## ANIMAL DECONTAMINATION SPECIALIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESOURCE CATEGORY</th>
<th>Animal Emergency Response</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESOURCE KIND</td>
<td>Personnel</td>
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</table>

### OVERALL FUNCTION

The Animal Decontamination Specialist provides a range of decontamination operations for animals in one or more of the following competency areas:

1. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals
2. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species
3. Wildlife animals, captive wildlife, and zoo animals
4. Laboratory animals

### COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS

1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Companion Animal Decontamination Team).
2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment.
3. Requestor can order this resource to augment the human decontamination lines of hazardous materials teams.
4. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will serve.

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>TYPE 1</th>
<th>TYPE 2</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| DESCRIPTION | Same as Type 2, PLUS:  
1. Handles and decontaminates animals for animal decontamination operations in nuclear or radiological incidents, including:  
2. Removing radiological contaminants in a nuclear/radiological incident response | The Animal Decontamination Specialist:  
1. Is a certified NIMS typed Animal Care and Handling Specialist, Animal Control/Humane Officer, Veterinarian, or Veterinary Assistant  
2. Handles and decontaminates animals for animal decontamination operations other than nuclear or radiological; tasks include:  
a. Removing blood, urine, and feces from working dogs, working horses, or service animals  
b. Removing riot control agents, such as pepper spray, from working dogs, working horses, or service animals  
c. Removing contaminants associated with floodwater—such as debris, industrial chemicals, petroleum products, and biological pathogens—from animals after a disaster  
d. Cleaning oiled birds, mammals, and other wildlife  
e. Cleaning search-and-rescue cadaver dogs working in a contaminated environment  
f. Removing chemical contaminants in a chemical incident response  
g. Removing biotoxins in a biotoxin incident response | Not Specified |
<p>| EDUCATION | Not Specified | Not Specified | Not Specified |</p>
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<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>TYPE 1</th>
<th>TYPE 2</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXPERIENCE</td>
<td>Same as Type 2, PLUS: Participation in an animal radiological decontamination exercise</td>
<td>Participation in an animal decontamination exercise</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICAL/MEDICAL</td>
<td>Same as Type 2</td>
<td>1. Arduous 2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission</td>
<td>Participation in an animal decontamination exercise at least once every two years</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>1. PPE is mission specific and may vary by working environment; it includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves, and masks. 2. NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NIMS positions.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENCY</td>
<td>Same as Type 2</td>
<td>Participates in an animal decontamination exercise at least once every two years</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROFESSIONAL AND</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
<td>Not Specified</td>
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<tr>
<td>TECHNICAL LICENSES AND</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CERTIFICATIONS</td>
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NOTES
Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES
1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Companion Animal Decontamination Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Care and Handling Specialist
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Control/Humane Officer
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinarian
5. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinary Assistant
6. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
7. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
8. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016