

ANIMAL SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

DESCRIPTION	The Animal Search and Rescue Team locates, stabilizes, extricates, and evacuates animals in a disaster environment
RESOURCE CATEGORY	Animal Emergency Response
RESOURCE KIND	Team
OVERALL FUNCTION	<p>This team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinates and collaborates with other animal emergency response teams, as necessary 2. Coordinates and plans animal search and rescue efforts 3. Locates, captures, and contains displaced animals within the disaster zone 4. Prepares animals for transport 5. Identifies animals, documents rescue location, and records other relevant data to facilitate reunification with owners 6. Coordinates live trapping and chemical capture as necessary 7. Triagees rescued animals for appropriate transport methods to prevent disease and mitigate medical and behavioral issues 8. Performs the above duties for one or more of the following populations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals b. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species c. Wildlife, captive wildlife, or zoo animals d. Laboratory animals
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 2. Discuss provision/acquisition of necessary supplies and equipment, such as restraint/control and capture equipment 3. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on animal population 4. Requestor orders additional Animal Search and Rescue Technician(s), Animal Control/Humane Officer(s), or Animal Care and Handling Specialist(s) to increase team capacity based on incident 5. Requestor makes provisions for veterinary care based on mission requirements

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	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM	26	8	4	Not Specified
MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 4 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Animal Emergency Response Team Leader who is also a certified NIMS Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician	1 - NIMS Type 1 Animal Emergency Response Team Leader who is also a certified NIMS Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician	Not Specified	For Type 3 teams, any team member having completed ICS 300 may function as team leader, or the existing chain of command provides management and oversight at the requestor's discretion.

Resource Typing Definition for Mass Search and Rescue Operations Animal Emergency Response

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	TYPE 3	NOTES
SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 4 - NIMS Type 1 Animal Search and Rescue Technician 9 - NIMS Type 2 or Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician 1 - NIMS Type 2 Veterinarian	7 - NIMS Type 2 Animal Search and Rescue Technician	1 - NIMS Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician 3 - NIMS Type 2 Animal Care and Handling Specialist, NIMS Type 1 Animal Control/Humane Officer, or NIMS Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician	1. A NIMS Type 2 Animal Care and Handling Specialist or NIMS Type 1 Animal Control/Humane Officer can replace a NIMS Type 3 Animal Search and Rescue Technician only on a Type 3 team. 2. Type 1 teams typically split into four subordinate teams.
SEARCH AND RESCUE CAPABILITY PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Can execute advanced rescue operations, such as high- and low-angle and swiftwater rescue	Same as Type 3, PLUS: Can perform water-based rescue and can use land- and water-based navigation technology to locate and geo-reference displaced animals	Land-based search and rescue only	Not Specified
SEARCH AND RESCUE CAPACITY PER TEAM	Responds to multiple jurisdictions, with multiple geographic areas, and manages approximately 50 companion animals or 25 livestock per 12-hour shift; may provide overall management and coordination remotely	Responds to a single jurisdiction with multiple geographic areas (or a single large, complex site) and manages approximately 24 animals per 12-hour shift	Responds to a single jurisdiction, manages a single area, and manages approximately 12 animals per 12-hour shift	Requestor may order additional single resources to augment team if necessary, based on number of animals.
ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: Systems to input and transmit animal data to Animal Evacuation, Transport, and Re-Entry Team and Animal Sheltering Teams	Same as Type 3, PLUS: GPS	Digital cameras	Not Specified
ANIMAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Animal capture and handling equipment specific to the population served	Not Specified
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	Not Specified	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
COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER	Same as Type 2	Same as Type 3	1. Two-way portable radio 2. Cell phone	Not Specified

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Evacuation, Transport, and Re-entry Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Sheltering Team – Animal-Only Shelter
3. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Sheltering Team – Cohabitated Shelter
4. FEMA, NIMS 508: Animal Sheltering Team – Collocated Shelter
5. FEMA, NIMS 508: Veterinary Medical Team
6. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Care and Handling Specialist
7. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Control/Humane Officer
8. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Emergency Response Team Leader
9. FEMA, NIMS 509: Animal Search and Rescue Technician
10. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinarian
11. FEMA, National Incident Management System (NIMS), October 2017
12. National Alliance of State Animal and Agricultural Emergency Programs (NASAAEP) Best Practices for Animal Search and Rescue Training, latest published edition