



## **Steele County Emergency Management**

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### **8.02.08 Natural or Man Made Disaster Response Plan**

#### **OVERVIEW**

The objective of the Steele County Natural or Man Made Disaster (NMMD) Response Plan is to provide Steele County a plan to respond to a fire, tornado, flood or other local emergency. This plan assigns specific roles and responsibilities for a response to a NMMD and outlines county and state interagency cooperation. This cooperation will be essential to responding rapidly to any threat to Steele County's livestock and poultry industry.

#### **PURPOSE and SCOPE**

The purpose of this plan is to ensure the Steele County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) includes response to an actual natural or man made emergency. This plan would apply to animals that are abandoned or neglected and those injured or killed by natural or man made disasters.

This plan does not apply to a Foreign Animal Disease. Responses to these types of events are the responsibility of the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

This plan does not apply to those diseases proven to be zoonotic (causing human disease such as monkey pox, some forms of Avian Influenza, and many others) as these diseases fall under the primary jurisdiction of county health departments locally and the Minnesota Department of Health at the state level. For these instances, the Board of Animal Health (BAH) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDA) will be supporting agencies available to provide capabilities and resources for their responses when requested.

## **PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS**

This response plan incorporates the resources of Steele County along with assistance from Minnesota's State Agency as well as private industry represented within our county.

## **AUTHORITIES**

### **Local**

Steele County will be the lead agency to a local emergency response such as a fire, flood, tornado or other local disaster.

### **State**

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health (BAH), Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) will be supporting agencies for these responses and are available to provide technical and tactical resources for these responses when requested.

## **Policies**

1. Add Emergency Notification Procedure
2. Add NIMS Chart

## **SITUATION**

Steele County has an extensive and varied animal industry and its impact is important to its economic prosperity. This plan is designed to provide direction and guidance in the aftermath of a natural or man made disaster.

# CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (Steele County Operations Chief)

## Incident Action Plan

NMMD emergency response operations are intended to reduce animal loss while protecting Steele County's natural resources by using the following activities to accomplish these principals. 1) Evaluate the overall situation; 2) Determine scope of area; 3) Plan Development; 4) Implementation

### 1. Coordination and Control

- a. For any event the Steele County Emergency Operations Center will be activated. Once activated an Incident Command Post will be established.
- b. Depending on the scope of the event, supporting agencies may be involved for technical and tactical assistance.
- c. The Steele County NIMS chart will be used to develop lead authority and public information and reporting.

### 2. Initial Detection and Assessment

The Steele County Sheriffs office along with Local fire departments and storm spotters will be the first observers of a natural or man made disaster. The Steele County Sheriffs Office will provide an assessment of the scope of the event.

### 3. Resource Allocation

Local resources will be used to provide personnel and resources to response in the organization of tactical and technical support. The kinds of resources requested may range from agricultural outreach specialists to animal handlers, GIS expertise, excavation equipment, materials and operators to clerks. How and where resources are used on the incident will be determined by Steele County based on the incident objectives.

### 4. Implementation Activities

Measures to dispose of animal carcasses will be based on the use of Addendum B. The five options available will be assessed based on land mass area, soil types, water tables, type of disaster, land fill availability, rendering availability, compost material availability, equipment availability and incineration availability. The assessment will include cost, capacity, advantages and disadvantages along with an environmental assessment.

## COUNTY LEVEL AGENCIES ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Local and/or county government is expected to develop and maintain response plans that include animal issues, both resulting from disasters and due to disease outbreak. Coordination with BAH and MDA will facilitate development of response plans that best reflect State and Federal animal health policy.

### **County Commissioners (CC)**

The CC is responsible for developing an adequate emergency response organization inclusive of all local response agencies, capable of providing long-term response and support to emergency situations.

#### **1. County Emergency Management**

The County Emergency Management Director is responsible for:

- Activating the local EOC;
- Keeping the CC informed of incidents and providing advice in support of response measures;
- Providing liaisons to affected jurisdictions;
- Coordinating local activities with the state agencies in accordance with this plan;
- Coordinating disaster-related public information
- Coordinating government and private resources including equipment and personnel; and
- Coordinating geographical information technology

#### **2. County Health**

In general, county health representatives are responsible for coordinating activities with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) in ensuring the health of residents involved in a NMMD incident.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Providing assistance with human health issues involving destruction of carcasses;
- Assisting in providing training for first responders.

#### **3. Law Enforcement**

County Sheriffs may be requested to implement adequate movement control, and other support measures in the exposed zone. Security measures will be required throughout the duration of the emergency.

Law enforcement agents may be needed for:

- Assisting with communications resources;
- Assisting with perimeter and site security/access and implementation of traffic control for access and movement in the quarantine area;
- Visual inspections of animal transports;
- Supporting disposal activities

#### 4. Fire Departments.

Local fire resources may be needed to aid in:

- Decontamination operations;
- Provide water for foaming operations in poultry euthanasia situations

#### 5. Public Works

Local public works departments may provide response for movement control operations by positioning appropriate signage and barriers. Disease eradication measures will require use of heavy equipment. Many environmental issues will be addressed such as the potential for water contamination and location of critical service infrastructures.

Public works personnel may be needed for:

- Providing guidance, equipment and signage for re-routing of traffic in and around the affected area;
- Providing equipment and staff to conduct decontamination operations, if required;
- Assisting with traffic control needs;
- Transporting carcasses, and/or debris;
- Providing information on potential sources of outside resources (i.e. contractors, equipment, sources, and so on); and
- Providing emergency communication.

#### 6. County Attorney

Potential areas of conflict may be anticipated when local governmental officials undertake a comprehensive planning process. However, not all possible contentious issues will be addressed. Involvement of jurisdictional legal counsel in the planning process and their availability during a NMMD emergency will be critical to ensure successful response and recovery efforts.

#### 7. Public Information Officer

It is important that the general public receives a unified message detailing the coordinated measures underway to protect human and

animal health, and safe guard the local and state economy.

8. Geographic Information Systems Coordinator

Mapping and tracking animal locations through the county's spreadsheet. Provide soil and ground water map information. This information will be used to help expedite response and recovery operations.

9. County USDA/FSA

May be responsible for:

- Assessing the impacts of the NMMD on local agricultural producers and agribusiness
- Providing leadership and coordination for all USDA emergency programs at the county level
- Administering local compensation programs to affected producers as authorized by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
- Assisting in the valuation of livestock and poultry and delivery of indemnity payments to producers who have animals depopulated due to the event
- Assists in determining locations of livestock or poultry premises and informing producers of control activities

10. County USDA/ NRCS

May be responsible for:

- Assisting in disposal site selection and coordination with state geologist
- Providing guidance and response support for conservation structures at or near the disposal site(s)
- Assists in the production of GIS data layers and map production

11. Local Department of Transportation

May be responsible for:

- Coordinate resources and serve as liaisons to their state offices
- Determine local resources available and necessary to respond to an incident.
- Perimeter rerouting & logistic support
- Coordinate disposal and disposal resources

12. County Solid Waste Officer

County Solid Waste personnel may be needed to:

- Assist in determining carcass disposal methods and options and
- Identify carcass disposal sites

- Assist in determining potential water contamination issues
- Assist in the location of critical service infrastructure
- Provide web based soil survey

### 13. County Feed Lot Officers

County Feed Lot Officers may be called on:

- to assist in identifying /confirming livestock and poultry disposal sites in the county. Acceptable methods of large-scale carcass disposal in Minnesota may include burial, composting, or rendering.
- If burial is the most appropriate method of disposal, it is anticipated that the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in coordination with county technical experts will identify proper site locations.

### 14. County University of Minnesota Extension Services

May be responsible for:

- Assisting in public education;
- Providing aid to producer in terms of mental health care as well as physical needs during quarantine
- Serving as a liaison between producers and incident command

### 15. Others

#### a. Local Agricultural Business

May be called upon to:

- Assist with euthanasia, disposal and cleaning and disinfection

#### b. Local Veterinarians

May be called upon to:

- Assist in disease notification and prevention

#### c. Local clergy

May be called upon to:

- Provides counseling services for anyone mentally or emotionally affected by the outbreak

8.02.07 Improvised Explosive Device (IED)

8.02.09 Flood Response

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