

## ANIMAL DEPOPULATION TEAM

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	The Animal Depopulation Team depopulates animals when necessary because of public health and welfare concerns, disease exposure, disease threat, or infection. This team may depopulate herds and flocks either in open areas or in confined spaces, using specialized equipment and protocols for the affected species.
<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Animal Emergency Response
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Team
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	<p>This team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordinates with Veterinary Medical Team, Companion Animal Decontamination Team, and disposal personnel as necessary</li> <li>2. Has competency in one or more depopulation methods outlined in the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals</li> <li>3. Works at existing facilities, such as poultry barns, sale barns, hospitals, and shelters, as well as in the field</li> <li>4. Performs its duties for one or more of the following populations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals</li> <li>b. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species</li> <li>c. Wildlife, captive wildlife, or zoo animals</li> <li>d. Laboratory animals</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>2. Requestor specifies type of species, number of existing animals, conditions under which team will operate, desired depopulation method, disease or welfare condition, complicating factors, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements</li> <li>3. Individuals responding with this team possess the knowledge and skills to perform depopulation activities humanely</li> <li>4. Requestor specifies whether competency with particular animal populations is necessary</li> <li>5. Discuss preparation supplies—such as water, foam, or carbon dioxide—as well as animal handling supplies and equipment necessary for species the team will manage</li> <li>6. Requestor orders additional specialists separately, as necessary, such as Veterinarians, Veterinary Assistants, and Animal Care and Handling Specialists</li> <li>7. Requestor orders separate resources to provide decontamination of personnel and equipment, if necessary</li> <li>8. This team does not handle animal remains; requestor plans for disposal of animal remains separately in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations</li> </ol>

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
<b>MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	6	Not Specified
<b>MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Animal Emergency Response Team Leader	Not Specified
<b>SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM</b>	5 - NIMS Type 1 Animal Depopulation Specialist	Requestor orders additional Animal Care and Handling Specialists and Animal Control/Humane Officers as necessary.

Resource Typing Definition for Environmental Response/Health and Safety  
Animal Emergency Response

COMPONENT	SINGLE TYPE	NOTES
<b>TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	Equipment needs vary based on the conditions and species involved, and include: 1. Poultry foaming equipment 2. Poultry carbon dioxide equipment 3. Livestock captive bolt 4. Small animal injection materials	Not Specified
<b>GENERAL EQUIPMENT PER TEAM</b>	1. Team transport vehicles (2) 2. Flashlights	Requestor orders additional trailer or vehicles, such as box trucks, if necessary, depending on species, conditions, presence or absence of disease, and handling requirements.
<b>PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER</b>	PPE is mission specific and may vary by work environment; it includes: 1. Protective footwear 2. Protective clothing for skin exposure 3. Eye and ear protection 4. Respirators 5. Gloves 6. Masks	The following regulation addresses PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment.
<b>COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER</b>	1. Two-way portable radio 2. Cell phone	Not Specified

## 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 Authority Having Jurisdiction (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: Companion Animal Decontamination Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Veterinary Team
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Care & Handling Specialist
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Control / Humane Officer
5. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Depopulation Specialist
6. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Emergency Response Team Leader
7. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinarian
8. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinary Assistant
9. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
10. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals, 2013
11. 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
12. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted