

CT Capitol Region RED Plan – ESF 11 Annex

Questions, comments, and copies of the RED Plan can be obtained by contacting email address: whaustin@westhartford.org or consulting the CRCOG website at www.crcog.org

Regional Emergency Support Function # 11: Animal Protection (Agriculture and Natural Resources)

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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Regional Coordinating Organizations

- Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) of the Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG)
- Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (CCRPA)
- Connecticut State Animal Response Team Steering Committee

Federal Government Animal Protection Support Organizations

- U. S. Department of Homeland Security
- U. S. Department of Agriculture
- Veterinary Medical Assistance Teams
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9

Connecticut State Animal Protection Support Organizations

- Connecticut Department of Public Safety
- Connecticut Department of the Military
- Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Animal Control Division
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Wildlife Division

Local

- Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)
- Region 3 Animal Response Team (R3ART)

Private

- American Red Cross – Charter Oak Chapter of Connecticut and Central Connecticut Chapter
- Connecticut State Animal Response Team
- Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association
- Connecticut Veterinary Medical Foundation
- Salvation Army
- Faith Based Organizations

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose

The purpose of RESF 11 Animal Protection is to provide emergency animal protection

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services during a major disaster in the Capitol Region. Additionally, this document explains the roles and responsibilities of the Region 3 Animal Response Team (R3ART) during an actual emergency.

B. Scope

RESF 11 Animal Protection is intended to focus on the development and implementation of the animal rescue and evacuation system. The scope of this system would be to plan and organize pre-event, event, and post-event requirements. Mission support teams (emergency response teams) will be established that are regionally oriented under the Citizen Corps Council concept. Actions of R3ART may include rescue, shelter, control, feeding, preventative immunization of animals and emergency veterinary care. Given their propensity to flee under most circumstances, and the risk of injury to humans and animals, wildlife should be left to their own survival and escape instincts. The system developed will be a component of the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment Plan (RED) Plan as well as facilitating interaction with the state disaster plan and National Response Plan.

II POLICIES

1. RESF 11 Animal Protection will not usurp or override the policies of any federal agency, state government, or local government or jurisdiction.
2. The National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS) as taught by the National Fire Academy will be used.
3. The Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) will facilitate coordination among member organizations to ensure the RESF 11 procedures are appropriately followed and are in concert with the stated missions and objectives of the Capitol Region Emergency Deployment (RED) Plan.
4. Essential information will be conveyed through the Regional Integrated Communication System (RICS) as required by the incident and in accordance with existing ICS protocols. To activate RICS call **860-832-3477** any time **twenty-four** hours a day.

III. SITUATION

A. Regional Emergency Condition

A regional incident has occurred that requires extensive animal response or protection services to citizens and/or emergency response personnel in the Capitol Region.

B. Planning Assumptions

1. The region can provide emergency response teams (ERTs) to assist with the animal response operations.
2. CREPC will not assume any command and control activities.

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3. Command and control is vested in and recognized as the responsibility of the jurisdiction where the incident or event is occurring.
4. The owners of pets and livestock, when notified of an impending emergency, will take reasonable steps to shelter and protect their animals.
5. The region will plan for emergency events and carry out the response and recovery operations using local resources.
6. Plans shall include the anticipated sheltering of animals.
7. Public information about the care and protection of animals will be provided to ESF 5 Emergency Management for dissemination.

IV. CONCEPT OF COORDINATION

A. General

1. In the event of a regional incident, RESF 11 will be notified.
2. Support agencies will coordinate and execute their responsibilities as outlined under the RED Plan.
3. Animal Response operations will be conducted under the ICS system.
4. Requests for information regarding animal rescue operations will be directed to RICS or directly to RESF 5 Emergency Management.

B. Notification

Upon notification by any jurisdiction of a potential or actual regional incident involving the prolonged evacuation or animal response activities, RICS will provide a communication platform to support the coordinated response of the participating agencies. RESF Emergency Management provides for the interaction of the multi-directional flow of communication.

The activation of RICS should follow this format:

- A designated authority or incident commander (or the agency’s dispatcher) calls RICS at **860-832-3477** anytime 24/7 and requests **specific resources** (for example, 25 medical transport units, 40 additional police officers, 10 engine companies, etc.) or the **activation of the RED Plan** where the RCC will anticipate resource needs without a specific request.
- RICS will broadcast the message over the “Intercity” radio frequency.
- RICS will notify the chairperson of each RESF on the situation/event and provide the contact number in the message for the chairperson of RESF 5 Emergency Management or the designated back-up official.
- The chair of RESF 11 Animal Protection will call the ESF 5 Duty Officer and ask for instructions.
- The Duty Officer for RESF 5 will determine the need to establish a Regional

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Coordination Center (RCC).

- The chair of RESF 11 shall be responsible for calling/notifying additional members of the emergency function.

The radio designation for the chairperson of RESF 11 Animal Protection is **Unit 281**.

C. Coordination

Initial Actions

Coordinate with other RESFs to share information regarding the regional emergency. Provide periodic situation reports via the incident commander (IC) of the affected jurisdictions through the RICS. The R3ART will function with response units that may include: Large Animal Unit; Small Animal Unit; Wildlife Unit; and Technical Search and Rescue Unit.

Continuing Actions

Continue information sharing, monitoring and tracking of trends in animal response requirements. Evaluate continuing needs. Continue to provide ongoing care for animals under RESF 11 control. Facilitate return of animals to owners as soon as possible.

Stand Down

The demobilization process will follow NIMS/ICS accepted practices. Unclaimed animals to be managed consistent with Connecticut state law and exigencies of current situation.

After Action Critique

CREPC will coordinate the after action critique effort to include all animal response teams, supporting agencies and supporting RESFs.

V. EXECUTION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 11

A. RESF 11 Animal Protection Participating and Supporting Agencies

Animal protection regional partners participating in a regional emergency animal response or evacuation event will, to the best of their ability, contribute information to RICS as required by the incident and the RED Plan policy. R3ART will coordinate animal response operations under the direction of the Incident Commander or as a support operation under the direction of the Regional Coordination Center.

B. Essential Elements of Information

1. One of the primary purposes of the RED Plan is to facilitate the exchange of information among the various agencies during emergency situations.
2. In the event of a regional animal response or evacuation incident, local, state, and regional support agencies will be able to exchange information, including, but not limited to:
 - Jurisdictions involved

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- Status of emergency response trailers
- Status of food/water supplies
- Status of emergency response teams assisting in the operation
- Status of communication systems
- Logistical problems
- Public Health inspection needs
- Animal shelter operations
- Status of special needs service animals
- Status of the Governor’s First Horse Guard Militia Company

Mitigation Phase

During the mitigation phase, RESF 11 leadership, teams, and support agencies will accomplish the following:

- All personnel will be trained on the RED Plan activation and implementation.
- All emergency response teams (ERTs) and supporting agencies will be trained on NIMS/ICS protocols.

Emergency Phase

During the emergency phase, RESF 11 will provide animal response and evacuation services to the extent that the mission requires

Recovery Phase

During the recovery phase, RESF 11 will continue to provide services initiated in the emergency phase. Additional sheltering services may be initiated during the recovery phase.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR REGIONAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 11

Administrative information and supplemental data for RESF 11 operations is contained in the following policies and/or documents:

- RICS will be administered by and through CCSU (police department).
- “Plain language” text will be used in all regional communications.
- Target Capabilities List (Version 2.0)
- R3ART Operations Manual