



Animal Technical Rescue

Emergency Planning

UF Veterinary Emergency
Treatment Service
College of Veterinary Medicine
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA





Is your community prepared for...

- A cow trapped in deep mud?
- A horse trapped in a septic tank?
- An overturned livestock trailer?
- On scene euthanasia?



Who is responsible?

- JUST the animal owner?
- Private or public property?
- Social media or traditional media?
- What is public perception of local response efforts?

*If there aren't people prepared to do it safely,
who will do it and get hurt or killed?*



A Cautionary Tale

***Commit to
Public Safety
and Animal
Welfare***



- Veterinarian unable to use Euthasol
- Livestock deputy discharged firearm
- Story drew national attention with help of PETA
- 2 shots to the neck
- 2 shots to the chest
- 1 shot between eyes (ricochet)
- 1 additional shot to the chest



Today's Objective

- Identify gaps in resources in your community
 - Work toward resolving these gaps
- Collect contact information and develop working relationships
- Network with others in the room – let's learn from each other!



Key Considerations

- Contact Information
- Sedation & On Scene Euthanasia
- Temporary Containment, Transportation, & Housing
- Specialized Equipment & Teams
- Welfare & Safety
- Mental Health & Public Information



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Planning Guide

Visit:

[https://responseteam.vetmed.ufl.edu/
animal-technical-rescue/planning/](https://responseteam.vetmed.ufl.edu/animal-technical-rescue/planning/)



ATR RESPONSE PLANNING GUIDE

Printable PDF Version

Ideal for printing to fill out with pen and paper.

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ATR RESPONSE PLANNING GUIDE

Microsoft Excel Version

Editable spreadsheet template.

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ATR RESPONSE PLANNING GUIDE

Microsoft Word Version

Editable Word document.

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ATR Response Safety Checklist

Incident Details

Date	Address of Incident	Arrival Time on Scene	Time of Termination
Owner Name	Owner Phone/ Email	Owner Address	Animal Address
Animal Details (Name, Species/Age/Sex/Weight/Physical Description)			
Incident Commander	Safety Officer	Ops Section Chief	Public Information Officer
Other Responding Agencies			
Additional Notes			

Scene Considerations

Completed (Check)	Scene Considerations	Notes
	Confined Space (ventilation, monitoring, etc.)	
	High Angle (portable high point anchor, rope system, etc.)	
	Mud (ground pads, piercing nozzle/lances, water, etc.)	
	Vehicle/Roadway Incident (traffic, transportation, etc.)	
	Weather/Time of Day (lighting, rain/lightning, heat/cold, etc.)	
	Containment (livestock panels, halters/leads, etc.)	

ATR Response Safety Checklist

PPE/Scene Safety Needs

Personnel Needs

Check	PPE	Notes	Check	Personnel	Notes
	Helmets			Veterinarian	
	Gloves			Law Enforcement	
	Personal Flotation Device			Fire Dept/ Special Ops/ TRT	
	Harness/ Tie Off			Hazmat	
	Thermal Protection			Animal Control/ Livestock Handler	
	Biological/ Chemical Protection			CISM/ Mental Health Support	
	Hot/ Warm/ Cold Zones Marked			Safety Officer	
	Triage Areas			Public Information Officer	
	Standby Ambulance				
	Rehab for Personnel				

Additional Notes from the Scene

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Resource

Link

ATR Equipment Request

<https://flsart.org/resource/equipmentrequest.jsp>

Carcass Disposal

<https://flsart.org/acmwg/links.htm>

County Extension/IFAS

<https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/find-your-local-office/>

Florida Animal Control Association

<https://floridaanimalcontrol.org/>

Florida Cattlemen's Association

<https://floridacattlemen.org/>

Florida Emergency Management

<https://www.floridadisaster.org/counties/>

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation
Commission

<https://myfwc.com/contact/law-enforcement/>

Florida State Animal Response Coalition

<https://flsarc.org/>

Florida Veterinary Medical Association

<https://fvma.org/>

Foreign Animal Disease

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Consumer-Resources/Animals/Animal-Diseases/Reportable-Animal-Diseases>

UF VETS ATR Training

<https://responseteam.vetmed.ufl.edu/training/>

US Department of Agriculture

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Florida/>



Contacting Resources

- Have daytime and after hours phone numbers
 - How many backup options?
- Where is the resource located?
- What is the likely response time?
- Will dispatch have this information?
 - Preload info into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) for addresses likely to have emergencies
 - e.g. Livestock facilities, parks with trail riding, etc.



Sedation & On Scene Euthanasia

- Veterinarian
- Law Enforcement
 - Agriculture/Livestock Deputies
 - Fish & Wildlife
- Screens/Tarps
- Carcass Disposal Considerations



Temporary Containment, Transportation, & Housing

- County Extension
- Livestock Owners
- Farm & Feed Supply Stores
- Ag Law Units
- Local Fairgrounds
- Quarantine?





Specialized Equipment & Teams



- ATR Equipment Cache
 - Rescue glides, a-frame, extended reach tools, etc.
- Portable High Point Anchors
 - Gradalls, Rotators, etc.
- Technical Rescue
 - Rope rescue, confined space, trench, VMR, etc.
- Decon/Hazmat
- Flood/Swiftwater



Welfare & Safety

- Hay
- Water
- Protection from Elements (e.g. tents, tarps, etc.)
- Scene Lighting
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Rehab spaces for responders



Mental Health & Public Information

- Local resources for mental health support
 - On-scene?
 - After the fact?
 - CISM, EAP, etc.
- Public Information
 - Crisis communication
 - Highlight positive work and cross collaboration
 - Make community aware that help is available if needed!



Don't Stop Here!

- Talk to others at this conference
- Talk to others in your community
- Pre-plan for emergencies BEFORE they happen!





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UF Veterinary Emergency Treatment Service (VETS)

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