

# **Massachusetts Emergency Support Function 11**

## ***AGRICULTURE, ANIMALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES***

### **Responsible Agencies**

#### **State Agencies**

##### **Primary State Agency**

Department of Agricultural Resources

##### **Supporting State Agencies**

Department of Public Health

Department of Fish and Game

Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

Massachusetts Environmental Police

Department of Environmental Protection

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Massachusetts Gaming Commission

#### **Supporting Federal Agencies**

United States Department of Agriculture/ Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

- Animal Care
- Plant Protection and Quarantine
- Veterinary Services
- Wildlife Services

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

USHHS National Veterinary Response Team

USDA Farm Service Agency

#### **Supporting Organizations**

International Fund for Animal Welfare

Animal Rescue League of Boston

Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts

Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation

Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association

National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition

Zoo New England

New England Aquarium

University of Massachusetts Extension: Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment

# 1.0. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1. Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF-11), *Agriculture, Animals and Natural Resources*, Annex provides a framework for coordination and cooperation across state agencies regarding agriculture, animals and natural resources, needs, issues, and activities before during and after an emergency or disaster in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (hereinafter the Commonwealth). ESF-11 stakeholders work together within their statutory and regulatory authorities to provide emergency management services related to animal care, food and feed safety, agricultural diseases and pests, and natural resources. In addition, ESF-11 supports the management of emergencies by providing authorities, expertise and resources relating to biological inspections, investigations and regulatory actions; laboratory services; and animal care. As needed, ESF-11 stakeholders coordinate with federal departments with complementary authorities, resources, and capabilities.

## 1.2. Scope

This Annex describes emergency management activities established to ensure actions and resources are effectively and efficiently coordinated during all phases of emergency management: preparedness; response; recovery; and mitigation. This Annex is applicable to agencies and departments in the Commonwealth, as well as federal agencies and other organizations that may have a role in supporting impacts to animals, agriculture, and natural resources. During an emergency response, state departments and agencies retain their respective administrative authority, but coordinate within the ESF- 11 structure in order to uphold the mission of protecting life and property within the Commonwealth.

Response activities coordinated under ESF-11 include, but are not limited to:

- Significant threats to crops
- Significant threats to livestock or household pets
- Significant threats to wild animals or plants
- Pest control
- Emerging animal or plant disease
- Food source safety and security

This Annex does not address the protection of cultural or historic resources.

## 1.3. Policies

- As an incident requires, or at the direction of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) Director, ESF-11 will be activated to coordinate resources to support impacts to animal, agriculture, and natural resources.
- ESF-11 will operate at the direction of the SEOC. The SEOC provides overall direction and control for the incident as it develops.
- ESF-11 will coordinate assistance to cities and towns including personnel, equipment, facilities, materials, supplies, and/or technical support/subject matter expertise.

- ESF-11 will serve as the lead for animal sheltering, including household pets, and coordination. The Department of Agricultural Resources (DAR) will serve as the lead coordinating agency regardless of event type or duration.
- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is responsible for responding to and preventing communicable disease in humans (including those that are zoonotic) at the state level and coordinates with local public health authorities across municipalities as needed.
- DAR is responsible for handling infectious animal and plant diseases. DAR will coordinate with local officials and first responders to make necessary rules for suppression and prevention of infectious and contagious diseases among animals and to mitigate the spread of plant diseases in the Commonwealth through their existing rules and authorities.

## **2.0 SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS**

### **2.1. Situation**

An emergency or disaster may pose a significant threat to animals, agriculture, and natural resources. Additionally, because agriculture is a major contributor to the Commonwealth's economy, a major loss or threat of a loss affecting agriculture could result in significant economic losses if not quickly and effectively addressed.

In the event of a significant emergency or disaster, local government resources may be quickly overwhelmed and unable to respond effectively to the needs of residents, including their pets, service animals, and agricultural resources. A disaster of large magnitude could result in injured, displaced and/or deceased animals and require support for the evacuation, care, and shelter of animals. Farmers may need to evacuate their farms, leaving large animals or livestock temporarily separated and without continuous care.

Certain incidents, such as hazardous materials releases which render crops or livestock inedible, may have direct impacts on natural and agricultural resources, and actions may need to be taken to manage impacts to the affected individuals and locations. In addition, novel or emerging diseases in livestock (cattle, horses, poultry, swine, sheep, goats, and deer) will have significant national and international trade implications, causing economic disruption.

### **2.2. Planning Assumptions**

- Local governments have emergency management resources, plans, and procedures to support animal, agriculture, and natural resource-related response.
- When an incident occurs, local governments use all available resources, including those available through mutual aid or private sector assets, before making a request for state or federal resources.

- The sheltering and protection of animals, including agricultural and service animals, is the primary responsibility of animal owners. Animal owners will take reasonable steps to provide for their animals during an emergency.
- Agencies and organizations with roles and responsibilities under ESF-11 designate and deploy to the SEOC appropriate representatives as needed to coordinate the functions of ESF-11. In addition, other agencies, departments and organizations may be called upon to assist in emergency operations in support of disaster response consistent with their roles and responsibilities related to animals.
- Coordination with local governments and other ESFs may be required to successfully meet emergency needs.
- The state has resources and expertise that can be used to supplement local efforts. Federal assistance may be requested to support state and local efforts if an incident exceeds state and local capabilities.
- State, local, and federal governments, as well as private sector and volunteer agencies assigned responsibilities under ESF-11 have established operating procedures specifying their emergency support service actions and are able to communicate and coordinate these actions in an emergency.
- Individuals representing agencies that are staffing the SEOC have extensive knowledge of the resources and capabilities of their respective agency and the appropriate authority for committing such resources.

## **3.0. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

### **3.1. General**

ESF-11 will be activated at the direction of the SEOC Director when there is a potential or actual disaster that may impact animals, agricultural, or natural resources in the Commonwealth. Depending on the incident and resource needs, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will notify the ESF-11 primary agency of the activation. All other agencies with responsibilities under ESF-11 will serve as support agencies. The primary agency will provide direction to and work in conjunction with the support agencies to cohesively coordinate the activities of ESF-11.

ESF-11 reports to the SEOC Operations Section, with an indirect report to the Planning Section. Depending on the size, scope, and complexity of the incident, the SEOC organizational chart may be expanded, to ensure proper span of control is maintained. To accommodate this, the ESFs may be aligned in appropriate Branches, with similar ESFs grouped together. In this scenario, ESF-11 will be organized under the Health and Welfare Branch.

### **3.2. Organization**

- All personnel and activities associated with ESF-11 will operate under the Incident Command System (ICS).
- DAR is designated the primary agency for ESF-11.

### **3.3. Notification**

MEMA will notify the ESF-11 points of contact for each activated organization or agency to report to the SEOC for coordination and implementation of ESF-11 as it pertains to requests for assistance. Each ESF-11 organization and agency are responsible for securing sufficient staff on a continuous basis to support and to carry out the activities tasked to their agency.

### **3.4. Activities**

#### **a. Preparedness Activities**

- Convene regular meetings of ESF-11 stakeholders and/or ESF Team to review and update the ESF-11 Annex and standard operating procedures.
- Develop and maintain internal agency operational plans and procedures to support ESF-11 activities.
- Maintain and update necessary and appropriate contacts with support agencies and those organizations.
- Designate staff to support SEOC operations.
- Ensure that ESF-11 stakeholders notify MEMA of staff changes.
- Participate in exercises and training to test, validate, and provide working experience for ESF-11 liaisons on this annex and related procedures.

#### **b. Response Activities**

##### **Pre-Impact**

- Maintain communications with the SEOC, obtain status reports, and keep the SEOC informed of progress of assigned tasks.
- Notify appropriate points of contact at each respective ESF-11 agency and organization to pre-position resources and response personnel as needed.
- Review existing plans and procedures.
- Ensure respective ESF-11 agency and organization decision makers are kept informed of the situation and provide ongoing updates to their respective agency/organization.
- Verify available resources and be able to provide a summary listing to the SEOC Operations Section Chief on request. Mobilize those resources as appropriate.
- Coordinate with ESF-6 *Mass Care, Emergency Housing, and Human Services* to identify emergency animal shelter facilities and to ensure human sheltering and companion animal sheltering are co-located or in proximity.

##### **Initial Response**

- Provide appropriate agency representative(s) to the SEOC to support ESF-11, as necessary.
- Coordinate personnel and resources for field assessment and response/recovery teams as necessary.
- Gather and provide situational awareness information.
- Coordinate resources to support animal rescue, evacuation, sheltering, and reunification.
- Coordinate with other ESFs that may have authorities, resources, capabilities, and expertise necessary to support ESF-11 missions.
- Assist with identification and location of housing and other related services for livestock and other large animals.
- Coordinate the acquisition and distribution of critical animal and agricultural supplies, and supplies for those responding to animal, agricultural, and natural resource needs.
- Coordinate with Federal ESF-11 as needed.
- As needed, coordinate the implementation of the Emerging Infectious and/or Contagious Diseases in Non-Human Populations Annex.
- Implement cost accounting measures for tracking deployed personnel, equipment, materials, and other costs incurred by supporting ESF-11 response actions during the incident.

### **Continuing Response**

- Coordinate with other ESFs that may have authorities, resources, capabilities, or expertise necessary to support ESF-11 missions.
- Continue to gather and provide situational awareness information.
- As necessary, coordinate resources to support the following response activities:
  - Capturing of injured and displaced animals.
  - Sheltering of, provision of medical care for, relocation, and reunification of animals with their owners.
  - Acquisition of additional food and supplies to support the relief efforts.
  - Identification and location of housing and other related services for displaced livestock.
  - Tracing the origin of disease outbreak and monitor and control its potential spread.
  - Evaluating and diagnosing animals suspected of having infectious or contagious disease.
  - Issuing and enforcing animal disease quarantines.
  - Timely and proper carcass disposal.

- Assessing and responding to emergency issues relating to crops and plant pest infestation.
- Minimizing public health and economic impacts of food and agriculture-related incidents.
- Coordinating surveillance and eradication of plant pests which may pose a potential threat to agriculture.
- Clean-up of large agricultural wastes.

### **c. Recovery Activities**

- Coordinate recovery actions with the SEOC Recovery Section as needed.
- Coordinate resources to support the consolidation or closing of animal shelters or confinement areas.
- Coordinate resources to support long-term maintenance, placement or disposition of animals that cannot be returned to their normal habitat or those that have been separated from their owners.
- Coordinate with support agencies to ensure financial tracking of all deployed assets and adequate cost accounting measures are being used. Generate summary reports and share with the SEOC.
- Participate in after action meetings and review after action reports as appropriate.

## **3.5. Demobilization**

ESF agencies can work with the SEOC Planning Section and Operations Section to provide context to demobilization planning, including trends, workloads, upcoming operations, etc., and receive updates on priorities, objectives, and tasks as operations slow or cease.

- ESF agencies should have pre-established internal demobilization procedures in place to help facilitate the orderly, safe, and efficient return of personnel and resources to their original locations and operating status when their missions supporting SEOC priorities and objectives have concluded. These procedures should take SEOC Demobilization plans into effect to ensure they complement each other.
- Demobilization of rostered and mobilized ESF personnel and resources will be initiated based on operational needs and at the direction of the SEOC director /SEOC Operations Section Chief. It should be noted that ESF agencies may be subject to a rapid recall to partial or full activation based on evolving operational needs.
- ESF agencies must ensure that they have closed out any open and actively ongoing operations in support of the SEOC, reported status updates and demobilization to



the SEOC Planning Section Chief, and have coordinated as needed with other ESFs regarding their demobilization status.

## **4.0. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **4.1. ESF-11 Primary Agency**

- Regularly meet and coordinate with ESF-11 supporting agencies, to:
  - Maintain a list of critical contacts, noting any changes to MEMA
  - Maintain a list of ESF-specific assets which could be deployed during an emergency
  - Report any unmet needs to MEMA
- Staff the ESF-11 workstation at the SEOC.
- Identify support agencies that may be needed to support mission requests and take the necessary steps to ensure that support agencies are activated or placed on standby, as needed.
- Ensure agencies assigned to ESF-11, in coordination with MEMA, are responding to assigned requests for assistance.
- Assist the SEOC Operations Section in identifying, prioritizing and coordinating resource needs related to animal, agriculture, or natural resource protection.
- Serve as a liaison between the SEOC and support agencies that have been activated to support animal-, agriculture-, and natural resource-related missions.
- Ensure the overall coordination and provision of situational awareness information by ESF-11.
- Coordinate with other ESFs and volunteer organizations on resource needs and to obtain information regarding organizations that may be able to supplement local and state resources for animal, agriculture, and natural resource-related protection.
- Ensure that necessary cost accounting measures are being used by all ESF-11 agencies and that summary reports are generated as needed and shared with SEOC Finance Section Chief.
- Provide documentation, tracking and updates on requests for assistance.
- Coordinate demobilization of ESF-11 assets when directed by SEOC Operations.

#### **a. Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources**

- Serve as the primary agency for ESF-11.
- Serve as the lead agency for animal sheltering and coordination.
- Determine animal related response needs in affected areas.
- Coordinate veterinary resources.

- Collect and manage information on locations that could serve as emergency animal shelters, to include household pets.
- Provide information on status of agricultural crops both for humans and animals, producers and resources.
- Coordinate with federal partners, including Federal ESF-11 and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS).
- Enforce state animal control statutes.
- Coordinate resources to support diagnostic laboratory operations.
- Communicate and coordinate with counterparts in other affected states.
- Provide technical assistance regarding the impacts of plant or animal disease in an agricultural setting.
- Coordinate and provide information on decisions to be made about quarantining impacted human food and animal crops.
- Provide information for Massachusetts farmers whose crops and/or livestock may be impacted by the emergency.
- Distribute scientific, procedural, and diagnostic information on animal disease and/or disaster impacts to animals to veterinarians practicing in Massachusetts.
- Coordinate with ESF-8 *Public Health and Medical Services* to determine needs to shelter impacted or potentially impacted animals and/or place them on stored feed and water.
- Coordinate resources to assist with vector control when vectors are involved in a disease outbreak.
- Coordinate the appraisal and compensation of diseased or susceptible animals and/or property prior to destruction.
- Identify and document information on dead animals and support the removal and proper disposal of carcasses.
- Prepare official notices to the farming community relative to disease outbreak and efforts to control it.
- Coordinate development of public information statements with DPH and the SEOC Public Information Officer or ESF-15, *Public Information and External Affairs*.

## 4.2 ESF-11 Supporting Agencies

All agencies who have not been designated as the primary agency at the time ESF-11 is activated will assume a support agency role. The depth and breadth of the support agency's responsibilities will be dependent upon the nature of the emergency, but a full range of responsibilities for each responsible/support agency is detailed below.

### a. Massachusetts Department of Public Health

- Confirm information that determines if an animal-related disease is or could become zoonotic.
- Identify human health risks associated with animals and zoonotic diseases.
- Coordinate with DAR and the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (DFW) to evaluate the risks and impacts of an animal or zoonotic disease on public health.
- For zoonotic disease, assess stability of impacted area and determine prevention-related animal response needs.
- Coordinate information on preventative measures.
- Assist local medical facilities in gaining access to not readily available medications or vaccinations for treating and/or preventing zoonotic disease, if appropriate.
- Provide advice regarding health effects of the disease outbreak and its management and prevention to the public and health care providers.
- Provide subject matter expertise to Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in identifying animal carcass disposal sites within local jurisdictions.
- Provide subject matter expertise on destruction operations to ensure that the health and safety of workers is being protected.
- Provide subject matter expertise regarding the removal and proper disposal of animal carcasses classified as contaminated animal waste according to 105 CMR 480.010.
- Collaborate with DAR, DFW, and the MEMA Public Information Officer regarding the collection and release of information to the general public on impacts of the ongoing emergency to public health and recommended preventative measures the public should take.
- Communicate and coordinate with counterparts in other states.
- In the event of a disease outbreak, activate and implement their Emerging Infectious and/or Contagious Diseases in Non-Human Populations Annex.

## **b. Department of Fish and Game/Division of Fisheries and Wildlife**

- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to provide for the capture, management and care of wild animals, including protected and endangered species that may have become displaced as a result of an emergency. Coordinate resources to return captured wild animals to their natural environment.
- Enforce state wildlife laws.
- Assist in the diagnosis of animal disease.
- Facilitate the establishment of prohibitions on game, bird, and fish products in controlled areas.

- Support the surveillance on susceptible wild animal species as required.
- Coordinate with agencies and organizations that may be involved when wildlife disease eradication activities are required during an outbreak.

### **c. Massachusetts Environmental Police**

- Coordinate resources to provide a statewide uniformed, fully armed law enforcement presence when dealing with disaster.
- Coordinate resources to provide security, law enforcement, and traffic control as required, in coordination with ESF-13, *Public Safety and Security* as needed.
- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to provide for the capture, management and care of wild animals, including protected and endangered species that may have become displaced as a result of an emergency. Coordinate resources to return captured wild animals to their natural environment.
- Coordinate resources to enforce Massachusetts General Law Chapter 21A (entering on and passing through private property, keeping or disposing of sick, dead, injured or helpless wildlife).
- Enforce state wildlife laws.
- Assist in animal health movement control.
- Conduct security patrols of State Forests, Wildlife Management Areas, and other areas under their jurisdiction.
- Coordinate resources to support infected and exposed wildlife populations.
- Identify the locations of cleaning and disinfecting stations.
- Enforce prohibitions on game, bird, and fish products in controlled areas.
- Support eradication activities under the supervision of the DAR and/or USDA/APHIS.
- Communicate and coordinate with other environmental law enforcement agencies in the northeastern United States.

### **d. Department of Environmental Protection**

- Coordinate resources to assess stability of impacted area and determine animal related response needs.
- Provide technical guidance on identification of and closure of cleaning and disinfecting stations.
- Provide technical assistance on the environmental impacts of animal carcass disposal options.

- Provide technical assistance to disposal teams regarding environmental protection precautions and environmental regulations.
- Identify requirements for and assist in gaining approval for regulated disposal and treatment activities.
- Support the removal and proper disposal of animal carcasses.
- Document information on all deceased animals for later identification.
- Assist monitoring environmental impacts of outbreak activities during and following the recovery phase.
- Coordinate with DAR, DPH and the SEOC Public Information Officer or ESF-15, *Public Information and External Affairs* to develop and release information to general public regarding quarantine areas, rabies alert, public service information, etc.

#### **e. Department of Conservation and Recreation**

- Assess stability of impacted area and determine animal-related response needs.
- Coordinate resources to provide temporary accommodations for field operation teams.
- Provide support for agencies patrolling forests.

#### **f. Massachusetts Gaming Commission**

- Coordinate resources to provide support for emergency animal shelter facilities.
- Coordinate with local racetracks on the use of their resources.

#### **g. United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

- Provide technical assistance to ESF-11 as requested.
- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate with DAR to direct eradication activities including evaluation, epidemiology, trace back, vector control, transportation permit systems, quarantine, depopulation, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting.
- Coordinate with DAR to facilitate the allocation of funding to compensate owners of destroyed animals.
- Coordinate development of public information statements with DAR, DPH and the SEOC Public Information Officer or ESF-15: *Public Information and External Affairs*.
- Provide DAR updated information on donated pet foods and supplies through Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

## **h. United States Fish and Wildlife Service**

- Coordinate resources to support the transportation, rehabilitation and sheltering of injured and displaced wildlife.
- Coordinate resources to support the capturing, and returning of, wildlife to their original environment.
- Provide medical care to animals exposed to and/or contaminated by any hazardous material or infectious disease.

## **i. United States Department of Health and Human Services, National Veterinary Response Team**

- Perform veterinary infrastructure assessment.
- Provide acute care and stabilization of ill and injured companion and service animals, horses and other large animals.
- Provide veterinary medical care to sheltered companion and service animals.
- Provide veterinary medical support to working animals (search and rescue, law enforcement agencies, including horses).
- Perform veterinary health screening of evacuated animals.
- Consult on issues of public health concern including zoonotic disease prevention and environmental assessment.
- Provide supplemental veterinary support for an emergency response to disasters that may affect exotic animals, wildlife and zoo animals.
- Provide veterinary medical care to laboratory animals in research facilities.
- Provide medical care to animals exposed to/contaminated by any material threat.

## **j. International Fund for Animal Welfare**

- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to support pre-and post-emergency/disaster shelters.
- Coordinate resources to set up shelters to house and care for rescued and displaced animals with their owners when possible.
- Coordinate resources to provide humane care and handling of animals by opening treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.
- Coordinate resources to provide emergency care to injured animals.
- The Marine Mammal Rescue and Research Team will provide medical care to marine mammals.

## **k. Animal Rescue League of Boston**

- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to facilitate the transportation of injured, stray, or nuisance animals to animal care facilities.
- Coordinate resources to support the impounding of animals that are free, unrestrained or not under control.
- Coordinate resources to provide emergency care to injured animals.
- Coordinate resources to support pre- and post-emergency/disaster animal shelters.
- Coordinate provision of emergency animal shelter staffing assistance.
- Coordinate resources to support treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.
- Coordinate resources to assist emergency response teams with animal related problems.
- Coordinate resources to enforce state animal control statues (Massachusetts General Law, Chapters 140 and Chapter 272, as amended).
- Coordinate resources to investigate animal bites.
- Coordinate resources to assist with quarantining animals for observation.
- Coordinate resources to investigate animal cruelty and neglect complaints.
- Provide technical assistance and guidance on euthanizing domestic animals to ensure that such practices are carried out humanely.
- Coordinate the provision of trained personnel and appropriate equipment to assist in the handling and disposal of animals involved in disease outbreaks.

## **l. Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to facilitate the transportation of injured, stray, or nuisance animals to animal care facilities.
- Coordinate resources to support the impounding of animals that are free, unrestrained or not under control.
- Coordinate resources to provide emergency care to injured animals.
- Coordinate resources to support pre- and post-emergency/disaster animal shelters.
- Coordinate provision of emergency animal shelter staffing assistance.
- Coordinate resources to support treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.
- Coordinate resources to assist emergency response teams with animal related problems.

- Coordinate resources to enforce state animal control statutes
- Coordinate resources to investigate animal cruelty and neglect complaints.
- Provide technical assistance and guidance on euthanizing domestic animals to ensure that such practices are carried out humanely.
- Coordinate the provision of trained personnel and appropriate equipment to assist in the handling and disposal of animals involved in disease outbreaks.

#### **m. Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts**

- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Coordinate resources to facilitate the transportation of injured, stray, or nuisance animals to animal care facilities.
- Coordinate resources to support the impounding of animals that are free, unrestrained or not under control.
- Coordinate resources to support pre- and post-emergency/disaster animal shelters.
- Coordinate provision of emergency animal shelter staffing assistance.
- Coordinate resources to assist emergency response teams with animal related problems.
- Coordinate resources to enforce state animal control statutes.
- Investigate animal bites.
- Identify properties where susceptible animals may be kept.
- Assist with identifying resources to assist with quarantining animals for observation.
- Investigate animal cruelty and neglect complaints.
- Coordinate the provision of trained personnel and appropriate equipment to assist in the handling and disposal of animals involved in the disease outbreak.
- Coordinate resources to support treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.

#### **n. Massachusetts Farm Bureau Federation**

- Provide assistance in identifying, locating, contacting, and gaining access to properties with livestock in areas affected or potentially affected by a disease outbreak.
- Provide information as to the movement and sale of livestock.
- In coordination with DAR, develop and disseminate emergency information to agricultural entities.

#### **o. Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association**

- Provide emergency care to injured animals.



- Establish triage units for the care of injured animals.
- Obtain emergency medical equipment, supplies and personnel for animals, as needed.
- As needed, administer rabies or other vaccinations and provide other medical support for animals in shelters.
- Coordinate resources to provide additional animal shelter support.
- Identify and coordinate resources to address human health risks associated with animal and/or zoonotic disease.
- Provide for the humane care and handling of animals. As needed, activate open emergency animal shelters as well as treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.
- In coordination with DAR, develop and provide technical information to veterinarians in Massachusetts concerning the nature of the infectious and/or contagious disease involved in a disease outbreak.
- Maintain and provide contact information on professionally active and retired veterinarians who may be enlisted in the effort to control disease outbreaks.

#### **p. National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition**

Assist with the following activities when requested by either the ESF-11 primary agency or MEMA:

- Coordinate resources to provide for the humane care and handling of animals.
- Support the activation of emergency animal shelters as well as treatment/euthanasia assistance stations.
- As needed, provide trained volunteers, staff, vehicles, trailers, boats and rescue equipment to support requested animal response missions.
- Coordinate the provision of small and large animal strike teams, as needed.
- Support situational and rapid assessments of conditions for animals.
- Coordinate resources to assist in the capture of animals that have escaped confinement or have been displaced from their natural habitat as a result of an emergency.
- Provide emergency care to injured animals.

#### **q. Zoo New England**

- When requested by either the ESF-11 primary agency or MEMA, provide expertise and assistance in the capture, control, and care of wild and exotic animals.

#### **r. New England Aquarium**

- Provide expertise and assistance for mass stranding, rescue, care, capture, and rehabilitation of aquatic animals.

### **4.3. Other Agencies**

Other agencies not explicitly covered in this Annex may have authorities, resources, capabilities, or expertise required to support ESF-11 activities. These agencies may be requested to support ESF-11 activities on a needed basis.

## **5.0. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS**

### **5.1. Staffing**

Per Executive Order 144, each agency must assign a minimum of two persons to act as liaison officers between the respective agency/organization and MEMA.

Agencies activated to the SEOC (both primary and supporting) must be prepared to assign a representative to support ESF activities. Operations may result in assigning an agency representative(s) to be in person for each operational period.

All agency liaisons should:

- Be knowledgeable about the resources and capabilities of their respective agency.
- Have a thorough knowledge of ESF responsibilities, capabilities and resources, including locations and availability/lead time.
- Have the authority to commit ESF assets and approve requests for assistance or contact the 24/7 authority to commit assets and approve requests for assistance.

### **5.2. Mutual Aid**

The process for requesting mutual aid from entities either within or outside of Massachusetts is described in the "Mutual Aid" section of the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

### **5.3. Plan Review and Maintenance**

This Annex will be updated in accordance with MEMA's Emergency Management Program Administrative Policy and will ensure that appropriate stakeholder input is incorporated into updates. Additionally, this Annex will be reviewed following any exercise or activation of the plan that identifies potential improvements. Revisions to this Annex will supersede all previous editions and will be effective immediately.

## **6.0. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES**

### **6.1. Authorities**

#### **a. State**

- Massachusetts Executive Order 144

- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 33: Militia and Executive Order 144
- Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 4J: Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 94: Inspection and Sale of Food, Drugs and Various Articles
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 128: Agriculture and Conservation
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 129: Livestock Disease Control
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 140: Licenses
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 272, Section 77: Cruelty to Animals; prohibition from work involving contact with animals
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131: Inland Fisheries and Game and Other Natural Resources
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131A: Massachusetts Endangered Species Act
- 105 CMR 300 : Reportable Diseases, Surveillance, and Isolation and Quarantine Requirements; Section 300.140: Reporting of Animal Diseases with Zoonotic Potential by Veterinarians
- 105 CMR 480: Minimum Requirements for the Management of Medical or Biological Waste
  - Section 480.010: Definitions
  - Section 200(A): Disposal; Blood and Blood Products
  - Section 200(C): Disposal; Blood Saturated Materials, Cultures and Stocks of Infectious Agents and their Associated Biologicals Dialysis Waste
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 94: Inspection and Sale of Food, Drugs and Various Articles
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 128: Agriculture and Conservation
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 129: Livestock Disease Control
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131: Inland Fisheries and Game and Other Natural Resources
- Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131A: Massachusetts Endangered Species Act
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts legal authorities for responding to infectious animal disease are listed in the Annex for Emerging Infectious and/or Contagious Diseases in Non-Human Populations
- Chapter 54 of the Acts of 2014

## **b. Federal**

- Pets Evacuation and Transportations Act of 2006

- Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended

## **6.2. References**

- Massachusetts Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Massachusetts Debris Management Plan
- Department of Agriculture and Resources' Emerging Infectious and/or Contagious Diseases in Non-Human Populations Annex.
- Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Multi-Agency Coordination and Operations Plan
- SEOC ESF Guide

## Appendix A- Glossary of Terms

**Agriculture** -“Farming” or “agriculture” shall include farming in all of its branches and the cultivation and tillage of the soil, dairying, the production, cultivation, growing and harvesting of any agricultural, aqua cultural, floricultural or horticultural commodities, the growing and harvesting of forest products upon forest land, the raising of livestock including horses, the keeping of horses as a commercial enterprise, the keeping and raising of poultry, swine, cattle and other domesticated animals used for food purposes, bees, fur-bearing animals, and any forestry or lumbering operations, performed by a farmer, who is hereby defined as one engaged in agriculture or farming as herein defined, or on a farm as an incident to or in conjunction with such farming operations, including preparations for market, delivery to storage or to market or to carriers for transportation to market.

**Contagious Disease** – Such diseases as is recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture to be contagious or infectious.

**Contaminated Animal Waste** - Contaminated carcasses, body parts, body fluids, blood or bedding from animals known to be:

- a. Infected with agents of the following specific zoonotic diseases that are reportable to the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, Bureau of Animal Health pursuant to 105 CMR 300.140: African swine fever, Anthrax, Avian influenza – H5 and H7 strains and any highly pathogenic strain, Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), Brucellosis, Chronic wasting disease of cervids, Foot and mouth disease, Glanders, Exotic Newcastle disease, Plague (*Yersinia pestis*), Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetti*), Scrapie, Tuberculosis, Tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*); or
- b. Infected with diseases designated by the State Epidemiologist and the State Public Health Veterinarian as presenting a risk to human health; or
- c. Inoculated with infectious agents including, but not limited to, the production of biologicals or pharmaceutical testing.

Contaminated animal waste shall be disposed of at an approved incineration facility, by proper burial, by interment or by an alternative method approved in writing by the Department. Unprocessed liquid pathological waste may also be disposed of in accordance with 105 CMR 480.200(A) and tissue may also be disposed of in accordance with 105 CMR 480.200(C).

**Domestic Animals** – All animals including poultry that are kept or harbored as domesticated animals. Poultry includes chickens, roosters, capons, hens, turkeys, pigeons, guinea fowl, ducks, and geese other than wild species. For the purposes of Massachusetts law, a list of domestic species is found in 321CMR 9.02.

**Farming** – See “Agriculture”.

**Federal Disaster Declaration** - A determination by the President of the United States that a disaster is of such magnitude and severity to warrant major emergency/disaster assistance to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

**Euthanasia in Animals** - Euthanasia is the term used to describe a method of killing that minimizes pain, distress, and anxiety experienced by the animal before loss of consciousness.

**Household Pet** – An animal, such as a dog, cat, bird, rabbit, rodent, or turtle that is traditionally kept in the home for pleasure rather than for commercial purposes, can travel in commercial carriers, and be housed in temporary facilities. Household pets do not include reptiles (except turtles), amphibians, fish, insects/arachnids, farm animals (including horses), and animals kept for racing purposes. (On October 6, 2006, the PETS Act was signed into law, amending Section 403 of the Stafford Act. Section 403, as amended by the PETS Act, authorizes FEMA to provide rescue, care, shelter, and essential needs for individuals with household pets and service animals, and to the household pets and animals themselves following a major disaster or emergency.) NOTE: Each municipality remains responsible to determine what animals they can shelter.

**Rehabilitation** - To restore to a former state or condition.

**Service Animal** - Only dogs meet the definition of service animal under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) except for miniature horses. A service animal is a dog or miniature horse that has been individually trained to perform a task or service to assist a person with a disability. Examples of services: Guiding a person who is blind, alerting a person who is deaf, etc. Animals whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support are not service animals but may have to be allowed in the housing context.

**Triage** - A system designed to produce the greatest benefit from limited treatment facilities by degree of injury/stress.

**Quarantine** - A period of time during which an animal suspected of carrying a contagious disease is detained/observed under enforced isolation to prevent disease from entering into the general population or natural habitat.

**Zoonotic Disease** - A disease that can be transmitted between animals and people.