

## ANIMAL DEPOPULATION TEAM

DESCRIPTION	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.		
RESOURCE CATEGORY	Animal Emergency Response	RESOURCE KIND	Team
OVERALL FUNCTION	<p>This team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinates with Veterinary Medical Team, Companion Animal Decontamination Team, and disposal personnel as necessary</li> <li>Has competency in one or more depopulation methods outlined in the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals</li> <li>Works at existing facilities, such as poultry barns, sale barns, hospitals, and shelters, as well as in the field</li> <li>Performs its duties for one or more of the following populations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals</li> <li>Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species</li> <li>Wildlife, captive wildlife, or zoo animals</li> <li>Laboratory animals</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss logistics for deploying this team, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>This team typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>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>Individuals responding with this team possess the knowledge and skills to perform depopulation activities humanely</li> <li>Requestor specifies whether competency with particular animal populations is necessary</li> <li>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>Requestor orders additional specialists separately, as necessary, such as Veterinarians, Veterinary Assistants, and Animal Care and Handling Specialists</li> <li>Requestor orders separate resources to provide decontamination of personnel and equipment, if necessary</li> <li>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>

RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2	NO TYPE 3	NO TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Personnel	Per Team	Management and Oversight	1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 1 Animal Emergency Response Team Leader	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			NOTES: Not Specified			
Equipment	Per Team Member	Communications	1. Two-way portable radio 2. Cell phone	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			NOTES: Not Specified			



RESOURCE TYPES			TYPE 1	NO TYPE 2	NO TYPE 3	NO TYPE 4
COMPONENT	METRIC/ MEASURE	CAPABILITY				
Equipment	Per Team Member	Personal Protective Equipment	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	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			<b>NOTES:</b> The following regulation addresses PPE: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment.			
Equipment	Per Team	General	1. Team transport vehicles (2) 2. Flashlights	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			<b>NOTES:</b> Requestor orders additional trailer or vehicles, such as box trucks, if necessary, depending on species, conditions, presence or absence of disease, and handling requirements.			
Equipment	Per Team	Technical	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 Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			<b>NOTES:</b> Not Specified			
Personnel	Per Team	Minimum	6	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			<b>NOTES:</b> Not Specified			
Personnel	Per Team	Support	5 - NIMS Type 1 Animal Depopulation Specialist	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
			<b>NOTES:</b> Requestor orders additional Animal Care and Handling Specialists and Animal Control/Humane Officers as necessary.			

Superseded

## REFERENCES

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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. American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals, 2013
10. 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
11. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 1910.132: Personal Protective Equipment, latest edition adopted
12. National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), National Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1, Physical Fitness Levels, October 2016

## NOTES

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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."

**Superseded**