordinator is responsible for seeing that necessary plans and procedures are developed to effectively care for domestic animals in case of a disaster. This should include, but is not limited to reception/registration and shelter/feeding operations.
 6. This function will support the management and coordination of sheltering, feeding, bulk distribution of emergency relief items to the disaster-affected population.
 7. Supplies and other resources that will be needed will be the responsibility of the Resource Management (**ESF-7**) and Donations Management (**ESF-19**).
 8. Maintain records of the cost of supplies, resources and man-hours needed to respond to the disaster event.

B. Support Agencies:

City of Battlefield

1. Coordinate local governmental emergency response by incorporating animal care issues.
2. Maintain primary responsibility for the essential function of animal management during disaster and coordinate with the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri on establishing and opening domestic animal shelter(s).
3. Cross-link animal care efforts and in-place sheltering for bulk distribution where applicable.
4. Assist in establishing priorities and coordinating the transition of animal care operations with recovery activities based on disaster situation information and the availability of resources that can be appropriately applied.
5. Assure the availability of resources for the disaster area(s) by maintaining a database including the following:
 - a. A list of shelters and confinement areas.
 - b. A list of food and water sources provided by support agencies.
 - c. A list of animal medical personnel, agencies or organizations.

Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

The OEM will participate as a support agency if the City of Battlefield becomes overwhelmed by the size or complexity of the incident and at the request of the city.

Humane Society of Southwest Missouri

Assure that the animals are cared for when held in their facilities. Provide vaccinations, health and safety, food, and water. Work with the Animal Care Coordinator on reunification of pets with their owners.

C. State Support Agency:

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)

Coordinate with local EOC Animal Care Coordinator on unmet needs for the health and welfare of domestic animal affected by a disaster.

D. Federal Support Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

In coordination with SEOC and local EOC, assist in delivering health care to injured or abandoned animals and performing veterinary preventive medicine activities following a major disaster or emergency. This may include conducting field investigations and providing technical assistance and consultation as required.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Provide supplemental Federal disaster grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the repair, replacement, or restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and the facilities of certain Private Non-Profit (PNP) organizations. The Public Assistance (PA) Program also encourages protection of these damaged facilities from future events by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures during the recovery process.

V. DIRECTION AND CONTROL

- A.** Direction and control of animal care and sheltering operations will vary according to the extent of the disaster or emergency situation. In a large-scale disaster, direction and control will be carried out from the EOC (**see Basic Plan**).
- B.** Emergency operation's are managed by the animal care coordinator assigned by the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri or by the City of Battlefield Emergency Management Agency.
- C.** In a limited disaster or emergency situation, care and sheltering operations will be controlled from normal day-to-day office locations, if possible, or at a site designated at a later time.
- D.** The Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri and other supporting agencies will administer animal care activities locally.
- E.** A disaster or potential disaster that generates a requirement for protecting animals from a harmful environment will activate the EOC.
- F.** The City of Battlefield Government has the responsibility to plan and prepare an effective response for all populations within the city. If a disaster or emergency does occur, injuries can be lessened and lives can be saved with proper pre-event planning that addresses wildlife and domestic animals in the area, not just people.

VI. CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

The key purpose of Continuity of Operations planning is to provide a framework for the continued operation of critical functions. When implemented, these plans will determine response, recovery, resumption, and restoration of Department/Agency services.

COOP Plans for the Departments/Agencies present a manageable framework, establish operational procedures to sustain essential activities if normal operations are not feasible, and guide the restoration of the critical functions of the Department/Agencies functions. The plan provides for attaining operational capability within 12 hours and sustaining operations for 30 days or longer in the event of a catastrophic event or an emergency affecting the department.

VII. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

A. Administration

Procurement of necessary supplies will be accomplished through normal acquisition channels and coordinated with Resource and Donations Management (**ESF-7 and ESF-19**). During unusual or life-threatening situations, normal purchasing procedures may be set aside and emergency procedures as set forth in County Court orders and/or City ordinances will be used, if applicable.

1. Assistance to this ESF will be provided under Public Law 93-288 (as amended, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act) and the Missouri Emergency Operations Plan.
2. During the emergency response and for the first hours after the occurrence, there may be little or no assistance available. Primary and support agencies of this ESF must plan to be as self-sufficient as feasibly possible during this period.
3. As with any disaster or emergency event, the ICS will be used to organize and coordinate response and recovery.

B. Logistics

1. Resources required prior to the disaster:
 - a. Animal shelters available at the time of evacuation or a disaster so that owners can leave their animals.
 - Food and water.
 - Identification tags or collars.
 - Medical supplies and possibly an extra source of electricity.
 - b. Personnel
 - Shelter, quarantine, and medical examination and operation.
 - Animal care volunteers.
2. Resources required for Continuing Operations.
 - a. Generators, temporary housing (tents), Fence material, bedding, cages, vehicles, portable telephones, animal traps (live-catch), animal catchpoles, water and disinfectants for cleaning (household bleach mixed with water).

VIII. ESF DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- A. The City of Battlefield in coordination with the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management and the Emergency Veterinary Clinic of Southwest Missouri will be responsible for review and up keep of this ESF.
- B. This ESF and its associated Appendices should be reviewed and updated annually.
- C. All revisions will be incorporated immediately and appropriate changes should be made ancillary to resource materials.

IX. REFERENCES

- A. Emergency Support Function #6 (August 2007)
- B. Robert T. Stafford, Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act-Public Law 93-288, as amended: (February 2003).
- C. RSMo., Title XVII, Chapter 267
 1. 267.120 – State Vet. may prescribe for infected animals and “call for help on the County Commission or legally substituted court...shall order the Sheriff or other officer to give assistance necessary to enforce the law”.
 2. 267.179 – Indemnification for cattle registering positive for tuberculosis.
 3. 267.230 – Power to enforce fines and class of misdemeanor crime plus says local law enforcement “may” and state law enforcement “shall” assist with enforcement.
 4. 267.240 – May change existing rules on movement of animals/travel and speaks about Governor proclaiming quarantine.
 5. 267.590 & .595 – Broad authority to the State Vet. regarding quarantine.
 6. 267.611 – Indemnification, broad authority and can be set by the Director of Agriculture.
 7. 267.645 – Authority to enter premises and examine livestock.
 8. Chapter 269 – Deals with disposal of dead animals and inspections.
- D. RSMo., Title XVII, Chapter 269
- E. RSMo., Title XVII, Chapter 44.
- F. Missouri State Emergency Operations Plan
- G. Code of State Regulations, Title 11, Division 10, Chapter 11

**ESF 18
DOMESTIC ANIMAL CARE**

APPENDICES

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
APPENDIX 1: Activation List	ESF 12
APPENDIX 2: Organizational Chart	ESF 13

APPENDIX 1

This is a restricted document

APPENDIX 2 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

