



Position Qualification for Environmental Response/Health and Safety
Animal Emergency Response

ANIMAL DEPOPULATION SPECIALIST

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Animal Emergency Response
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	<p>The Animal Depopulation Specialist depopulates animals when necessary because of public health and welfare concerns, disease exposure, threat, or infection. The Animal Depopulation Specialist has knowledge and expertise in one or more specialty areas of depopulation as outlined in the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals, and has knowledge, expertise, and experience in depopulating animals in one or more of the following competency areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Animal Depopulation 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 discusses animal handling supplies and equipment necessary for specific species 4. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will manage

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.

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Animal Depopulation Specialist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reviews the availability of animal handling facilities and evaluates their efficiency and safety (for animals and people) 2. Assesses the number, size, and weight of animals for depopulation 3. Assesses the staffing levels necessary for effective depopulation 4. Safely depopulates animals as trained, as expediently and humanely as possible 5. Ensures effective depopulation methodology for the species 6. Prepares animals for disposal 	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Not Specified	Not Specified
TRAINING	<p>Completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100 2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 3. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction 4. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction 5. Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)-approved training in the use of approved methods of euthanasia for different species 	Not Specified
EXPERIENCE	Demonstrates to appropriate AHJ representative a skill set relevant to depopulation methodology, or has experience working on an Animal Depopulation Team	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	1. Arduous 2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission	1. PPE is mission specific and may vary by work 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.
CURRENCY	Routinely trains with equipment and species commensurate with the mission	Not Specified
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	Not Specified	Not Specified



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NOTES

1. Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.
2. Depopulation refers to the destruction of large numbers of animals in response to a public health or animal health emergency. Though animal welfare receives as much consideration as is practical, depopulation is sometimes necessary because of extenuating circumstances (Reference: APHIS 91-85-010, issued January 2016). Depopulation methods vary according to AHJ regulations. According to AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals, 2013, "Selection of the most appropriate method of euthanasia in any given situation depends on the species and number of animals involved, available means of animal restraint, skill of personnel, and other considerations."

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Depopulation Team
2. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
3. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017
4. FEMA, National Response Framework, June 2016
5. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals, 2013
6. United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Depopulation and Disposal for Birds in Your HPAI-Infected Flock, APHIS 91-85-010, January 2016