Managing Animals in Emergencies

A FRAMEWORK FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

28 JUNE 2018

Managing Animals in Emergencies: A Framework for South Australia

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Authority			
Agriculture and Animal Services State Controller in accordance with the State Emergency Management Plan			
Issuing Agency			
Primary Industries and Regions SA			
Recent Revision History			
Version	**Revision Description**		**Date**
Version 1.0	Review at multi-agency Discussion Exercise		11 August 2016
Version 1.1	Project Steering Committee		5 October 2016
Version 1.2	SA NDSR Implementation Steering Group		1 November 2016
Version 1.3	State Emergency Management Committee		14 November 2016
Version 2.0	Revisions from public consultation; reformatting		25 January 2017
Version 2.1	PIRSA review and update; review at multi-agency Discussion Exercise		18 April 2018
Version 2.2	Project Steering Committee		25 May 2018
Version 2.3	State Mitigation Advisory Group, State Response Advisory Group		6 June 2018
Version 3.0	State Emergency Management Committee		17 July 2018
Distribution List:			
PIRSA staff, PIRSA AAS participating agencies, emergency management agencies, industry bodies, public			
Classifications:			
Confidentiality	Public		
Integrity	[I2] Integrity 2	MODERATE requirement meaning that the Agency would be somewhat affected by a loss of integrity however the situation could be easily detected and recovered.	
Availability	[A1] Availability 1	LOW requirement meaning that loss of the data would have only a minor impact on the business for an extended period (ie: best-effort recovery).	
State Records Act Requirements:		Permanent Retention.	
Approval:			
Name	**Title**	**Signature**	**Date**
Elena Petrenas	Manager, Emergency Mgt, Biosecurity SA		28 June 2018

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Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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ACRONYMS

Acronym	Organisation
AAS	Agriculture and Animal Services
AVA	Australian Veterinary Association
AWL	Animal Welfare League
CFS	Country Fire Service
DEW	Department for Environment and Water
DHS	Department for Human Services
DPTI	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
DSD	Department of State Development
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
LGA	Local Government Association of South Australia
MFS	Metropolitan Fire Service
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Regions South Australia
PPSA	Primary Producers South Australia
RSPCA SA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (South Australia)
SAFECOM	South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission
SAPOL	South Australia Police
SAVEM	South Australian Veterinary Emergency Management Inc.
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SEMP	State Emergency Management Plan
SES	State Emergency Service

FOREWORD

South Australia's emergency management arrangements involve State agencies, Local Councils, non-government organisations, businesses, industry groups and the community. Emergency management is a range of measures to manage risks to communities and the environment. It involves the development and maintenance of arrangements to prevent or mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.

It is recognised nationally that the ability to bounce back after an emergency event (individual or community 'disaster resilience') requires people to work together.

Past emergency events have shown that improving the capacity to plan ahead and manage animals in emergencies is important to reduce last-minute risk-taking behavior, improve animal welfare outcomes and aid in recovery after emergency events.

The purpose of this document is to provide guiding principles and policies to support planning for the management of animals in emergencies at all levels in South Australia. It also explains the current arrangements to support animal welfare in emergencies, including the roles and responsibilities of animal owners, government agencies and supporting non-government organisations.

Under the State Emergency Management Plan, Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) is the lead agency responsible for the coordination of official animal relief support services during major emergencies. PIRSA has developed this framework in conjunction with relevant emergency management agencies, non-government organisations, industry groups and community members in accordance with the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience Community Engagement Framework[1].

The framework to manage animals in emergencies was developed as a result of a State Strategic Project under the SA Natural Disaster Resilience Program and is endorsed by the State Emergency Management Committee. We commend the use of this framework to people responsible for the care and management of animals as well as State agencies, local councils, non-government organisations, researchers, businesses and industry groups who have a role in building overall community resilience in the face of emergencies.

Will Zacharin

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BIOSECURITY SA

PIRSA

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[1] Emergency Management Australia (2013) *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience Community Engagement Framework*. Handbook 6 Australian Emergency Management Handbook Series. Australian Emergency Management Institute, Attorney-General's Department, Commonwealth of Australia.

INTRODUCTION

Many animals in South Australia including pets, assistance animals, livestock and wildlife are at risk of separation from their owners, injury or death due to major emergencies such as fires, floods, extreme weather, spills of hazardous materials and transport accidents. In the period 2015-2018 alone, major rural fires in South Australia resulted in over 75 200 known animal deaths. Less frequent but potentially devastating events such as earthquakes and oil spills could also have major impacts on animal welfare.

The bonds we have with animals are strong and complex: pets and assistance animals contribute to many people's health and well-being; livestock are a cornerstone of primary production and native animals are an integral part of our environment that help give us our sense of place and spirit of what is South Australia. The loss, injury or death of animals is not only a tragedy in itself, but can have a lasting impact on people's emotional and financial ability to recover after an emergency event.

Experience and research nationally and internationally shows that incorporating considerations of animal management and animal welfare into emergency plans not only significantly improves animal welfare outcomes but also the ability of the community to recover from emergencies.

Last-minute decision making during emergencies puts lives at risk. Animal owners and managers must take responsibility to ensure they are well-prepared to manage their animals appropriately in emergencies, to not only improve the prospects for their animals but also their own safety and that of the community at large.

The *National Planning Principles for Animals in Disasters[2]* states that 'failure to account for animals in emergencies puts human lives at risk' and that 'in order to build community resilience, animals must be integrated into emergency management planning'. The national planning principles were endorsed by the Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee in 2014 and these provide the foundation for the South Australian framework for managing animals in emergencies.

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to support animal owners, the community at large, government agencies, non-government organisations and businesses to understand their role and responsibilities towards managing animal welfare before, during and after emergencies.

It aims to show animal owners the key issues they should understand in order to build their ability to plan and act for the survival and recovery of the animals for which they are responsible whilst upholding the safety of themselves, the community and others who respond to emergencies. It also shows the range of animal issues that agencies and organisations involved in emergency management should consider in their planning, communications and training.

Each agency and organisation that contributes to emergency management should have its own plan detailing responsibilities and operating procedures. This framework does not replace agency plans and procedures, rather it aims to give an overview of the principles and issues that should be considered in planning by those dealing with animals and animal owners.

Scope

Animals that are relevant to the principles and arrangements outlined in this document include:

- companion animals (pets)

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[2] National Advisory Committee for Animals in Emergencies (2014) *National Planning Principles for Animals in Disasters.* AAWS and World Animal Protection.

- livestock/production animals
- assistance animals (e.g. guide dogs, hearing dogs, etc.)
- animals in the wild, including aquatic animals (other than fish)
- animals used for work, sport, recreation, display, research and teaching.

In South Australia, emergencies that have the potential to impact on these animals and the broader community include rural and urban fires, floods, extreme weather, earthquake, escape of hazardous materials, oil spills, transport accidents and emergency animal disease incursions.

The principles and arrangements outlined in this document apply to all of these emergency types with the exclusion of emergency animal disease incursions. In South Australia, emergency animal disease incursions are managed under response arrangements outlined in PIRSA's Animal and Plant Disease Hazard Plan and the national AUSVETPLAN.

Photo: Eric Isselee/Shutterstock

AUTHORITY AND GOVERNANCE

In South Australia, emergencies are managed under the *Emergency Management Act 2004.* In accordance with this Act, detailed responsibilities and broad operational arrangements are outlined in the State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP). This framework is a component of the SEMP under Part 3: Supporting Guidelines and Frameworks.

Under the SEMP there are various sub-plans that outline how each type of emergency hazard is dealt with (at state and regional levels). Also as part of the SEMP arrangements, PIRSA Agriculture and Animal Services (PIRSA AAS) provides immediate animal relief services.

All principles and management arrangements in this document follow the laws and official plans that guide emergency management and the welfare of animals in South Australia. Beyond the *Emergency Management Act 2004*, the framework is consistent with the:

- *Animal Welfare Act 1985*
- *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*
- *Impounding Act 1920* (which describes how stray livestock may be managed)
- *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (conservation and protection of native animals)
- *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* (e.g. control of pest animals).

Council by-laws may also describe local laws relevant to animal management established by Councils to deal with specific issues relevant to their area (e.g. local cat management or the keeping of backyard poultry).

Codes of practice exist that also promote the welfare of animals, including provisions for animal owners to develop plans for emergency situations. Animal welfare codes of practice relevant to South Australia are listed on the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) website[3].

It is acknowledged that emergency situations can impact the ability to uphold optimal animal welfare standards. However it is important that animal owners consider likely hazards and plan in advance to take the most appropriate course of action to minimise the impact on their animals' wellbeing without compromising human safety.

Who is responsible for this document?

PIRSA developed this document on behalf of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) and is responsible for its review. This is consistent with PIRSA's role as the lead agency responsible for coordinating official services that support agriculture and animals during and after emergencies.

The development of this document involved representatives of affected parties including the community, other agencies, local government, animal welfare organisations, relevant industry groups and wildlife carers.

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[3] www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/Plants_Animals/Animal_welfare/Codes_of_practice

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Vision

South Australians sharing responsibility to improve the safety, survival and humane treatment of animals in emergencies.

Aim

The primary aim of emergency response is to protect the safety of people. In order to fulfil this aim, the following factors regarding animals must be taken into account:

- Research proves that the bonds people have with animals will influence their decision-making and behaviour during an emergency (for example, failing to relocate to a safer place if they cannot take their pets with them).
- People will often put themselves at risk for animals in emergencies even if those animals are not their own. This risk-taking can lead to dangerous or fatal consequences.

The overarching aim of this framework is to address animal issues in emergencies in order to:

- protect and improve the welfare of animals in emergencies
- improve the safety of people by reducing last-minute decision making and risk-taking behavior related to animals
- improve the wellbeing and recovery of people after an emergency by ensuring the needs of animals are met where possible.

Goals

The individual goals to achieve the overarching aim are to ensure that:

1. Emergency management plans include actions for the safe and humane management of animals.

2. The public is kept informed and provided with timely, relevant animal information at all stages of an emergency.

3. The welfare of animals directly impacted by an emergency is addressed.

4. Deceased animals are disposed of promptly in an environmentally safe manner.

5. The temporary sheltering of animals is supported.

6. People are reunited with their animals as soon as it is safe to do so.

7. Volunteers and donated resources are managed to support animals as required.

8. Land and ecosystems are rehabilitated to support livestock and wildlife.

The following section outlines overarching guiding principles for policy and planning, followed by information summarising how each of the above goals is currently addressed.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The *National Planning Principles for Animals in Disasters* and the *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience*[4] provide key principles that guide emergency planning at all levels. In developing policies and plans for managing animals in emergencies in South Australia, the following principles from these documents should be used as a guide:

- The safety and welfare of people is the overarching priority at all times.
- The responsibility for the welfare of an animal at all times remains with the person in lawful charge of that animal.
- Government and non-government organisations can play a supporting role in helping people exercise their responsibilities for animals – arrangements between organisations should be formalised to enable coordination and to achieve clarity around responsibilities.
- The management of all animals should be considered in emergency planning processes where relevant:
  - companion animals/pets
  - livestock
  - animals in the wild
  - assistance animals
  - animals used for work, sport, recreation or display
  - animals used in research and teaching.
- Animals and their owners can be affected by many types of emergencies and hence emergency plans need to consider all relevant hazards and risks.
- Biosecurity arrangements to prevent spread of pests and disease are extremely important and quarantine and biosecurity protocols must be upheld wherever practicable.
- Any activity specified in plans of government agencies or partnering organisations must be consistent with the *Emergency Management Act 2004* and the State Emergency Management Plan.

Photo: apple2499/Shutterstock

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4 Council of Australian Governments (2011) *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience*. Commonwealth of Australia, ACT.

GOALS

Goal 1: Emergency management plans include actions for the safe and humane management of animals

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• understanding the types of emergencies and the level of risk to which animals could be exposed in the area where they are located • adequately insuring animals and assets according to risk • planning how animals will be managed should emergency conditions be forecast or if an emergency event occurs • practising plans for animals, especially if the intention is to relocate them to a safer place (note that the behaviour of animals may become erratic in emergency conditions) • preparing animals by updating registration, identification and vaccinations • including carcass disposal considerations in emergency plans for livestock or in situations where large numbers of animals are kept • discussing plans with neighbours, friends, family, staff or assistance providers so that these people know whether or not support may be needed to manage animals	• addressing animal management in emergency plans where relevant • recognising that assistance animals have public access rights which should be accounted for in emergency plans and procedures[5] • fostering community awareness of relevant hazards and how to plan for the management of animals during and after emergencies • providing targeted and up-to-date information relevant to planning for animals in emergencies on www.sa.gov.au/emergencies (the central source for South Australian Government emergency information)

Key messages

- Plans should acknowledge that the responsibility for the welfare of an animal at all times remains with the person in charge of that animal. Government agencies and other organisations have a supporting role to assist those in charge of animals to uphold their responsibilities.
- Integrating animal considerations into emergency plans will improve not only the welfare outcomes for animals but also the safety and resilience of people in charge of animals and the community at large.
- The safety of people is the first priority. Accordingly, animal owners should act in a manner that ensures their own safety, that of emergency responders and the community. Animal owners should not expect others to risk their lives by entering a dangerous area to manage or relocate animals.
- If animal owners decide to leave animals on their property during an emergency, others need to respect that decision and not remove them unless the owner gives permission to do so.

Supporting arrangements

A range of agencies and non-government organisations provide animal-specific emergency planning information. Key sources are listed in Appendix 1.

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[5] PIRSA (2018) *Guidelines for Planning for People with Assistance Animals in Emergencies*. Government of South Australia. In State Emergency Management Plan Part 3: Supporting Guidelines and Frameworks.

Goal 2: The public is kept informed and provided with timely, relevant animal information at all stages of emergencies

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• familiarising themselves with standard emergency warnings • understanding which warnings are triggers for implementing emergency plans • understanding where to find reliable emergency information during an event	• providing emergency information (including the meaning of alerts and warnings) at www.sa.gov.au/emergencies • issuing advice or information that relates to animal issues through appropriate agencies • conveying animal information in formats that are accessible to all South Australians, including those at greater risk[6]

Key messages

Prior to an emergency, animal owners and managers can be assisted by providing information about how to plan and prepare for managing animals in emergencies (refer to 'Supporting arrangements').

During an emergency, the public may be assisted by messages about:

- relocation options for displaced people with animals (where to go, if known)
- the general status of animals within an emergency affected area (if known)
- who is providing official animal relief services (where located and/or who to contact)
- how they can best assist in animal relief and recovery
- the status of road closures and when people are allowed to enter based on animal welfare needs

To improve safety, messages should reinforce the principle that people concerned about the welfare of animals should not risk their lives or that of others by entering unsafe areas (e.g. where road closures are in place) unless they are authorised to do so.

After an emergency, public information can include what recovery assistance is available to support animal needs and how people can best assist in longer-term recovery (see Goals 7 and 8).

Supporting arrangements

Sources of comprehensive emergency planning information for different types of animals is given in Appendix 1.

During emergencies, official public messages are authorised by the 'Control Agency'[7] (Table 1). A range of other organisations may contribute to, reiterate or forward these messages.

After emergencies, Department of Human Services (DHS) provide relief and recovery information (e.g. through the www.sa.gov.au/recovery website and via social media).

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[6] People at greater risk in an emergency include those with reduced capacity due to the condition of their health, mobility, senses, cognition, language or other circumstances. See also Australian Red Cross (2018) *People at Risk in Communities Framework for South Australia*. Australian Red Cross.

[7] Under South Australian emergency management arrangements, the Control Agency is designated with the authority to task and coordinate other organisations in accordance with the needs of an emergency situation.

Table 1: Control Agencies for different emergencies in South Australia

Emergency	Control Agency
Animal, plant and marine disease	PIRSA
Earthquake; road/transport accident	SA Police (SAPOL)
Extreme heat/storm; flood	State Emergency Service (SES)
Fuel, gas and electricity shortages	Department of State Development (DSD)
Hazardous materials emergencies	Country Fire Service (CFS) or Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS)
Marine pollution (coastal)	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI)
Rural fire	Country Fire Service (CFS)
Urban fire	Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS)

Photo: Shmelly50/Shutterstock

Goal 3: The welfare of animals directly impacted by an emergency is addressed

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:

• seeking veterinary treatment for injured animals as soon as it is safe to do so
• ensuring severely injured animals are humanely destroyed by someone authorised to do so
• seeking emergency food and water if supplies are damaged or destroyed
• seeking temporary shelter or agistment for animals that cannot remain at their usual location due to damage or destruction of facilities
	• providing coordinated emergency relief for affected animals when normal services are disrupted, including:
	   o assessing types and numbers of animals affected
	   o providing initial veterinary assessment, treatment and advice for injured animals
	   o assisting with humane destruction of severely injured animals
	   o providing information about temporary shelter or agistment
	   o coordinating emergency livestock fodder supplies and other resources
	• coordinating the restoration of essential infrastructure including water and power
	• maintaining relationships with non-government organisations that can provide specialist services and additional support

Key messages

- Animal owners or managers should seek treatment and advice about animal injuries from normal veterinary services in the first instance. See 'Supporting arrangements' for assistance when veterinary services are disrupted, e.g. by a large-scale emergency.
- The agency in control of the emergency (Control Agency) must give permission for anyone to enter an emergency-affected area to treat or humanely destroy injured animals.
- If an animal owner or manager believes early assessment is critical for the welfare of a significant number of livestock in the impacted area they may contact PIRSA Agriculture and Animal Services (PIRSA AAS) for assistance.
- Destruction of an owned animal can only be carried out by the owner or by some competent person with the approval of the owner, by veterinary surgeons or by officers authorised under the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* (e.g. PIRSA Animal Health officers, RSPCA SA inspectors or police officers).
- Any person who has the necessary skills and equipment can humanely destroy a wild animal if the animal is in such a state that it should be destroyed and if the property owner has given permission to do so.
- All destruction of animals should minimise suffering in accordance with the animal welfare standards outlined in the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* and Regulations and Codes of Practice where they exist.
- A permit from DEW is required for the rescue, care and rehabilitation of sick, injured or orphaned wildlife. A permit does not authorise entry into restricted areas during an emergency.

Supporting arrangements

Animal relief services

PIRSA AAS may provide initial animal relief services in affected areas, focusing on livestock[8]. Key organisations that support PIRSA to provide services are known as 'participating agencies'. Together, the participating agencies provide assistance for most types of animals, including companion animals and wildlife.

The participating agencies are: South Australian Veterinary Emergency Management Inc. (SAVEM); Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals South Australia (RSPCA SA), Animal Welfare League (AWL) and Primary Producers SA (PPSA). Livestock SA are a member of PPSA that accept and distribute donated fodder for livestock. See also 'Roles and Services by Organisation'.

Note: if the emergency is a marine oil spill, DPTI is the Control Agency and DEW coordinates wildlife rescue and relief response[9].

Private veterinarians, clinics and wildlife carers play a critical role in the ongoing care of injured animals in the recovery phase after emergency events. See also Goal 5 regarding temporary sheltering of animals and Goal 7 regarding coordination of donated resources for animals.

Industry and business support

Animal welfare impacts within intensive livestock industries (e.g. piggeries, poultry and egg farms, livestock feedlots and dairy farms) may be large-scale, potentially involving hundreds or thousands of animals. Apart from the direct impact of the emergency, animals can be vulnerable to any infrastructure or utility failure that affects feed, water supply, ventilation, milking and the effectiveness of electric fencing.

Representatives of PIRSA AAS may be permitted into an area impacted by an emergency earlier than the general public (e.g. under escort from emergency services) to provide prompt animal relief services. Access to the emergency-affected area for industry advisors to assess the situation may be facilitated at the earliest opportunity by PIRSA AAS, with the authorisation of the agency controlling the emergency.

SA Water leads a group of organisations known as the Engineering Functional Support Group to assist with the restoration of essential infrastructure (e.g. mains water and power).

Photo: PIRSA

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[8] PIRSA Agriculture and Animal Services Hotline - 1800 255 556
[9] Australian Marine Oil Spill Centre and Govt. of SA (2016) *South Australian Oiled Wildlife Response Plan.*

Goal 4: Deceased animals are disposed of promptly in an environmentally safe manner

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• promptly disposing of deceased animals in an environmentally responsible manner • keeping details for insurance purposes (e.g. livestock number and type, including photos) • seeking advice if overwhelmed or unable to carry out disposal themselves (see 'Supporting arrangements')	• providing guidelines for environmentally responsible disposal of livestock carcasses • providing advice about support options when animal owners are unable to carry out disposal themselves • providing resources to assist with carcass disposal when those responsible for disposal are unable to organise this themselves in a timely manner

Key messages

- Disposal of deceased animals, particularly large numbers of livestock, is time critical to limit the spread of disease and risks to human and animal health.
- Methods to dispose of deceased animals may include cremation, burial, composting or rendering. Some methods may involve removal and transport off-site. All transport and disposal must be carried out in an environmentally safe and legal manner.
- Disposal of deceased animals that are unidentifiable or unowned (e.g. native or pest animals in the wild) are the responsibility of the owner of the property where the bodies lie (or the lessee, if the land is leased, unless an agreement with the property owner determines otherwise).

Supporting arrangements

Disposal advice

PIRSA AAS provides general advice about carcass disposal options and methods. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS. The EPA provides advice about environmental considerations for disposal (Appendix 1).

Support for disposal

Local vet clinics, the AWL and some waste operators may assist with disposal of companion animals.

If livestock owners are unable to carry out disposal of carcasses due to the impact of the emergency, they should firstly seek support from their networks, community, hire contractors and insurers. If these avenues fail, the Local Council may provide support if capacity allows.

In large-scale disaster situations, if support from local government is unavailable, the State Government may coordinate disposal[10].

Disposing of deceased animals may affect people emotionally and financially. Contacts for counselling support may be obtained through a Relief/Recovery Centre (if established) or mental health services.

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[10] Depending on the scale of the incident, either through PIRSA or by the Leader of Disaster Waste Management, as outlined in GISA (2018) *South Australian Disaster Waste Management Plan.* Office of Green Industries SA, Government of South Australia. Also see PIRSA (2018) *Carcass Disposal Arrangements for Emergencies in SA*.

Goal 5:   The temporary sheltering of animals is supported

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• taking care of their animals if they are taken to a place of refuge during an emergency (e.g. the homes of family or friends, a Relief Centre or another safer place) • finding suitable temporary shelter or agistment for animals that cannot return to, or stay at, emergency-affected properties and cannot remain with them due to accommodation restrictions • keeping vaccinations up to date (which may be a requirement of shelters or boarding establishments) • registering at a Relief Centre to access support services if required	• providing a Relief Centre (if necessary) that offers immediate shelter, information and personal support services for people affected by an emergency • referring people to appropriate organisations or businesses that can support temporary sheltering or agistment (up to 72 hours) for animals when the animals cannot stay at their usual home or with the owner

Key messages

- Temporary shelter for animals may be needed in a variety of situations, for example when:
    - people that relocate with their animal(s) in response to an emergency event are unable to return home for some time (e.g. the area is unsafe and roads are closed)
    - the usual residence of the animal(s) is damaged
    - the person responsible for the animal(s) is incapacitated
    - animals are found without their owners and the owners cannot be immediately identified or contacted.
- Animal owners should make their own arrangements for temporary sheltering of their animal(s) where possible. Possible locations or facilities should be pre-identified as part of a personal emergency plan or business continuity plan.
- People may seek assistance to find shelter for animals through a Relief Centre (see 'Supporting arrangements'). Assistance animals may accompany their owners into a Relief Centre. For health and safety reasons, people are requested to ensure they control and care for other animals outside Relief Centres.
- Large open spaces such as ovals, recreation grounds, car parks, saleyards, horse racing tracks etc. may be identified as safer places, or places of last resort refuge for people. These should only be used as an immediate temporary refuge for animals when other plans for relocation have failed. Animal owners should appreciate that some of these facilities:
    - may still be impacted by the emergency
    - may have quarantine or health and safety requirements that will be breached by the entry of unauthorised animals
    - may not be suitable to access (given that it will depend on what events may be already happening at that facility, the nature of the emergency and whether access routes are open and safe)
    - will not usually cater for animals (i.e. there will be no food, no water or appropriate holding facilities unless the manager of the location has arranged for this)
- Congregations of mixed animals may be difficult to manage and can damage public grounds. The animal owner will be responsible for the care of the animals at all times and animals should not be left unsupervised. The animal owner may be liable for any damage caused by their animals.

Supporting arrangements

Safer places and last resort refuges

Some local councils, community organisations and commercial businesses that manage open-space areas may allow animal owners to use these for temporary refuge or point of assembly during an emergency. The use of such venues is very dependent on the individual policy of the owner/manager, the type of emergency and whether the location and access routes will be safe.

Relief centres

In South Australia, Housing SA, as the lead agency of the Emergency Relief Functional Support Group, establishes and manages emergency relief centres.

Relief centres provide for the immediate needs of emergency-affected people. If requested by Housing SA, PIRSA AAS may coordinate appropriate participating agencies (e.g. RSPCA SA, AWL or SAVEM) to assist with controlling animals at a Relief Centre and finding short-term shelter.

Photo: Dorottya Mathe/Shutterstock

Goal 6: People are reunited with their animals as soon as it is safe to do so

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
- ensuring animals are registered (where applicable) and identifiable - keeping up-to-date records of how their animals are identified (e.g. microchip, tags, brands, registration disc etc.) - looking for their animals if they have strayed in an emergency - only if the area is deemed safe and accessible by the agency controlling the emergency	- determining when and how a closed off emergency-affected area can be accessed for animal welfare considerations - assisting with straying animals (e.g. if they present a danger to the public) - maintaining and promoting the Dogs and Cats Online central registration database www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au as a means to aid in identifying lost dogs and cats and their owners - maintaining a livestock ownership register (National Livestock Identification System)

Key messages

- Entry into emergency-affected areas may be restricted for a number of reasons. For community safety, road closures will often be set up which delay people's return to their properties and any animals remaining there. Animal owners and managers should not attempt to access the area unless permission has been given by the agency controlling the emergency.
- Residents/property owners may be able to enter an affected area earlier than the general public in order to protect their property and livestock (proof of identity or property ownership is required).
- Some emergencies result in damage to fences, gates and other enclosures. As a result, animals may stray onto other properties or roads, potentially creating safety and biosecurity (disease) issues.
- Zoos and establishments holding animals that pose a threat to the public should have plans (that are known to local emergency services) for managing escapees in emergencies.

Supporting arrangements

Managing access to emergency affected areas

The agency controlling an emergency also controls traffic and access into emergency affected areas (in conjunction with SAPOL and DPTI). The agency controlling a bushfire emergency (the CFS) may include animal welfare considerations and protection of livelihood as valid reasons for *bona fide* farming residents to enter a fire-affected area at the first opportunity that it is deemed safe to do so[11].

Finding lost animals

Search for lost or found dogs and cats at 'Dogs and Cats Online'[12]. Owners of lost animals are advised to search the area only if it is safe to do so (access may be restricted). If a search fails, enquire with:
- neighbours
- the Local Council
- the RSPCA SA and Animal Welfare League

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[11] Country Fire Service (2015) *Guidelines for Managing Road Closures during Bushfires*. Country Fire Service and SA Police, Government of South Australia. Available at www.cfs.sa.gov.au (warnings and incidents page).

[12] Animal must have a tag/registration number or microchip number – go to www.dogsandcatsonline.com.au

- local veterinary clinics and animal shelters

If these sources do not have the animal(s) or know of their whereabouts, try internet websites and social media pages that can aid in searching for lost animals (e.g. 'Lost Pets of South Australia' or 'Lost Dogs of Adelaide').

Managing straying animals

SAPOL and/or local council staff may temporarily contain stray animals within a pound or shelter or (for livestock) on the nearest suitable property. Local council staff may notify owners (if possible through tag, brand or microchip identification) otherwise a notice may be posted (e.g. on relevant council websites).

Veterinarians and SAVEM also have microchip readers and may assist with identification of microchipped animals. PIRSA may identify and contact owners of straying livestock that have National Livestock Identification System tags.

Not all areas will have appropriate impounding facilities and staff may not be immediately available, so property owners and community members and play a role in assisting to contain stray animals, if it is safe to do so.

Photo: Cattle with NLIS tags. PIRSA

Goal 7: Volunteers and donated resources are managed to support animals as required

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• providing the requirements for animal management and welfare (e.g. halters, leashes, cages or fencing, food, water, etc.) • registering with an official Relief/Recovery Centre if impacted by the emergency and requiring assistance that cannot be provided by family, friends or community support	• promoting appropriate funds/charities as a means for people to donate money for an event-specific appeal • assisting non-government organisations that manage volunteers and donations to link in to the recovery needs of affected communities • working with and promoting Volunteering SA&NT as a key provider of volunteer services

Key messages

- The preferred way to support affected people and communities, according to national guidelines for managing donated goods[13], is through collection and distribution of money rather than goods, unless specific items are required. This allows affected people to purchase what they need most. It also allows people to spend money in their communities and help local businesses to recover.
- A range of community groups exist (or may form) to help people and animals after emergencies. Such groups and official recovery teams should communicate with each other to ensure resources and efforts of all parties are coordinated and are targeted at the areas of greatest need.
- People often want to help rescue animals at risk and to care for injured animals. Only volunteers that have prior emergency management training and are a member of an official response organisation (e.g. SAVEM) are used during an initial emergency response within an affected area. Untrained volunteers can hinder initial response efforts, place themselves and others at risk and unintentionally act illegally if they handle animals without the appropriate authorisation or training.
- Although people often wish to volunteer as soon as an emergency has occurred, most volunteers are needed during the recovery process, which can last months or a number of years.

Supporting arrangements

Coordination of recovery support

The State Recovery Office coordinates recovery support services for people affected by emergencies in South Australia. A Recovery Centre and Local Recovery Committee may be set up for communities affected by major emergencies.

Managing volunteers

People who would like to volunteer can register with Volunteering SA&NT. Volunteering SA&NT manages the placement of volunteers into relevant organisations that can utilise their skills to assist with recovery efforts.

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[13] Department for Families and Communities (2011) *National Guidelines for Managing Donated Goods*. Attorney-General's Department, Australian Government and Government of South Australia.

SAVEM offers training in emergency management for veterinarians and veterinary nurses who would like to volunteer for emergency responses in South Australia.

Managing donated goods for animals

After fires and floods, emergency fodder and other resources may be required for livestock. Donations of these items are accepted and distributed by Primary Producers SA (through Livestock SA).

RSPCA SA, AWL and SAVEM coordinate donated resources for animals other than livestock when specific goods are required.

Photo: PIRSA

Goal 8: Land and ecosystems are rehabilitated to support livestock and wildlife

Animal owners and managers are responsible for:	Government agencies are responsible for:
• identifying the impact of the emergency on their property and making appropriate plans for restoration • replacing destroyed infrastructure (e.g. troughs, fences, feeding equipment etc.) required by their animals • restoring the soils, water and environments that support their animals • seeking assistance for financial and technical support if required	• participating in Local Recovery Committees and obtaining information regarding local land rehabilitation needs • providing information to primary producers on livestock management options, land and water management, financial grants (if available), assistance for rebuilding infrastructure and primary industry business recovery • providing information to land owners on natural resource management, ecosystem recovery, pest plant and animal control, wildlife habitat restoration and financial grants (if available) • encouraging the community to assist with recovery of infrastructure (e.g. fencing) and wildlife habitats (including through the support of volunteer programs)

Key messages

- Land owners are responsible for the management and rehabilitation of land under the *Natural Resources Management Act 2004.*
- Land owners may need to support the rehabilitation process by:
  - removing/recycling debris and waste
  - stabilising and replenishing soils
  - replacing fencing and associated infrastructure
  - managing livestock grazing to enable recovery of pastures and native vegetation
  - controlling pest plants and animals
  - revegetating, if needed
  - restoring natural watercourse flows (e.g. if these are disrupted by debris)
- If damage to a property is extensive, the recovery process may be an opportunity to update property design, layout and infrastructure to improve productivity and environmental values.

Supporting arrangements

Rural recovery programs that assist land owners with property planning and the rehabilitation of land and ecosystems may be developed with the assistance of PIRSA, DEW, boards overseeing natural resources management, local councils and environmental organisations.

Information may be made available at a Local Recovery Centre (if established) and/or through websites of the organisations listed.

ROLES AND SERVICES BY ORGANISATION

Introduction

The following sections outline the current services that may be offered by a range of agencies and non-government organisations to support animal owners carry out their responsibilities.

The extent of services available may vary by region. Response and recovery services are dependent on the capacity of each organisation at the time and whether the organisation is itself impacted by the emergency.

Animal Welfare League of South Australia (AWL)

Role: The AWL is a non-government organisation that provides care and adoption services to lost and abandoned cats and dogs in South Australia.

The AWL is a participating agency supporting PIRSA Agriculture and Animal Services (PIRSA AAS).

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Provide the public with information about how to plan for and manage companion animals in emergency situations

Response	• In conjunction with other participating agencies, and under direction of PIRSA (or other relevant Control Agency) provide:
	  o emergency pickups
	  o assistance with euthanasia of injured animals
	  o emergency accommodation for small animals and small numbers of larger domestic livestock (e.g. valuable breeding stock)
	  o cremation of deceased animals

Recovery	• Direct enquiries about donations to official relief fund contacts and coordinate resources donated to AWL • Provide advice to companion animal owners on issues relating to animal welfare • Provide assistance to temporarily house displaced companion animals (primarily dogs and cats; limited space for small caged companion animals and horses) • Reunite lost dogs and cats that are brought to AWL with their owners (when identification details allow) • Hold register of lost dogs and cats brought to, or reported to, AWL and respond to enquiries from owners searching for lost companion animals

Australian Veterinary Association (AVA)

Role: The AVA is the professional non-government organisation that represents veterinarians across Australia. The South Australian branch of the AVA is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention / Preparedness	• Provide online resources for animal owners to assist with preparing for natural disasters • Prepare and distribute fact sheets and other technical information to veterinarians treating injured animals
Response	When activated by PIRSA for incidents with significant animal welfare impacts, the AVA will activate the AVA Emergency Taskforce to: • Contact AVA members and other relevant stakeholders who may be affected to gather information about the situation • Inform AVA members and other relevant stakeholders about the emergency response • Utilise the resources of the AVA Communications Team as appropriate • Assist PIRSA with the dissemination of relevant information • Facilitate contact with volunteer veterinarians and veterinary nurses to establish opportunities to assist in the provision of animal welfare support services in affected areas • Assist in the identification of veterinarians and practices within affected regions • Report urgent animal welfare needs arising from the emergency to PIRSA and SAVEM • Disseminate information and advice for veterinarians regarding the treatment of wildlife • Liaise with SAVEM and provide assistance where possible
Recovery	• Advise the AVA Benevolent Fund of veterinarians in difficult financial circumstances as a result of the emergency

Country Fire Service (CFS)

Role: The South Australian CFS is an emergency services agency. The CFS has a volunteer network that delivers professional fire and rescue services to outer metropolitan, regional and rural South Australia. The CFS is the Control Agency for rural fire and hazardous or dangerous materials emergencies.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention / Preparedness	• Work with key stakeholders in the development and provision of appropriate animal welfare information relating to bushfires • Embed animals in community engagement programs, to ensure that owners and managers prepare plans which include animals • Work with businesses holding animals to include them in their planning for bushfire
Response	• If the CFS is the Control Agency, ensure appropriate, timely information is provided to the community through a range of sources • Ensure animal welfare and other rural issues are identified through initial impact assessment activities and are referred to PIRSA
Recovery	• Ensure that the community is aware of the source of information regarding support for animals affected by emergencies

Department for Environment and Water (DEW)

Role: DEW is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS and has fire-fighting crews that support the CFS. DEW also provides information about flood risks.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention / Preparedness	• Work with the State Emergency Service to provide information for community education programs about planning and preparing for floods that include animal welfare messages
Response	• Provide information on threatened species or ecological communities that are at risk from the emergency to assist in prioritisation • Promote the humane treatment of injured wildlife and other animals during and after emergencies • Liaise with PIRSA AAS and participating agencies to facilitate the management of injured wildlife • Provide advice to the community about companion animals in consultation with the Dog and Cat Management Board and Local Councils • Coordinate wildlife rescue and relief activities in the event of a marine oil spill
Recovery	• Provide advice to the community regarding wildlife and companion animals after an emergency • Provide advice about the rehabilitation of natural resources and ecosystems

Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Role: The EPA is South Australia's independent environment protection regulator. It is a member of the State Response Advisory Group and a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS.

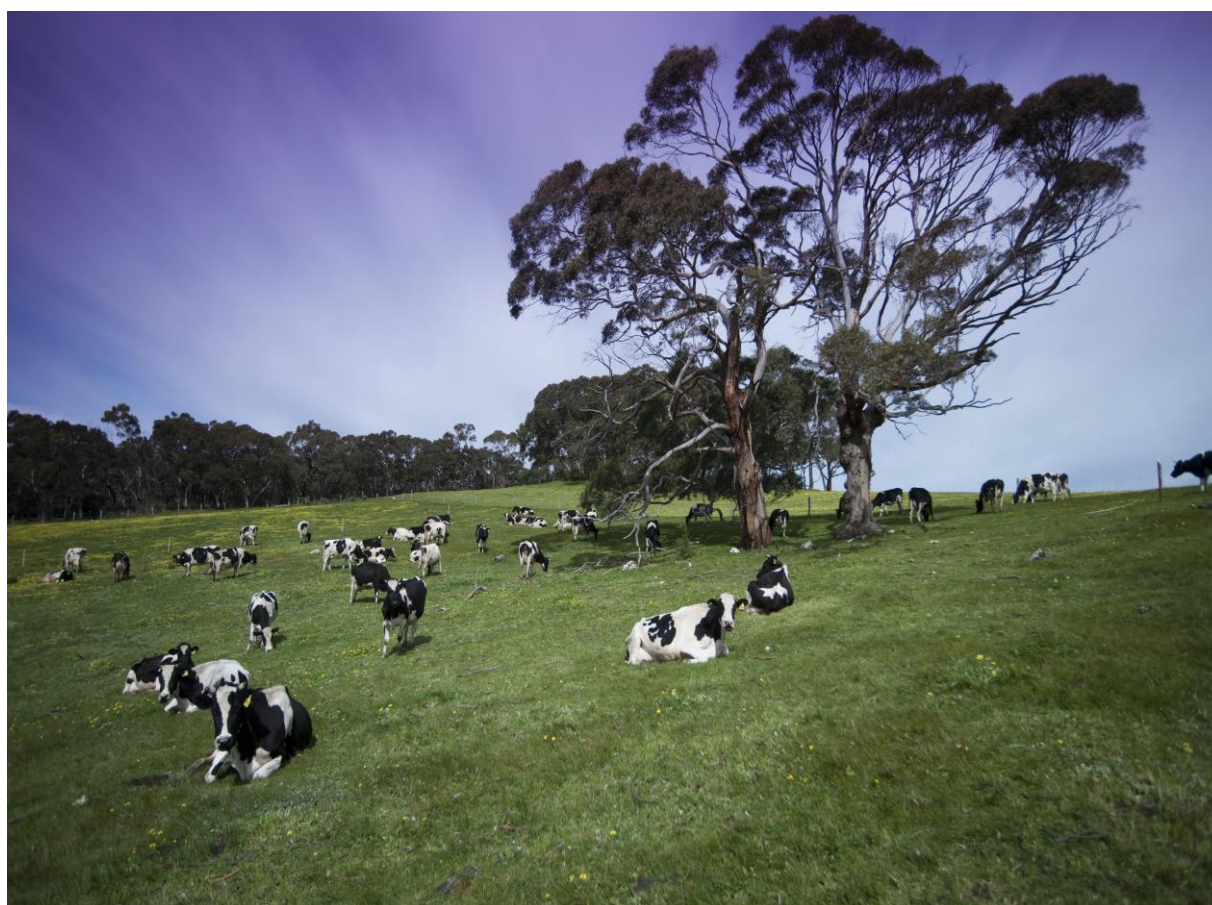| Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	In the role of advisory group member: • Provide information to agencies and organisations about environmental protection (e.g. waste disposal considerations) in order to inform emergency management plans and policy development
Response	In the role of a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS: • Provide information jointly prepared by PIRSA and the EPA to assist primary producers and emergency services in the initial review of the safe and appropriate disposal of up to 100 animal carcasses • Provide direct advice on disposal options for greater than 100 carcasses
Recovery	In the role of a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS: • Provide advice regarding disposal options for carcasses and other waste products throughout the recovery period

Photo: PIRSA

Local Government Association (LGA)

Role: The Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA) provides service and leadership relevant to the needs of member Councils and is the peak representative body for Local Government in South Australia. The LGA is the leader of the Local Government Functional Support Group.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Assist with state-wide policy development regarding local government planning and response to animal issues in emergencies
Response	• Assist with the coordination and provision of equipment and logistics support
Recovery	• Assist with the coordination and provision of equipment and logistics support

Local Government

Role: The following table outlines assistance that may be provided through local government. The provision of services is dependent on the individual policies of the relevant council(s) and capacity at the time of an emergency.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Provide emergency preparedness information to the community • Identify and plan the necessary logistics for carcass disposal including identification of suitable carcass disposal sites (if necessary)

Response	• If animal owners are unable to dispose of carcasses using their own means, supply machinery and personnel to assist with:
	
	   o the disposal of carcasses by cartage of deceased livestock to burial or cremation sites, an abattoir or composting facility
	
	   o the preparation and management of burial/cremation sites
	
	• Provide local knowledge on sites of significance, access routes and other issues which may assist (or impede) the response

Recovery	• Assist with the management of stray livestock (if capacity allows) • Assist with managing lost companion animals through existing pound and shelter facilities and by accessing Dogs and Cats Online database • Assist with local recovery programs that include the rehabilitation of land and natural ecosystems

Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS)

Role: The South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) is the primary agency providing structural firefighting services to South Australia. The MFS is the Control Agency for urban fire, hazardous or dangerous materials emergencies, and search and rescue (structure).

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	- Include animal welfare arrangements in relevant emergency management plans - Ensure animal welfare arrangements are included in educational material and community presentations on home fire safety planning - Provide information to the community regarding the supervision of companion animals when using electrical and gas appliances
Response	- When the MFS is the Control Agency for an incident, ensure the information provided to the community through a range of sources, includes dealing with animals - Where possible ensure MFS personnel responding to incidents are aware of the potential presence of animals and the impact of mitigation operations on them - Ensure animal welfare is identified during initial impact assessment activities and is referred to the appropriate agency - As a support agency provide support to other control agencies when dealing with animals affected by emergencies
Recovery	Ensure information on where to access support for animals affected by emergencies is available to first responders and the community

Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)

Role: PIRSA is a key economic development agency in the Government of South Australia, with responsibility for the prosperity of the State's primary industries and regions. PIRSA is the Lead Agency providing Agriculture and Animal Services.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	- Provide the public and other agencies with information about emergency animal- and plant-disease risks - Provide information to the public and other agencies that enables planning and management of livestock in emergencies - Ensure that PIRSA AAS is ready to respond to an incident and to initiate recovery measures. This includes: - identifying and assessing the risk - developing policy, arrangements and plans - establishing resources, systems and processes - training response/recovery personnel and educating stakeholders and potentially affected industries and communities

Emergency Stage	Current Services
	o conducting exercises
	o evaluating preparedness and response activities
Response	• Control and lead the response for emergency animal disease incursions in accordance with national and state response plans
	• When activated by the Control Agency during a response (for an emergency other than animal disease), coordinate PIRSA AAS staff and participating agencies to provide animal relief services including:
	o inspection, assessment and treatment of injured livestock
	o humane livestock destruction
	o advice regarding carcass disposal
	o temporary shelter for displaced companion animals
	o coordination of the supply and distribution of emergency fodder, water, fencing and other materials
	o communication with industry and the community
	• Request services from Functional Support Groups to enable relief activities described above if other resources are overwhelmed
	• Provide advice and messages about animal welfare to the Control Agency and others as relevant
	• Provide appropriate debrief opportunities for PIRSA AAS participating agencies to improve operational understanding
	• Provide support for marine oil spills to DPTI and/or DEW if requested
Recovery	• Communicate with industry and the community to facilitate recovery of primary producers and relevant production systems
	• Provide information and assistance to primary producers seeking to access financial support, where available, in order to facilitate recovery

Primary Producers SA (PPSA)

Role: PPSA is a coalition of peak bodies representing primary producers in South Australia. PPSA is made up of a number of member groups: Livestock SA, Grain Producers SA, the Horticulture Coalition of SA, the Wine Grape Council of SA and the SA Dairyfarmers Association. PPSA is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Response	• Assist PIRSA through providing liaison with primary producers and the agriculture, horticulture and viticulture sectors, and provide advice relating to these sectors • Assist PIRSA with local primary producer contacts, as appropriate • Communicate with PPSA's member groups, as appropriate, and support PIRSA's communications • Liaise with PIRSA to determine the type and scale of relief services required for primary producers (e.g. emergency fodder) and coordinate the distribution of donated goods
Recovery	• Assist with coordination of recovery services for primary producers including communicating with stakeholders and facilitating access to resources (e.g. donated fodder, agistment, fencing, machinery) • Assist with the dissemination of relevant information to primary producers

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SA) (RSPCA SA)

Role: The RSPCA SA is a non-government organisation which aims to prevent suffering and cruelty to all animals and actively promote their care. RSPCA SA is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Provide the public with advice on planning for and managing animals (particularly companion animals and assistance animals) in emergency situations

Response	• When activated by PIRSA provide:
	  o initial reconnaissance of affected areas and reports on animal welfare needs
	  o assistance for injured animals
	  o assistance with animal control
	  o authorised emergency information through RSPCA SA's social media, website and phone enquiries

Recovery	• Coordinate and manage donations of resources for animals (other than for livestock) made to RSPCA SA and/or direct enquiries to official relief fund contacts • Managing lost companion animals brought or reported to the RSPCA SA • Provide advice to companion animal owners on issues relating to animal welfare

South Australian Veterinary Emergency Management Inc. (SAVEM)

Role: SAVEM is a non-government organisation created to enable the veterinary community in South Australia to mount an effective response to an emergency incident involving animals. SAVEM is a participating agency supporting PIRSA AAS.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Provide advice to agencies, organisations and the community regarding animal management and welfare in emergencies • Assist in the provision of skills development for volunteers by supporting training and exercises where possible
Response	When activated by PIRSA: • Undertake animal welfare assessment and veterinary care (including rescue, triage and treatment) for all animals in accordance with established emergency management procedures • Ensure that animal welfare issues identified through initial impact assessment activities are referred to PIRSA AAS for information, and possible action by PIRSA AAS or participating agencies as appropriate • Assist in the relocation of injured animals to external clinicians or carers • If required, liaise with other participating agencies to provide suitable short-term relocation options for animals presenting at relief centres (where they cannot return home or be suitably relocated with the owner) • Provide situation reports to PIRSA in accordance with established procedures
Recovery	• Identify and coordinate long-term care and boarding for displaced animals • Establish return and/or release programs for recovered wildlife subject to DEW approval and appropriate permits • Participate in Community Reference Groups at invitation of Local Recovery Committee • Coordinate and manage resources for animals (other than livestock) donated to SAVEM

State Emergency Service (SES)

Role: The SES is an agency with a volunteer-base that responds to a wide range of emergencies and rescues. The SES is the Control Agency for flood and extreme weather.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Provide information to support the community to understand risks associated with extreme weather (heat, storms and floods) • Provide information to support the community to plan and act on days of extreme weather that incorporates appropriate animal welfare messages
Response	• When a Control Agency, ensure approved animal welfare messages are provided to the media and community where relevant • Provide services to support the rescue of large animals with specialist equipment (applicable to some transport accidents and minor incidents; availability in large-scale emergencies subject to priority assessment) • Ensure that animal welfare and other rural issues identified through initial impact assessment activities are referred to PIRSA

South Australia Police (SAPOL)

Role: SAPOL is an agency that provides a range of policing services to keep South Australians safe. SAPOL is the Control Agency for aircraft accident, bomb threat, earthquake, siege/hostage, marine transport accidents, road and rail accidents and terrorist incident.

Emergency Stage	Current Services
Prevention/Preparedness	• Ensure animal welfare arrangements are considered and included in all relevant SAPOL state, regional and incident plans
Response	• When a Control Agency, ensure approved animal welfare messages are provided to the community and media where relevant • Ensure arrangements are in place at traffic management points that allow effective and timely delivery of animal welfare support services into impacted areas consistent with agreed guidelines • Ensure that animal welfare and other rural issues identified through initial impact assessment activities are referred to PIRSA

DEFINITIONS

Word	Definition
Agency	A Government agency, including Commonwealth, State or local government authority.
Animal	A member of any vertebrate species with the exception of humans and fish (*Animal Welfare Act 1985*).
Animal industry bodies	Associations and organisations representing the interests of people involved in animal industries such as Horse SA, Pork SA, South Australian Dairyfarmers Association etc.
Animal owner	A person who has custody and control of the animal.
Animal manager	A person placed in charge of animals by the owner of an organisation or business (e.g. farm manager, manager of pet shelter etc.).
Animal welfare	How an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives: an animal is in a good state of welfare if it is healthy, comfortable, well-nourished, safe, able to express innate behavior and is not suffering from unpleasant states such as pain, fear and distress.
Assistance animal	An animal (usually a dog) trained and used, or undergoing training to be used, for the purpose of assisting a person who is wholly or partially disabled (also known as 'disability animal') and includes guide dogs, hearing dogs and autism dogs.
Biosecurity	Biosecurity is the management of risks to the economy, the environment, and the community, of pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading.
Carcass	The body of a deceased animal, usually in relation to livestock.
Code of practice	A set of standards or guidelines outlining best practice within an industry.
Companion animal	A pet or other domestic animal that provides companionship to its owner.
Control Agency	An agency in control of an emergency and has authority to task and coordinate other organisations in accordance with the needs of the situation.
Disaster	A sudden accident or a natural catastrophe that causes great damage or loss of life. In South Australia, a disaster is declared by the Governor.
Displaced people	People displaced from their homes during and immediately after an emergency event.
Emergency	As per the *Emergency Management Act 2004*, an emergency is an event that causes, or threatens to cause: • the death of, or injury or other damage to the health of, any person; or • the destruction of, or damage to, any property; or • a disruption to essential services or to services usually enjoyed by the community; or • harm to the environment, or to flora or fauna and is not limited to naturally occurring events.
Emergency management	As per the State Emergency Management Plan: a range of measures to manage risks to communities and the environment. It involves the development and

Word	Definition
	maintenance of arrangements to prevent or mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters.
Euthanasia	Euthanasia is the practice of intentionally ending a life in order to relieve pain and suffering.
Functional Support Group	A Functional Support Group is a group of participating agencies (government and non-government) who perform a functional role to support response and recovery operations for all emergencies. Each Functional Support Group has a nominated lead agency which supports its operations. Note: Functional Support Groups were formerly known as Functional Services.
Hazard	Source of potential harm (e.g. earthquake, bushfire, flood etc.).
Livestock	Animals generally kept on farming or rural properties including, but not limited to, cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, alpacas, poultry, deer and horses.
Participating agency	An agency or organisation that has agreed to be part of a Functional Support Group. An agency may be involved in more than one Functional Support Group.
Preparedness	Arrangements to ensure that, should an emergency occur, all those resources and services which are needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed.
Prevention	Regulatory and physical measures to ensure that emergencies are prevented, or their effects mitigated.
Relief	The provision of immediate shelter, life support and basic needs to those affected by emergencies.
Relief centre	A centre where the provisions of emergency relief services to persons affected by an emergency are met. It may include short term shelter, information, personal support, food, temporary accommodation, practical advice, basic first aid, interpreter services, companion animal care, financial assistance and referrals.
Relocation	Movement by choice from an area that is likely to be impacted by an emergency, hazard or threat to a safer location. Note: movement out of an area deemed to be at risk of an emergency event, as ordered by an authorised person, is termed 'evacuation'.
Response	Measures taken during an emergency to protect life or property or to otherwise respond to the emergency.
Recovery	Measures taken during or after an emergency to assist the re-establishment of the normal pattern of life of individuals, families and communities affected by the emergency.
Stakeholders	Those people and organisations that can affect, be affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by a decision or activity.

APPENDIX 1: PLANNING RESOURCES

The agencies and organisations listed below are major providers of animal-related emergency planning information. Local councils and other animal interest groups may also provide topic-specific or local information.

Plan animal relocation options in advance through contacting family, friends or private businesses (e.g. those that offer pet day-care, boarding or agistment facilities). For horses, community-run websites that assist with forward planning include 'Open Paddocks South Australia' on Facebook and 'Firebuddies' at www.firebuddies.weebly.com

Provider of Information	Type of Information	Website
State Government (SAFECOM)	Overview of all hazards and risks and related emergency planning information, including for animals	www.sa.gov.au/emergencies
AVA	Animals in natural disasters	www.ava.com.au
CFS	Prepare for a fire (pets, livestock and horses) Guidelines for re-entry to closed areas Community Fire Safe Program and Firey Women Workshops Workshops to plan for large animals (e.g. horses) may be conducted in conjunction with other stakeholders subject to funding	www.cfs.sa.gov.au www.youtube.com (search for SA County Fire Service)
DEW	Native animal information Regional natural resources recovery information	www.environment.sa.gov.au www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au
EPA	On-farm disposal of animal carcasses	www.epa.sa.gov.au
Horse SA	Horse emergency information warehouse includes: • My Horse Disaster Plan • Large Animal Rescue Emergency planning workshops for horse owners	www.horsesa.asn.au
PIRSA	Livestock emergency information warehouse Animal safety in emergencies, relief and recovery	www.pir.sa.gov.au/emergency_management
Red Cross	Redi-Plan (include animals in a personal emergency plan)	www.redcross.org.au
RSPCA SA	Pet and assistance animal emergency information warehouse (Pets in Emergencies) • Considerations for pets or assistance animals in a personal emergency plan • Pet emergency kit considerations	www.rspcasa.org.au
SES	How to keep your pets safe in an emergency	www.ses.sa.gov.au