

EXERCISE MATERIAL ONLY



Exercise EQUUS – Facilitators Guide

Animals in Emergencies State Support Plan Exercise

INTRODUCTION

1.1 EXERCISE NEED

Agency X has the role and responsibility for coordinating the provision of Animal Welfare Services in Emergencies (State Emergency Management Policy statement 5.9.7).

The Interim State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies (the Plan) was conditionally endorsed by the Response Capability Subcommittee (RCS) on the 5 February 2019.

The Exercise brings together key animals in emergencies stakeholders to discuss and consider both the intention and application of the Plan and the functionality and potential support and resources required when activated for a simulated Level 3 incident.

The Plan was endorsed by State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC), as an interim plan, on 08 Mar 2019 subject to the following conditions:

- In conjunction with the SEMC Business Unit, validate the Plan through a multi-agency exercise within six (6) months of SEMC approval. At a minimum, this Exercise must identify the roles and resources available to support the plan and the appropriateness of the engagement procedures contained within;
- Based on the Exercise findings, and any other input, review and amend the Plan as required before the 2019 bushfire season (1 November 2019). Note: Final review dated as within nine (9) months of SEMC approval. SEMC Business Unit have agreed to condense consultation timeframes.

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The Plan is the first WA approved plan outlining the arrangements for animal welfare in emergencies. There is a recognised need to bring together key organisations (principally relevant members of the All Hazards Liaison Group and the Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies [CAWE] members) via an exercise to test the Plan's arrangements and their application in an emergency.

1.2 EXERCISE OVERVIEW

The Exercise is designed to allow participants to work through the scenario as a collective group with mentoring and advice provided by SEMC Business Unit, Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) and the lead agency.

This methodology and process will enhance awareness of the operational aspects, in addition to drawing out key policy limitations with respect to coordinating and resourcing a response to a significant animal welfare incident. The limitations will be captured as lessons and where appropriate reflected in a revised Plan.

1.3 EXERCISE AIM

The aim of the Exercise is to “explore the effectiveness of the Animal Welfare in Emergencies State Support Plan arrangements, identify the roles and responsibilities available to support the State Support Plan and validate the engagement procedures contained within”.

There is an expectation from the community that emergency management arrangements will allow for a coordinated approach to the management of companion animals, livestock and wildlife, and associate animal welfare issues.

1.4 EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

Activation of the State Support Plan

1. **In accordance with the State Support Plan, explore the agency's animals in emergencies activation processes**
 - a) The Incident Controller may make a request to the ISG or OASG agency representative. The agency, LEMC or DEMC representative will be the initial representative to the ISG or OASG.
 - b) If there is no ISG or OASG established, then the Incident Controller may call the agency State Support Plan-Animal Welfare in Emergencies Number (08 9368 3688) which is operational 24/7 and resides with the agency representative on the DFES All Hazards Liaison Group list.
 - c) The agency may recommend activation of the Plan to the incident controller.
2. **To validate the agency's internal communications, messaging processes and outputs to supporting agencies as per the State Support Plan**
 - a) The agency will provide a local representative to the Incident Support Group at the request of the incident controller.
 - b) The agency will initiate the internal Incident Management System which may necessitate the establishment of an organisational structure, specific to the management of the welfare of animals in the emergency.

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- c) The agency will determine if a local Animal Welfare Coordinator (Local AWC) is required. The LAWC will remain as an ongoing point of local contact but will liaise with the SAWEC to determine what additional support is required.
- d) The State Animal Welfare Emergency Coordinator (SAWEC) will provide updates to the Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE).

3. To determine the agency's external communications, messaging processes and outputs to the public as per the State Support Plan

- a) The Chair of the CAWE may transition some of the CAWE members into an Animal Welfare Emergency Group (AWEG).
- b) An Agency advisor from Media, Communications Division will assist the HMA/Controlling Agency Public Information function in developing talking points or information releases on animal welfare emergency arrangements.
- c) Establish communications with key industry and stakeholder contacts and identify any actions they are taking or concerns

Roles and Resources

4. In accordance with the State Support Plan, demonstrate the agency's capacity and capability to manage stakeholder roles and resources in respect to:

- a) Provide support and advice on the transportation for evacuating animals
- b) Identify the availability of locations to house evacuated animals
- c) Manage displaced or stray animals
- d) Manage volunteers and donated goods
- e) Assist owners and carers to obtain Restricted Access permits
- f) Assess and triage impacted animals
- g) Identify/administer treatment to impacted animals
- h) Perform/assist with transportation for the humane euthanasia of affected animals
- i) Advise on/arrange for the disposal of deceased animals
- j) Identify/provide emergency food/water/shelter to affected animals
- k) Identify and reunite animals with their owners or carers.

1.5 EXERCISE SCOPE

It is the intention of this exercise to test the 'State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies' in regard to its activation and identified communication networks and strategies. As such, while the Incident Controller may direct resources to fighting the fire, for the purpose of this exercise the effectiveness of suppression activities will be minimal until the fire has spread outside of the state forest. The area to the west of the fire contains numerous farms, horse studs, properties with brand, feedlots and other primary industry. The welfare for the livestock in this area is covered under the 'State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies', with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as the responsible agency.

The Exercise will focus on the notification, activation and co-ordination of key agencies under the Plan, to understand current capacity, capability and agencies roles and functions in the preparedness and response stages to a fire event impacting animal welfare.

Note: Recovery aspects of the Plan will be considered as part of the Committee's for Animal Welfare in Emergencies ongoing body of work as endorsed by the SEMC May 2019.

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1.6 REFERENCES

The following documents are being used to develop the exercise and are also used to identify injects for the scenario. Additionally, these documents form the basis of the evaluation strategy and plan and underpin the exercise objectives and establish the standards, measures and performance indicators for the Exercise evaluation purposes. State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies;

- a) DPIRD Animal Welfare Operational Sub Plan and relevant procedures;
- b) DBCA Wildlife response plan;
- c) RSPCA Animal Welfare operational policy and plans;
- d) AVA Vet. Services database;
- e) Shire of Serpentine – Jarrahdale Emergency Animal Welfare Sub-Plan/s and policy;
- f) Shire of Armadale Emergency Animal Welfare Sub-Plan/s and policy;
- g) Relevant Racing and Wagering WA (RWVA) Animal Welfare Sub-Plan/s and policy;
- h) Relevant WA Horse Council Animal Welfare Sub Plan/s and policy;
- i) Relevant WA Farmers; and
- j) PGA Animal Welfare Sub-Plan/s and policy.

1.7 PARTICIPANTS

The following Stakeholders will be participating in the Exercise.

- a) Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)
- b) Australian Veterinary Association (AVA)
- c) Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)
- d) Department of Communities (Communities)
- e) Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)
- f) Racing and Wagering WA (RWVA)
- g) Pastoralists and Graziers Association of WA (PGA)
- h) WA Farmers Federation (WA Farmers)
- i) WA Horse Council (WAHC)
- j) WA Police Force (WAPOL)
- k) Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA)
- l) Shire of Serpentine - Jarrahdale
- m) Shire of Armadale

1.8 POINT OF CONTACT

XXXXX

Agency X

PH:

Email Contact

2. General Information

2.1 EXERCISE SCENARIO

The Exercise needs to reflect a scenario of significant impact to warrant the activation of the State Operations Centre (SOC) and to identify if the Plan's arrangements integrate within the coordinating function of the SOC in support of the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) focused on coordination of animal welfare services.

The Exercise is designed to allow representatives to work through the scenario as a collective group with mentoring and advice provided by subject matter experts from DFES and the agency. This methodology and process will enhance awareness of the operational aspects, in addition to drawing out key policy limitations with respect to coordination and resourcing a response to a significant animal welfare incident. The limitations will be captured as lessons and where appropriate reflected in the Plan.

The Scenario:

The bushfire starts in the Jarrahdale State Forest, east of Byford (longitude -32.218, latitude 116.163). This area falls under the Shire of Armadale, but the fire spreads south west into the Shire of Serpentine - Jarrahdale. The area is state forest and comes under the control of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) who will initially be the HMA for the incident. This exercise will commence at the stage where the incident has been handed over to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) as HMA. DFES will work with the other agencies and local government to enact appropriate plans.

This exercise will take place over approximately 9 - 12 hours of real time (spread over two days) which has been condensed into approximately 4 hours of simulated time. The fire occurs in mid January with catastrophic weather conditions on the first day which will worsen on the second day of the fire. The area the fire will initially burn through is heavily wooded where access by firefighting appliances is not possible and only water bombing operations can be used to attack the fire. Fuel loads in the area are very high as no fire has impacted on the area in 10+ years. It is the intention of this exercise to test the 'State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies' in regard to its activation and identified communication networks and strategies. As such, while the Incident Controller may direct resources to fighting the fire, for the purpose of this exercise the effectiveness of suppression activities will be minimal until the fire has spread outside of the state forest.

The area to the west of the fire contains numerous farms, horse studs, properties with brand, feedlots and other primary industry. The welfare for the livestock in this area is covered under the 'State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies', with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as the responsible agency.

2.2 EXERCISE STRUCTURE

This is a Discussion Exercise with participants seated in a panel and observers in other positions around the theatre.

The facilitator, utilizing this guide, will work through the scenario asking relevant questions of the panel. There will be a supporting power-point presentation to enhance situational awareness.

3. Exercise Evaluation

The aim of the evaluation is to validate the effectiveness of the animal welfare in emergencies state support plan so relevant lessons can be identified, captured and reflected in a revised plan prior to the 2019/20 natural hazard season.

The Exercise will focus on the **notification, activation and co-ordination** of key agencies under the Animal Welfare in Emergencies State Support Plan, to understand agency roles and functions and their current capacity and capability in the preparedness and response stages of a fire event impacting animal welfare.

3.1 PROCESS OF THE EVALUATION

The evaluation methodology includes:

- Data analysis will be conducted via the use of the PPOSTTE process.
- Data collection plans and templates will be used to manage the evaluators during the delivery phase of the exercise.

4. EXERCISE SCHEDULE

The Exercise will run as per the Master Schedule of Events.

5. Exercise Serials

Opening and Introduction

Opening and introduction by XXXXXX.

001 Exercise Scope

Facilitator:

It is the intention of this exercise to test the 'State Support Plan – Animal welfare in emergencies' in regard to its activation and identified communication networks and strategies. As such, while the Incident Controller may direct resources to fighting the fire, for the purpose of this exercise the effectiveness of suppression activities will be minimal until the fire has spread outside of the state forest. The area to the west of the fire contains numerous farms, horse studs, properties with brand, feedlots and other primary industry. The welfare for the livestock in this area is covered under the 'State Support Plan – Animal welfare in emergencies', with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development as the responsible agency.

The Exercise will focus on the notification, activation and co-ordination of key agencies under the Plan, to understand current capacity, capability and agencies roles and functions in the preparedness and response stages to a fire event impacting animal welfare.

Note: Recovery aspects of the Plan will be considered as part of the *Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies* (CAWE) ongoing body of work as endorsed by the SEMC May 2019.

002 Exercise Aim

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The aim of the Exercise is to evaluate the effectiveness of the Animal Welfare in Emergencies State Support Plan so relevant lessons can be identified, captured and reflected where relevant in a revised Plan prior to the 2019 natural hazard season.

003 DFES Bushfire Overview

Facilitator:

DFES are the Hazard Management Agency for Fire in the State of Western Australia. Controlling agencies are Department of Parks and Wildlife, Local Government Authorities, dependent if the fire is on Crown Land or Council.

The State Emergency Management Committee has approved six strategic priorities for the prescribed hazard of fire, they are:

- Protection and preservation of life
- Community warnings and information
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets
- Protection of residential property
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihood and community financial sustainability
- Protection of environmental and heritage values

METROPOLITAN OPERATIONS CENTRE (MOC) -The DFES Metropolitan Operations Centre (MOC) is established to provide coordinated management of resources in support of emergency incidents across the four DFES Perth Metropolitan regions. The MOC does not command or control individual incidents The Metropolitan Duty Coordinator (MDC), in consultation with the MOC Superintendent, will prepare and coordinate the activation of the MOC as required based on ongoing regional risk assessments and/or operational incidents. The MOC is located at DFES Headquarters 20 Stockton Bend, Cockburn.

REGIONAL OPERATIONS CENTRE (ROC) – The DFES Regional Operations Centre (ROC) is responsible for the coordination of operational resources at a regional level. Whilst the ROC is not commanding or controlling individual incidents, its structure closely aligns to the functions of AIIMS. When considered necessary, the DFES Regional Superintendent (RS) may direct a DFES Incident Management Team to reassess their incident strategies based on the regional resource disposition and/or risks.

STATE OPERATIONS CENTRE (SOC) – The DFES State Operations Centre maintains a strategic overview of resourcing requirements and awareness of bushfire and cyclone activity across the State. The SOC maintains the overall command, control and coordination of both DFES and external resources available under the provisions of State legislation at a State level; it does not command or control individual incidents. A heavy emphasis is placed upon situational awareness, strategic planning, forecasting and risk identification, modelling, liaison with external agencies and subject matter experts. The SOC is located at DFES Headquarters 20 Stockton Bend Cockburn.

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004 Overview of Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE)

Facilitator:

The outlook for animal welfare in emergencies in this state is a key responsibility of this group.

Hand Over to XXXXXX, Executive Officer CAWE

Presentation: Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE)

005 Overview of Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

Hand Over to XXXX – Senior Ranger, Shire of Serpentine/Jarrahdale.

Presentation: Demographic of Shire.

Overview of Local Emergency Animal Welfare Plan.

SETTING THE SCENE

006 Preparedness Discussion - Catastrophic fire danger rating

Facilitator:

DFES/BOM advise through the Operational Preparedness Briefing teleconference (OPB) there is a catastrophic fire danger rating (FDR) for the upcoming four days.

The Fire Danger Rating tells you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. It helps you to know when conditions are dangerous enough to put your bushfire survival plan in to action.

Ratings are forecast using Bureau of Meteorology data for up to four days in advance, based on weather and other environmental conditions such as fuel load.

When the FDR is Extreme or Catastrophic for your area it means any fires that start are likely to be so fierce that even a well prepared, well-constructed and actively defended home may not survive a fire.

Question to Panel:

- How do stakeholders prepare for a catastrophic fire period?

Desired Outcome

Preparedness Discussion.

DFES Operational Preparedness Briefing (OPB) teleconference. (DPIRD participation?)
Chair CAWE calls emergency meeting to discuss preparedness (Teleconference). Advises member agencies to prepare for possible emergency bushfire.

Advises members to circulate information to their own group members. Ascertain availability of any volunteers/resources.

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007 Emergency WA Overview

Facilitator:

Facilitator to introduce Emergency WA via link in presentation

008 Bushfire Advice

Control Document 1 / Slide 10 / Map 1 - 4

Facilitator:

The bushfire starts in the Jarrahdale State Forest, east of Byford (longitude -32.218, latitude 116.163). This area falls under the Shire of Armadale, but the fire spreads southwest into the Shire of Serpentine - Jarrahdale. The area is state forest and comes under the control of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) who will initially be the HMA for the incident. This exercise will commence at the stage where the incident has been handed over to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) as HMA. DFES will work with the other agencies and local government to enact appropriate plans. This exercise will take place over approximately 9 - 12 hours of real time (spread over two days) which has been condensed into approximately 4 hours of simulated time. The fire occurs in mid-January with mild weather conditions on the first day, which will worsen on the second day of the fire. The area the fire will initially burn through is heavily wooded where access by firefighting appliances is not possible and only water bombing operations can be used to attack the fire. Fuel loads in the area are very high as no fire has impacted on the area in 10+ years.

Panel Question/s:

- Discussed preparedness now that a fire has commenced on a catastrophic fire day in a high fuel load area.

Desired Outcome

- The agency should review internal arrangements to include fire season roster; stakeholder POC; plans and policies, existing messaging and public information.
- Serpentine/Jarrahdale describe preparedness in accordance with their local plans.
- Chair of CAWE convenes teleconference with CAWE membership to discuss preparedness. CAWE discusses situational information and intelligence to assist with operational readiness.
- CAWE XO monitors Emergency WA Website

009 Bushfire Advice

Control Document 2 / Slide 10 / Map 5 - 8

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 0930 hours

Bushfire Advice: Smoke Alert
: Canning Dam Rd X Albany Hwy

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: Jarrahdale Rd X Albany Hwy

010 Winds

Control Document 2 / Slide 10 / Maps 5-8

Strong Easterly winds expected during day

0011 Bushfire Advice

Control Document 2 / Slide 10 / Map 5 - 8

Bushfire Advice: All areas between Nettleton Rd and SW Hwy including Cnr Nettleton Rd and SW Hwy to Cnr Nettleton Rd and Jarrahdale Rd

012 Road Closures

Control Document 2 / Slide 10 / Map 5 - 8

Facilitator:

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1200 hours

Road Closures:

- : SW Hwy x Norman Rd;
- : Jarrahdale Rd X Albany Hwy;
- : Mundijong Rd X Paterson St Mundijong;
- : Jarrahdale Rd X Albany Hwy, Jarrahdale;

Removal of Road Closure:

- : Nettleton Rd x Jarrahdale Rd, Jarrahdale

Panel Question/s:

Are agencies undertaking any further preparedness activities?

Desired Outcome:

State Animal Welfare Emergency Coordinator. (SAWEC) / CAWE monitoring Emergency WA, advising CAWE members of any significant changes.

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EXERCISE STARTS

013 Watch & Act Advice

Control Document 3 / Slide 11 Map 5-8

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1400 hours

Watch & Act Advice: WHITBY; MUNDIJONG; MARDELLA.
Area South of Norman Rd, Mundijong and Bishop Rd, Whitby
North of Coogly and Lowland Rd, Mardella
East of Kargollich Rd to SW Hwy, Mardella

Facilitator:

Facilitator to explain fuel loads and rate of spread (ROS)

SOC is operational due to catastrophic fire danger rating

Facilitator to explain AHLG.

Facilitator to confirm agency representation on the AHLG; acknowledge that if the agency is not contacted that the agency will ring the DOSS to request attendance.

Facilitator confirms understanding of the AHLG arrangements and asks panel if there are any further actions or questions?

Desired Outcome:

Because of the rural urban interface livestock holdings, agency representative also liaises State Animal Welfare Emergency Coordinator. (SAWEC)

014 Incident Support Group (ISG) Meeting

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1400 hours.

Facilitator: The ISG consists of representatives (liaison officers) from organisations involved in the incident and relevant service providers, such as ambulance and representatives for essential services e.g. phone, water and electricity.

The function of the ISG is to assist the IC through the provision of information, expert advice, support and resources relevant to their organisation.

XXXX discusses actions taken by local shire to this point.

Serpentine/Jarrahdale advise they have activated their Emergency Animal Welfare Plan and appointed a Shire Animal Welfare Coordinator. Very resource intensive.

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Facilitator:

Ranger to explain on map the extent of shire resources. Ranger had advised Shire CEO they are quickly overwhelmed.

After ISG, **DFES IC** indicates an OASG is required.

015 Bushfire Advice

Control Document 3 / Slide 13

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1400 hours

Bushfire Advice: Mardella, Hopeland and Serpentine

016 Special Idea 1

Control Document 4 / Slide 13 / Map 5-8

Facilitator:

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1400 hours

A truck driver reports to Police he has hit a group of stray alpacas that ran across SW Hwy. They appeared spooked. Two are dead and four are injured badly. The carcasses are on the road and causing traffic issues. He is unable to move the carcasses. Roads are closed the vet and shire rangers will require Restricted Access Permits to travel within the affected area.

Facilitator: Give brief overview of RAPS.

Panel Question/s: Who coordinates this assistance?

Desired Outcomes:

Communication between DFES and WA Police re traffic issues. Shire Local Animal Welfare Coordinator to arrange vet and removal of carcasses. Still a Local Government issue, as State Support Plan not activated at this point.

017 Operational Area Support Group Meeting (OASG)

Control Document 5 / Slide 14

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1500 hours

Facilitator: The OASG, convened and chaired by the OAM, consists of the designated DEC, Combat Agencies, Support Organisations, essential services and organisational representatives, to assist in the strategic management of the incident(s) through provision of agency specific information, expert advice, resources and support.

Discussion Exercise Exemplar # 2
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Facilitator: Run through meeting template. (Control Doc 5)

018 Evacuation Centre established

Control Document 6 / Slide 14

Facilitator:

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1500 hours

Evacuation centre established: Shire CEO advises OASG they do not have capacity to undertake further animal welfare. They require assistance coordinating re housing / shelter and food. People reporting to the evacuation centre are also advising they have left animals such as alpacas, ponies and in some cases livestock on their properties.

IC DFES requests DPIRD activate SSP AWIE.

Serial 0019 / Slide 15 & 16

Timeout

Discussion - Activation Overview - SSP-AWE

The agency OASG Rep will suggest a graduated response in line with State Emergency Management Principles Graduated Approach - where emergency management activities extend beyond the capability of the local community, support may be obtained from the district, state, interstate, national or international levels, as appropriate.

XXXX asks WALGA to check with neighboring shires for extra resources.

Facilitator Advises:

WALGA has advised that due to catastrophic fire rating, neighbouring shires are reluctant to release resources. Needed to manage their own preparedness.

DPIRD OASG Rep – XXXXX

Outlines actions taken.

Question to panel:

Facilitator:

- What arrangements would the agency put in place?

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Facilitator

Questions re coordination of animal welfare now that the agency is responsible for coordination under SSP

- What are the objectives and priorities for the animal welfare response?

Facilitator

- Will DPIRD/AWEG strategies be proactive or reactive?

Facilitator

- How long will it take for the agency to be in a position to take coordination from local government?

Facilitator:

Could animal welfare be a division under operations?

Background. The Planning Team identified that there may be some scope to include “Animal Welfare Considerations” as a stand-alone division under ‘Operations’, in significant Level 3 emergencies.

Provide a quick overview of discussions but it is worth exploring, particularly for Lvl 3 incidents then ‘park’ this on the whiteboard to be explored post-exercise.

Does anyone have any questions around this (May need to do a quick AIMS IMT outline)

Desired Outcomes:

The agency would appoint a management team in line with the agency IMS that aligns with AIMS. Some AWEG stakeholders could contribute to the functions of the management team.

The agency would coordinate, either through stakeholders or if necessary internally, a Logistics Officer, a Volunteer Coordinator, a Donations Coordinator.

Identifies potential drop off and muster points. Conveys this information to the agency Rep on OASG and agency Public Information Officer in order to develop Talking Points.

Tasks the agency GIS to identify intensive agriculture sites within and around affected area.

The agency Local Animal Welfare Coordinator appointed. Executive Director Biosecurity approves activation of the Plan.

Once State Support Plan is activated, the agency OASG Rep advises CAWE XO that activation of AWEG is required, and then reports back to OASG

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Animal Welfare Emergency Group (AWEG) activated by Chair Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE).

020 Fire impacting Karrakup

Slide 17 / Map 9 -12

Facilitator:

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1600 hours

IMT Update

Fire impacting Karrakup Area between Nettleton Rd and SW Hwy
Losses to 10 properties including – industrial, agricultural

Would DFES consider another OASG? How often?

Facilitator:

Explanation on Operational Reporting Rhythm.

Tying in with SOC Briefing Rhythm

021 Special Idea 2

Control Document 7 / Slide 18

Magic Millions Perth thoroughbred sale is in the coming weeks. Sandilands Horse Stud has approximately \$20Million worth of horses that need evacuation. Owner contacts LAWC requesting priority assistance and escort. He has 30 horses that require evacuation and can only evacuate 6 in his truck.

Questions to panel:

- Given that this horse stud is a significant component of the racing & gaming industry, and in light of the state core objectives, what assistance, if any, is offered and who makes that decision?
- What action would the AWEG take? Planning/Logistics
- Who would they communicate with? Operations/Traffic Management/RAPS?

Desired Outcome:

The RSPCA and AVA would be sending emails across their database email groups to activate their professional and volunteer networks and place them on standby for the recovery activations once safe to do so and when initial impacts are assessed and areas of greatest need identified and confirmed.

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Facilitator:

To be discussed at OASG. DFES IC advises LAWC fire front is 90 minutes from impact. Local government do not have capacity or available resources. IC advises he can make one small fire appliance available in 40 minutes. AWEG has been coordinating a muster of available horse floats.

Notional inject for the purposes of this activity - agency response logistics makes contact with Sandilands Horse Stud. He refuses to leave until all his horses are evacuated. The agency AWC coordinates with DFES Operations to have 3 x four-horse trailers and 2 x two-horse trailer with drivers available in 40 minutes to meet with appliance.

DFES IC advises they have one hour only and then no more movements.

Facilitator highlights that responding to these sorts of requests for assistance are complex and no easy answers particularly with tight timeframes and restricted access.

022 Special Idea 3

Control Document 8 / Slide 19

Question to: Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (Parks & Wildlife Service)

Cohunu Koala Wildlife Park will be impacted by the fire - What actions are being undertaken here?

Desired Outcome:

Communication between DBCA and the agency re removal of animals and transport. DBCA to advise there is a pre-existing plan in place and how it is activated. Do they have a role or are these 'managed animals'?

023 Emergency Warning

Control Document 9 / Slide 20

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1615 hours

Emergency Warning: Whitby, Mundijong, Mardella. Area Sth of Norman Rd Mundijong and Bishop Rd Whitby. Area Nth of Coogly and Lowland Rd Mardella. Area East of Kargollich Rd to SW Hwy Mardella

Facilitator:

The communities affected have been issued with an **Emergency Warning:**

There is immediate danger and the fire will impact your home.

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There is a threat to lives and homes. The fire will be out of control and moving very fast.

This is the highest level of warning Firefighters will find it difficult to control the fire and it will take significant firefighting resources and a change in conditions to bring it under control.

You need to act immediately to survive If the way is clear leave immediately for your safer place and take your survival kit with you If you have not prepared your home, it is too late to do it now. Your safest option is to leave for a safer place, if the way is clear Do not relocate at the last minute in a vehicle or on foot as this is deadly, leave immediately if the way is clear If you are unable to leave you need to get ready to take shelter in your home and actively defend it.

A welfare centre has been established at XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Question to DPIRD Public Information Officer XXXXX, Senior Communications Advisor:

What would be included in the talking points you would be developing to assist the DFES public information function

Desired Outcome:

Develop and distribute key contact details for relevant animal welfare stakeholders.

These details will be maintained on the lead agency, DBCA and DFES websites. All agencies and organisations are responsible for updating emergency contact lists.

Also provide advice on animal welfare information for inclusion in tailored timely and relevant community warnings issued by control agencies to assist community members make informed decisions about their safety and the safety and welfare of the animals under their control.

Key messages in relation the both domestic/companion animals and wildlife, respectively would be disseminated. The messages from the lead agency would reinforce the key message in respect to domestic/companion animals, that in the first instant animal welfare is the owner's responsibility when safe and practicable. The messaging from the lead agency would be to not act independently of state processes or plans and that the calls for volunteers and the care or wildlife must be coordinated and controlled.

The messaging at this stage would relate to evacuation and reception centres and the animal welfare messaging would be practical and advise on which centre could and could not take companion animals and what facilities and help was available to animals in the short term.

The message is about managing expectations – what do public expect versus real capability.

State Support Plan 3.3.1

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024 Level 3 declaration

Facilitator:

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1620 hours

Fire declared Level 3 by HMA (FES Commissioner)
The escalation of an incident is at the discretion of the Incident Controller.

Emphasis this does not change response or coordination, just reporting timelines and levels. When a Level 3 incident occurs, the HMA must consult with the SEC to determine if a SECG should be established.

Level 3 Incident - Incident Level Conditions (On Slide 20)

A Level 3 incident is broadly defined by meeting one or more of the following typical conditions:

- requires significant multi agency response;
- there is a protracted response duration;
- there is significant impact on critical infrastructure;
- resources need to be sourced from State, National and even International level;
- there is a high level of complexity;
- there is significant impact on the routine functioning of the community (health, safety, economic, technological or other);
- there are multiple incident areas;
- evacuation and/or relocation of community is required;
- there is actual or potential loss of life or multiple, serious injuries;

025 Spontaneous Volunteers

Control Document 10 / Slide 22

Question to Panel:

Animal Emergency Welfare Group (AWEG):

Numerous veterinarians arrive at various times at the evacuation centre to volunteer their services and to donate first aid items. In addition members of the public are donating animal feed items at the evacuation centre.

Who coordinates the vets and allocates duties?

Who coordinates donations?

Desired Outcome:

DPIRD OASG Rep – XXXXX

Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) has core representation on the CAWE and would be represented on the Animal Welfare Emergency Group. (AWEG)

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The Chair of AWEG, requests AVA to coordinate veterinary assistance. AVA advise they do not have capacity to coordinate.

(State EM Policy 5.9.7.1) The SEMC has assigned the role of and responsibility for coordinating animal welfare services in emergencies to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

The Chair will communicate with the Agency Response IMT to source Agency resources to coordinate and allocate.

026 Special Idea 4

Slide 23 / Control Document 11

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1630 hours

Three teenage girls are walking their three horses along Pinebrook Road. When approached by police they stated they are unable to transport the horses as they only ageist them there and don't have access to horse floats.

DFES IC will send police and DFES responders if it is safe to do so. Preservation of life is key priority. Girls are placed in police car, horses in nearest available paddock. The lead agency rep would be informed of location of horses (via IMT) and would then advise the lead agency AWC to register horses for follow up in recovery. Vet and rangers follow up and assess/ triage animals after the fire.

Question To: Animal Emergency Welfare Group (AWEG):

Facilitator: what is the chain of communication in this instance?

Desired Outcome:

Primacy of Life is the Incident Controller's priority.

The lead agency AWC coordinates capacity where to collect horses and when and where to take them to. Communicates with DFES re accessing RAPS permits for horse people to gain entry to affected area.

Facilitator:

The Planning Team identified an opportunity for the DFES Rapid Assessment Team to include animal / livestock estimate numbers and condition in their impact assessments on properties.

This will be 'parked' and explored post exercise.

024 Road Closures

Control Document 12 /Slide 23

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Road Closures:

Fisher Rd x SW Hwy, Keysbrook;
Fisher Rd x Hall Rd, Keysbrook;
Westcott Rd x Henderson, Serpentine –Jarrahdale;
Hopeland Rd x Henderson Rd, Hopeland;
Punrak Rd x Henderson Rd, Hopeland;
Yangedi Rd x Henderson Rd, Hopeland;
Yangedi Rd x Karnup Rd, Hopeland

Removal of Road Closure:

Mundijong Rd x Paterson St Mundijong;
South West HWY x Jarradale Rd

Question To Panel:

Animal Emergency Welfare Group (AWEG):

- This will impact the capacity and ability of owners/volunteers to re-locate animals/livestock.

Where to?
RAPS VCP?

- How does the AWEG stay informed of the traffic management plan in order to advise/offer assistance?

State Support Plan 3.3.2

Desired Outcome:

How will the AAWEG / agency maintain situational awareness. Eg.

The lead agency GIS for mapping. The DFES Rep on the OASG will obtain contemporary mapping from the IMT. Agency response teams should have a situational awareness officer.

028 Special Idea 5

Control Document 13 / Slide 25

Whilst monitoring social media, the agency Public Information Officer notes the Mundijong Pony Club have posted on Facebook and are self-mobilising with horse floats and are mustering on Armadale Road. Local Government is getting calls from the Pony Club wanting access to start collecting any horses requiring evacuation.

Questions to Panel:

- Who is going to coordinate that group?
- How can we utilise public messaging to harness these resources?

- What is the Public Information Communications Strategy?

Desired Outcome:

Facilitator:

Volunteers are registered, coordinated and under the RAPS system, and utilised in an orderly manner to evacuate hoofed animals in the affected area. By utilizing the RAPS system, we address safety and can control where they go so as to not interfere with response.

029 Watch & Act

Control Document 12 / Slide 26

Watch and Act: Hopeland and Serpentine

Question to Panel:

- Once re-located who manages displaced or stray animals?

State Support Plan 3.2.1 (Pg7) states the lead agency will coordinate response activities including “managing displaced or stray animals”.

030 Bushfire Advice

Control Document 12 / Slide 27

Bushfire Advice: Keysbrook, Keralup and North Dandalup

Question To Panel:

What are the priorities of the AWEG based on this update?

031 Special Idea 6

Control Document 14 / Slide 28

Facilitator:

Cameron Kennels located in Cardup is under direct threat from the fire. Staff have released all of the current boarding dogs as they were unable to evacuate them and they felt it was the most humane thing to do. There are now 120 stray dogs in the affected area.

Escaped or released livestock, horses, companion animals and wildlife fleeing a hazard (such as bush-fire) can pose a risk to people, other animals, property or themselves. Stray animals may require containment or impoundment. Legislative powers are available to authorised officers and inspectors providing the authority to move and detain an animal where necessary.

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- Local Government authorised officers (rangers), and police are able to remove and detain stray and dangerous animals.
- General inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act may, under certain conditions, take an animal to a place, put an animal in a vehicle, or direct a person to do so.
- Powers under the EM Act also allow hazard management officers and authorised officers to move animals.

Question to Panel:

Animal Emergency Welfare Group (AWEG) / Local Government

- What action does this notice initiate for the Agency?
- What action does this notice initiate for Local Government?

Key topics should be:

Interoperability
Resource Management
Priority coordination of resources and response

Desired Outcome:

LG rangers and LAWC to develop plan of action. RSPCA involvement?
Public information re potentially aggressive animals due to stress.
Agency Public Information to establish call centre number.
For people to report animals.

AWEG - establish what plans and resources are available for next 24-48 hours.

The lead agency responsibilities for stray animals include:

- liaising with and advising local government and other agencies about temporary containment and other welfare needs of animals, and
- coordinating the identification and reunification (with owners) of stray animals during an emergency.

032 ISG Meeting

Control Document 15 / Slide 29

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1700 hours

ISG Meeting (full): HMA Report; Impact Assessment including impact on area between Nettleton Rd and SW Hwy.

The lead agency AWC /local government advise of evacuation centres (for people and animals) and arrangements around evacuated persons bringing domestic animals to evacuation centres for persons only.

Persons arguing at evacuation centres re animals. Refusing to leave.

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Question to Panel:

Animal Welfare Emergency Group (AWEG)

- What contribution can the agency make to the impact assessment?
- What type of intelligence would you have access to?
- How will the agency situational awareness officer maintain situational awareness and convey this to the volunteer agencies?

Desired Outcome:

- The agency SAO monitors social media, DFES and BOM websites.
- Members of AWEG maintain communications with their respective groups and report back.
- The agency AHLG representative briefs back to AWEG, as does ISG representative and OASG representative.
- The agency SAO prepares regular briefing notes.

033 OASG Meeting / AHLG Meeting

Control Document 16 / Slide 29

Multiple calls received re hooved animals and requests for assistance from small landholders. Resources becoming stretched and under pressure.

Question to AWEG:

What implications do these calls have for coordination of animal welfare in the emergency?

Desired Outcome:

Engagement with local government to quantify and qualify the impacts to inform planning and operations from an animal welfare perspective. (Is it evacuation, shelter, triage, food, water??)

Public messaging - Information on owner / carers animal welfare. Contact numbers. Keeping people informed.

034 Special Idea 7

Wednesday January 15th 2020, 1800 hours

Control Document 17 / Slide 30

Rapid Assessment Team has gone through. Multiple reports of deceased livestock throughout Whitby Mundijong and Mardella.

Assessments ongoing. Unknown numbers at this time.

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Potentially significant issue with disposal of carcasses over an extensive area. Overall there are large numbers but they are in small pockets throughout the immediate area. At this stage no intensive commercial agricultural enterprise has been impacted.

Question to Panel:

- What action would the agency be taking at this point?

Desired Outcome:

Discussion re disposal requirements / Impact Assessment / Planning

Discuss course of action to be undertaken?

Public information strategy?

What resources / advice can the agency offer to assist?

035 Fire impacting Whitby and Mundijong

Control Document 18 / Slide 31

Fire impacting Whitby, Mundijong.

Losses to 10 properties.

Question to Panel:

What are the priorities of the Animal Welfare Emergency Group based on this update?

What are the priorities of the agency based on this update?

Desired Outcome:

Priorities are maintaining situational awareness and intelligence gathering to ensure agency planning, logistics and operations can utilise available animal welfare resources efficiently and effectively.

036 Special Idea 8

Control Document 19 / Slide 32

Horses get easily agitated in extreme weather situations, particularly fire, and even well trained horses may panic. A mare has escaped the Super-Rich horse stud and run onto SW Hwy where it has been hit by a passing motorist. A ranger is in attendance. He advises from the brand on the horse it is one of the breeding mares from the stud. He is aware these mares are worth at least \$400 000. The horse requires urgent vet attention. Who arranges this?

Animal Welfare Emergency Group discuss.

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- Insurance Implications - Shane.
- The lead agency logistics contacts own / establishes liability / legislation / limitations.
- The lead agency policy on animal euthanasia.

EXERCISE MATERIAL ENDS

EXEMPLAR