The Future of Veterinary Services

Dr. Thomas J. Myers
NPIP Biennial Conference
September 2012
VS described long-term goals as part of VS 2015, now “VS: Vision and Science.”
Forces Driving Change

- Evolution of animal agriculture
- Expanding trade
- Global and emerging diseases
Forces Driving Change

- New technologies
- Emergencies, disasters, & agroterrorism
- Food safety concerns
- Flat or decreasing budgets
VS Current Structure

Deputy Administrator
Chief Veterinary Officer
John R. Clifford

Field Operations
- Eastern Region
- Western Region

National Center for Animal Health Emergency Management
- National Veterinary Services Laboratories
- Center for Veterinary Biologics

National Animal Health Policy & Programs
- Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health
- National Center for Import and Export
- National Center for Animal Health Programs

Chief Operating Officer
Meeting the Challenges

• Fewer line items: from 45 to 29
• VS budget:
  2012: $321,000,000 (↓ 8.8%)
  2011: $352,000,000 (↓ 7.7%)
• Staff reduced by 180
• Changes to cooperative agreements
VS Restructure

John Clifford, Deputy Administrator

Movement & Marketability (M&M)

Surveillance, Preparedness & Response (SPR)

Science, Technology & Analysis (STA)

Program Support Services (PSS)
Benefits of Restructuring

• Consolidates like functions into 4 units
  – Enhances customer service
  – Leverages employee expertise
  – Provides for employee specialization

• Integrates policy and operations
  – Flattens and streamlines VS
  – Allows decisionmaking at lowest possible level
Regulatory Streamlining

- Moving details to program standards
- Examples completed or in progress
- Will maintain force of law
- Changed through notice and comment
How Agencies Seek Public Input

Secretary’s Advisory Committee

- Officially recognized
- Can reach consensus
- Receive Federal support

Stakeholder groups

- Not officially recognized
- Cannot reach consensus
- Independently administered and financed
Status of GCC

- Unique membership: Elected, not appointed
- Charter renewed every two years
- Several aspects for approval: ethics, outreach, diversity, industry balance
Possibilities for GCC

• Continue as SAC
  ➢ Option 1: Change membership process
  ➢ Option 2: Operate under SACAH

• Do not continue as SAC
  ➢ Option 1: Hold public meetings without voting
  ➢ Option 2: Become an independent body
  ➢ Option 3: Conduct negotiated rulemaking

Other ideas?
Questions or Comments?