

Mississippi Emergency Support Function #11 – Animals and Agriculture

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
Mississippi 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
Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services

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

This Emergency Support Function (ESF) supports county, municipal, state, and federal authorities to address coordination of efforts to provide for all animals and crops affected by disasters (all-hazards); control and eradication of outbreaks of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease; control and eradication of highly infective exotic plant disease or economically devastating plant pest infestation; and safety and security of food, feed, seed, fertilizer, and pesticides where it falls under Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) jurisdiction.

Scope

ESF #11 coordinates efforts to provide for animals and agriculture affected by all hazards in the following manner:

- **Animal Disaster Response** - Includes implementing an integrated county, municipal, state, and federal response to outbreaks of highly contagious and/or economically devastating animal/zoonotic diseases and natural disasters involving animals. Ensures, in coordination with ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services and ESF #6 Mass Care, that animal/veterinary issues are addressed.
- **Plant and Plant Pest Disaster Response** - Includes implementing an integrated county, municipal, state, and federal response to outbreaks of highly infective exotic plant diseases and/or economically devastating plant pest infestations, protection of seed, feed, fertilizer and pesticide, and field investigations. Ensures coordination with federal regulatory agencies.
- **Food Safety and Security** - Includes the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants and products in distribution and retail sites under MDAC's jurisdiction, food samples taken for laboratory analysis, control of products suspected to be adulterated, and plant closures; ensures coordination with ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services and federal regulatory agencies.

Policies

General

- Actions taken under ESF #11 are coordinated with and conducted cooperatively with county, municipal, state, and federal incident management officials and with private entities.
- 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 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 Disaster Response Policies

- The Mississippi Board of Animal Health (MBAH) is the primary agency for addressing animal disaster issues. The MBAH coordinates local, state, and federal animal response activities such as medical care, sheltering, evacuation, rescue, temporary confinement, procuring feed, food and water, animal identification, carcass disposal, and returning animals to owners related to natural disasters when ESF #11 is activated. The State Veterinarian is the MBAH primary point of contact.
- The State Veterinarian will establish quarantines, permit requirements, and holding periods for animals. These requirements are based on many factors, including disease epidemiology, species affected, scope and type of disaster, animals' health and temperament.
- Euthanasia of animals will be done humanely and at the direction of incident veterinarians.

- 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 U.S. 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 U.S. Secretary of Agriculture declare an “Extraordinary Emergency” to pay compensation and to allow for the use of federal authorities to take action within Mississippi if the state is unable to take appropriate action to control and eradicate the disease or plant pest.

Plant and Plant Pest Policies

- MDAC is the primary agency addressing the protection of seed, feed, fertilizer, and pesticide; and plant disease and plant pest field investigations.

Food Safety and Security Policies

- MDAC is the primary agency for agricultural food safety and security issues. MDAC coordinates local, state, and federal agricultural food safety response activities including the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of slaughter and processing plants and products in distribution and retail sites under the department’s jurisdiction. The Commissioner of Agriculture is the primary point of contact.
- MDAC coordinates with ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services and federal regulatory agencies, as appropriate.

Concept of Operations

Assumptions

General

- MDAC and MBAH coordinate the state planning, preparation, activation, and demobilization of ESF #11 response activities.
- MDAC and MBAH organize and coordinate 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 utilizing National Incident Management System (NIMS).
- Once ESF #11 is activated, the state response is coordinated by MDAC and MBAH. Support agency representation is based upon the assistance needed for the specific incident. 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 they provide representation.
- ESF #11 provides an integrated response to natural disasters involving animals, outbreaks of a highly contagious and/or economically devastating animal/zoonotic (i.e., transmitted between animals and

people) diseases, outbreaks of highly infective exotic plant diseases, and/or economically devastating plant or animal pest infestations in the state and/or region.

- 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

Animal Disaster Response

- MBAH will provide primary oversight and direction 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.
- ESF #11 designated emergency coordinators will integrate and collaborate with local, state, and federal emergency operation centers as needed.
- The State Veterinarian and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Area Veterinarian-in-Charge may establish a Joint Operations Center (JOC) to serve as the focal point for coordinating the animal disease management decision-making process.

Plant and Plant Pests Disaster Response

- MDAC Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) assumes primary responsibility in the event of an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant pest infestation. MDAC BPI also assumes primary responsibility for protection of seed, feed, fertilizer and pesticide, and field investigations.
- The State Entomologist and/or the Director of BPI serve as the state's principal point of contact with the Federal government.
- 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 and the private sector.
- The State Plant Health Director and the State Entomologist, acting jointly, shall establish a JOC, which serves as the focal point for coordinating the disease or pest management decision-making process.

Food Safety Response

MDAC Bureau of Regulatory Services assumes primary responsibility as applicable under legal authority 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.

Planning and Operations

Animal Disaster Response

MBAH will:

- Serve as the lead agency to coordinate with other ESF #11 agencies for addressing emergency care for animals including livestock, horses, poultry, fish, zoo animals, laboratory and research animals, companion animals, and wildlife.
- Develop, train, and activate the Mississippi Animal Response Team (MART). MART is the official response team for ESF #11 animal response activities. MART includes trained volunteers, local, state, and federal employees. All deployed MART members must have NIMS and Incident Command System (ICS) training and be credentialed through MBAH or Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).
- Coordinate efforts to evacuate, transport, shelter, and capture animals.
- Assist counties to identify barns, pastures, kennels, etc., appropriate for sheltering and/or confining animals.
- Coordinate with local agencies to reunite animals with their owners.
- Assist local authorities and animal organizations in setting up temporary and pet-friendly shelters as needed.
- Obtain situational awareness animal data from shelter facilities and confinement areas identified before, during, and after the disaster.
- Coordinate with other ESFs and local agencies when agriculture disease outbreaks may affect the health or movement of people.
- Ensure that information is provided on the location of animal shelters and other animal-related matters before, during, and after the disaster through WebEOC® and/or ESF #15 External Affairs.
- Coordinate with ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services to identify, prevent, and control animal diseases that have public health significance.
- Support ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services by assisting with sheltering of pets of persons in special medical needs shelters (SMNS).
- Coordinate with ESF #6 Mass Care to ensure animal sheltering in disasters is addressed.
- Coordinate with the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA) and Mississippi State University/ College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU/CVM) to educate, train, and recruit animal health responders for ESF #11 activation.
- Coordinate with the USDA Area Veterinarian-in-Charge in the event of a foreign animal disease (FAD) or large scale agriculture disease outbreak.

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

Plant and Plant Pest Disaster Response

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 Agency (EPA) 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/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)/Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) staff of the regional office to establish EOCs as needed within 24 hours of the detection of an exotic pest outbreak.
- Follow previously established protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (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 Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) in investigations as authorized by law to insure the safety of the food supply and human health.
- In the case of the security of feed, seed, and fertilizer, 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

MDAC will:

- 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 that fall within the department's jurisdiction.
- Coordinate MDAC response activities within local, county, and state jurisdictions as necessary.
- Work in coordination with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), MSDH, and the Department of Marine Resources (DMR) under the FDA Disaster Partnership Agreement.

- Work jointly with MBAH, FDA, MSDH, DMR, and other local, county, and state officials to establish EOCs as needed.
- Facilitate opening of retail food establishments under emergency guidelines based upon an acceptable food safety inspection.

Actions

Headquarters

- Sets mission objectives for the purpose of preventing, responding to, controlling and recovering from situations and incidents that are or may be detrimental to the health and welfare of humans and animals.
- 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, 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, 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. 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 act, but not a terrorist act, MDAC assumes primary state responsibility for a law enforcement response.
- If a terrorist act is suspected in connection with an outbreak, MBAH or MDAC notifies the USDA and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

Food Safety and Security

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

Animal Disaster Response

- Provides information and recommendations for incidents involving outbreaks of highly contagious/zoonotic animal diseases, highly infective exotic plant disease, and/or economically devastating plant pest infestations.
- Assigns veterinary personnel to perform veterinary preventive medicine activities, assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals, conduct field investigations, provide technical assistance and consultation, and other activities as requested.
- Activate and demobilize MART in response to ongoing assessments.

Plant and Plant Pest Disaster Response

- Provide information and recommendations for incidents involving highly infective exotic plant disease, and/or economically devastating plant pest infestations.

Food Supply Safety and Security

- Inspects and verifies slaughter and processing plants, distribution, and retail sites.
- Facilitates laboratory analysis activities to screen meat and poultry products for chemical, biological, and radiological agents.
- Suspends operations of meat and poultry 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.

Responsibilities

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce- Coordinator/Primary Agency

- Develop an SOP and checklist for this ESF in conjunction with MBAH, MEMA, MSDH, and other supporting agencies.
- Maintain a roster of personnel that assists 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 for 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.

- 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.
- 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- Coordinator/Primary Agency

- 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 Guidelines (SOGs) or other information and training for MART.
- Develop SOGs for emerging, contagious, and foreign animal disease outbreaks in conjunction with emergency management and animal health officials.
- 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 (JIC) or Public Information Officer (PIO) about animals in disasters.
- Provide training related to animal response activities.
- Coordinate with ESF #11 Support Agencies.

- Coordinate with MDAC for the procurement of feed and hay supplies for animal facilities.
- Appoint an ECO for animal disaster emergency preparedness who may represent the State Veterinarian in the state or local EOC.
- Work with support agencies to prepare, respond, mitigate, and recover from incidents involving animal emergencies and foreign and contagious emerging diseases of animals.
- Work with support agencies and local officials to identify facilities and the appropriate contacts to shelter domestic animals, livestock, and wildlife in the event of a protracted emergency or disaster.
- Support ESF #6 in sheltering companion animals of persons in temporary shelters.
- Support ESF #8 to shelter companion animals of persons in SMNS.
- Request Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams (VMAT) as needed.
- Direct the response to an emerging, contagious, or foreign animal disease outbreak (State Veterinarian in cooperation with the USDA Area Veterinarian-in-Charge).
- Assist in the relocation and repatriation of lost pets and livestock through the animal Internet Map Server (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.
- 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

Agency	Functions
Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions. • Provide training to faculty and other veterinarians in Foreign and Emerging Animal Disease (FEAD) diagnostics and operations. • Serve as a repository of qualified veterinary diagnosticians for deployment as requested by MBAH. • 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.
Mississippi State University - Extension Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Assist with damage assessments. • 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 Service personnel and as available physical facilities to assist in all-hazards mitigation, preparation, and response activities. • Provide communication resources, i.e. video conferencing, as available. • Assist in finding shelter for farm animals in the event of a disaster. • Draft Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU/ES) response plan.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi Agriculture, Forestry, and Experiment Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions. • Assist with damage assessment support. • Assist in presenting and evaluating economic issues related to plant and animal pests as well as performing risk assessments. • Provide support from MS Agriculture, Forestry, and Experiment Station (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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Support the MART, as appropriate. • Perform activities to assess and support veterinary infrastructure as appropriate. • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 recognized state/federal cooperative disease eradication or control programs and/or external parasite control programs. • Give continuing education credit to veterinarians who complete approved emergency preparedness training.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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). • Provide mission assignments for those activities performed by ESF #11 agencies that are outside the agency(ies) regular authority. • Request federal (Federal Emergency Management Agency (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 State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), as appropriate, for emergency management system support to ongoing animal and plant disaster response operations. • Facilitate incorporation of ESF #11 into county comprehensive emergency management plans (CEMP). • Educate the public about the proper care of domestic animals and livestock in times of disaster. • Support internal and external communications between ESF #11 agencies to the SEOC and local county emergency management agencies (EMA).
Mississippi Animal Control and Protection Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 MBAH, MDH, and MDEQ. • Establish a means to restore lost animals to their homes in areas where available. • Facilitate the return of companion animals to their owners. • Follow holding periods as established by the State Veterinarian. • 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 EMAs to establish animal provisions in county plans. • Work with local shelters to develop facility emergency plans.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi State Department of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate with MBAH and MDAC for assistance in overall health and medical services ESF operations. • Provide planning and logistical support for MBAH operations that assist SMNS. • Provide on-scene technical support during operations that require Level C or higher personal protective equipment (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 USDA 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 MSDH plans, especially Avian Influenza/Pandemic Flu Plans. • Provide contingencies for worker safety and health • Provide decontamination technical support.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 MSDH 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Provide a list of wildlife rehabilitators licensed in MS as needed. • Provide assistance during response and recovery efforts. • Conduct assessment of any lost or escaped exotic animals.
Mississippi Forestry Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate rescue, rehabilitation, or removal of stranded marine mammals. • Provide assistance during response and recovery efforts.
Zookeepers Statewide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share scarce food supplies with other zoos. • Provide assistance, as needed, to other zoos. • Maintain contact with the American Zoo Association to assist in rounding up and sheltering escaped animals. • Collaborate with MBAH for information sharing and technical consultation.
American Red Cross , Salvation Army , Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services, and other Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 ESF #11 emergency workers. • Work with MBAH and counties to address pet sheltering needs. • Identify volunteers qualified to assist with ESF #11 response activities as requested.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi Department of Human Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an SOP and checklist for this ESF in conjunction with MEMA, MDAC, MSDH, and other supporting agencies. • Assist the MBAH in determining locations for pet-friendly evacuation shelters.
Mississippi State Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate stress management and/or crisis counseling to producers, retailers, emergency responders, and consumers as needed. • Provide critical incident stress management (CISM), as appropriate. • Consider human impact issues regarding animal depopulation actions.
Mississippi Department of Public Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 removal of volunteers not operating within the IMS as directed by the State Veterinarian.
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 animal and plant response operations to include, if needed, assistance from an Incident Support Team (IST), a Liaison Officer(s), and/or Regional Response Teams (RRT). • Coordinate with the FBI for agriculture emergencies that may occur or have occurred as a result of terrorism. • Include veterinary personnel specializing in foreign and emerging animal diseases and responder protection activities in applicable homeland security exercises and training. • Support multi-agency cooperation, especially with other animal and human health agencies, at the state and local levels.
Mississippi Office of the Attorney General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Mississippi Department of Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

Agency	Functions
Mississippi Development Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 accurate public information on protecting and using Mississippi agriculture products. • Work with local communities to determine and counter detrimental impacts 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with surveys that monitor exotic pest populations.
Private Sector Stakeholders (including Farm Bureau, Mississippi Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of South Mississippi, Mississippi Cattlemen’s Association, MS Poultry Association, Mississippi Horse Council)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within the incident management system. • Provide situational awareness to assist with decision-making planning and response effectiveness.

ESF #11 Review and Maintenance

As a minimum, the state agency contact will coordinate and conduct an annual review of this annex with all support agencies. Additional reviews may be conducted if experience with an incident or regulatory changes indicate a need. Recommendations for change will be submitted to MEMA for approval, publication, and distribution.