

## **ESF #11: Agriculture and Natural Resources**

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### **ESF Coordinating Agency:**

Department of Agriculture (WSDA)

### **Primary Agencies:**

Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)

Department of Ecology (ECY)

Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Department of Health (DOH)

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)

### **Support Agencies:**

American Red Cross (ARC)

Conservation Commission

Department of Commerce

Department of Enterprise Services (DES)

Department of Labor and Industries (L&I)

Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Military Department, Emergency Management Division

National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP)

National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC)

Office of the Attorney General (AG)

Parks and Recreation Commission

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)

Washington State University

### **Supporting Appendices:**

Appendix 1: State Nutrition Assistance Plan (to be written)

Appendix 2: State Animal Response Plan

Appendix 3: State Plant Health Response Plan

Appendix 4: State Food and Feed Response Plan

Appendix 5: Natural Cultural Historic Resource Plan

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose**

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources organizes and coordinates state support for the protection of the state’s agriculture and natural and cultural resources during state-wide emergencies. ESF #11 works with local, state, and tribal entities during actual and potential incidents to provide nutrition assistance; respond to animal and agricultural health issues; ensure safety and defense of the state’s food and feed supply; and ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

### **B. Scope**

ESF #11 includes five primary functions:

- **Provide nutrition assistance:** Includes working with affected jurisdictions and state agency partners to determine nutrition assistance needs, obtaining appropriate food supplies, and arranging for delivery of the supplies.
- **Responding to animal and plant diseases and pests:** Includes implementing an integrated local, state, federal and tribal response to a significant outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease or an outbreak of a harmful or economically significant plant pest or disease.
- **Ensuring the safety and defense of the State’s food and feed supply:** Includes conducting routine inspections to ensure the safety of regulated human and animal food products that enter commerce; the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of regulated slaughter and processing facilities; laboratory analysis of regulated product samples; control of regulated products suspected to be adulterated; foodborne disease surveillance; food/feed safety emergency response activities; and investigations.
- **Protection of Natural, Cultural, and Historic (NCH) resources:** Includes appropriate response actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore natural and cultural resources and historic properties.
- **Providing technical expertise in support of animal and agricultural emergency management:** Includes responding to requests from counties, state agencies, and other states to assist local, state, tribal jurisdictions to facilitate coordination of the public and private sector and nongovernmental organization (NGO) resources to provide surge response capabilities pertaining to animals. Animals include household pets, service and assistance animals, agriculture animals/livestock, wildlife, and other animals (including exotics, zoo animals, animals used in research, and animals housed in congregate settings, such as shelters, rescue organizations, breeders, and sanctuaries.)

### **C. Policies**

Actions taken during an animal or agriculture emergency are guided by and coordinated with local, state, federal, and tribal emergency preparedness and response officials, along with existing primary agency internal policies and procedures.

The following are more specific policies to be followed:

- Chapter [43.20](#) RCW State Board of Health
- Chapter [220-660](#) Washington Administration Code – Hydraulic Code Rules
- Chapter [43.23](#) RCW Department of Agriculture
- Chapter [43.376](#) RCW Government to Government Relationship with Tribes
- Chapter [69](#) RCW Food Drugs, Cosmetics, and Poisons
- Centennial Accord Between the Federally Recognized Indian Tribes of Washington State and the State of Washington
- [40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230 Section 404](#) - Clean Water Act
- [Section 106](#) of the National Historic Preservation Act
- [Title 222](#) Washington Administration Code – Forest Practices Board
- [Migratory Species Act](#), Magnuson-Stevens Act
- Chapter [16.36](#) RCW Animal Health
- Chapter [17.24](#) RCW Insect Pests and Plant Diseases

## **II. Situations and Assumptions**

### **A. Situations**

Washington is a physically, agriculturally, and culturally diverse state with extensive regional, national and international markets. The effects of an agricultural or food/feed emergency could reach far beyond the state's borders, or could be limited to a local event. General geographic conditions, growing practices, production methods, distribution networks, cultural issues, and existing plans and policies could impact the State's response to a natural or man-made disaster.

Disasters may occur without warning. ESF #11 responders will be required to support jurisdictions or tribal entities with little or no advance notice.

The Director of the Department of Agriculture may request the Governor proclaim a state of emergency for affected counties in the event of an animal health event caused by a foreign animal disease or an infestation of plant pests or plant diseases.

### **B. Limitations & Assumptions**

Local and tribal governments are primarily responsible for the welfare of individuals and animals within their jurisdictions. The animal control agency is typically the local-level authority that has jurisdiction for non-disease animal emergency management issues within a given community. Support for local jurisdictions will be

implemented through ESF 11 when they are overwhelmed, have depleted or anticipate depleting their resources.

The transportation and distribution of food supplies within an affected area are arranged by federal, state, local and voluntary organizations and priority is given to moving critical supplies of food into areas of acute need and then to areas of moderate need.

The state does not stockpile food or water for emergencies. Government commodities may be released under authorization by the USDA when a federal disaster declaration is in place to meet the immediate needs of survivors.

Most animal and agriculture emergency response resources and assets are owned or controlled by the private sector and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). WSDA has a limited capacity of resources and will rely heavily on NGO and private industry contribution.

Animal and agricultural health responses will be conducted in collaboration with state and federal authorities and private industries.

Local, state, federal, and/or tribal, authorities will need to inspect agricultural production facilities and distributors following a disaster to determine their capacity to operate safely and to ensure they do not pose a risk to public health and the environment.

Actions taken during an emergency threatening the environment or cultural and historic resources will be done in collaboration with the appropriate local, state, and tribal agencies.

### **III. Concept of Operations**

#### **A. General**

WSDA, as the coordinating agency for ESF #11, coordinates with the ESF primary agencies for each of the five primary functional areas addressed below. WSDA coordinates the capabilities and resources of the state through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) to facilitate the delivery of services, technical assistance, expertise and other support for emergencies and disasters affecting the state.

ESF #11 provides for an integrated local, state, tribal and federal response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease, an outbreak of a highly infective exotic plant disease or an economically devastating plant or animal pest infestation in Washington State.

WSDA, through ESF #11, and in coordination with ESF #8, ensures the safety and security of the food supply under their jurisdiction, (Title 69 RCW) in Washington State following an emergency or disaster and mitigates the effects of the incident(s) on the people, economy and environment of Washington State.

## **B. Organization**

The state ESF #11 response structure operates under the direction of the Coordinating Agency, which determines the Lead Primary Agency or Agencies on the basis of the assistance needed for the specific incident.

- **For nutrition assistance**, DSHS is the point of contact and coordinates state response activities with WSDA Food Assistance Program and other agencies, see Appendix 1 (TBP).
- **For animal and plant disease and pest response**, the State Veterinarian or WSDA Assistant Director for Plant Services assumes primary responsibility, see Appendix 2 (Animal) and Appendix 3 (Plant).
- **For an incident involving food/feed safety and security**, WSDA assumes primary responsibility and DOH will support, see Appendix 4 (Food/ Feed).
- **For an incident involving NCH resources protection**, DNR assumes initial primary responsibility with ECY, WDFW, and DAHP also work to represent the natural, cultural and historical resource concerns of Washington State

Regardless of the nature of the emergency, the state establishes a Joint Information Center (JIC) that functions as the principal source of information about the response in the state. The JIC coordinates closely with federal officials to ensure consistency in the information released to the communications media and the public.

At any time, other agencies and organizations may be called upon as subject matter experts to assist as needed.

## **C. Whole Community Involvement & Non-Discrimination**

The “Whole Community” includes individuals, families, and households; communities; the private and nonprofit sectors; faith-based organizations; and local, tribal, state, and Federal governments. This ESF is committed to communicating with the Whole Community as needed during emergency response and disaster recovery operations. The Whole Community includes populations with Limited English Proficiency (LEP), individuals with disabilities, and Access and Functional Needs (AFN). For more information on how each agency or organization complies with federal law, please contact the individual coordinating, primary, or support agency or organization.

The primary and support agencies have all established a government-to-government relationship with tribal nations, and have a tribal liaison position responsible for assisting in developing and implementing state agency policies to promote effective communication and collaboration. The state agency tribal liaison serves as a contact person with tribal governments, maintains communication between the state agency and affected tribal governments, and coordinates training of state agency employees in government-to-government relations as set forth in RCW 43.376.

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.

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, such as the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums/Zoo Animal Health Network, can provide information on contingency planning for veterinary facilities, zoos, and other congregate animal facilities.

Cultural heritage institutions (such as museums, libraries, archives, records repositories, and historical societies) will be encouraged to develop emergency plans, including having contingency plans in place for their collections in the event of a disaster or emergency. Nonprofit networks, such as the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, can provide information on cultural and historic resources at risk.

#### IV. ESF Responsibilities Aligned to Core Capabilities

The following table aligns the Core Capabilities that this ESF most directly supports, and the agencies and organizations identified to provide services and resources in accordance with their individual missions, legal authorities, plans and capabilities in coordination through the SEOC.

Coordinating State Agency	Responsibilities & Actions	Core Capabilities
Department of Agriculture	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement an integrated state-level response to an outbreak of an economically devastating or highly contagious animal/zoonotic disease, exotic plant disease or plant pest infestation.</li> <li>Coordinate veterinary services in affected areas.</li> <li>Decontaminate and/or destroy animals and plants as well as associated facilities, e.g., barns, processing equipment, soil, and feeding and growing areas if necessary during a bio-hazardous event.</li> <li>Coordinate with ESF #8 on management of zoonotic disease.</li> <li>Coordinate with ESF #8 to ensure that animal/veterinary health issues are supported (including both disease management and medical management).</li> <li>Coordinate with ESF #8 and local health jurisdictions to ensure disposal issues during disease and natural disaster events do not pose a public health threat.</li> </ul>	Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services  Supply Chain Integrity and Security  Mass Care Services  Logistics and Supply Chain Management

<b>Department of Agriculture (cont'd.)</b>	<p><b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspect meat, poultry and egg products in affected areas and verify they are safe.</li> <li>• Inspect feed manufacturing facilities, distribution centers, etc. in affected areas and verify they are safe.</li> <li>• Investigate consumer complaints related to potentially adulterated food/feed products.</li> <li>• Conduct food and feed-borne disease surveillance.</li> <li>• Coordinate multi-agency recall and tracing of adulterated products through the production/distribution chain.</li> <li>• Coordinate disposal of contaminated food/feed products.</li> <li>• Provide inspectors and laboratory services to affected areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nutrition Assistance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine nutritional assistance needs.</li> <li>• Obtain appropriate food supplies.</li> <li>• Arrange for transportation of food supplies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Animal (including household pets and service animals) Mass Care and Emergency Assistance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports ESF #6 to coordinate an integrated state 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, and tribal governments, 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> <li>• Responds to animal and agricultural health emergencies under WSDA statutory authority.</li> <li>• Coordinates with ESF #8 to ensure that animal/veterinary health issues (including both disease management and medical management) are supported.</li> </ul>	<p>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</p> <p>Supply Chain Integrity and Security</p> <p>Mass Care Services</p> <p>Logistics and Supply Chain Management</p>
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Primary State Agency	Responsibilities & Actions	Core Capabilities
<b>Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation</b>	<p><b>Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate NCH resource identification and vulnerability assessments.</li> <li>• Facilitate development and application of protective measures and strategies in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and assists in coordinating with FEMA and EMD.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance on survey/inventory of cultural resources.</li> <li>• Provides access and technical support on the Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISSAARD) database of cultural resources.</li> <li>• Monitor response operations to protect sensitive resources.</li> <li>• Provide technical advice on mitigating impacts of operations and recommend response actions to minimize damage to natural and cultural resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 and #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.</li> </ul>	<p>Natural and Cultural Resources</p> <p>Infrastructure Systems</p>
<b>Department of Ecology</b>	<p><b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist local health jurisdictions in determining proper waste disposal methods for animal carcasses, bedding, animal byproducts, contaminated food and feed and any crops that need controlled disposal to prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Natural Cultural and Historic Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.</li> <li>• Monitor environmental conditions and conduct sampling.</li> <li>• Provide technical advice on mitigating impacts of contaminants and recommend clean up actions to minimize damage to sensitive resources from response activities.</li> <li>• Comment on debris removal plans to minimize the impact on sensitive environmental resources.</li> <li>• Assist with environmental compliance and regulatory concerns as needed.</li> </ul>	<p>Environmental Response/Health and Safety</p> <p>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</p>



<b>Department of Fish and Wildlife</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate veterinary and wildlife services in affected areas.</li> <li>• Conducts regular monitoring and responds to aquatic invasive species outbreaks.</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance and subject matter expertise concerning populations of threatened and endangered species of Washington State during response activities.</li> </ul> <b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides shellfish monitoring and regulation of shellfish for human consumption.</li> <li>• Provides inspection of shellfish in commercial markets</li> <li>• Seizes and destroys contaminated shellfish stocks</li> </ul> <b>Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct surveys and evaluations for biological resources, wetlands, and critical habitat.</li> <li>• Assist with environmental compliance with the Migratory Species Act and the Magnuson-Stevens Act.</li> <li>• Monitor impact to sensitive natural habitats and develops mitigation strategies during response operations.</li> <li>• Issue Emergency Hydraulics Project Approvals during disasters.</li> </ul>	Environmental Response/Health and Safety  Natural and Cultural Resources  Infrastructure Systems  Mass Care Services
<b>Department of Health</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support WSDA in a foreign animal disease response for livestock or poultry diseases exotic to the United States that are either not or only mildly zoonotic.</li> <li>• In collaboration with local health jurisdictions and the Department of Ecology, assists in determining proper waste disposal methods for animal carcasses, bedding, animal byproducts, contaminated food and feed and any crops that need controlled disposal to protect human health, and prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.</li> <li>• Coordinate the provision of health and medical services, including behavioral health support, during animal depopulation operations to mitigate the emotional impacts among responders, producers and animal owners.</li> </ul> <b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assists in the areas of food safety and food-borne disease surveillance as provided for in state law and in agency plans, policies, procedures and/or practices. Maintains situational awareness on feed-related issues that may impact human health</li> </ul>	Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services

<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	<b>Natural, Cultural and Historic Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate NCH resource identification and vulnerability assessments.</li> <li>• Facilitate development and application of protective measures and strategies in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.</li> <li>• Assist in compliance with relevant federal and state environmental laws during emergency response activities, such as emergency permits/consultation for natural resource use or consumption.</li> <li>• Perform assessments and surveys to assist with planning and operational decisions.</li> <li>• Monitor response operations to protect sensitive resources.</li> <li>• Provide technical advice on mitigating impacts of operations and recommend response actions to minimize damage to natural, cultural, and historic resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 and #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 to manage, monitor or provide technical assistance on emergency stabilization of shorelines, riparian buffer zones and hillsides to protect NCH resources.</li> <li>• Provide Incident Management Teams to assist in NCH resource response and recovery actions.</li> </ul> <b>Animal and Plant and Pest Disease Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with WSDA for plant health emergencies that occur in forest environments of the state or that affect state lands managed by DNR.</li> <li>• Assist with any phase of operations or recovery for plant health emergencies that occur in forest environments of the state or that affect state lands managed by DNR.</li> </ul>	Natural and Cultural Resources  Environmental Response/ Health and Safety  Infrastructure Systems
<b>Department of Social and Health Services</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under a federal declaration, may coordinate the provision of crisis counseling resources during animal depopulation operations to mitigate emotional impacts among responders, producers and animal owners.</li> </ul>	Mass Care Services  Health and Social Services

<b>Department of Social and Health Services (cont'd)</b>	<b>Nutrition Assistance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine the critical needs of the affected population in terms of numbers of people, their location and usable food preparation facilities for congregate feeding.</li> <li>Catalog available food, transportation, equipment, storage and distribution facility resources and locate these resources geographically.</li> <li>In conjunction with WSDA and USDA, verify all identified USDA food is fit for human consumption.</li> <li>Coordinate staging areas for food supplies and points of distribution for food with the Incident Command Post and the local and tribal Emergency Operation Centers (EOC).</li> <li>Coordinate shipment of USDA food to staging areas within the affected area.</li> <li>Initiate direct market procurement of critical food supplies unavailable in existing inventories.</li> </ul>	Mass Care Services  Health and Social Services
<b>Supporting State Agencies</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Actions</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>American Red Cross</b>	<b>Nutrition Assistance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in determining requirements for necessary food supplies to support displaced citizens in shelters.</li> </ul>	Mass Care Services  Health and Social Services
<b>Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate NCH resource identification and vulnerability assessments.</li> <li>Facilitate development and application of protective and conservation measures and strategies.</li> <li>Perform assessments and surveys to assist with planning and operational decisions.</li> <li>Monitor response operations to protect sensitive resources.</li> <li>Provide technical advice on mitigating impacts of operations and recommend response actions to minimize damage to natural resources.</li> <li>Coordinate with ESF #3 and #10 on the removal of debris affecting natural resources.</li> <li>Assist in determining damage estimates in the communities involved in a disaster.</li> </ul>	Natural and Cultural Resources  Infrastructure Systems  Economic Recovery  Situational Awareness
<b>Department of Commerce</b>	<b>General</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in determining economic damage estimates in the communities involved in the disaster, along with any collateral economic damage caused by animal and crop disease outbreaks.</li> </ul>	Economic Recovery  Situational Assessment

<b>Department of Enterprise Services</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assists by providing facilities for reception, storage and staging of the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS), as provided in an interagency agreement during animal disease outbreaks.</li> </ul>	Logistics and Supply Chain Management
<b>Department of Labor and Industries</b>	<b>General</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide guidance and instruction on worker health and safety issues as provided for in state law and agency plans, policies, procedures and/or practices.</li> </ul>	Environmental Response/Health and Safety
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist by providing heavy equipment for animal depopulation operations in the event of an animal disease outbreak.</li> <li>Assist in determining routes for movement of possibly contaminated carcasses to landfill or proper disposal sites during an animal disease outbreak.</li> </ul>	Logistics and Supply Chain Management  Critical Transportation
<b>Emergency Management Division</b>	<b>General</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As host agency for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), maintain minimum staffing levels for a monitoring posture (Level 3 Activation) as well as the facility itself. Raise activation level at onset of emergency/disaster, or upon request.</li> <li>Develop and coordinate finalization of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency.</li> <li>Serve as authorized representative for requesting interstate capabilities for agriculture, natural, and cultural resource protection through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).</li> </ul>	Operational Coordination  Planning  Logistics and Supply Chain Management
<b>Food and Drug Administration</b>	<b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond jointly with WSDA, DOH and USDA to a food or feed-borne illness or food/feed contamination incident in the state of Washington.</li> </ul>	Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services
<b>National Alliance of State Animal and Agriculture Emergency Programs</b>	<b>Animal and Agriculture Emergency Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support WSDA in facilitating state-to-state information and resource sharing.</li> <li>Support whole community multi-agency coordination with governmental organizations and NGOs engaged in, or coordinating animal response activities.</li> <li>Provide technical assistance and subject matter expertise regarding animal response issues.</li> </ul>	Mass Care Services  Supply Chain Integrity and Security

<b>National Animal Rescue and Shelter Coalition</b>	<b>Animal and Agriculture Emergency Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist WSDA and ESF #6 in coordinating an integrated whole community response to meet the disaster response needs of animals, including large animals, household pets and service animals, and their owners.</li> <li>• Support multi-agency coordination with governmental organizations and NGOs engaged in or coordinating animal response activities.</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance and subject matter expertise regarding animal response issues.</li> </ul>	Mass Care Services  Supply Chain Integrity and Security
<b>Office of the Attorney General</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide direct legal support to the Department of Agriculture to assist agency staff in performance of their emergency support functions including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarantines, emergency declarations and orders;</li> <li>• Urgent issues of statutory authority, delegation, jurisdiction and liability; and</li> <li>• Contracts and Interagency Agreement review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide direct legal support to the Departments of Agriculture and Health to assist agency staff in performance of their emergency support functions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency declarations and orders;</li> <li>• Urgent issues of statutory authority, delegation, jurisdiction and liability;</li> <li>• Quarantines and public health emergencies; and</li> <li>• Contracts and interagency Agreements review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Planning

<b>Parks and Recreation Commission</b>	<b>Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate NCH resource identification and vulnerability assessments.</li> <li>• Facilitate development and application of protective measures and strategies in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and assists in coordinating with FEMA and EMD.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance on survey/inventory of cultural resources.</li> <li>• Provides access and technical support on the Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISSAARD) database of cultural resources.</li> <li>• Monitor response operations to protect sensitive resources.</li> <li>• Provide technical advice on mitigating impacts of operations and recommend response actions to minimize damage to natural and cultural resources.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #3 and #10 on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.</li> </ul>	Natural and Cultural Resources  Infrastructure Systems  Economic Recovery  Situational Awareness
<b>U.S. Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond jointly with WSDA and WDFW in the event of an animal disease outbreak in the state of Washington.</li> <li>• Respond jointly with WSDA in the event of a plant disease outbreak or pest introduction/infestation in the state of Washington.</li> </ul> <b>Food/Feed Safety and Security</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond jointly with WSDA, DOH and FDA to a food borne illness outbreak or food/feed contamination incident in the state of Washington linked to USDA regulated food.</li> </ul>	Supply Chain Integrity and Security  Mass Care Services
<b>Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission</b>	<b>Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide rate regulation and safety compliance for transportation haulers.</li> </ul>	<b>Critical Transportation</b>

## V. Resource Requirements

This plan reflects actual existing capabilities and vertically aligns with the FEMA *Emergency Support Function #11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources*, to the extent feasible. Much of the capability to respond to the five primary functions relies heavily on cooperation and partnership with USDA, FDA, private industry, non-governmental organizations, support from other states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

## VI. References & Support Plans

- Cultural Resources Management Policy – Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. August 2004
- Initial State Response and Containment Management Plan for Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Emergency Poultry Diseases
- Multi-Agency Response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Animal Emergency Plan
- Forest Practices Rules
- USFW Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation
- USDA FAD PReP Materials
- Washington Food Emergency Response Plan
- Washington Food Emergency Response Resource Guide
- Washington Interagency Response Plan
- Washington Rapid Response Team Operations Manual
- Washington State National Veterinary Stockpile Plan
- WSDA Foreign Animal Disease Management Plan
- Zoo and Aquarium All Hazards Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (ZAHP) Fusion Center

## VII. Terms, Acronyms & Definitions

### Acronyms

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AFN	Access and Functional Needs
AG	Washington Attorney General Office
ARC	American Red Cross
DAHP	Washington Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation
DES	Washington Department of Enterprise Services
DNR	Washington Department of Natural Resources
DOH	Washington Department of Health
DSHS	Washington Department of Social and Health Services
ECY	Washington Department of Ecology
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
JIC	Joint Information Center

L&I	Washington Department of Labor and Industries
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
NARSC	National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition
NASAAEP	National Alliance of State Animal and Agriculture Emergency Programs
NCH	Natural, Cultural, and Historic
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NVS	National Veterinary Stockpile
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
TBP	To Be Planned
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WSDA	Washington State Department of Agriculture
WSDOT	Washington State Department of Transportation

## **VIII. Appendices**

Appendix 1: Nutrition Assistance Response Plan (TBP)  
Appendix 2: State Animal Response Plan  
Appendix 3: State Plant Health Response Plan  
Appendix 4: State Food and Feed Safety Response Plan  
Appendix 5: Natural, Cultural, and Historic Resource Plan – Removed, incorporated in basic plan and ESF 14: Long Term Community Recovery



## ESF #11 Appendix 2: State Animal Response Plan

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### ESF Coordinating Agency:

Department of Agriculture

### Primary Agencies:

Department of Agriculture  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

### Support Agencies:

Conservation Commission  
Department of Ecology  
Department of Health  
Department of Labor and Industries  
Department of Social and Health Services  
Department of Transportation  
Military Department, Emergency Management Division  
National Alliance of State Animal and Agriculture Emergency Programs  
National Animal Rescue and Shelter Coalition  
National Guard  
Office of the Attorney General  
Tribal Governments  
University of Washington  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Utility and Transportation Commission  
Washington State University  
    College of Veterinary Medicine  
    Cooperative Extension Service  
    Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory  
Washington State Veterinary Medical Association

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

This appendix provides guidelines for a rapid response and recovery to Animal Health Events (AHEs) affecting the health, safety and welfare of humans, animals and free ranging wildlife populations; support and coordination of sheltering and care for livestock and companion animals; and timely and proper disposal of dead animals, contaminated animal products and animal waste following natural or technological disasters.

Activation of this appendix may also involve the identification and control of diseases of public health significance as some Foreign Animal Diseases (FADs) are zoonotic. Preparedness and response issues of major concern in a FAD outbreak include: prevention of disease introduction, disease monitoring and surveillance, rapid identification, disease containment and eradication and, when necessary, disposal of animal carcasses.

## **B. Scope**

This appendix applies to all AHEs caused by natural or technological disasters. Response activities for AHEs apply to all federal and state agencies identified as Primary and Support Agencies, as well as the WSDA Reserve Veterinary Corps (RVC) members. Private organizations identified as Support Agencies for AHEs are anticipated to participate to the fullest extent possible.

The veterinary medical and animal care delivered through the activation of this appendix include, but are not limited to, small/large animal care and management, facility usage, displaced pets and livestock, wildlife, and exotic animal assistance.

This appendix also outlines procedures for the identification, containment and eradication of an FAD or contamination caused by a toxic substance. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plans (FAD PReP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) supplement the procedures used in this appendix.

## **C. Policies**

- [Chapter 16-25](#) Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Disposal of Dead Livestock
- [Chapter 16.36](#) Revised Code of Washington (RCW) – Animal Health
- [Chapter 16.68](#) RCW – Disposal of Dead Animals
- [Chapter 16-70](#) WAC – Animal Diseases – Reporting
- [Chapter 38.52](#) RCW– Emergency Management
- [RCW 43.06.010\(12\)](#) – Governor – General Powers and Duties
- [RCW 70.05.060](#) – Powers and Duties of Local Board of Health
- [RCW 70.05.070](#) – Local Health Officer – Powers and Duties
- [Chapter 70.94](#) RCW – Washington Clean Air Act
- [RCW 70.95.160](#) – Local Board of Health Regulations to Implement the Comprehensive Plan
- [Chapter 77 RCW](#) – Fish and Wildlife
- [RCW 77.115.010](#) – Disease inspection and control for aquatic farmers
- [Chapter 81.77](#) RCW – Solid Waste Collection Companies
- [WAC 173-350-220, 240, 310, 320, 400](#) – Solid Waste Handling
- [Chapter 220-12](#) WAC – Food fish and shellfish
- [WAC 232-12-017](#) – Deleterious exotic wildlife
- [Chapter 480-70](#) WAC – Solid Waste and Refuse Collection Companies
- [H.R.3858](#) – Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006
- [USDA FAD PReP](#) and [SOP](#)

## **II. Situations and Assumptions**

### **A. Situations**

Animal agriculture is a major contributor to the economy of Washington. The negative impact of an AHE through a FAD, natural or man-made disaster, could result in profound economic loss. An outbreak of a FAD such as foot and mouth disease within the state of Washington could devastate the state and national economy.

The large amount of imported animal products brought into the US, the ease of world travel, Washington's international border and ports all stress the State's vulnerability to a FAD outbreak.

Protecting animal agriculture in the United States requires cooperation, participation and partnership between WSDA and USDA. USDA provides leadership in combating FADs but it does not have the resources to assume these responsibilities without state cooperation.

The sheltering and mass care of pets and service animals may be necessary following a natural or technological disaster. Their care will be coordinated through ESF #6 as a Washington Animal Response Management (WARM) task force.

A natural or technological disaster could result in mass animal casualties. A large number of unattended animal carcasses could have a negative impact on public health and the environment. Local authorities are responsible for the removal of animal carcasses. However, if a local government is overwhelmed, has depleted or anticipates depleting its resources, it may request assistance through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). The SEOC Operation Section will designate state agencies to assist with the removal of animal carcasses.

### **B. Limitations & Assumptions**

Most animal and agriculture emergency response resources and assets are owned or controlled by the private sector and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). WSDA has a limited capacity of resources and will rely heavily on NGO and private industry contribution.

Local livestock producers, dairymen, feedlot operators, poultry producers, horsemen and hog producers will likely be the first to notice an unusual condition/disease in their animals. The concerned producer will make contact with one of four entities:

- A private licensed veterinary practitioner.
- The State Veterinarian and/or the local WSDA field veterinarian.
- A WSDA laboratory.
- The USDA Assistant Director (AD).

Veterinary practitioners will report any unexpectedly high death loss, unusual symptoms or suspected FAD or toxic substance exposure to the State Veterinarian or USDA AD for diagnostic assistance.

Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WADDL), or any other animal diagnostic laboratory in the state of Washington, will contact the State Veterinarian or the USDA AD regarding an Animal Health Event that they become aware of through contact with a private veterinary practitioner or through direct contact with a producer.

Effective disposal of animal carcasses and materials will be a key component of a successful response to prevent or mitigate the spread of pathogens. Wastes requiring disposal following an FAD outbreak could include: carcasses; milk and egg products; contaminated manure, litter, and bedding; contaminated feed; contaminated personal protective equipment (PPE); contaminated materials and equipment that cannot be cleaned and disinfected; and antimicrobials from cleaning and disinfecting.

In an FAD outbreak where mass animal casualties are likely, any single animal carcass disposal method may be insufficient to handle the large quantity of animal carcasses, and concurrent disposal options may be necessary. The State Veterinarian or his designee will specify the method of disposal of animal carcasses that die of disease or are euthanized to prevent the spread of disease.

Natural populations of native species that may be categorized as Food Fish and Shellfish as defined in WAC 220-12 are critically important to the environmental and economic well-being of our State, as is the aquaculture industry that produces farmed food fish and shellfish stocks. Surveillance, protection, and response to diseases affecting both natural and farmed species may be necessary following a natural or technological disaster.

Animals, as referred to in this appendix, are all animal species except fish and insects, (fowl, poultry, cattle, sheep, or any other domesticated animal and wildlife) that die from a disease or unknown causes.

Dead animal or animal carcass, as referred to in this appendix, means the body or any part or portion of an animal that has died from a natural or technological disaster.

Wildlife, as referred to in this appendix, means all species of the animal kingdom whose members exist in Washington in a wild state. This includes but is not limited to mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates. The term “wildlife” includes all stages of development and the bodily parts of wildlife members.

### **III. Concept of Operations**

#### **A. General**

The WSDA, consistent with its statutory authority and under the direction of the SEOC, will implement and coordinate Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 actions through this appendix when AHEs overwhelm local jurisdiction resources.

FAD incidents will be managed by WSDA and USDA Veterinary Services in a coordinated response pursuant to their statutory authorities.

The WSDA and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) represent animal health concerns of the state and will collaborate with emergency management and environmental protection agencies as well as departments and/or agencies representing veterinary medicine, public health, agriculture, native and non-native wildlife, humane societies and animal control agencies.

WSDA will notify appropriate private enterprises such as the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association, the Washington RVC, producer organizations, livestock markets, slaughtering establishments, renderers and other pertinent stakeholder groups when an animal disease emergency is declared.

During an AHE, a licensed veterinarian accredited by the USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) division of Veterinary Services (VS) has the authority to restrict movement of animals suspected of infection with a FAD.

The individual who first notices the suspect disease is required to immediately notify the State Veterinarian who, with the assistance of the USDA AD, determines the next appropriate action(s) to confirm or rule-out the presence of a FAD and to restrict animal and, if necessary, people movement within and through the affected area.

## **B. Organization**

The state response structure operates under the direction of the coordinating agency, and is supported by primary and support agencies which are determined on the basis of the assistance needed for the specific incident. The WSDA, State Veterinarian's Office, is lead primary agency for AHEs and pet and animal emergency responses. WSDA, as the coordinating agency will notify supporting agencies of an AHE or pet and animal emergency that requires coordination. When an AHE involves wildlife, WDFW provides response direction and coordination.

When an AHE requires immediate state involvement, the WSDA Director will request for EMD to develop a governor's proclamation of a state of emergency and activate the SEOC beyond a monitoring posture. WSDA personnel, along with those from support agencies, will staff ESF #11 in the SEOC.

- **For Animal Health Events**, the State Veterinarian, or designated representative, will be the state incident command representative and will coordinate activities with recognized animal health care responders. The incident command representative will work closely with USDA and WDFW on any impact to wildlife.
- **For pets and animal emergency responses**, The State Veterinarian or designated representative will serve as the permanent WARM task force lead in the event of a natural or technological disaster requiring activation of the taskforce. All response activities are coordinated through either ESF #11 or ESF #6 in the SEOC.
- **For the emergency disposal of dead animals**, the State Veterinarian is the primary point of contact when animals have died from a disease, an unknown cause, or for animals euthanized to prevent the spread of disease. Local

authorities will, as necessary, order the removal of animal carcasses as debris for animals that have died of a known cause that is not disease.

- **For animal responses involving fish and wildlife**, the Director of the WDFW or a designated representative will lead all activities, to include close collaboration and coordination with counterparts in the WSDA and Washington Department of Health (DOH), as appropriate for the situation.

### **ESF 11 Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group**

The WSDA Director will activate the MAC group upon notification by the State Veterinarian of a suspected AHE. The MAC group's mission is to initiate the state's AHE response and coordinate all initial response issues as necessary. The MAC group consists of the following representatives or their delegates:

- WSDA Director or Deputy Director
- State Veterinarian or Assistant State Veterinarian
- USDA, Assistant District Director
- WSDA Assistant Director, Animal Services Division
- WSDA Assistant Director, Food Safety and Consumer Services
- General Counsel, Office of the Attorney General
- Communications Director, WSDA

### **SEOC Policy Group**

The SEOC Disaster Manager may establish a Policy Group when the SEOC activation level is raised beyond a monitoring posture. Staffed by agency executives or senior personnel, the Policy Group is responsible for policy decision-making, establishing incident priorities, allocating critical resources to the greatest area of need, and strategic messaging. For the purposes of this appendix, the Policy Group's mission will be to determine the state's overall response strategy to an AHE.

## **C. Animal Health Events**

The State Veterinarian, USDA AD, or their designee, will determine appropriate actions and direct the response when notified by the area or private veterinarian, producer, WADDL, or another laboratory, of a possible FAD incident. One of the initial steps may include the dispatch of a Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician (FADD) to the reported incident location.

The FADD will gather information, collect samples and make an initial assessment. The FADD will then contact the State Veterinarian or USDA AD, when the State Veterinarian is unavailable. The State Veterinarian or USDA AD will notify the USDA National Center for Animal Health and Emergency Management and/or other federal officials, as appropriate, if the FADD determines the differential diagnosis includes the high likelihood of a foreign animal disease capable of rapid spread and/or significant impact on U.S. livestock, poultry or aquaculture. The FADD will obtain an FAD investigation referral number from the USDA AD.

The USDA AD and State Veterinarian, depending on the likelihood of a FAD, will take steps to coordinate sample shipment and testing with National Veterinary

Services Laboratories (NVSL), the Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (FADDL), and the National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN), as appropriate. The USDA AD and State Veterinarian, in concert with area field veterinarians, will work to contain the disease to as restricted an area as possible. This may necessitate the involvement of state, county and/or local law enforcement agencies.

The State Veterinarian will contact the WDFW if the suspected disease or toxic substance has potential wildlife or aquatic species implications. The WDFW, in cooperation with WSDA, will determine the appropriate response to protect wildlife or conduct wildlife surveillance.

The WDFW will forward any reports it receives on a suspected FAD having the potential to affect wildlife or fish to the State Veterinarian. The WDFW will determine the appropriate wildlife response, in cooperation with the WSDA, when the reported disease could potentially have an impact on livestock.

The State Veterinarian will contact the DOH if the suspected disease has potential public health impacts. The DOH, in cooperation with WSDA, will determine the appropriate response to protect human health and welfare. DOH will report findings to other appropriate human health services agencies.

The WSDA Director will activate the MAC group when notified of a confirmed AHE by the State Veterinarian. The MAC group, and possibly some or all of the SEOC Policy Group members, will determine:

- How best to isolate the affected area
- Whether the WSDA should request an increased activation level of the SEOC and/or additional ESFs to support ESF #11 operations
- When to request activation of USDA resources
- The procedures necessary to combat the outbreak
- The procedures and resources needed to ensure the safety and protection of the workers on scene

#### **D. Pets and Animal Emergencies**

The WARM task force will be the coordinating body responsible for planning and response activities for animal issues in times of natural and technological emergencies and disasters. All response activities are coordinated through either ESF #11 or ESF #6 in the SEOC. A member of WSDA will chair the WARM task force.

The WARM task force will focus primarily on emergency medical care, evacuation, rescue, capture, temporary confinement and shelter, provision of food and water, identification and tracking of animals for reunification with their owners.

Members of the WARM task force may include: WSDA, Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), WDFW, DOH, DSHS, Washington State University, University of Washington, Washington State Veterinary Medical

Association (WSVMA), American Red Cross, and USDA. These agencies may be asked to participate in planning meetings, training, exercises, as well as actual disaster responses. Local emergency management, animal response personnel, and other agencies and organizations may be asked to participate if the situation warrants.

The WARM task force monitors and tracks status of animal shelter facilities and confinement areas identified by local jurisdictions as well as provides information on the location and availability of emergency sheltering facilities, food, and water for animals. The task force will work to remain informed on closures, personnel status, and supply needs. The WARM task force will also coordinate with ESF #7 for storage and distribution of supplies from facilities and staging areas for animal food and medical supplies.

WSDA has a signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition (NARSC) and can request their support once county resources for animal rescue and sheltering are depleted. NARSC and other animal welfare organizations will respond only when requested by the WSDA on behalf of the SEOC. These groups operate under the direction of the local Incident Commander in accordance with the National Incident Management System established for the response.

The WARM task force, affected jurisdiction emergency management agencies, and support agencies will collaborate on efforts supporting medical services for animals in temporary animal shelters/confinement areas. The task force will assist support agencies in identifying long-term maintenance, placement, and/or disposition strategies for animals permanently separated from their owners or unable to return to their normal habitat and will coordinate with state EMD for the removal and proper disposal of animal waste and carcasses.

In preparation for response activities involving pets and animals, the WARM task force will assist in releasing information on disaster planning and safety for animals through periodic news releases and brochures. The WARM task force chair will work to maintain an up-to-date database of all county animal emergency plans and all animal emergency coordinators.

#### **E. Disposal of Dead Animals**

Local authorities will, as necessary, order the routine disposal of animal carcasses that have died from a natural disaster.

Methods of routine carcass disposal may include, but are not limited to:

- Burial
- Burning
- Composting
- Incineration
- Landfill
- Natural decomposition



- Alkaline Hydrolysis Digester
- Rendering

Rendering may be used as a disposal method only for cattle, horses, mules, asses, swine, sheep, and goats. Animals disposed through rendering must be transported by independent collectors licensed under chapter 16.68 RCW. They must be rendered at a facility licensed under chapter 16.68 RCW. The WSDA Animal Services Division maintains a list of licensed independent collectors and renderers.

Livestock that have died from a reportable disease listed in chapter 16-70 WAC must be disposed of in consultation with the State Veterinarian.

Local governments will request assistance through the SEOC when they have depleted or anticipate depleting their resources to dispose of animal carcasses. After receiving a request for carcass disposal capability, the SEOC Operations Section will assign state agencies to assist, and identify funding for the resource request, working with the SEOC Logistics Section if additional resources (e.g., such as federal assets) are needed to fulfill the request.

WSDA is the primary state agency for the disposal of dead animals resulting from a disaster after local governments have exhausted their resources. The department will consult with the local health jurisdictions and the Department of Ecology to select the most effective method for the disposal of dead animals based on the situation, location, and environmental and health concerns. However, the State Veterinarian will determine the disposal method for animals that have died from disease, an unknown cause, or were euthanized to prevent the spread of disease.

Designated agencies will provide the necessary support required to complete the proper disposal of the dead animals, contaminated products and animal waste once the disposal method is determined.

The WSDA may request the assistance of the WSDOT and Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) in the loading and transportation of animal carcasses. Transporters of animal carcasses will comply with all applicable regulations.

Animal carcasses should be transported in closed, leak-proof trucks or dumpsters. Secondary containment may be needed, depending on the type of waste being transported.

Upon request for carcass disposal, the responsible party will take the following steps:

- Visit the site and determine whether or not there is a need for carcass disposal;
- Develop a disposal plan;
- Keep record on file of the disposal plan as well as documentation on animal location, cause of death, ownership or brand of animal, and burial location;
- Ensure compliance with the carcass disposal plan or authorized procedure through coordination with support agencies such as local health jurisdictions,

Department of Ecology and WSDOT if carcasses will be transported on roadways.

#### **F. Fish and Wildlife**

The WDFW manages response and recovery operations of fish, wildlife, and shellfish through the Fish and Wildlife Committee to bring together subject matter experts to support the response. The members of the Fish and Wildlife Committee will include primary and support agencies. Conservation and animal welfare groups may be consulted or act as Wildlife Committee advisory members.

During an animal health event, WDFW, in conjunction with USDA and WSDA will determine the risk to fish and wildlife populations. USDA in conjunction with WDFW will determine the triggers for surveillance.

### **IV. ESF Responsibilities Aligned to Core Capabilities**

The following table aligns the Core Capabilities that this ESF most directly supports, and the agencies and organizations identified to provide services and resources in accordance with their individual missions, legal authorities, plans and capabilities in coordination through the SEOC. All ESFs support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

<b>Coordinating State Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Actions</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue quarantines, embargoes or hold orders and oversee the implementation and enforcement of restricted, embargoed or quarantined areas as determined necessary by the MAC group, with the assistance of the other state and federal supporting agencies.</li> <li>• Coordinate WSDA emergency management activities with ESF #6, ESF #8 and local jurisdictions.</li> <li>• Coordinate multi-state event response and recovery efforts with local, state and federal animal response agencies and appropriate emergency management agencies.</li> <li>• Coordinate press releases with the SEOC ESF #15 and the Joint Information Center (JIC), when established.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Supply Chain Integrity and Security</b>  <b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</b>

<b>Department of Agriculture (cont'd)</b>	<b>Carcass Disposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take the lead in the emergency disposal of animals that died from disease or unknown causes.</li> <li>• Identify the most appropriate and expeditious disposal method for animal carcasses, in consultation with the Department of Ecology and local public health officials.</li> <li>• Oversee emergency disposal operations and report number of animals disposed to the SEOC ESF #11 Lead.</li> </ul> <b>Pet and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate activities supporting roles and responsibilities in ESF #6 and other ESFs with the ESF Primary Agency(s).</li> <li>• Coordinate animal issues during multi-state disaster response with the relevant local, state, federal and NGO agencies.</li> <li>• Coordinate actions and provide guidance with shelter task force within ESF #6 for the care for household pets and service animals brought to a shelter by evacuees.</li> <li>• Coordinate actions that will be taken to segregate or seize household pets showing signs of abuse.</li> <li>• Coordinate methods for control of fleas, ticks, and other pests at each congregate household pet shelter.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #7 to identify and describe the actions that will be taken for pre-disaster inspections and development of agreements for each congregate household pet facility.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Supply Chain Integrity and Security</b>  <b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</b>
Primary State Agency	Responsibilities & Actions	Core Capabilities
<b>Department of Fish and Wildlife</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide advice on risks to wildlife and methods to mitigate the risks and prevent the spread of the disease to susceptible wildlife.</li> <li>• Initiate a wildlife disease surveillance program when a FAD could potentially affect wildlife.</li> <li>• Coordinate multi-state event response and recovery efforts with local, state and federal animal response agencies.</li> <li>• Coordinate press releases with the SEOC ESF #15 and the JIC.</li> <li>• Establish credentialing standards for animal response personnel.</li> </ul> <b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May assist permitted facilities in identifying suitable, alternative housing for restricted species.</li> <li>• May conduct inspections and assist in the evaluation of confined wildlife and exotic</li> </ul>	<b>Natural and Cultural Resources</b>  <b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Environmental Response/ Health and Safety</b>

<b>Department of Fish and Wildlife (cont'd)</b>	<p>animals, including but not limited to those held under WDFW permits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with the response and assessment of lost or escaped captive wildlife, fish, exotic animals, oil soaked birds or other impacted species, as deemed appropriate.</li> <li>• Coordinate the activities of specialized personnel and equipment supporting the response to potentially dangerous, escaped, captive fish, wildlife, and/or exotic animals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Carcass Disposal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist coordinating agency, as requested, with emergency disposal operations involving wildlife carcasses.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fish and Wildlife</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and maintain channels of communication with state and federal agencies that are dealing with the disease outbreak in domestic animals.</li> <li>• Maintain an awareness of wildlife conditions in the region and the species of wildlife having emergency animal disease significance.</li> <li>• Use familiarity with the topography, wildlife density, and methods of wildlife control and dispersal in order to manage the AHE in the wildlife population at risk.</li> <li>• Recommend the general area(s) to be included in the quarantine and/or buffer zones around the outbreak when wildlife becomes involved and recommend methods to minimize wildlife movements into/out of these areas to reduce potential pathogen spread.</li> <li>• Determine the staffing and resource requirements for administration, diagnosis, depopulation, disposal and enforcement in the event of an emergency animal disease outbreak involves wildlife.</li> <li>• Establish procedures for conducting surveys of the wildlife populations in an outbreak area to determine prevalence of disease.</li> <li>• Identify methods of humane collection and preservation of specimens for laboratory analysis.</li> <li>• Plan for the collection of diagnostic specimens and identify laboratories capable of performing needed tests in a timely manner.</li> <li>• Direct and coordinate efforts to control and depopulate a specific game animal in a given area.</li> <li>• Advise and assist in depopulation of uncontrolled and unconfined non-game species.</li> <li>• Conduct outreach and education to wildlife rehabilitators.</li> <li>• Prepare news releases giving justification for testing and euthanizing wildlife, if indicated.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Natural and Cultural Resources</b></p> <p><b>Mass Care Services</b></p> <p><b>Environmental Response/ Health and Safety</b></p>
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Support Agency	Responsibilities & Actions	Core Capabilities
<b>Animal Advocacy Groups</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with local jurisdictions to identify locations for emergency animal shelters and confinement areas.</li> <li>• Work with local jurisdictions to develop and maintain a list of local sources of food and water for sheltered and confined animals.</li> <li>• Work with local jurisdiction to develop a list of local animal transportation resources.</li> <li>• Work with the counties to establish unclaimed or surrendered animal adoption procedures consistent with local statutes.</li> <li>• Coordinate the activities of trained volunteers through the local EOCs/Emergency Coordination Centers (ECC's).</li> <li>• Assist affected jurisdictions in the identification and documentation of disaster related animal injuries and deaths.</li> <li>• Deliver services and other forms of assistance in coordination with the established chain of command.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>
<b>Department of Ecology</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide recommendations to the MAC group on to the most appropriate method(s) for disposal of affected carcasses.</li> <li>• Assist local health jurisdictions in determining the suitability of either on site burial or transportation to an offsite burial location.</li> <li>• Assist local health jurisdictions in identifying offsite burial locations and make recommendations, in conjunction with the Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), regarding specific transportation requirements.</li> <li>• Assist the Washington National Guard (WNG) as staff resources are available, in assessing the safety of disinfectants used for cleaning and disinfection of vehicles, equipment and facilities.</li> <li>• Assign personnel qualified to make environmental assessments to each destruction and/or disposal location as resources are available.</li> </ul> <b>Carcass Disposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide assistance to the coordinating agency in identifying the animal carcass disposal method that minimize the impact on the environment.</li> <li>• Provide any other assistance to the coordinating agency as deemed necessary, within the scope of capabilities and resources, in during disposal operations.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response/ Health and Safety</b>

<b>Department of Health</b>	<p><b>Animal Health Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine the public health risk and impact of a suspected FAD in the state of Washington.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the local health jurisdiction to put disease control measures in place to prevent zoonotic disease transmission.</li> <li>• Notify the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of any FAD outbreak occurring within the boundaries of the state of Washington and provide information on the nature of the FAD, the primary animal host and the potential health risk to humans.</li> <li>• Work with local jurisdictions to help assess the public health risk associated with burial or burning of dead animals and provide information on the risk and recommendations to the PDG.</li> <li>• Establish any appropriate surveillance and control measures for human illnesses associated with an animal health event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pets and Animal Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate the assessment, prevention and control of zoonotic diseases and other animal related conditions of public health significance with the WSDA and the local health jurisdiction.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</b>
<b>Department of Labor and Industries</b>	<p><b>Animal Health Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide responder and worker safety expertise and assistance to ensure worker health and safety on-scene.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response/Health and Safety</b>
<b>Department of Social and Health Services</b>	<p><b>Animal Health Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under a federal declaration, collaborate with the Department of Health and other mass care support agencies in the coordinated provision of crisis counseling resources during animal depopulation operations to mitigate emotional impacts among responders, producers and animal owners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pets and Animal Response</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with local jurisdictions to identify locations for emergency shelters that accommodate humans with animals nearby.</li> <li>• Coordinate the activities of co-locating animals with human shelters.</li> <li>• Plan for service animals to be included in all human sheltering plans.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>

<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<p><b>Animal Health Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support, as available, for traffic control on state and federal highways in the restricted or quarantined areas.</li> <li>• Provide expertise, as available, and assist in planning any required movement of carcasses off-site for disposal.</li> <li>• Provide support as available, to law enforcement (local, county or state), WSDA and WNG personnel for traffic control into restricted and/or quarantined areas.</li> </ul> <p><b>Carcass Disposal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with loading animal carcasses in/on vehicles for transport to disposal sites as available.</li> </ul>	<b>Critical Transportation</b>
<b>Emergency Management Division</b>	<p><b>General</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As host agency for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), maintain minimum staffing levels for a monitoring posture (Level 3 Activation) as well as the facility itself. Raise activation level at onset of emergency/disaster, or upon request.</li> <li>• Develop and coordinate finalization of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency.</li> <li>• Serve as authorized representative for requesting interstate capabilities for agriculture, natural, and cultural resource protection through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Operational Coordination</b></p> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>Logistics and Supply Chain Management</b></p>

<b>National Alliance of State Animal and Agriculture Emergency Programs</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support WSDA in facilitating state-to-state information and resource sharing.</li> <li>• Support whole community multi-agency coordination with governmental organizations and NGOs engaged in, or coordinating animal response activities.</li> <li>• Provide technical assistance and subject matter expertise regarding animal response issues.</li> <li>• Assist WSDA and ESF #6 in coordinating an integrated whole community response to meet the disaster response needs of animals, including large animals, household pets and service animals, and their owners.</li> <li>• Support multi-agency coordination with governmental organizations and NGOs engaged in or coordinating animal response activities.</li> <li>• Provide methods for identifying equipment and supplies that may be needed to operate each congregate household pet shelter, as well as supplies that household pet owners may bring with them to the congregate shelter.</li> <li>• Provide procedures for physical security of each congregate household pet facility, including perimeter controls and security personnel.</li> <li>• Provide expertise on the methods for reunification of rescued animals with their owners.</li> <li>• Provide expertise on disposal of pet waste, and dead animal disposal.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Operational Coordination</b>
<b>National Animal Rescue and Shelter Coalition</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide methods for the separation of household pets, to include aggressive animals, and the prevention of transmissible disease, fleas, ticks, and other pests at each congregate household pet shelter based on appropriate criteria and requirements.</li> <li>• Provide methods for providing for the setup and maintenance of household pet confinement areas to include a variety of household pet species (e.g., crates, cages, pens) for safety, cleanliness, and control of noise level, as well as a household pet first aid area inside each shelter.</li> <li>• Coordinate actions that will be taken for the relocation of a household pet due to illness, injury, or aggression to an alternate facility (e.g., veterinary clinic, animal control shelter).</li> <li>• Provide expertise on developing controlled areas (indoor or outdoor) for exercising household pets along with other utility provisions such as running water, adequate lighting, proper ventilation, etc. for congregate household pet shelters.</li> <li>• Identify and describe the actions that will be taken to address the long-term care,</li> </ul>	



<b>National Animal Rescue and Shelter Coalition (cont'd)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• permanent relocation, or disposal of unclaimed pets.</li> <li>• Provide expertise on methods for the sheltering of unclaimed animals that cannot be immediately transferred to an animal control shelter or when non-eligible animals are brought to a shelter.</li> <li>• Identify methods for household pet registration (including identification of a current rabies vaccination for all animals).</li> <li>• Identify and determine the actions that will be taken to address the risk of injury by an aggressive or frightened animal, the possibility of disease transmission, and other health risks for responders and volunteers staffing the congregate household pet shelter.</li> </ul>	
<b>Office of the Attorney General</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide direct legal support to the WSDA to assist agency staff in performance of their emergency support functions including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarantines, emergency declarations and orders;</li> <li>• Urgent issues of statutory authority, delegation, jurisdiction and liability; and</li> <li>• Contracts and interagency agreement review.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Function as the liaison between the WSDA and legal counsel representing federal and tribal governments.</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>
<b>United States Department of Agriculture</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assume a role in the Unified Command.</li> <li>• Detect animal disease anomalies and pests and assign FADDs to conduct investigations.</li> <li>• Coordinate sample submission and laboratory testing and reporting with NVSL/FADDL/NAHLN.</li> <li>• Coordinate with WSDA and other State and Federal agencies, industry and producers to eradicate the disease while supporting economic and trade interests of animal agriculture.</li> <li>• Coordinate with WSDA and other State and Federal agencies to provide timely accurate and consistent communication, public information, and messaging</li> <li>• Coordinate tasks with other ESFs, Washington state emergency veterinary response teams, and voluntary animal care organizations to respond.</li> <li>• Coordinate with ESF #8 on zoonotic disease surveillance activities and animal/veterinary issues.</li> </ul>	<b>Operational Coordination</b>  <b>Supply Chain Integrity and Security</b>

<b>United States Department of Agriculture (cont'd)</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical assistance as requested on pet/animal and agriculture issues.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance an assessment of facilities and businesses regulated under the Animal Welfare Act (includes zoo/exhibitors, research laboratories, commercial breeders, animal transporters) and of USDA-regulated select agent facilities.</li> <li>• Provides technical assistance on humane care of animals during evacuation, transportation, and sheltering.</li> <li>• Provides species-related subject matter expertise (including pets, livestock, big cats, elephants, marine mammals, birds).</li> <li>• Provides technical expertise in veterinary medicine, animal husbandry, animal transportation, euthanasia, bio-physiology, toxicology, and radiation biology.</li> <li>• Coordinates with ESF #14 for transition of animal response to recovery.</li> </ul>	
<b>University of Washington</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a liaison/technical expert when requested by WSDA in the following fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occupational risk of people in close contact with sick or injured animals</li> <li>• Zoonotic disease risk issues</li> <li>• Environmental issues related to animal response</li> <li>• Psychological effect of animal mortalities and the human-animal bond</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Planning</b>
<b>Washington State American Veterinary Medical Association</b>	<b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appoint a designated representative as liaison with WSDA.</li> <li>• Coordinate volunteer veterinarians and technicians from their membership as resources for local jurisdiction emergency management organizations.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>  <b>Operational Coordination</b>
<b>Washington State Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide FAD outreach to the agricultural community through local conservation districts.</li> <li>• Coordinate with all levels of government and the private sector to reduce or alleviate the effects of the FAD.</li> </ul>	<b>Operational Coordination</b>
<b>Washington State University, College of Veterinary Medicine</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist and advise the WSDA on the clinical aspects of the disease.</li> <li>• Provide a liaison/technical expert when requested by WSDA.</li> </ul>	<b>Mass Care Services</b>

<b>Washington State University, Cooperative Extension Service</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in educational efforts to notify both the public and livestock industries of the nature of the problem.</li> </ul> <b>Pets and Animal Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Educate animal owners on disaster planning for animals.</li> <li>Assist local jurisdictions in animal disaster planning and education, when requested and capable.</li> </ul>	<b>Operational Coordination</b>  <b>Planning</b>
<b>Washington State University, Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory</b>	<b>Animal Health Events</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist WSDA and/or USDA, when requested, with diagnostic assistance and the collection and submission of appropriate samples for definitive diagnosis of a suspected FAD.</li> <li>Report suspected FAD to the State Veterinarian or USDA AD and forward suspect FAD samples received from local producers or veterinarians to the appropriate USDA/APHIS laboratory (Plum Island, New York, or Ames, Iowa).</li> <li>Quarantine and decontaminate laboratory facilities that processed confirmed FAD samples.</li> <li>Coordinate with the USDA NVSL during the initial investigative and management phases of an outbreak.</li> </ul>	<b>Screening, Search, and Detection</b>  <b>Operational Coordination</b>
<b>Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission</b>	<b>Carcass Disposal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide rate regulation and safety compliance for transportation haulers.</li> </ul>	<b>Critical Transportation</b>

## V. Resource Requirements

As stated in the Situations section, most of all animal and agriculture emergency response resources and assets are owned or controlled by the private sector and NGOs. WSDA has a limited capacity of resources and will rely heavily on NGO and private industry contribution.

## VI. References & Support Plans

- Multi-Agency Response to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Animal Emergency Plan
- Initial State Response and Containment Management Plan for Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza and Emergency Poultry Diseases
- Washington State National Veterinary Stockpile Plan
- WSDA Foreign Animal Disease Management Plan
- USDA FAD PReP Materials and References
- OIE World Health Organisation for Animal Health List of Reportable Diseases
- Zoo and Aquarium All Hazards Preparedness, Response, and Recovery (ZAHP) Fusion Center

## VII. Terms, Acronyms & Definitions

### Acronyms

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AFN	Access and Functional Needs
AHE	Animal Health Event
APHIS -VS	Animal Plant Health Inspection Service – Veterinary Services
CDC	Centers for Disease Control
DOH	Department of Health
DOT	Department of Transportation
DSHS	Department of Social and Health Services
ECC	Emergency Coordination Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FAD	Foreign Animal Disease
FAD PreP	Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan
FADD	Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostician
FADDL	Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostics Laboratory
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
IMT	Incident Management Team
JIC	Joint Information Center
LEP	Limited English Proficiency
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAHLN	National Animal Health Laboratory Network
NARSC	National Animal Rescue and Sheltering Coalition
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NVSL	National Veterinary Services Laboratory
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
RVC	Reserve Veterinary Corps
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UTC	Utilities and Transportation Commission
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WADDL	Washington Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
WARM	Washington Animal Response Management
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WNG	Washington National Guard
WSDA	Washington State Department of Agriculture
WSP	Washington State Patrol

## ESF #11 Appendix 3: State Plant Health Response Plan

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### ESF Coordinating Agency:

Department of Agriculture

### Primary Agencies:

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

### Support Agencies:

Department of Ecology  
Department of Health  
Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Transportation  
Military Department, Emergency Management Division  
Office of Attorney General

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

This appendix provides guidelines for rapid response to plant health incidents affecting the health, safety and welfare of human beings and the viability of the agriculture sector. Plant health incidents are caused by disease, insects or pests, toxic substances, terrorism and natural or technological disasters.

### B. Scope

Plant health response activities may include all plant pest investigations, surveillance, diagnostic, biosecurity, disposal, cleaning/disinfection and recovery activities. This plan supports the efforts of law enforcement in acts of terrorism where plant associated agriculture is the vehicle for dissemination of a chemical or biologic agent.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is responsible for minimizing the introduction and dissemination of plant pests into Washington and coordinating response and control procedures to new plant pest introductions. Certain catastrophic events may also affect plant related production of agriculture which may require activation of this plan.

### C. Policies

Chapter 17.24 Revised Code of Washington (RCW) – Insect Pests and Plant Diseases  
Chapter 17.10 RCW - The Noxious Weeds Act  
Chapter 15.13 RCW - Horticultural Plants and Facilities Act

## **II. Situations and Assumptions**

### **A. Situations**

Agriculture is a major contributor to the economy of Washington. The value of Washington's 2013 agricultural production reached \$10.2 billion. The negative impact of a plant health emergency, or impact of a natural or man-made disaster, could result in economic losses of enormous scale. Effective plant pest control and an efficient, well-organized response to a disaster requires full utilization of available resources and cooperation of all local, state, tribal, and federal agencies in order to minimize the impact.

If a plant health emergency is discovered anywhere in the United States, the entire agricultural complex of the country may be at risk.

### **B. Limitations & Assumptions**

Plant health emergencies are caused by plant pests and may include any organism (including insects, mites, nematodes, slugs, snails, protozoa, other invertebrate animals, bacteria, fungus, parasitic plants, viruses, viroids, noxious weeds, or other organisms) or infectious substance that can injure or cause disease or damage in plants, parts of plants, or plant products.

Numerous local, state, federal and volunteer organizations will play a role in responding to and eradicating a plant health emergency. It is unlikely that any single agency or organization has both the legal authority and a sufficient level of resources to conduct an effective plant pest mitigation response without the involvement and support of others.

A plant health emergency may significantly restrict the intrastate, interstate, and international movement of nursery stock and other plant products.

Response and control efforts could involve the destruction of affected plants, products, and other materials that cannot be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

Widespread biosecurity control measures may be implemented. Suspected infected locations and transport vehicles may need to be cleaned and disinfected.

Quarantine may be required of areas where there are confirmed or suspect cases. Special operational procedures within these zones may be required. Law enforcement may be required for quarantine enforcement.

## **III. Concept of Operations**

### **A. General**

The WSDA is the primary state agency with statutory authority pertaining to plant industry issues and routinely conducts detection surveys for exotic plant pests as well as investigations of reported and/or suspected new detections. When a plant pest is discovered, WSDA coordinates the communication of new plant pest information

with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection Quarantine (USDA, APHIS PPQ), all Primary and Supporting Agencies, as well as other appropriate state and federal agencies, state academic institutions, and industries. Confirmation of the identification of the plant pest is made to the appropriate taxonomic authority for identification. The public is then informed of the presence of the new plant pest detection(s) or threat(s). WSDA is the lead agency for implementation of the regulatory plant pest control response and for maintaining appropriate state quarantines. Response activities are led by WSDA in unified command with USDA, APHIS PPQ. WSDA reviews and coordinates control activities to ensure compliance with local, state, and federal laws and initiates timely response and recovery measures.

Plant health incidents can overwhelm local jurisdiction resources and be of such a scale existing agreements may not provide an adequate response. The WSDA, acting within its statutory mandate, will respond to such incidents in coordination with federal, state and local agencies, and ask to have the State Emergency Operations Center activated as needed. Recovery activities will be consistent with the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP). Response and recovery activities will be governed by WSDA procedures.

### **Organization**

The WSDA as the lead organization coordinates plant health services and provides direction and control of allied associations and agencies assisting in emergencies and disasters. WSDA as the Coordinating Agency will notify all Primary and Support Agencies of their needed support when ESF 11 is activated.

Agencies, organizations, and individuals identified in this plan are familiar with it, and will execute their assigned responsibilities, including the timely reporting of plant health emergencies.

The line of succession for the state unified command representative during plant health incidents will be, respectively, the Assistant Director for the Plant Protection Division, the Pest Program Manager or other WSDA personnel as designated by the Director.

## **IV. ESF Responsibilities Aligned to Core Capabilities**

The following table aligns the Core Capabilities that this ESF most directly supports, and the agencies and organizations identified to provide services and resources in accordance with their individual missions, legal authorities, plans and capabilities in coordination through the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). All ESFs support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, Cyber Security, and Public Information and Warning.

<b>Coordinating State Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>Washington State Department of Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate and coordinate with recognized plant health providers and agencies.</li> <li>• Appoint a state unified command representative.</li> <li>• Coordinate emergency management activities with the Department of Health (DOH), local jurisdictions and the SEOC.</li> <li>• Coordinate multi-state incident response and recovery with local, state and federal plant health response agencies and appropriate emergency management agencies.</li> <li>• Activate the telephone tree to mobilize emergency plant health response and agency personnel resources, when necessary.</li> <li>• Coordinate all press releases and public service announcements with ESF # in the SEOC and the Joint Information Center (JIC), when established.</li> <li>• Maintain communication between State Agency Liaison or Emergency Coordinator and regulatory agencies.</li> <li>• Determine which plant health and response personnel are qualified to enter the incident area.</li> </ul>	
<b>Primary Agencies</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Actions</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>United States Department of Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respond jointly with WSDA in the event of a plant disease outbreak or pest introduction/infestation in the state of Washington.</li> <li>• Cooperate with the WSDA in plant pest containment, control and eradication activities including quarantine, evaluation, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting, epidemiology, trace-back, vector control and other activities.</li> <li>• Collect, analyze, and disseminate technical and logistical information.</li> <li>• Provide assistance for disaster relief operations upon request.</li> <li>• Coordinate all press releases and public service announcements with ESF #15 in the SEOC and the JIC, when established.</li> </ul>	<b>Supply Chain Integrity and Security</b>



<b>Support Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Actions</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>Department of Ecology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist local health jurisdictions in determining proper waste disposal methods for any crops that need controlled disposal to prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.</li> <li>Liaison with Environmental Protection Agency to address issues that may arise.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response/ Health and Safety</b>
<b>Department of Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In collaboration with local health departments and the Department of Ecology, assist in determining proper waste disposal methods for any crops that need controlled disposal to prevent the spread of disease or pest infestation.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response/ Health and Safety</b>
<b>Department of Natural Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate with WSDA for plant health emergencies that occur in forest environments of the state or that affect state lands managed by DNR.</li> <li>Assist with any phase of operations or recovery for plant health emergencies that occur in forest environments of the state or that affect state lands managed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).</li> </ul>	<b>Natural and Cultural Resources</b>
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assist in the movement of state resources during plant health emergencies.</li> <li>Provide traffic control and routing assistance, barricades, and road monitoring.</li> <li>Provide equipment and operators to assist with disposal operations.</li> </ul>	<b>Critical Transportation</b>
<b>Emergency Management Division</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As host agency for the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC), maintain minimum staffing levels for a monitoring posture (Level 3 Activation) as well as the facility itself. Raise activation level at onset of emergency/disaster, or upon request.</li> <li>Develop and coordinate finalization of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency.</li> <li>Serve as authorized representative for requesting interstate capabilities for agriculture, natural, and cultural resource protection through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).</li> </ul>	<b>Operational Coordination</b>  <b>Planning</b>  <b>Logistics and Supply Chain Management</b>
<b>Office of the Attorney General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide direct legal support to the Department of Agriculture to assist agency staff in performance of their emergency support functions including:</li> <li>Quarantines, emergency declarations and orders;</li> <li>Urgent issues of statutory authority, delegation, jurisdiction and liability; and</li> <li>Contracts and Interagency Agreement review.</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>

## V. Resource Requirements

Depending upon the emergency's nature and/or relatedness to existing programs, the state legislature may provide WSDA with additional funding. However, apart from the legislature and/or limited funding from the Interstate Pest Control Compact, to which Washington belongs, the majority of monetary resources for plant health emergencies come from USDA APHIS PPQ. The majority of the human resource component typically comes from WSDA.

## VI. References & Support Plans

Washington State Plant Health Emergency Management Plan  
 USDA Aerial Application Manual  
 USDA New Pest Response Guidelines

## VII. Terms, Acronyms & Definitions

Acronyms	
APHIS -PPQ	Animal Plant Health Inspection Service – Plant Protection Quarantine
CEMP	Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DOH	Department of Health
DOT	Department of Transportation
JIC	Joint Information Center
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WSDA	Washington State Department of Agriculture

## ESF #11 Appendix 4: State Food and Feed Emergency Response Plan

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### ESF Coordinating Agency:

Department of Agriculture

### Primary Agencies:

Department of Health  
United States Food and Drug Administration

### Support Agencies:

Center for Disease Control  
Conservation Commission  
Department of Ecology  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Department of Transportation  
Local Public Health Jurisdictions and Districts  
Office of the Attorney General  
United States Department of Agriculture  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington State Public Health Laboratory

## I. Introduction

### A. Purpose

The purpose of the Washington State Food and Feed Emergency Response Plan is to provide guidelines for a rapid response to food and feed emergency events affecting the health, safety, and welfare of humans and animals. This plan will also clarify partner agency roles, responsibilities, authority, and enforcement capabilities.

This plan provides guidance for coordination by the state with other agencies and entities for response and recovery activities related to a food/feed emergency event. Some food/feed emergency events may cause illness or death in which coordination may also involve the identification and control of diseases of public health significance. Issues of major concern in preparedness and response to a public health outbreak include prevention of disease introduction, disease monitoring and surveillance, rapid identification of both cases and possibly implicated food/feed products, disease containment and eradication, product containment and, when necessary, disposal of contaminated food/feed products.

## **B. Scope**

This plan applies to all food/feed emergencies resulting from all hazards and is scalable for a wide range of emergencies— routine, high-risk/high-consequence, natural, accidental or intentional. Such emergencies may include a food-borne illness outbreak or intentional/unintentional product contamination. Response activities for food/feed emergencies are applicable to all Federal and state agencies identified as Primary and Support Agencies, as well as the Washington Rapid Response Team (RRT). All local, state, and Federal organizations, as well as professional food associations and industry are expected to participate to the fullest extent possible.

This appendix includes procedures for the identification, containment, removal, and disposal of food and feed products during a food emergency, however, the most current version of the WA RRT Operations Manual will be utilized to its fullest extent as well.

## **C. Policies**

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) Chapter 69.04 – Food in Intrastate Commerce  
RCW 69.07 – Washington Food Processing Act  
RCW 69.10 – Food Storage Warehouses  
RCW 69.25 – Washington Wholesome Eggs and Egg Products Act  
RCW 16.49 – Custom Slaughtering.  
RCW Chapter 15.36 – Milk and Milk Products  
RCW Chapter 15.37 – Milk and Milk Products for Animal Foods  
RCW Chapter 15.53 – Commercial Feed  
Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter 16 – Department of Agriculture

# **II. Situations and Assumptions**

## **A. Situations**

Washington is a physically, agriculturally, and culturally diverse state with extensive regional, national and international markets. The effects of a food/feed emergency could reach far beyond the state's borders, or could be limited to a local event. A wide variety of conditions have the potential to affect the incident and its impact, as well as the emergency response such as general geographic conditions, growing practices, production methods, distribution networks, cultural issues or challenges, and existing plans and policies. The goal to remember during these situations is that there is a larger picture to consider than simply addressing the source of an outbreak or threat.

Protecting the integrated food/feed and agricultural systems in the United States requires cooperation, participation, and partnership. A large food-borne illness outbreak within the state of Washington could potentially devastate the economy and threaten the health of the state and the entire country. State and local response is the first line of defense in a human or animal food- related public health disaster, the quality of which may determine the final economic impact.

Private organizations and businesses have a great deal of interest in an effective and timely food/feed emergency response plan since their livelihoods may depend upon the outcome. In most cases, local public health personnel will be the first “on scene.” The local Public Health Officer is required to immediately notify the State Health Officer who, with the assistance of the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), determines the next appropriate action(s) to confirm or rule-out the presence of a food emergency, and to restrict animal and, if necessary, human movement within and through the affected area. A public health official from the FDA, CDC, and United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), or state food/feed regulatory agency has the authority to restrict movement of food and feed products suspected of contamination within the State.

## **B. Limitations & Assumptions**

### **Planning Assumptions:**

- Food/feed emergencies will occur, and will occur at a wide range of scales and in a wide range of locales.
- Some incidents will be highly localized within Washington, while others will involve entities or impacts outside of the state’s or the nation’s borders.
- Food/feed emergencies may be the result of natural sources, accidents, or intentional acts. Some may be part of larger events, such as regional or statewide disasters. Some may involve threats not yet realized.
- Threats to food/feed safety may be physical, biological, chemical, or nuclear. Any incidents of potential or suspected intentional events will be coordinated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- Incidents may occur at any point in the food/feed chain — production, processing, distribution, and food service.
- Initial notification of a threat or problem may come from any source, public or private.
- Incidents may be triggered by the discovery of an actual or potential foodborne illness (e.g., food contamination found through routine surveillance, monitoring, or epidemiological data).

### **Response Assumptions**

- Food/feed emergencies require a multi-agency response. No one agency has the entire responsibility and jurisdiction for food safety, for food product and food facility inspection, for the potential embargo of contaminated food products, or for public health intervention. For more information, see Section 4-Roles and Responsibilities and the draft *Washington Food Protection Task Force Food Emergency Response Resource Guide*.
- All agencies will work within their jurisdictions as defined by statute. Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and FDA will use the RRT for cooperative efforts between those two agencies.
- Additional resources may be required from other agencies within or outside the state. These resources may be needed for subject matter expertise,

- logistics, or surge capacity.
- Some food/feed emergencies may require an increased activation level (i.e., beyond a monitoring posture) of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).
- The unique nature of multijurisdictional response is best served by the use of a Unified Command. This addresses the concerns of all involved “lead agencies”. When fully activated, the Washington RRT will always operate under Unified Command with WSDA and FDA Seattle District Office at a minimum. Additional agencies may join the Unified Command as appropriate for that particular incident.
- There may be the need for recalls or control measures such as embargoes, stop sales, trade restrictions, or destruction of products, livestock or poultry. Some products may need to be treated as hazardous waste which is within the Department of Ecology’s jurisdictional authority. For all non-hazardous, solid waste, the management, permitting, and disposal is overseen by the local jurisdictions.
- The academic and private sectors may be needed to provide support in product traceback/trace forward, product removal, technical expertise, public information and education, laboratory services, equipment and personnel.

### **III. Concept of Operations**

#### **A. General**

Washington State’s response to a food/feed emergency is built on day-to-day food safety/public health roles and responsibilities identified in state statutes and spread across multiple agencies and jurisdictions in order to access emergency resources, coordinate efforts, and establish a strong network of food safety professionals at local, state and Federal agencies.

Local food/feed producers and feed manufacturers may be the first to notice an unusual condition/disease in their product. The concerned producer should make contact with one of three entities:

- A local public health official.
- The State Department of Health (DOH).
- Any WSDA Food or Feed Safety Staff.

Surveillance is **essential** in identifying a food/feed emergency or recognizing the initial signs of a developing emergency. Active and passive surveillance occurs at local, state and Federal levels, and in both the public and private sectors. Local sources are often instrumental during the initial identification of food/feed emergencies.

Local sources may include:

- Consumers

- Local Health Jurisdictions
- Poison control centers
- Hospitals
- Private practice physicians
- Law enforcement
- Food retailers
- Food manufacturers/ processors
- Food distributors
- Food Producers
- Veterinarians
- Animal (non-food) producers
- Feed lots

What is found through surveillance may trigger the notification of authorities with statutory responsibilities and their specific actions.

- Reportable human diseases and conditions – Under Chapter 246-101 of the WAC, local health care providers and laboratories must report certain diseases and conditions to local health jurisdictions (LHJ), who in turn report to WA DOH. Clinical and reference laboratories also must submit biological specimens for certain notifiable conditions to the Washington State Public Health Laboratories for further characterization and identification of illness clusters potentially of foodborne origin.

Any agency may receive an unusual cluster of complaints that may indicate a food emergency has occurred. Any suspected foodborne outbreak is reportable to DOH, which would notify appropriate state and Federal agencies. Any suspected feed-borne outbreak is reportable to the WSDA Feed/RRT Program, which will notify appropriate state and Federal agencies for possible investigation and follow-up.

- Food safety issues – WSDA, DOH, or a LHJ may identify a food emergency through food surveillance, environmental surveillance, consumer complaints, notifiable condition surveillance, industry notification, or via law enforcement.
- Criminal actions – Any agency that suspects deliberate contamination of food/feed will notify law enforcement and other appropriate agencies per established procedures for that agency. If there is suspected or confirmed intentional contamination of food, participating food/feed emergency response agencies will support law enforcement (local, state or Federal), as required, in obtaining and analyzing samples for evidence.

WSDA and the DOH represent all concerns in regards to human food for the state. Additionally, WSDA is responsible for the regulation of animal food products within the state which includes commercial feed and pet food. These agencies cooperate

with the emergency management, Federal agencies, departments, and/or agencies that represent food service, public health, and agriculture.

Food/feed emergency roles and responsibilities are based largely on day-to-day food safety/public health functions and jurisdictions. However, the nature and/or scope of an emergency may require the use of specialized or additional resources, such as those identified below.

- The **Washington Food Emergency Rapid Response Team** is a partnership primarily between WSDA and FDA Seattle District Office. The RRT is an all-hazards team, and may be used in all food and feed-related incidents that involve overlapping jurisdictions between WSDA and FDA.
  - The RRT scope of work includes both human and animal feed. The RRT scope of work does not include retail food establishments (restaurants and groceries).
  - RRT's responsibilities include traceback/trace forward, product and environmental sampling, facilitating recalls, root cause analysis, product containment/removal from distribution, etc.
  - The RRT uses a unified incident command under the Incident Command System (ICS), and WSDA and FDA team members commonly deploy together. The team structure allows for sharing resources and information.
- The use of the **Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)** and established **mutual aid agreements** will supplement local and state resources. The procedures for obtaining authority to request or offer interstate assistance reside with the SEOC.
- **The Food Emergency Response Network (FERN)** is a network of local, state and Federal food-testing laboratories that can respond to emergencies involving biological, chemical, or radiological contamination of food. FERN can provide surge capacity if state and Federal laboratories in Washington are overwhelmed. FERN is a resource not only for response to a food emergency, but also for prevention, preparedness, and recovery. The FERN Steering Committee includes representatives from several state labs and Federal agencies, and day-to-day FERN operations are a joint venture between the USDA and the FDA. In addition to Washington State, the Pacific Region serves Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and Arizona.
- FERN is one of several laboratory networks in the **Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks (ICLN)**. These networks provide coordinated, nationwide analytical services to counteract potential threats. Each network has its own mission and focus, and is prepared to respond to intentional attacks or natural disasters. Depending on the nature of the incident, one of these other networks may also be used during a food emergency in Washington State:
  - **Laboratory Response Network (LRN)** – focus on chemical and biological terrorism, emerging infectious diseases, and other public



- health threats and emergencies. Managed by the CDC.
- **Environmental Response Laboratory Network (ERLN)** — focus on characterizing the extent and degree of contamination in environmental media, including the analysis of drinking water and wastewater. Managed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- **National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN)** — focus on rapid detection, diagnosis, and early communication of outbreaks of potentially damaging pests of food, feed, fiber, fuel crops, and forest trees. Managed by USDA.
- **National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)** — focus on animal health emergencies, including bioterrorist incidents, newly emerging diseases, and foreign animal disease (FAD) agents that threaten the Nation's food supply and public health. A partnership of USDA's Animal and Plant Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) as well as the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD).

The RRT will be the coordinating body responsible for food/feed emergency issues in times of natural or technological disasters at the state level. The RRT will coordinate responses with appropriate food/feed safety partners.

During a food/feed incident, disposal of a large number of contaminated food/feed products may be necessary to prevent further spread of the contaminant. Such disposal efforts will be coordinated through the RRT and may require the assistance of environmental subject matter experts (SMEs).

Emergency disposal methods are determined by the lead agency (DOH or WSDA). The lead agency must consult with the local health jurisdiction, FDA, and the Washington State Department of Ecology on disposal methods. Emergency disposal methods may include, but are not limited to: burial, incineration, composting, digesting, rendering and landfill. The lead agency will select the most appropriate method based on the situation, location, disease or disaster, environmental and health concerns, and measures taken to control the threat to public health. Once the disposal method has been determined, all agencies will provide the necessary support as required to complete the proper disposal of the food/feed products along with any associated waste.

Where transportation of contaminated food/feed products is necessary, the lead agency in an emergency will allow transport only on public roads by licensed independent waste haulers. The Food Safety and Consumer Services Division, WSDA, maintains a list of licensed independent collectors and licensed haulers. Transporters of contaminated food/feed products will follow all state and local regulations for the transportation of contaminated food/feed products. The Utility and Transportation Commission (UTC) issues franchise rights to waste haulers. UTC will provide information on certifications, while the DOT, Washington State Patrol, and

the Governor's Office will coordinate for any waiver of rules or transport approvals for the movement of contaminated materials.

## **B. Organization**

The lead agency for food and feed emergency health events may differ depending on the type of incident that occurs. The responsible regulatory agency (WSDA or DOH) would initially be the lead agency when the incident occurs within the state. Joint management of the incident is recommended. If the incident is an intentional act, law enforcement would become the lead agency only for the criminal components of the response.

DOH Office of Communicable Disease Epidemiology will be responsible for human health surveillance, epidemiological investigation, and response. A current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between WSDA and DOH states that pertinent epidemiological information such as number of illness cases shall be shared with appropriate response personnel in WSDA. In turn, WSDA provides appropriate information related to product processing and distribution to DOH for situational awareness purposes.

For incidents involving food at the **retail** level, LHJs, in coordination with DOH, will be responsible for traceback, removal of product from the marketplace, inspections, field investigations, public notification, and other activities to ensure the safety of food available to consumers based on regulatory authorities.

For incidents involving food and feed at all **non-retail** levels, WSDA will be responsible for the functions listed above.

If two or more jurisdictions have lead roles, then a Unified Command or Multiagency Coordination Group (MAC Group) may be established per National Incident Management System (NIMS) guidelines.

WSDA and DOH are responsible for coordination, direction and control of food emergency response events or disaster including the following when necessary:

- Coordination of WSDA and DOH emergency management activities through the SEOC, and with DOH and local governments.
- Coordination of press releases and public service announcements with the SEOC Public Information Officer (PIO) and the Joint Information Center (JIC). (See section IV (b)).
- Establish credentialing standards for food emergency response personnel.

## **IV. Communications**

### **A. Protocol Between Response Partners**

Communication between response partners will be handled through pre-authorized channels and those established under the incident command. These include:

- Existing public health communication tools (health provider alerts, LHJ

- communication system), utilized as appropriate.
- Daily incident briefings, situation reports, or incident action plans (or more frequent as necessary).
- Use of FoodShield or other information technology platform.
- Governor's office, for international issues.

Each agency is responsible for developing its own agency communication protocols.

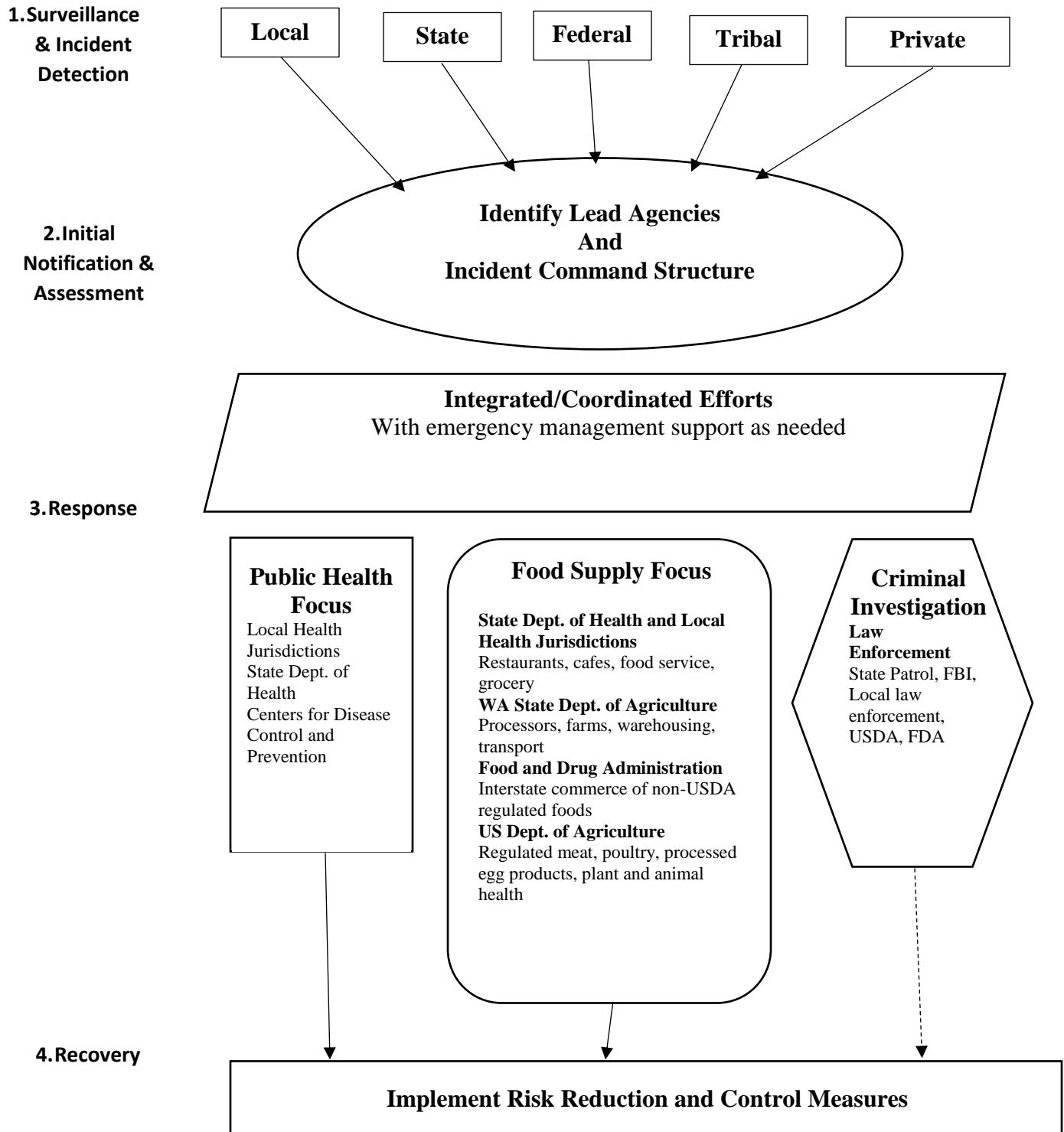
A contact list for primary and key support entities is included in the WA RRT Operations Manual. The list must be updated annually. Each entity represented on the list is responsible for updating its information as necessary. WSDA is responsible for annually checking with those agencies that the information is current and accurate.

## **B. Public Information**

To develop and distribute clear and consistent public messages for incidents that are under a Unified Command, a JIC will be established for the entire food/feed incident. All involved state agencies, academia, and industry will be represented in the JIC. In some cases, the JIC may be a "virtual JIC" with the participants not co-located.

- The JIC handles on-scene media (if able) and public inquiries, emergency public information and warnings. It allows multiple agencies to provide public information in a single, coordinated voice.
- The JIC coordinates, clears with appropriate authorities, and disseminates accurate and timely information related to the incident, particularly regarding information on public health and safety, and protection.
- The JIC will prepare a communications plan to guide information content and delivery in the emergency, including overall and specific communications objectives, key issues and public messages.
- If the SEOC is activated beyond a monitoring posture, a state JIC will be established through ESF #15, and other JICs associate with the incident will coordinate with the JIC at the SEOC using a Joint Information System (JIS).

## Washington State Food Emergency Response Overview



## V. ESF Responsibilities Aligned to Core Capabilities

The following table aligns the Core Capabilities that this ESF most directly supports, and the agencies and organizations identified to provide services and resources in accordance with their individual missions, legal authorities, plans and capabilities in coordination through the SEOC. All ESFs support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

Coordinating State Agency	Responsibilities	Core Capabilities
<b>Washington State Department of Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead the food supply emergency responses involving but not limited to agricultural inputs (including animal feed and pesticides), farms, food processors, and food wholesalers/distributors.</li> <li>• Conduct food/feed supply surveillance, sampling, laboratory testing, complaint investigations, and inspections.</li> <li>• Distribute food/feed supply threat and vulnerability information with applicable public and private sector entities as appropriate and coordinate with SEOC JIC.</li> <li>• Conduct field investigations and implement or oversee control measures including, but not limited to, : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sample collection.</li> <li>• Trace back/trace forward investigations.</li> <li>• Rapid public communication.</li> <li>• Control contaminated products.</li> <li>• Oversight of recalls of affected food or agricultural products and feed.</li> <li>• Disposal of affected food and/or agricultural products and feed.</li> <li>• Oversight of decontamination of affected food facilities, in coordination with appropriate environmental protection agencies.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Coordinates and/or supports food/feed supply response activities as appropriate with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local, state, Federal food regulatory and tribal agencies.</li> <li>• The private sector (e.g., producers, manufacturers, food/feed industry associations).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Partner with FDA on the WA RRT.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>

Primary Agencies	Responsibilities & Actions	Core Capabilities
<b>Department of Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports coordinated epidemiological response to food emergencies, including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disease surveillance.</li> <li>• Environmental surveillance assays for marine bio-toxins, marine pathogens, and shellfish growing area water quality.</li> <li>• Case finding and verification.</li> <li>• Case investigation for hypothesis generation.</li> <li>• Epidemiologic study design and implementation.</li> <li>• Data analysis.</li> <li>• Risk reduction/mitigation strategy development.</li> <li>• Logistical support.</li> <li>• Surge capacity as needed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Determines the public health risk and impact of a suspected food emergency.</li> <li>• Notifies the CDC when a food outbreak occurs within the boundaries of the state of Washington.</li> <li>• Assesses the public health risk associated with contaminated food products.</li> <li>• Coordinate with WSDA to assess, prevent and control public health diseases related to food emergencies of public health significance.</li> <li>• Coordinate with DOH Public Health Laboratories as needed for additional patient, environmental, or food testing.</li> <li>• Coordinate the LHJ response to the emergency as appropriate.</li> <li>• Serve as liaison between the LHJ and state and Federal partners.</li> <li>• Provide food safety technical assistance.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>
<b>U.S. Food and Drug Administration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead food/feed supply emergency responses involving FDA jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Investigate to identify implicated products.</li> <li>• Request and assist with product recalls. If warranted, it may exercise administrative detention of the implicated product.</li> <li>• Provide laboratory surge capacity to process an increased volume of food samples.</li> <li>• Issue press information, such as consumer advisories.</li> <li>• Coordinate the FERN in conjunction with USDA/Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS).</li> <li>• Coordinate its investigations with Federal, state and local partners.</li> <li>• Support a criminal investigation. (FDA Office of Criminal Investigations).</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>

<b>Support Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Actions</b>	<b>Core Capabilities</b>
<b>Center for Disease Control and Prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with Federal food regulatory agencies to protect public health by ensuring the safety of the food supply.</li> <li>• Support state efforts related to public health surveillance, investigation of human illness outbreaks, and monitoring the effectiveness of prevention and control measures.</li> <li>• Identify laboratory surge capacity through the LRN, FERN or ICLN.</li> <li>• Provide confirmatory laboratory testing or characterization for hazardous agents.</li> <li>• Issue health alerts to state health departments, key healthcare provider networks, and other entities to increase surveillance during periods of increased health risk.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>
<b>Department of Ecology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In coordination with local jurisdictional health districts, provides recommendations for the most appropriate method(s) for disposal of affected food/feed products.</li> <li>• Provide personnel, if available, at the site of each destruction and disposal area if available. Ecology will assign personnel qualified to make environmental assessments.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response / Health and Safety</b>
<b>Department of Fish and Wildlife</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDFW will provide advice on risks to wildlife and methods to mitigate these risks when there is a contamination in crop fields.</li> </ul>	<b>Natural and Cultural Resources</b>
<b>Department of Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides support, as available, for traffic control on state and Federal highways in the restricted or quarantined areas.</li> <li>• Provide expertise, as available, and assist in planning any required movement off-site of food products for disposal.</li> <li>• Provides support, as available, to law enforcement (local, county, or state) WSDA and Washington National Guard (WNG) for traffic control into restricted and/or quarantined areas.</li> </ul>	<b>Critical Transportation</b>
<b>Local Public Health Jurisdictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist and advise the WSDA on the clinical aspects of the disease and supply expertise.</li> <li>• Assist in efforts to notify the public about the nature of the problem.</li> <li>• Assist with food surveillance and food emergency response efforts.</li> <li>• Assist in identification of suspected and contaminated food products, retail, and commercial outlets within the jurisdiction.</li> <li>• Assist on disposal options as needs are identified.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>

<b>Office of the Attorney General</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provides legal assistance, including preparing administrative orders, as required to accomplish the overall mission of dealing with an food emergency within, or adjacent to, the boundaries of the state of Washington, including lands falling under tribal jurisdiction.</li> <li>Functions as the liaison between the WSDA and legal counsel representing Federal and tribal governments.</li> </ul>	<b>Planning</b>
<b>United States Department of Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lead food supply emergency responses involving USDA jurisdiction.</li> <li>Assist with disease eradication and regulated food safety threat activities, including quarantine, evaluation, slaughter, disposal, cleaning and disinfecting, epidemiology, traceback, vector control and transportation permitting arrangements.</li> <li>Consult with state and local authorities regarding eradication and food safety threat proceedings.</li> <li>Collect, analyze and disseminate technical and logistical information.</li> <li>Define the infected area and control zones.</li> <li>Prepare information for dissemination to the public, producers, processors and other concerned groups.</li> <li>Inform the public about regulated meat, poultry and processed egg product food safety issues.</li> <li>Define restrictions on interstate commerce.</li> <li>Provide support in a criminal investigation (USDA Office of Inspector General).</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>  <b>Situational Assessment</b>
<b>United States Environmental Protection Agency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide environmental support.</li> <li>Regulate pesticide use.</li> <li>Provide environmental protection support from the Office of Land and Emergency Management, the Office of Pesticide Programs, and the Office of Water, depending on the nature of the incident.</li> <li>Potential lab support, depending on nature of incident.</li> <li>Provide environmental assessment support, when requested, for hazardous waste management and disposal in coordination with Department of Ecology.</li> </ul>	<b>Environmental Response / Health and Safety</b>



<b>Washington State Public Health Laboratory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides diagnostic assistance as requested.</li> <li>• Reports suspected food contamination to the State Health Officer.</li> <li>• Test and forward suspect food samples provided by local and/or commercial producers to the FDA, CDC or other appropriate laboratory when necessary.</li> <li>• Assists WSDA, when requested, with the collection and submission of appropriate samples for definitive diagnosis of a suspected food emergency.</li> <li>• Coordinates with the FDA/CDC Laboratory and the WSDA during the initial investigative phase, as well as the management phase of an outbreak.</li> </ul>	<b>Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical</b>
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## VI. Resource Requirements

Food/feed emergency responses often require extensive resources, which may include those related to personnel, equipment/supplies, facilities, and subject matter expertise. The integrated approach adopted by the WA RRT allows for such needs to be addressed through collaboration and leveraging among participating response agencies. See WA RRT Operations Manual v.4.0 for additional information on resource acquisition and basic resource needs.

## VII. References & Support Plans

Washington RRT Operations Manual v.4.0  
Washington Food Emergency Response Plan (Draft 2013)  
Washington Food Emergency Response Guidelines

## VIII. Terms, Acronyms & Definitions

### Acronyms

AAVLD	American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians
APHIS	United States Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Agency
CDC	Center Disease Control and Prevention
DOH	Washington Department of Health
EMAC	Emergency Management Assistance Compact
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ERLN	Environmental Response Laboratory Network
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FAD	Foreign Animal Disease
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FERN	Food Emergency Response Network
FSIS	USDA Food Safety Inspection Service
ICLN	Integrated Consortium of Laboratory Networks
ICS	Incident Command System
JIC	Joint Information Center

LHJ	Local Health Jurisdiction
LRN	Laboratory Response Network
MAC	Multi-Agency Coordination
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAHLN	National Animal Health Laboratory Network
NIFA	National Institute of Food and Agriculture
NIMS	National Incident Management System
NPDN	National Plant Diagnostic Network
PIO	Public Information Officer
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
RRT	Rapid Response Team
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Center
SME	Subject Matter Expert
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
UTC	Utility and Transportation Commission
WAC	Washington Administrative Code
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WNG	Washington National Guard
WSDA	Washington State Department of Agriculture

**Primary Agencies:**

Department Archeology of Historical Preservation  
Department of Ecology  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Department of Natural Resources

**Support Agencies:**

Department of Agriculture  
Department of Corrections  
Department of Enterprise Services  
Department of Labor and Industries  
Department of Transportation  
Office of Financial Management  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Washington Military Department  
Emergency Management Division

**INTRODUCTION**

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**Purpose**

This Appendix to Emergency Support Function (ESF) 11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources establishes policies for the effective coordination of activities to protect natural and cultural resources and historic properties (NCH) resources prior to, during and/or after an emergency or disaster.

**Policies**

The Washington State Departments of Natural Resources (DNR), Ecology (ECY), Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Archeology and Historical Preservation (DAHP) represent the natural, cultural and historical resource concerns of Washington State.

The Department of Natural Resources in consultation with other primary and support agencies will evaluate the emergency situation and determine which agency or agencies will be activated to respond to the incident or event.

- Chapter 76.09 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Forest practices
- Chapter 77.55 RCW, Construction projects in state waters
- Chapter 90.48 RCW, Water pollution control
- Chapter 90.56 RCW, Oil and hazardous substance spill prevention and response

**SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS**

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**Situation**

Each year more than 1,000 earthquakes are recorded in Washington State, of those, 15 to 20 cause ground shaking strong enough to be felt. Since 1840, approximately 70 earthquakes have been recorded with a magnitude of 4.0 or higher. The eastern part of

Washington State is historically subject to infrequent, generally smaller earthquakes up to magnitude 7.0. The western part of the state is subject to more frequent and larger earthquakes, including a magnitude 7.0 in 1949, 6.5 in 1965 and 6.8 in 2001.

The main effect of severe local storms is immobility and utility (electrical) loss. Washington State is subject to severe storms each year, particularly snow storms and major flooding. These severe meteorological events also include heavy rain, ice, hail, tornados, blizzards, wind and dust storms.

The potential for a volcanic eruption still exists from five volcanoes in the Cascade Mountain Range: Glacier Peak, Mount Baker, Mount Hood, Mount Rainier and Mount St. Helens, all of which could have an impact on lands. An increase in the intensity of a volcanic eruption may occur suddenly or with some warning, as indicated by the unexpected swarms of earthquakes and a dome building event like the one at Mount St. Helens in the fall of 2004. As long as volcanic eruptions are in progress, episodic changes in the level of activity can occur over days, weeks or even months. Each of these volcanoes has the potential to erupt with significant volumes of ash, pyroclastic flow, lahar and lava flows that can affect populations and lands across Washington State.

Of all hazards identified for the state, Washington State is most prone to flooding. The state is subject to three types of floods: (1) flood potential from heavy, prolonged rain or melting snow; (2) flash floods from extremely heavy amounts of rain in a short period; and (3) wind-driven flood tides along coastal areas.

Most landslides along the Puget Sound occur during or after storms that produce heavy rains. Landslides can occur in connection with other major natural disasters such as: floods, earthquakes, volcanoes or wildfires. Landslides can block streams and rivers causing areas to flood. As the water table rises, some slopes become unstable. They pose serious threats to highways and structures. Major storms have caused widespread flooding and landslide events along the Pacific Coast. In January 1997, February 1996 and November 2007 heavy rain and rain on snow in higher elevations triggered landslides and flooding that damaged homes, businesses and transportation infrastructure and clogged waterways.

### **Assumptions**

Each primary and support agency has statutory responsibilities for different aspects of the state's natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

Each primary and support agency has experts that are trained and equipped to respond to emergencies.

### **CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

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DNR, ECY, WDFW and DAHP are the primary organizations for coordination, direction and control of identification, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery and restoration of NCH resources during an event. ESF 11 will coordinate the actions of primary and support agencies responding to events which have or will destroy, damage or endanger NCH resources within the statutory mandates of responding agencies and under the coordination authority of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). Recovery and restoration activities will be consistent with the CEMP.

## **ORGANIZATION**

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DNR, ECY, WDFW and DAHP will jointly determine the organization necessary to coordinate the identification, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery and restoration of NCH resources during an event. The organization will use Incident Command System (ICS) principles, but the nature of the organization will depend upon the emergency itself and which agency's mandates are the most impacted. If multiple agencies are impacted, then the organization structure will be lead by a unified command.

## **ACTIONS**

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### **Initial**

- Determine the critical needs and resources available to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, recover, and restore NCH resources, in consultation with federal, state, tribal, local and private entities, and the Heritage Emergency National Task Force. Based on this determination, DNR, ECY, WDFW and DAHP consult to determine which agency will provide staff for the incident.
- Coordinate provision of necessary assistance within the affected area.
- Create short-term and long term plans

### **Ongoing**

- Coordinate NCH resources identification and vulnerability assessments.
- Facilitate development and application of protection measures and strategies.
- Assists in emergency compliance with relevant federal environmental laws during emergency response activities, such as emergency permits/consultation for natural resources use or consumption.
- Provide scientific/technical advice, information and assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to NCH resources.
- Coordinate with ESF 3 – Public Works and Engineering and ESF 10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources.
- Coordinate with ESF 3 to manage, monitor or provide technical assistance on emergency stabilization (and during recovery, restoration) of shorelines, riparian buffer zones, and hillsides to protect NCH resources.
- Share best practices and assist in development of programmatic approaches to address and expedite NCH-related requirements for all state actions/initiatives taken to respond to or recover from an incident requiring a coordinated response.
- Provide assistance and expertise in addressing impacts to properties of traditional religious and cultural importance.
- Provide up-to-date geospatial data related to impacted NCH resources and develop/provide standard operating procedures for collecting NCH digital data, conducting GIS analyses and disseminating geospatial products related to NCH resources, such as maps.
- Provide Incident Management Teams to assist in NCH resource response and recovery actions.

- Provide scientific/technical advice, information and assistance for long-term recovery, restoration, preservation, protection, conservation, stabilization or rehabilitation of NCH resources.
- Establish logistical and communications links with organizations involved in long-term NCH resources protection, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, recovery, stabilization and restoration.
- Address long-term community recovery activities carried out under ESF 14 that involve NCH issues.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

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### **Primary Agencies**

Department Archeology of Historical Preservation, Department of Ecology, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources

- Communication with recognized providers and agencies.
- Appointment of the Incident Command Representative.
- Coordination of emergency management activities with SEOC and local jurisdiction(s).
- Coordination of multi-state event response and recovery with local, state and federal response agencies and appropriate emergency management agencies.
- Coordination of all press releases and public service announcements with the SEOC ESF 15 Lead and the Joint Information Center established on-scene.
- Determining which response personnel are authorized to enter the event area.

### **Support Agencies**

Department of Agriculture

- Provide animal health services in the event of mass casualties to farm animals.

Department of Corrections

- Provide inmate labor and custodial staff.

Department of Enterprise Services

- Provide incident command with central support:
  - Procurement
  - Engineering services
  - Real estate services
  - Facilities rental
  - Materials management

Department of Labor and Industries

- Provide safety inspections and consultation for event projects.

Department of Transportation

- Provide necessary equipment or personnel.

Office of Financial Management

- Provide a mechanism to consolidate costs for emergency recovery and restoration.

Parks and Recreation Commission

- Provide necessary equipment, personnel and/or facilities.

Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division

- Provide necessary equipment and/or personnel.