

## **Mississippi Emergency Support Function #11- Animals and Agriculture Annex**

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### **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 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  
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  
Food and Drug Administration  
Environmental Protection Agency

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### **Purpose**

Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11: Animals and Agriculture , supports county, municipal, state, and federal authorities to address: (1) coordination of efforts to provide for all animals and crops affected by disasters (all-hazards), (2) control and eradication of outbreaks of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, (3) control and eradication highly infective exotic plant disease, or economically devastating plant pest infestation, and (4) safety and security of food, feed, seed, fertilizer and pesticides, where it falls under MDAC jurisdiction.

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### **Scope**

- ESF#11 coordinates efforts to provide for animals and crops 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 diseases or disasters involving animals. Ensures, in coordination with ESF#8, Public Health and Medical Services and ESF#6 Mass Care, that animal/veterinary/wildlife issues are addressed. Ensures coordination with federal preparedness and response agencies.
  - **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.

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### **Relationship to the Whole Community**

This section describes how ESF #11 relates to other elements of the whole community.

#### **Individuals/Households**

Individuals are responsible for knowing the risks they face and developing emergency plans for their families that include emergency preparedness for the animals in their household, whether those animals are owned for pleasure or commercial purposes. To the extent possible, during an incident, individuals should carry out their emergency plans in accordance with responder instructions.

During an incident, to the extent practical, animal evacuation and sheltering should be conducted in conjunction with human evacuation and sheltering efforts; animals should be sheltered with or near their owners. Service animals are not considered pets and may not be separated from the individual with a disability or other access and functional need, and they should be permitted anywhere the public goes. Owners should provide food, water, husbandry, and exercise for their animals while they are in emergency shelters.

#### **State, Tribal and Local Governments**

Local, state, and tribal governments are primarily responsible for the welfare of individuals and animals within their jurisdictions.

Typically, at the local level, the animal control agency is the authority that has jurisdiction for non-disease animal emergency management issues within a given community. At the state level,

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the Department of Agriculture, Board of Animal Health, State Wildlife Management Agency, or the Emergency Management Agency coordinates animal response activities.

When requested and mission assigned, ESF #11 can assist in coordinating or providing technical assistance to address animal/agriculture emergency management issues. The local, state, tribal, or government designates an official(s) to coordinate with the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce and Board of Animal Health. This official(s) serves as the principal point(s) of contact with ESF #11 Coordinators at the Regional Response Coordination Center.

Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area are arranged by local, state, tribal, Federal, and voluntary organizations.

Animal and agricultural health responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with state authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition; animal, plant, and environmental health; and support of economy and trade.

Inspection of meat, poultry, and processed egg products; production and import facilities; and distributors during a response may be conducted, occur with local, state, tribal authorities and the regulated industry, if needed, to ensure public health and support the economy and trade.

Actions taken during an animal or agricultural emergency are guided by and coordinated with local, state, and tribal emergency preparedness and response officials, homeland security officials, and existing USDA internal policies and procedures.

Actions taken during an emergency threatening the environment or cultural and historic resources are guided by and coordinated with the appropriate local, state, and tribal, agencies, including the state historic preservation office, state archives, and local emergency management agencies.

### **Private Sector/Nongovernmental Organizations**

Most animal and agriculture emergency response resources and assets are owned or controlled by the private sector and NGOs.

Animal emergency management is and has always been a whole community effort—a blending of emergency management and animal handling expertise. At the local level, veterinarians, farmers, animal control agencies and humane organizations, breeders, wildlife rehabilitators, and others make up the animal infrastructure within a community. These entities should be encouraged to collaborate with government to meet emergency animal needs in their communities. Many states have integrated animal response capabilities, such as county and/or state animal response teams, veterinary medical reserve corps, or similarly named entities. Animal and agricultural health responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with state authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition; animal, plant, and environmental health; and support of economy and trade. Businesses where animals are integral to operations (such as production agriculture, zoos/exhibitors, research facilities, breeders, animal welfare agencies/sanctuaries, and veterinary hospitals) should be encouraged to have contingency plans in place for animals housed in the facility, in the event of a disaster or emergency. Nonprofit networks can provide information on contingency planning for veterinary facilities, zoos, and other congregate animal facilities.

Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area are arranged by local, state, tribal, Federal, and voluntary organizations. Inspection of meat, poultry, and processed egg

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products; production and import facilities; and distributors during a response may be conducted with local, state, and tribal authorities and the regulated industry, if needed, to ensure public health and support economy and trade.

**Core Capabilities and Actions**

**ESF Role Aligned to Core Capabilities**

The following table lists the Response core capabilities that ESF #11 most directly supports, along with the related ESF #11 actions. Though not listed in the table, all ESFs, including ESF #11, support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

NOTE: Many activities are performed under statutory authority; mission assignments are needed to utilize ESF #11 capabilities listed when the mission exceeds functions performed under statutory authority, such as activities related to household pets and service animals.

Core Capability	ESF #11 – Animals and Agriculture
<p><b>Mass Care Services</b></p>	<p><b>Animal (including Household Pets and Service Animal) Mass Care and Emergency Assistance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports ESF #6 to coordinate an integrated State and Federal response to meet the mass care and emergency assistance needs of animals, including household pets and service animals, and their owners.</li> <li>• Facilitates whole community multi-agency coordination with NGO agencies for animal response activities.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance and subject matter expertise to local, state, tribal and Federal government, and NGOs, regarding animal response issues.</li> <li>• Coordinates needs assessments for animals, including household pets and service animals, and animal response needs and activities including technical support for evacuation and emergency animal sheltering.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Critical Transportation</b></p>	<p><b>Safety and Defense of the Supply of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products:</b> Ensures meat, poultry, and processed egg products in commerce are safe, under MDAC’s jurisdiction.</p>
<p><b>Public Health and Medical</b></p>	<p><b>Animal and Agricultural Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responds to animal and agricultural health emergencies under MBAH and MDAC statutory authority.</li> <li>• Coordinates with ESF #8 on management of zoonotic disease.</li> <li>• Coordinates with ESF #8 to ensure that animal/veterinary health issues (including both disease management and medical management) are supported.</li> <li>• Collaborates with ESF #8, HHS and USDA to deliver effective “one health” response that integrates human, animal, and environmental health.</li> <li>• Serves as the State lead on animal (including zoonotic) diseases.</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordinates with ESF #3 on the removal of debris (carcasses)</li></ul> <p><b>Safety and Defense of the Supply of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products:</b> Ensures regulated facilities can provide safe meat, poultry, and processed egg products under MDAC's jurisdiction.</p>
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### Policies

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 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 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 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 act within Mississippi if the state is unable to take appropriate action to control and eradicate the disease or plant pest.

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### **Plant and Plant Pest Policies**

- The 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:**

- The MDAC is the primary agency for agricultural food safety and security issues. The 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.

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### **Concept of Operations**

#### **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 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 the state's commercial supply of food under MDAC's jurisdiction (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.

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### **Organization**

#### **Animal Disaster Response**

- 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.
- ESF 11 designated emergency coordinators will integrate and collaborate with local, state, and federal emergency operation centers as needed.
- The State Veterinarian or his designee and the Federal Area Veterinarian in Charge may establish a Joint Operations Center to serve as the focal point for coordinating the animal disease management decision-making process.

#### **Plant and Plant Pests Disaster Response**

- 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 serve 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.

#### **Food Safety Response**

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

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### **Planning and Operations**

#### **Animal Disaster Response**

##### **The 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. MART includes trained volunteers and local, state

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and federal employees able to respond to disasters involving animals. All deployed MART members must have NIMS/ICS training and be credentialed through the MBAH or 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 establish a system to register identification data 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;
- Coordinate with ESF#6, Mass Care, to ensure animal sheltering in disasters is addressed;
- Coordinate with the MVMA and MSU CVM to educate, train and recruit animal health responders for 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;
- Coordinate with ESF#3 for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste and dead animals.

### **Plant and Plant Pest Disaster Response**

#### **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



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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**

#### **The 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 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.

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### **Actions**

#### **Headquarters**

- Sets mission objectives for 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, 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.

#### **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.

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### **Ongoing Actions**

#### **Animal Disaster Response**

- Provide 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.
- Assign veterinary personnel to perform veterinary preventive medicine activities, assist in delivering animal health care to injured or abandoned animals, conduct field investigations, and provide technical assistance and consultation, and other activities as requested.
- Activate and demobilize MART in response to ongoing assessments.

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### **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.
- 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.

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### **Responsibilities**

#### **ESF Coordinators**

##### **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.

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- 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 (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.
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures 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 or Public Information Officer about animals in disasters.
- Provide training related to animal response activities.
- Coordinate with ESF#11 Support Agencies.

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- Coordinate with MDAC for the procurement of feed and hay supplies for animal facilities.
- Appoint an Emergency Coordinating Officer(s) 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, Mass Care, in sheltering companion animals of persons in temporary shelters;
- Support ESF #8, Public Health and Medical Services, to shelter companion animals of persons in Special Medical Needs Shelters.
- Request Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams as needed.
- 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.
- Provide damage assessment support through the incident management system.
- Direct resources as needed.
- Work with the MVMA and CVM 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.

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### Support Agencies

Agency	Functions
Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine (MSU CVM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.</li> <li>• Provide training to faculty and other veterinarians in FEAD diagnostics and operations.</li> <li>• Serve as a repository of qualified veterinary diagnosticians for deployment as requested by MBAH.</li> <li>• Provide laboratory support, as required, in performing modern molecular biology diagnostic procedures.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Provide epidemiological support to field operations.</li> <li>• Designate one primary and one back-up individual to serve as the Disaster Response contact for the MSU-CVM with the State Veterinarian.</li> <li>• Compile a directory of individuals who wish to volunteer to serve in the college's disaster response efforts.</li> <li>• List equipment and supplies that would be available in a disaster response by the college.</li> <li>• Draft MSU-CVM response plans.</li> </ul>
Mississippi State University Extension Service (MSU ES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.</li> <li>• Develop educational materials, as appropriate, and work with producers on infectious diseases and animal depopulation activities.</li> <li>• Provide applicable media support for ongoing plant, pest and animal response actions.</li> <li>• Provide management training and educational information.</li> <li>• Assist with damaged assessments.</li> <li>• Assist with staffing actions related to indemnity payment issues as capable.</li> <li>• Assist in presenting and evaluating economic issues related to plant and animal pests as well as performing risk assessments.</li> <li>• Provide support from Extension personnel and as available physical facilities to assist in all-hazards mitigation, preparation, and response activities.</li> <li>• Provide communication resources, i.e. video conferencing, as available.</li> <li>• Assist in finding shelter for farm animals in the event of a disaster.</li> <li>• Draft MSU-ES response plan.</li> </ul>

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Mississippi Agriculture, Forestry, and Experiment Station (MAFES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist MBAH in animal disaster preparedness and response operations and actions.</li> <li>• Assist with damaged assessment support.</li> <li>• Assist in presenting and evaluating economic issues related to plant and animal pests as well as performing risk assessments.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Draft MAFES response plan.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist MBAH in FEAD-related laboratory analysis.</li> <li>• Provide sampling protocols to MBAH and shipping instructions for coordination and distribution.</li> <li>• Assist in specialized carcass disposal operations.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association (MVMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foster activities that provide continuing education, training, and awareness of all-hazard animal disaster mitigation, prevention, preparedness and recovery activities.</li> <li>• Assist in dissemination of disease-related information to veterinarians in the event of an animal emergency/disaster.</li> <li>• Provide members with disaster preparedness materials that can be utilized by practice personnel and the public.</li> <li>• Will support the MART, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Perform activities to assess and support veterinary infrastructure as appropriate.</li> <li>• Support recruitment and training of the MVMA Disaster Response Committee.</li> <li>• Maintain a list of veterinarians willing and able to assist during disasters.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (MBVME)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide communication to all other state veterinary licensing boards in the U.S. and Canada.</li> <li>• Provide contact information about Mississippi veterinarians in any given locale and the nature of their practice (e.g., small animal, large animal, etc.)</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Give continuing education credit to veterinarians who complete approved emergency preparedness training.</li> </ul>

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Agency	Functions
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• Request federal (FEMA, DHS, USDA) and other states' support via the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) if necessary.</li> <li>• Assist in preparation of emergency and disaster declaration requests for the Governor, the Secretary of Agriculture, and/or the President as appropriate.</li> <li>• Provide applicable media and public information support for ongoing plant and animal response operations.</li> <li>• Staff the SEOC, as appropriate, for emergency management system support to ongoing animal and plant disaster response operations.</li> <li>• Facilitate incorporation of ESF#11 into County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plans (CCEMPs).</li> <li>• Educate the public about the proper care of domestic animals and livestock in times of disaster.</li> <li>• Support internal and external communications between ESF#11 agencies to the SEOC and the local county EMAs.</li> </ul>
Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate with MBAH and MDAC for assistance in overall Health and Medical Services ESF operations.</li> <li>• Provide planning and logistical support for MBAH operations that assist Special Medical Needs Shelters.</li> <li>• Provide on-scene technical support during operations that require Level C or higher PPE.</li> <li>• Provide appropriate vaccinations, including flu vaccine, to animal health first responders.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Provide applicable media support for animal disaster prevention and response operations.</li> <li>• Provide zoonotic disease lab support.</li> <li>• Provide food safety support as appropriate.</li> <li>• Undertake surveillance actions to monitor potential human health impacts from animal disaster response activities.</li> <li>• Assist in providing health and safety training for first responders.</li> <li>• Assist, as appropriate, in conducting rapid needs assessment.</li> <li>• Liaison with the MBAH to provide ongoing training for human and animal shelter personnel in response to animal in disasters.</li> <li>• Disseminate health alerts to area health care providers (physicians, veterinarians, hospital staff, etc.).</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Distribute animal disaster preparedness materials to pet and livestock owners with other emergency preparedness information.</li> </ul>



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MSDH- continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate MBAH plans into MDH plans, especially Avian Influenza/Pandemic Flu Plans.</li> <li>• Provide contingencies for worker safety and health</li> <li>• Provide decontamination technical support.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate and issue groundwater, waste, and air authorizations, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Provide advice and direction related to the removal and disposal of carcasses, contaminated food commodities, water resources, soil, and plant materials.</li> <li>• Consider environmental issues involving the disposal of carcasses, contaminated food commodities, water resources, soil, and plant materials.</li> <li>• Coordinate, as applicable, with the 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.</li> <li>• Provide applicable media support for ongoing animal response operations.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Department (MWFDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine the distribution and density of susceptible wildlife.</li> <li>• Provide disease surveillance of wildlife.</li> <li>• Identify and isolate wildlife that is or may be affected by a FEAD.</li> <li>• Capture contain and destroy susceptible wildlife as necessary to eradicate a FEAD and prevent its transmission.</li> <li>• Determine when potentially affected wildlife is free from disease.</li> <li>• Provide applicable media support for ongoing FEAD operations.</li> <li>• Provide a list of wildlife rehabilitators licensed in MS as needed.</li> <li>• Assist during response and recovery efforts.</li> <li>• Conduct assessment of any lost or escaped exotic animals.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate rescue, rehabilitation, or removal of stranded marine mammals.</li> <li>• Assist during response and recovery efforts.</li> </ul>
Zookeepers Statewide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share scarce food supplies with other zoos.</li> <li>• Assist as needed with other zoos.</li> <li>• Maintain contact with American Zoo Association to assist in rounding up and sheltering escaped animals.</li> <li>• Collaborate with the MBAH for information sharing and technical consultation.</li> </ul>
American Red Cross (ARC), Salvation Army (SA), Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Services, and Other Mississippi Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (MSVOAD) Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support food services in accordance with its National Charter, Emergency Operations Plan, and local SOP as applicable.</li> <li>• Provide mobile feeding sites and canteens to feed ESF#11 emergency workers.</li> <li>• Work with the MBAH and counties to address humans needing shelter that have animals.</li> <li>• Identify volunteers qualified to assist with ESF#11 response activities as requested.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an SOP and checklist for this ESF in conjunction with MEMA, MDAC, MDH, and other supporting agencies.</li> <li>• Assist the MBAH in determining locations for pet-friendly evacuation shelters.</li> </ul>

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Mississippi Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MDMR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate stress management and/or crisis counseling to producers, retailers, emergency responders, and consumers as needed.</li> <li>• Provide critical incident stress management (CISM), as appropriate.</li> <li>• Consider human impact issues regarding animal depopulation actions.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Department of Public Safety (MDPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide law enforcement support for road closures, controlling vehicular traffic, operating isolation facilities, decontamination operations, animal depopulation actions, etc.</li> <li>• Assist with agriculture inspections as needed at roadblocks.</li> <li>• Support removal of volunteers not operating within the IMS as directed by the State Veterinarian.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the scope of the disaster to determine National Significance.</li> <li>• Provide technical and financial support as needed to support response efforts.</li> <li>• Protect the integrity of disease control efforts.</li> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• Coordinate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for agriculture emergencies that may or could have been terrorist related.</li> <li>• Include veterinary personnel specializing in foreign and emerging animal diseases and responder protection activities in applicable homeland security exercises and training.</li> <li>• Support multi-agency cooperation, especially with other animal and human health agencies, at the state and local levels.</li> </ul>
Office of the Attorney General (OAG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide legal advice to state officials conducting or evaluating all-hazards animal and plant operations and activities.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Provide legal representation as appropriate for the state.</li> <li>• Act as a liaison to the U.S. Attorney General.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Department of Transportation (MDOT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide traffic control devices (e.g., signs, barricades, etc.) to assist with traffic control, road closures, and agricultural inspections.</li> <li>• Provide earth-moving equipment for digging small pits and burying carcasses.</li> <li>• Provide right-of-way, where available, for FEAD or plant material inspection sites.</li> <li>• Assist with transportation waivers as needed.</li> </ul>

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Mississippi Development Authority (MDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist MBAH, MDAC and MSU ES in evaluating and presenting the adverse economic issues related to a FEAD and/or plant pest situation.</li> <li>• Assist in continuing to market and promote Mississippi animals, animal products, and plant products.</li> <li>• Assist in providing accurate public information on protecting and using Mississippi agriculture products.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory (MSCL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State Chemist shall develop a plan to handle laboratory testing needs for an emergency pesticide release or toxin affecting agricultural production.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Combine resources and establish a mobile laboratory if necessary, with the assistance of other agencies and private laboratories having laboratory capabilities.</li> </ul>
Mississippi Crop Improvement Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with surveys that monitor exotic pest populations.</li> </ul>
Private Sector Stakeholders (including Farm Bureau, Mississippi Animal Rescue League, Humane Society of South Mississippi, Mississippi Cattlemen's Association, Mississippi Poultry Association, Mississippi Horse Council, etc...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work within the incident management system.</li> </ul>

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### **ESF #11 Review and Maintenance**

As a minimum, the designated coordinating agency will conduct an annual review of this annex with all support agencies. Additional reviews may be conducted if experience with an incident or regulatory change indicates a need. Recommendations for change will be submitted to MEMA through the ESF Coordinator for further approval, distribution and publication.