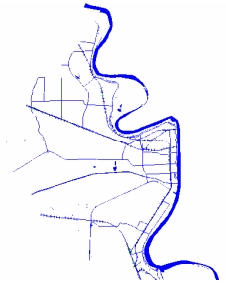


**WEST BATON ROUGE PARISH
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**



**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 11b
ANIMAL EVACUATION PLANNING**

I. PURPOSE

This appendix establishes Parish policy for the evacuation and shelter of animals in emergencies. The Parish will facilitate and assist in the emergency evacuation and sheltering of animals whenever possible, in accordance with available Parish resources, when the use of Parish resources would not impede or interfere with the evacuation and shelter of human beings.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. Situation

1. West Baton Rouge Parish is a host shelter parish for Louisiana, which includes sheltering of pets.
2. West Baton Rouge Parish may have local emergencies, which may require the evacuation of people and pets.
3. In the event of an evacuation, residents will be urged to take responsibility for their pets when evacuating.
4. West Baton Rouge Parish will make every effort when providing transportation during an emergency to ensure that all people and pets will be protected.

5. Each resident will be responsible for providing a collar with identification and leash for their pets.

B. Assumptions

West Baton Rouge assumes that pets are cats, dogs and other animals defined as small animals by the American Veterinarian Medical Association (AVMA). Pets that are defined as large animal, exotic, or not defined by the AVMA as small animal, are not included as pets within this plan.

II. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. General

Most animal and pet owners have transportation and can take their animals out of harm's way. For those who do not have transportation, the community will assist them within the limits of community capability. The Parish will enlist the aid of all animal welfare organizations that are operating or could operate in the parish. In cases in which animal welfare organizations are not active in the area, the Parish will request that other animal care individuals and civic groups participate and assist.

B. Evacuation

1. The Parish will make a good faith effort to find out the need for animal evacuation assistance by conducting an annual survey of families and individuals who would be likely to need such assistance. The survey will be carried out with the cooperation of the County Agent, the Parish Animal Control unit, the Parish branch office of the Office of Family Support, and all animal hospitals and veterinarians located in the Parish.
2. Once the needs have been approximated, the Parish will combine them with the needs for human evacuation and match them with available transportation. Wherever possible, the Parish will ensure that appropriate animal

carriers are obtained for the transportation earmarked for specific evacuation areas, and stored where they can be readily be made available.

3. The Parish will maintain the list of animal owners who need assistance, update it annually, and communicate with the animal owners to ensure that they know what they can expect in an evacuation and what actions they will be required to take in order to participate.

C. Sheltering

1. The Parish will designate and develop animal shelters wherever possible.
2. The Parish will survey the Animal Control Unit and all animal hospitals and veterinarians located in the Parish to determine the present capacity for sheltering animals, including the normal day-to-day capacity and the potential surge capacity. The survey will estimate the length of time that a surge capacity could be maintained.
3. The Parish will survey the existing list of designated population shelters to determine which ones are located near buildings, structures, or fenced or walled areas that could provide potential animal shelters or pens. The Parish will make a good faith effort to negotiate contingency arrangements with the owners of such facilities for their use in emergencies, and arrange for animal owners to care for their animals while they are being sheltered. The Parish will also recruit volunteers to manage the facilities and care for the animals.
4. The Parish will survey additional buildings, structures, or fenced or walled areas that could provide potential animal shelters or pens. The Parish will make a good faith effort to negotiate contingency arrangements with the owners of such facilities for their use in emergencies, and

recruit volunteers to manage the facilities and care for the animals.

III. ADMINISTRATION

- A. The Parish will compile its animal evacuation and shelter information and report it annually to GOHSEP and to the Louisiana Department of Agriculture, identifying it as an ESF 11 report. The report will identify gaps and shortages for which State assistance will be requested.
- B. Animal evacuees from outside the Parish that are being transported as part of a State supervised and facilitated evacuation will have individual identification. The identification will be used in tracking animals. The Parish will compile the animal identification information and make it available to the State and to animal owners who are seeking the location of their animals.
- C. Animals located in the parish must have individual identification. In every case, the owner will be required to register and procure identification for each animal that the owner would want to participate in any Parish evacuation and shelter operation. The information will be updated annually and used for tracking animals. Unidentified animals will be considered strays and will not be allowed to participate in Parish evacuation and shelter programs. When they are caught, they will be turned over to the Parish Animal Control Unit for appropriate care and adoption, depending on their eligibility.
- D. The results of animal evacuation and sheltering operations will be included in after-action reports.

IV. PLAN DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND EXECUTION

- A. The OHSEP Director has the responsibility for coordinating revision of this annex, keeping attachments current.

- B. Directors of supporting agencies bear the responsibility of maintaining internal plans, implementing procedures and resource data to ensure effective response to an emergency.
- C. Louisiana Department of Agriculture and all other agencies given responsibility in this plan, in coordination with the HSEP are responsible for maintenance of their respective annexes or appendices.

V. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

A. Authorities

(See Basic Plan)

B. References

1. Guide for All Hazard Emergency Operations Planning, (SLG) 101, 1996, Federal Emergency Management Agency
2. Louisiana Pelican Parish Planning Guidance and Crosswalk Addendum 1; ESF 11 Model Animal Evacuation and Shelter Appendix: January 2007

VI. TABS

- A. List of animal organizations and volunteers.
- B. List of animal owners and their animals, which need evacuation assistance.
- C. List of animal transportation resources, including vehicles and cages.
- D. List of animal shelters and capacity.