

Mississippi Emergency Support Function #11 – Animals, Agriculture and Natural Resources Annex

MS ESF #11 Coordinator:

Mississippi Board of Animal Health
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and
Commerce

Primary Agencies:

Mississippi Board of Animal Health
Mississippi Department of Agriculture and
Commerce

Support Agencies:

Mississippi State University
-College of Veterinary Medicine
-Extension Service
-Mississippi Agriculture, Forestry, and
Experiment Station
Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory System
Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association
Mississippi Board of Veterinary Medical
Examiners
Mississippi Emergency Management
Agency
Mississippi Animal Control and Protection
Association
Mississippi Department of Health
Mississippi Department of Environmental
Quality
Mississippi Department of Wildlife,
Fisheries and Parks
Mississippi Forestry Commission

MS Department of Marine Resources
Zookeepers Statewide
Mississippi Department of Human Services
Mississippi Department of Mental Health
and Mental Retardation
Mississippi Military Department
Mississippi Department of Public Safety
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Department of Transportation
Mississippi Development Authority
Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory
Mississippi Crop Improvement Agency
Private Sector Stakeholders

Non-Governmental Support Agencies:

American Red Cross
Salvation Army
Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active
In Disaster

Federal ESF Coordinator:

US Department of Agriculture

Federal Primary Agencies:

Department of Agriculture
Department of the Interior
Food and Drug Administration
Environmental Protection Agency

Introduction

Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11, Animals, Agriculture and Natural Resources, supports county and municipal authorities in efforts to address: (1) control and eradication of an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation, (2) safety and security of food, feed, seed, fertilizer and pesticides, where it falls under MDAC jurisdiction, and (3) coordination of efforts to provide for all animals and crops affected by disasters (all-hazards).

Scope

ESF-11 includes two primary functions:

- **Animal, Plant and Pest disaster response.** Includes implementing an integrated county and municipal response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease, or an economically devastating plant pest infestation. Ensures, in coordination with ESF#8, Public Health and Medical Services and ESF#6 Mass Care, that animal/veterinary/wildlife/crop issues in natural disasters are supported.
- **Safety and security of the commercial food supply.** Includes the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants and products in distribution and retail sites; laboratory analysis of food samples; control of products suspected to be adulterated; plant closures; protection of seed, feed, fertilizer and pesticide; and field investigations.
- If ESF#11 of the National Response Framework (NRF) is activated, the **U.S. Department of Agriculture** (USDA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of the Interior (DOI) are the primary agencies in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other agencies for support.

Policies

General: Actions taken under ESF#11 are coordinated with and conducted cooperatively with county and municipal incident management officials and with private entities, in coordination with the Joint Field Office (JFO) Coordination Group, the Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC), and National Response Coordination Center (NRCC) as required.

- Each supporting agency is responsible for managing its respective assets and resources after receiving direction from the primary agency for the incident.
- The primary agency for each incident coordinates with appropriate ESFs and other annexes, including the coordinating agency for the Worker Safety and Health Support Annex, to ensure appropriate use of volunteers and their health and safety and to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect the health and safety of all workers.

Animal, Plant, and Pest Disaster Response Policies:

- When addressing animal diseases, all animal depopulation activities are conducted as humanely as possible while stopping pathogen spread and limiting the number of animals that must be euthanized.
- Disposal methods for infected or potentially infected/contaminated carcasses and plant material are chosen for their effectiveness in stopping pathogen spread and for their minimal impact on the environment.
- The US Secretary of Agriculture can release funds from contingency or program accounts as needed to indemnify producers for animals and suspect animal and plant products seized

or facilities held to control a disease as well as to pay the operational costs of the eradication of disease and plant pests.

- Mississippi may request that the US Secretary of Agriculture declare an Extraordinary Emergency to pay compensation and to allow for the use of federal authorities to take action within a state if the state is unable to take appropriate action to control and eradicate the disease or plant pest.
- The MBAH is the primary agency for addressing animal disaster issues. The MBAH will be responsible for coordinating with local and state organizations animal response activities such as medical care, sheltering, evacuation, rescue, temporary confinement, procuring food and water, animal identification, carcass disposal and returning animals to owners related to natural disasters when ESF#11 has been activated.

Food Safety and Security Policies:

- The US Department of Agriculture is activated upon notification of the occurrence of a potential or actual Incident of State Significance by Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) or the Mississippi Department of Agriculture that a State response is warranted.
- Actions undertaken are guided by and coordinated with local emergency preparedness and response officials and homeland security officials and existing USDA internal policies and procedures.

Concept of Operations

General

- MDAC and MBAH, as the coordinators for ESF#11, organize the ESF staff based upon the two core functional areas. It organizes and coordinates the capabilities and resources of the State government to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise, and other support for Incidents of State Significance that impact the areas below.
 - **Animal, Plant, and Pest Disaster Response**
 - **Food Safety and Security**
- ESF#11 provides for an integrated response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic (i.e., transmitted between animals and people) disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease, or an economically devastating plant or animal pest infestation in the State and/or region. ESF#11 provides for coordination of efforts to provide for animals and crops in disasters (all hazards).
- ESF#11 ensures the safety and security of the state's commercial supply of food (e.g., meat, poultry, and egg products) following a potential or actual Incident of State Significance, and mitigates the effect of the incident(s) on all affected parts of the State population and environment.

- ESF#11 ensures the safety and security of feed, seed, fertilizer, and pesticide supplies necessary for agricultural production. MDAC shall offer expertise fitting of its legal authorities.

Organization

Headquarters ESF#11 Support

Animal Disaster Response

- The headquarters ESF operates under the direction of the MDAC and MBAH coordinators and support agency representation is based upon the assistance needed for the specific incident.
- Once ESF#11 is activated, the state response is coordinated by MDAC and MBAH. The coordinators will convene a conference call with appropriate support agencies and non-state partners to assess the situation and determine appropriate actions. The agency or agencies then alert supporting organizations and requests that they provide representation.
- When there is an outbreak of highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, carcass disposal issues, or if small animals/large animals/poultry/wildlife are affected by natural disasters, the MBAH will provide primary oversight and direction. The State Veterinarian serves as the MBAH's principal point of contact.
- The state activates its state, regional, or local emergency operations centers (EOCs), as needed, as the State's base of operations for interfacing with local governments, state agencies, and the private sector.
- The State Veterinarian and Area Veterinarian in Charge establish a Joint Operations Center, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the animal disease management decision-making process.

Plant Pests and Food Safety Response

- When there is a highly contagious or economically devastating plant pest outbreak, the MDAC Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) will provide primary oversight and direction.
- For an incident involving inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants and products in distribution and retail sites; laboratory analysis of food samples; control of products suspected to be adulterated; or plant closures, MDAC Consumer Protection assumes primary responsibility as applicable under legal authority.
- In the event of an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation; protection of seed, feed, fertilizer and pesticide; and field investigations, MDAC BPI assumes primary responsibility.
- The State Entomologist and/or the Director of BPI serves as the State's principal point of contact with the Federal government.
- The state activates its state, regional, or local EOCs, as needed, as the state's base of operations for interfacing with local governments and the private sector.

- The State Plant Health Director and the State Entomologist, acting jointly, shall establish a Joint Operations Center, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the disease or pest management decision-making process.

Operations and Planning ESF#11 Support

Animal Disaster Response

The MBAH will:

- Organize according to NIMS to ensure rapid response to animal care needs in the disaster area. The MBAH will serve as the lead agency and will coordinate with other ESF#11 agencies to assist with the following animal concerns:
- Coordinate emergency medical care for all animals, including commercial livestock, poultry, fish, zoo animals, laboratory and research animals, wildlife, and domestic pets;
- Coordinate the development, education, and activation of the Mississippi Animal Response Team (MART). MART is the official response team for ESF #11 Animal Disaster Response. MART will include trained volunteers able to respond locally to disasters involving animals. All MART volunteers must have NIMS/ICS training and be credentialed through the MBAH or MEMA;
- Coordinate with ESF#15 (External Affairs) to ensure that information is provided on the location of animal shelters and other animal-related matters before, during, and after the disaster. Also coordinate public education efforts such as brochures distributed to state and local EOCs, shelters, the public and veterinary offices;
- Coordinate with ESF#8, Public Health and Medical Services, on the identification, prevention, and control of diseases of animals that have public health significance;
- Coordinate with ESF#6, Mass Care, on co-locating small animal shelters to ensure public sheltering of companion animals is addressed;
- Coordinate with the MVMA that represents veterinarians in the state and is the primary organization for educating and recruiting veterinary volunteers for response to ESF #11 activation.
- Coordinate with the MS USDA Area Veterinarian in Charge in the event of a foreign animal disease (FAD) or large scale agriculture disease outbreak;
- Receive notification by the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) of a potential or actual event requiring response. The ESF#11 Emergency Coordinating Officers (ECO) from the BAH and MDAC will notify all appropriate support agencies of ESF#11 activation.
- Support agency representatives will be instructed to alert their contacts throughout the State to ensure that all available resources are on standby.
- Coordinate the consolidation or closing of animal shelters or confinement areas, personnel, and supplies as the need diminishes.

- Coordinate with ESF#3 for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste and dead animals.

Plant Pest Response

(State, County and Field Level)

The MDAC will:

- Coordinate response activities within local, county, and state jurisdictions as necessary.
- Contact support agency representatives (public, institutional and private entities) with instructions to alert their contacts throughout the state to ensure that all necessary personnel are on standby. Recruit, and train manpower and procure other resources as needed to conduct pest monitoring, pest identification, pest containment and eradication activities.
- Immediately contact U.S. Environmental Protection officials along with other consultants and researchers to obtain the registration and/or Section 18 approval of the needed pesticides to control the exotic pests.
- Work jointly with the State Plant Health Director and USDA/APHIS/PPQ staff of the regional office to establish emergency operations center(s) as needed within 24 hours of the detection of an exotic pest outbreak.
- Follow previously established protocols and SOPs in mobilizing the appropriate response team as outlined in the state and USDA/APHIS/PPQ Emergency Response plan within 48 hours or less.
- Follow established SOPs and administrative procedures to immediately institute emergency quarantines and eradication procedures where applicable and necessary to curtail the movement of regulated articles.
- In the case of a toxic pesticide release, volunteer manpower to assist MDEQ and MDH in investigations as authorized by law to insure the safety of the food supply and human health.
- In the case of feed, seed, and fertilizer security provide expertise as authorized by law to do investigations on illegal activities affecting the supplies to distribution centers and growers.

Food Safety and Security Response (State Level, County, and Field Level)

- Conduct rapid assessments of slaughter and processing plants, as well as distribution and retail food establishments for consumer protection and re-establishment of business operations.
- Coordinate MDAC response activities within local, county and state jurisdictions as necessary.
- Work in coordination with the FDA, MDH and the DMR under the FDA Disaster Partnership Agreement.

- Work jointly with the MBAH, FDA, MDH, DMR and other local county and state officials to establish emergency operation center(s) as needed.
- Facilitate opening of retail food establishments under emergency guidelines based upon an acceptable food safety inspection.

Animal Disaster Response

The MBAH will:

- Coordinate efforts to rescue and capture animals including relocation prior to the disaster. Counties, with the assistance of the MBAH, will identify available barns, pastures, kennels, etc., with local agencies and volunteer organizations;
- Coordinate with local agencies to establish a system to register identification data in an effort to reunite animals with their owners;
- Assist county animal emergency coordinators in identifying suitable facilities for shelters and confinement areas;
- Assist local authorities and animal organizations in setting up temporary and pet-friendly shelters as needed;
- Maintain a database of all county animal coordinators/humane shelter directors and will notify other pertinent personnel as appropriate.
- Track the activities of all available animal shelter facilities and confinement areas identified before, during, and after the disaster. This tracking will be based on information provided by the county.
- Coordinate with other ESFs and local agencies when agriculture disease outbreaks may affect the health or movement of people;

Field-Level ESF#11 Support

- All agencies with ESF#11 responsibilities will ensure that they have Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place to enable them to perform appropriate levels of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery related to the event. These agencies will have completed mitigation and preparedness activities prior to the initiating event, and will begin to perform response and recovery as needed.
- When ESF#11 is activated, ESF#5 and other appropriate support ESFs will be activated to support the event.
- The State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) will be activated at the appropriate level (I – IV) for the event (See Basic Plan, Section VI, “Direction and Control”).
- ESF#11 will continually assess and develop action plans for ESF#5 in order to help supporting agencies properly respond in a coordinated manner.

- Using ESF#15, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will provide public information to evacuees through Public Radio in Mississippi (PRM) and through the commercial broadcast media.

Actions

Headquarters

Animal, Plant, and Pest Disaster Response

- Addresses the potential for outbreaks in multiple states and provides guidance to unaffected area(s) in taking immediate precautionary measures within their borders.
- If a possible intentional pathogen release is reported, as the situation warrants, the MDAC or MBAH notifies and coordinates with the appropriate law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.
- If criminal activity is suspected in connection with an outbreak, the MBAH and/or MDAC works closely with the responding veterinary or plant diagnostics staff to ensure the proper handling and packing of any samples and their shipment to the appropriate research laboratory for testing and forensic analysis. The MDAC conducts any subsequent criminal investigation jointly with other appropriate local, State or Federal law enforcement agencies. If the outbreak is determined to be a criminal but not a terrorist act, the MDAC assumes primary State responsibility for a law enforcement response.
- If a terrorist act is suspected in connection with an outbreak, the MBAH or MDAC notifies the USDA and the FBI.
- Provides for the inspection, fumigation, disinfection, sanitation, pest extermination, and destruction of animals, plant materials, or articles found to be so infected or contaminated as to be sources of dangerous infection to human beings and takes such other measures as necessary.

Food Supply Safety and Security

- Assesses the operating status of inspected meat, poultry, and egg product processing, distribution, and retail facilities in the affected area.
- Evaluates the adequacy of available inspectors, program investigators, and laboratory services relative to the emergency on a geographical basis.

Ongoing Actions

Animal, Plant, and Pest Disaster Response

- Provides information and recommendations for incidents involving an outbreak of highly contagious/zoonotic animal disease, highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation that may require quarantine actions or that may impact intrastate/interstate commerce.

- (MBAH) Assigns veterinary personnel to assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals and performing veterinary preventive medicine activities, including conducting field investigations and providing technical assistance and consultation as required.
- MBAH will activate and demobilize MART in response to ongoing assessments/evaluations.

Food Supply Safety and Security

- Inspects and verifies slaughter and processing plants, distribution and retail sites.
- Facilitates laboratory analysis activities to screen meat, poultry, and egg products for chemical, biological, and radiological agents.
- Suspends operations of meat, poultry, and egg processing plants as appropriate.
- Engages in surveillance of food safety/security-related illness, injury, and other consumer complaints.
- Conducts product tracing to determine the source, destination, and disposition of adulterated and/or contaminated products.
- Controls products at inspected establishments that are suspected or found to be adulterated through product recall, seizure, and detention and/or closures of regulated establishments.

Mutual Aid Agreements

- The MBAH has an MOU with the MVMA

Responsibilities

ESF Coordinator:

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)

- Develop an SOP and checklist for this ESF in conjunction with MBAH, MEMA, MDH, and other supporting agencies.
- Maintain a roster of personnel that assist with various plant and animal issues.
- Appoint an Emergency Coordinating Officer (ECO) for emergency preparedness who will be an advisor to the state or local EOC or ongoing conditions in the event of a disaster or exotic plant pest outbreak.
- Support the development of volunteer organizations, such as Cattlemen's Association, Equine Associations, Mississippi Agricultural Industry Council, Mississippi Agricultural Consultants Association, and such affiliations for the protection and emergency care of livestock, poultry, crops and security of feed, seed, fertilizer and pesticide supplies.

- Coordinate with MBAH for the procurement of feed and hay supplies for animal health and medical facilities.
- Provide mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery support to MBAH and MDAC operations as necessary.
- Provide communication and coordinating efforts with USDA and other federal agencies as well as with governments of other states and countries.

Mississippi Board of Animal Health (MBAH)

- Serve as the primary agency and authority for animal disease control issues and operations.
- Provide guidelines and direct response for foreign and emerging animal diseases and animals affected by natural disasters.
- Direct operations of the MART.
- Prepare and distribute Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) or other information and training for MART.
- Provide support, expertise, and personnel for animal response-related actions such as credentialing, surveillance, permitting, inspections, cleaning and disinfection, decontamination, animal depopulation, carcass disposal, and movement restriction of personnel and vehicular traffic.
- Provide information to the public through the Joint Information Center or Public Information Officer about animals in disasters.
- Provide training related to animal response activities.
- Coordinate with livestock, poultry, and wildlife groups.
- Coordinate with MDAC for the procurement of feed and hay supplies for animal health and medical facilities.
- Develop Geographic Information System for purpose of identifying sale facilities for livestock and domestic animal shelters statewide.
- Appoint an Emergency Coordinating Officer for animal disaster emergency preparedness who may represent the State Veterinarian in the state or local EOC.
- Work with MSU CVM in relation to incidents involving emergency response and recovery, mitigation, and preparedness, as related to animal emergencies and foreign and contagious emerging diseases of animals.
- Meet with MS Cooperative Extension Service, MDAC and MVMA to identify facilities and the appropriate contacts to shelter domestic animals, livestock, and wildlife in the event of a protracted emergency or disaster.

- Develop Standard Operating Procedures for emerging, contagious, and foreign animal disease outbreaks in conjunction with MEMA, MDAC and other ESF#11 agencies.
- Have veterinary personnel that specialize in disease outbreaks and natural disaster response participate in annual exercises and training.
- Educate the public about the proper care of domestic animals and livestock in the event of a disaster

Primary Agency – Response:

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)

- Assist in providing a risk assessment if the foreign or emerging animal disease or plant pest cannot be isolated and confined.
- Work with Farm Services Administration (FSA) and Mississippi Agriculture Statistics to determine the economic impact of crop and animal damage in a disaster.
- Conduct inspections and quality assurance reviews on state licensed animal slaughtering/processing plants slaughtered animals.
- Provide personnel and equipment resources as available for surveillance, road blocks, transportation, map production, public information, GPS mapping, security, etc.
- Coordinate with MBAH the food industry and producers regarding any limitations imposed on the movement of agricultural products, regulated articles, or vehicles.
- Assist with foreign or emerging animal disease surveillance at state-inspected slaughter plants.

Mississippi Board of Animal Health

- Request Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams as needed.
- Activate alert and warning for MVMA members in the affected counties.
- Direct the response to an emerging, contagious, or foreign animal disease outbreak (State Veterinarian in cooperation with MS USDA Area Veterinarian-in-Charge).
- Assist in the relocation and repatriation of lost pets and livestock through the animal IMS.
- Interface with the local, State, and Federal Governments to provide medical aid, assistance, and relief to stricken animals, as well as supervise the prevention and control of diseases.
- Coordinate activities of support and volunteer organizations through the incident management system during an animal disaster event.
- Coordinate with law enforcement to safeguard drugs, prescription items, personnel, and sheltered animals.

Primary Agency – Recovery:

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)

- Provide damage assessment support.
- Assist in evaluating and presenting economic issues (indemnity, reimbursement, damage assessments, etc.).
- Support retail and production infrastructure to ensure rapid return to business.

Mississippi Board of Animal Health

- Provide damage assessment support through the incident management system.
- Direct resources as needed.
- Work with the MVMA on need assessment and distribution of donated funds.
- Support private veterinarians in rebuilding local infrastructure.
- Support local shelters and animal control agencies in rebuilding efforts.

Support Agencies

Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU CVM) will:

- Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.
- Provide training to faculty and other veterinarians in FEAD diagnostics and operations.
- Serve as a repository of qualified veterinary diagnosticians for deployment as requested by MBAH.
- Disseminate educational and training materials via the web, print media, and professional organizations and official government channels.
- Provide laboratory support, as required, in performing modern molecular biology diagnostic procedures.
- Conduct official continuing education seminars in concert with MSU Cooperative Extension, MVMA, and/or MBAH to train private and academic veterinarians and veterinary students in FEAD diagnostic procedures and all-hazard on-site and off-site animal emergency management operations and procedures.
- Provide epidemiological support to field operations.
- Designate one primary and one back-up individual to serve as the Disaster Response contact for the MSU-CVM with the State Veterinarian.

- Compile a directory of individuals who wish to volunteer to serve in the college's disaster response efforts.
- List equipment and supplies that would be available in a disaster response by the college.
- Draft MSU-CVM response plans.

Extension Service (MSU ES)

- Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.
- Develop educational materials, as appropriate, and work with producers on infectious diseases and animal depopulation activities.
- Provide applicable media support for ongoing plant, pest and animal response actions.
- Provide management training and educational information for impacted producers.
- Assist with damaged assessment support.
- Assist with staffing actions related to indemnity payment issues as capable.
- Assist in presenting and evaluating economic issues related to plant and animal pests as well as performing risk assessments.
- Provide support from Extension personnel and as available physical facilities to assist in all-hazards mitigation, preparation, and response activities.
- Educate the public and farming community about proper care of domestic animals and livestock in a disaster and risk from exotic animal and plant pests.
- Provide communication resources, i.e. video conferencing, as available.
- Assist in finding shelter for farm animals in the event of a disaster.
- Draft MSU-ES response plan.

Mississippi Agriculture, Forestry, and Experiment Station (MAFES)

- Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.
- Assist with damaged assessment support.
- Assist in presenting and evaluating economic issues related to plant and animal pests as well as performing risk assessments.
- Provide support from MAFES personnel and, as available, physical facilities and equipment (including vehicles and trailers) to assist in all-hazards mitigation, preparation, and response activities.
- Educate the public and farming community about proper care of domestic animals and livestock in a disaster and risk from exotic animal and plant pests.

- Draft MAFES response plan.

Mississippi Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories will:

- Assist MBAH in FEAD-related laboratory analysis.
- Provide sampling protocols to MBAH and shipping instructions for coordination and distribution.
- Assist in specialized carcass disposal operations.

Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) will:

- Foster activities that provide continuing education, training, and awareness of all-hazard animal disaster mitigation, prevention, preparedness and recovery activities.
- Assist in dissemination of disease-related information to veterinarians in the event of an animal emergency/disaster.
- Provide members with disaster preparedness materials that can be utilized by practice personnel and the public.
- Will support the MART, as appropriate.
- After initial assessment by MART maintain contact with and assess needs of veterinarians affected by disasters.
- Support recruitment and training of the MVMA Disaster Response Committee.
- Maintain a list of veterinarians willing and able to assist during disasters.

Mississippi Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (MBVME) will:

- Provide communication to all other state veterinary licensing boards in the U.S. and Canada.
- Provide contact information about Mississippi veterinarians in any given locale and the nature of their practice (e.g., small animal, large animal, etc.)
- Assist in clarifying any issues relating to unlicensed persons who are engaged in a recognized state-federal cooperative disease eradication or control program or an external parasite control program.
- Give continuing education credit to veterinarians who complete approved emergency preparedness training.

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will:

- Coordinate state emergency management system support of plant and animal response operations to include, if needed, assistance from an incident support team (IST), a MEMA regional liaison officer(s) (RLO), and/or a Regional Response Team (RRT).

- Request federal (FEMA, DHS, USDA) and other states' support via the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) if necessary.
- Assist in preparation of emergency and disaster declaration requests for the Governor, the Secretary of Agriculture, and/or the President as appropriate.
- Provide applicable media and public information support for ongoing plant and animal response operations.
- Staff the SEOC, as appropriate, for emergency management system support to ongoing animal and plant disaster response operations.
- Facilitate incorporation of veterinary services and animal care activities into County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans (CCEMPs).
- Educate the public about the proper care of domestic animals and livestock in times of disaster.
- Support multi-agency cooperation, especially with other animal and human health agencies at the state and local level.
- Support internal and external communications between ESF#11 agencies to the SEOC and the local county EMAs.
- Provide logistical support during animal and plant disaster response activities.

Mississippi Animal Protection and Control Association (MACPA) will:

- Maintain a list of available animal shelters.
- Assist in coordinating sheltering of companion animals evacuated from disaster areas.
- Assist in distributing food products for companion animals.
- Distribute animal disaster preparedness materials to pet and livestock owners.
- Provide association membership list to local emergency management organizations.
- Assist the public in the repatriation and relocation of lost pets and livestock.
- Educate the public about the proper care of domestic animals and livestock in times of disaster.
- Follow appropriate methods of disposal of dead animals based upon policy recommendations from the MBAH, MDH, and the MDEQ.
- Establish a means to restore lost animals to their homes in areas where available. This will be accomplished primarily by the use of microchip implants.
- Facilitate the return of companion animals to their owners by holding healthy and disease-free animals for a minimum of 30 days. This holding period may be shortened or extended

upon recommendation of the State Veterinarian and does not apply to extremely sick, injured, or truly aggressive animals that should be humanely euthanized.

- Interface with local government and county emergency management agencies to assist in evacuating domestic animals and wildlife in order to ensure animals are adequately sheltered and not abandoned.
- Work with local government and county emergency management agencies to establish animal provisions in county plans.
- Work with local shelters to develop facility emergency plans.
- Educate public about the importance of having a family evacuation/disaster plan in place to include proper identification, up-to-date vaccinations, and photographs of all animals, large and small, in their household.

Mississippi Department of Health (MDH) will:

- Participate with MBAH and MDAC for assistance in overall Health and Medical Services ESF operations.
- Provide on-scene technical support during operations that require Level C or higher PPE.
- Provide appropriate vaccinations, including flu vaccine, to animal health first responders.
- Provide guidance on human safety and health issues related to the control and containment of diseases in animals as well as pesticide contaminated food products.
- Provide applicable media support for animal disaster prevention and response operations.
- Provide zoonotic disease lab support.
- Provide food safety support as appropriate.
- Undertake surveillance actions to monitor potential human health impacts from animal disaster response activities.
- Assist in providing health and safety training for first responders.
- Assist, as appropriate, in conducting rapid needs assessment.
- Liaison with the MBAH to provide ongoing training for human and animal shelter personnel in response to animal in disasters.
- Disseminate health alerts to area health care providers (physicians, veterinarians, hospital staff, etc.).
- Coordinate decisions regarding animal diseases that have an impact on public health through collaboration with the State Veterinarian and the MS (Federal) Area Veterinarian-in-Charge.

- Distribute animal disaster preparedness materials to pet and livestock owners with other emergency preparedness information.
- Participate annually in training and exercises with veterinarians specializing in foreign, contagious, and emerging animal diseases, and members of humane groups and animal control agencies on mass animal sheltering.
- Incorporate MBAH plans into MDH plans, especially Avian Influenza/Pandemic Flu Plans.
- Provide contingencies for worker safety and health
- Provide decontamination technical support.

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) will:

- Evaluate and issue groundwater, waste, and air authorizations, as appropriate.
- Provide advice and direction related to the removal and disposal of carcasses, contaminated food commodities, water resources, soil, and plant materials.
- Consider environmental issues involving the disposal of carcasses, contaminated food commodities, water resources, soil, and plant materials.
- Coordinate, as applicable, with the MDH to provide for water monitoring and soil sampling in areas in proximity to disposal sites containing contaminated carcasses, plant material, food commodities, water resources, soil, and other contaminated substrates.
- Provide applicable media support for ongoing animal response operations.

Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Department (MWFPD) will:

- Determine the distribution and density of susceptible wildlife.
- Provide disease surveillance of wildlife.
- Identify and isolate wildlife that is or may be affected by a FEAD.
- Capture, contain, and destroy susceptible wildlife as necessary to eradicate a FEAD and prevent its transmission.
- Determine when potentially affected wildlife is free from disease.
- Provide applicable media support for ongoing FEAD operations.
- Wildlife Rehabilitation Groups licensed through Exotic Species Management will provide for the rehabilitation of injured and sick native wildlife and exotic animals. Provide a list of licensees as needed.
- Provide assistance during response and recovery efforts.
- Conduct assessment of any lost or escaped exotic animal.

Mississippi Forestry Commission

- Assist MBAH and MDAC in IMS training for MART personnel.
- Provide equipment, as available, for clearing animal and plant disposal/burial areas.
- Provide IMS support as requested and available.
- Assist in matters affecting the timber and forestry industries as related to pest outbreaks.

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR)

- Coordinates rescue, rehabilitation, or removal of stranded marine mammals through the law enforcement arm.
- Provide assistance during response and recovery efforts.

Zookeepers Statewide

- Share scarce food supplies with other zoos.
- Provide assistance, as needed, to other zoos.
- Maintain contact with American Zoo Association to assist in rounding up and sheltering escaped animals.
- Enlist the aid of local law enforcement agencies to ensure the security of drugs and the animals they are sheltering.

American Red Cross (ARC), Salvation Army (SA), and Other Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (MSVOAD) Agencies

- Support food services in accordance with its National Charter, Emergency Operations Plan, and local SOP as applicable.
- Provide mobile feeding sites and canteens to feed disaster victims and emergency workers.
- Provide emergency feeding services through grocery orders issued to stores outside the disaster area.
- Coordinate the food distribution efforts with other volunteer organizations.
- Work with the MBAH and counties to address humans needing shelter that have animals.

Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS)

- Develop an SOP and checklist for this ESF in conjunction with MEMA, MDAC, MDH, and other supporting agencies.
- Assist the MBAH in determining locations for pet-friendly evacuation shelters.

Mississippi Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MDMR) will:

- Coordinate stress management and/or crisis counseling to producers, retailers, emergency responders, and consumers.
- Provide critical incident stress management (CISM), as appropriate.
- Consider human impact issues regarding animal depopulation actions.
- Provide applicable media support for animal response operations.

Mississippi Military Department (MMD)

- Assist in operation of ESF#11 as related to warehouses, staging areas, and security as needed.

Mississippi Department of Public Safety (DPS) will:

- Provide law enforcement support for road closures, controlling vehicular traffic, operating isolation facilities, decontamination operations, animal depopulation actions, etc.
- Assist with agriculture inspections as needed at road blocks.
- Support the MBAH in monitoring volunteers responding to animal disasters. Support removal of volunteers not operating within the IMS as directed by the State Veterinarian.

Mississippi Office of Homeland Security

- Evaluate the scope of the disaster to determine National Significance.
- Provide technical and financial support as needed to support response efforts.
- Protect the integrity of disease control efforts.
- Support of animal and plant response operations to include, if needed, assistance from an incident support team (IST), a liaison officer(s), and/or a Regional Response Team (RRT).
- Coordinate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for agriculture emergencies that may or could have occurred as a result of terrorism.
- Assist veterinary personnel, especially veterinarians specializing in foreign and emerging animal diseases in participating in annual exercises and training.
- Support multi-agency cooperation, especially with other animal and human health agencies at the state and local levels.

Office of the Attorney General (OAG) will:

- Provide legal advice to state officials conducting or evaluating all-hazards animal and plant operations and activities.

- Coordinate with county and district attorneys to make sure that legal representation is provided to local government agencies conducting animal and plant emergency response operations, including, but not limited to: restriction of the movement of individuals and animals, seizure and destruction of property, medical and liability claims, restriction of public access, suspension of public activities, and indemnity issues.
- Provide legal representation as appropriate for the state.
- Act as a liaison to the U.S. Attorney General.

Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT) will:

- Provide traffic control devices (e.g., signs, barricades, etc.) to assist with traffic control, road closures, and agricultural inspections.
- Provide earth-moving equipment for digging small pits and burying carcasses.
- Provide right-of-way, where available, for FEAD or plant material inspection sites.
- Assist with providing decontamination/spraying equipment.

Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) will:

- Assist MBAH, MDAC and MSU ES in evaluating and presenting the adverse economic issues related to a FEAD and/or plant pest situation.
- Assist in continuing to market and promote Mississippi animals, animal products, and plant products.
- Assist in providing applicable media support for ongoing animal response operations.
- Assist in providing accurate public information on protecting and using Mississippi agriculture products to visitors.
- Work with local communities to determine and counter the impact of animal response operations (e.g. movement restrictions, the suspension of large public gatherings, etc.) on tourism and other economy-related activities.

Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory (MSCL):

- The State Chemist shall develop a plan to handle laboratory testing needs for an emergency pesticide release or toxin affecting agricultural production.
- Provide equipment and personnel to analyze soil, water, plant tissue, fuel, food commodities, and other samples as needed to determine levels of contamination for hazardous materials.
- Combine resources and establish a mobile laboratory if necessary with the assistance of other agencies and private laboratories having laboratory capabilities.

Mississippi Crop Improvement Agency

- Assist with surveys that monitor exotic pest populations.

Private Sector Stakeholders (including Farm Bureau, Mississippi Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of South Mississippi, Mississippi Cattlemens' Association, Mississippi Poultry Association, Mississippi Horse Council, etc...)

- Provide personnel, supplies, and other resources as available to support the ESF#11 response.
- Work within the incident management system.
- Support recruitment of and training for MART members.