

Veterinary Services Reorganization

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

“APHIS Veterinary Services is committed to providing all of our stakeholders and partners with superior customer service and effective partnerships. VS’ reorganization is designed to better align our organization with our animal health mission allowing VS to continue to deliver our services efficiently and effectively.”

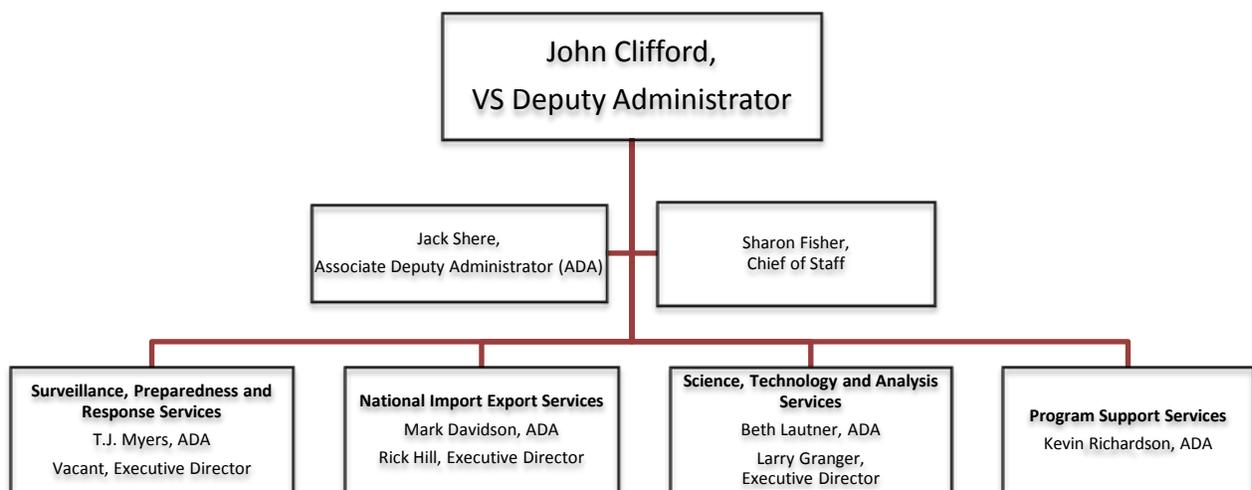
John Clifford, APHIS Deputy Administrator for Veterinary Services

Introduction:

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Veterinary Services (VS) implemented its reorganization in early November 2013. It will take time, however, to get fully accustomed to the new structure, work out all of the details of the reorganization, and establish new business processes. During this transition, VS will work to ensure that customer needs are met. This document provides basic information about the new structure to assist stakeholders in navigating the reorganized VS.

The VS Organizational Structure:

Under VS’ new organizational structure, four strategically focused organizational units have been created. The four units are: Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Services (SPRS), National Import Export Services (NIES), Science, Technology and Analysis Services (STAS), and Program Support Services (PSS). Organizing by major services allows VS to better align with the changing dynamics of animal health and the needs of our customers. The following chart provides a high level view of VS’ new organizational structure:



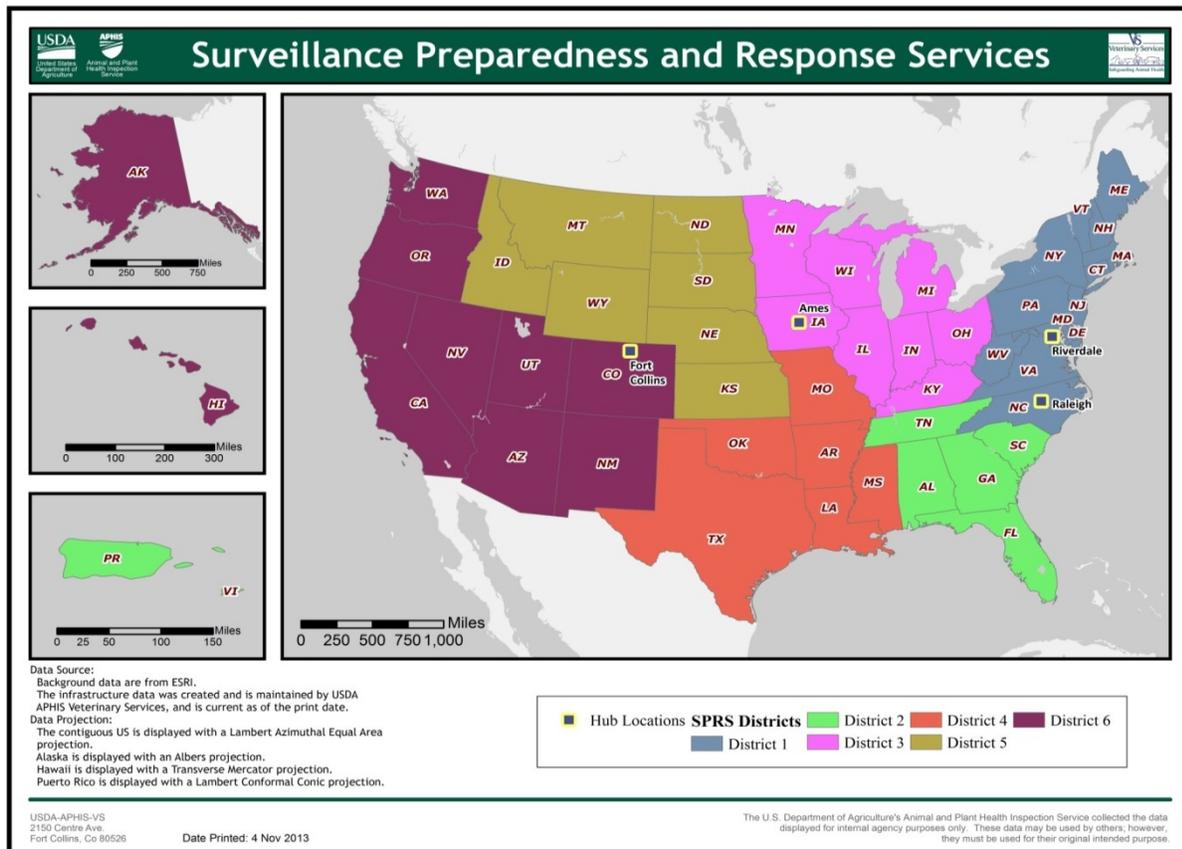
Overview of VS Business Units:

Surveillance, Preparedness and Response Services (SPRS)

SPRS focuses on the broad spectrum of animal health needs centered on each of the major animal commodity groups. For each commodity, SPRS will carry out functions ranging from early awareness and surveillance to the development and field implementation of animal health programs and emergency response, including One Health issues.

SPRS comprises the Animal Health Centers, the National Preparedness and Incident Coordination Center, the SPRS Logistics Center, the One Health Coordination Center, and the Districts (see Appendix 1 for the SPRS Organizational Chart). Six geographic Districts provide leadership for the implementation of all VS surveillance, preparedness, and response field activities. Within each District, Assistant District Directors will serve as the primary points of contact for State Animal Health Officials and other local stakeholders. The following map highlights the new VS Districts:

SPRS Key Services:
 animal health incident management; commodity business planning; disease program, surveillance, and animal disease traceability policy setting and administration; emergency preparedness; epidemiologic investigations and tracing; veterinary accreditation; and veterinary stockpiling.



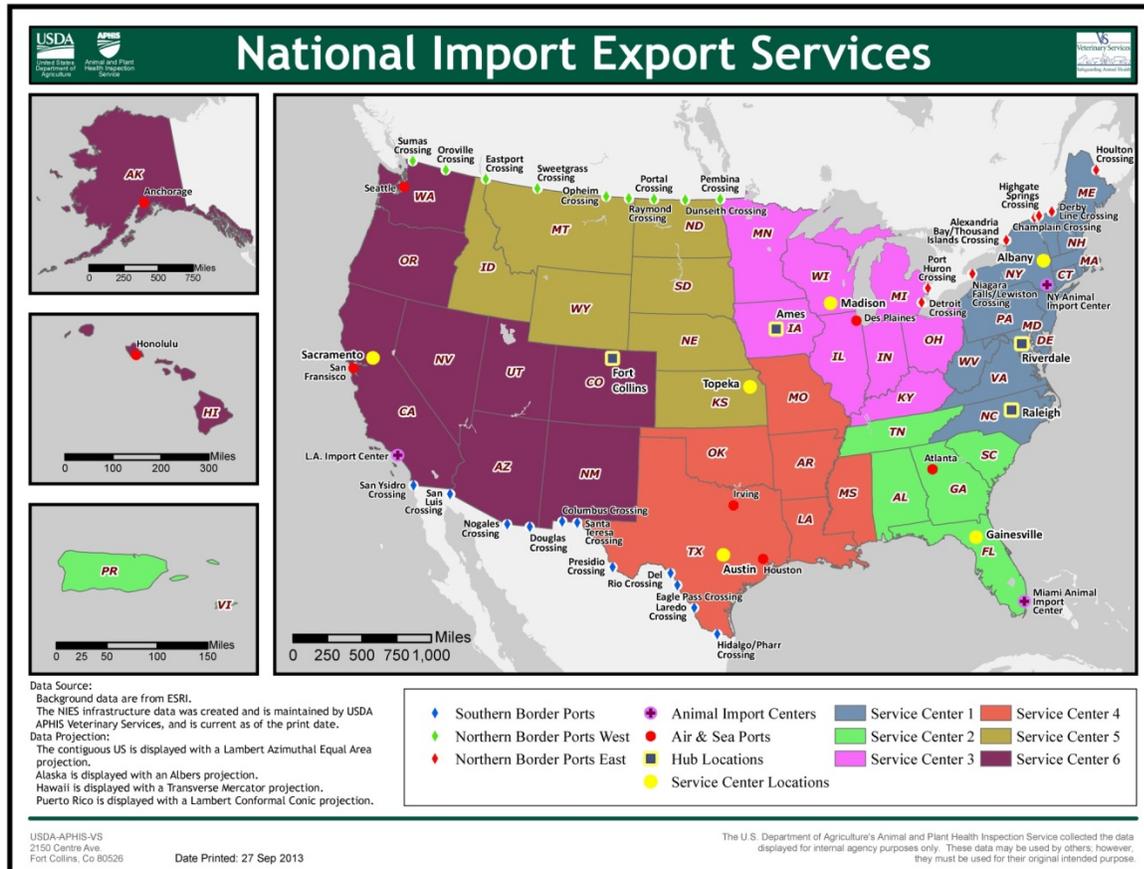
National Import Export Services (NIES)

NIES brings together VS' import and export activities, from policy setting to inspection at ports of entry. NIES comprises Policy, Permitting and Regulatory Services, District Field Services, Animal Import Center Services, Port Services, Agricultural Select Agent Services, and International Animal Health Standards Services (see Appendix 2 for the NIES Organizational Chart).

NIES operates six service centers, several animal quarantine facilities, and multiple ports of entry. The following map highlights NIES' service locations.

NIES Key Services:

import animal and animal product inspection and quarantine; import and export policy setting and administration; facility inspection; health certificate endorsement; World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) representation and disease reporting; pathways analysis and risk assessment; permit issuance; pre-export inspection; and select agent registration and inspection.



Science, Technology and Analysis Services (STAS)

STAS brings together VS science centers to provide the solid scientific, technical, and analytical foundation needed to support VS in meeting its mission responsibilities. STAS will leverage and integrate the scientific expertise that is inherent throughout VS and allow VS to incorporate new science and technologies to provide the best analysis, expertise, and information for policy and decision makers. STAS comprises the Center for Veterinary Biologics, the National Veterinary Services Laboratories, the Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health, and Interagency Coordination (see Appendix 3 for the STAS Organizational Chart).

STAS Key Services:

analysis of response options; animal disease modeling; animal health data acquisition, analysis, and interpretation; animal health data standards; animal health surveillance design; diagnostic capability and capacity; economic analysis; national animal health laboratory network coordination; national studies and large scale epidemiological investigations; OIE Collaborating Center; predictive modeling; risk assessments; veterinary biologics approval and monitoring regulatory activities.

Program Support Services (PSS)

PSS provides key support services for both VS personnel and stakeholders. PSS comprises the Planning, Finance and Strategy Staff, Management Support Staff (including the Professional Development Staff), the Chief Information Officer, and the Writing, Editing, and Regulatory Coordination Staff (see Appendix 4 for the PSS Organizational Chart).

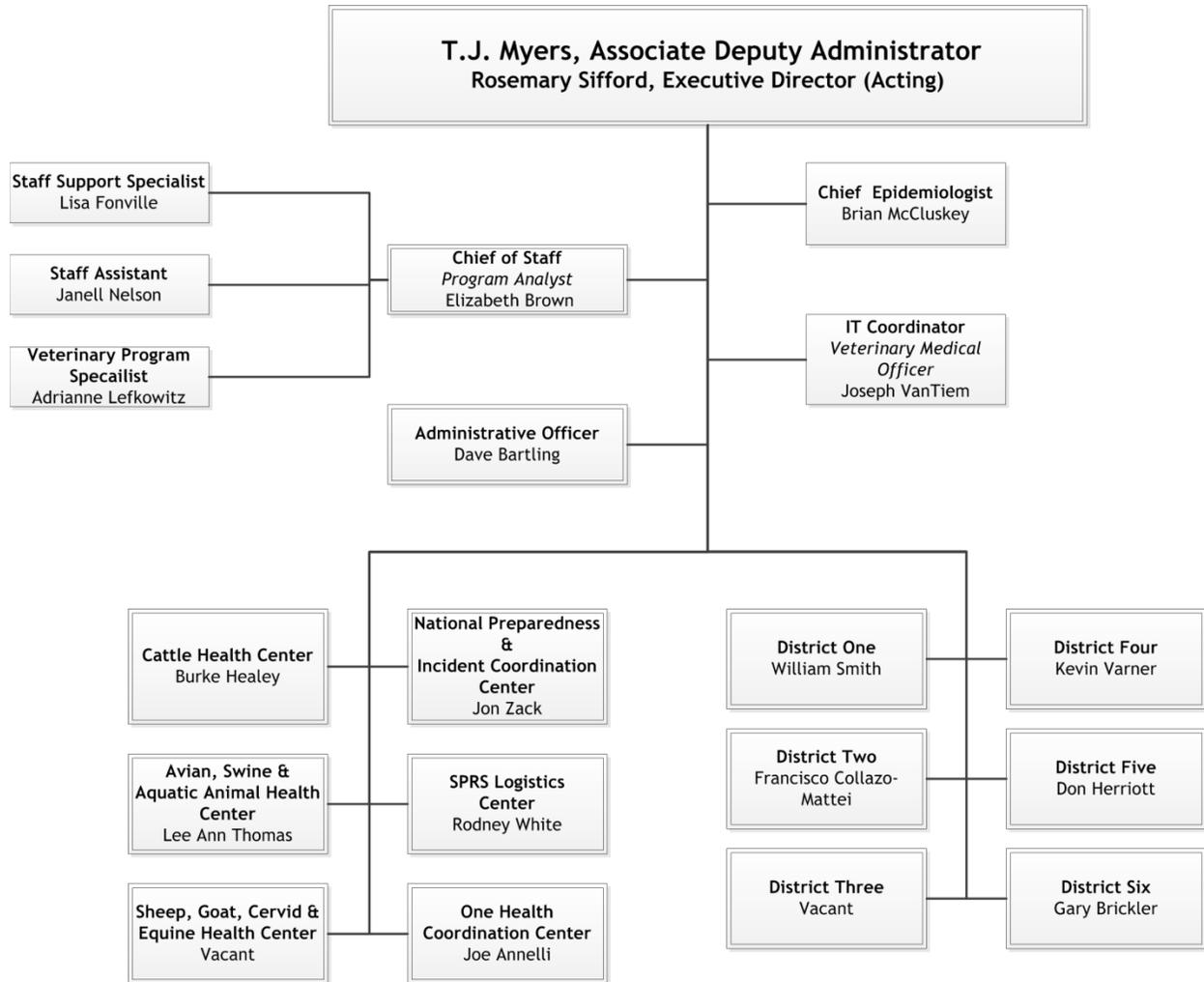
PSS Key Services:

animal health budget formulation and monitoring; animal health information technology systems; guidance documents; regulatory coordination; recruitment; Secretary's Advisory Committee on Animal Health facilitation; strategic planning; technical training; and workforce/succession planning.

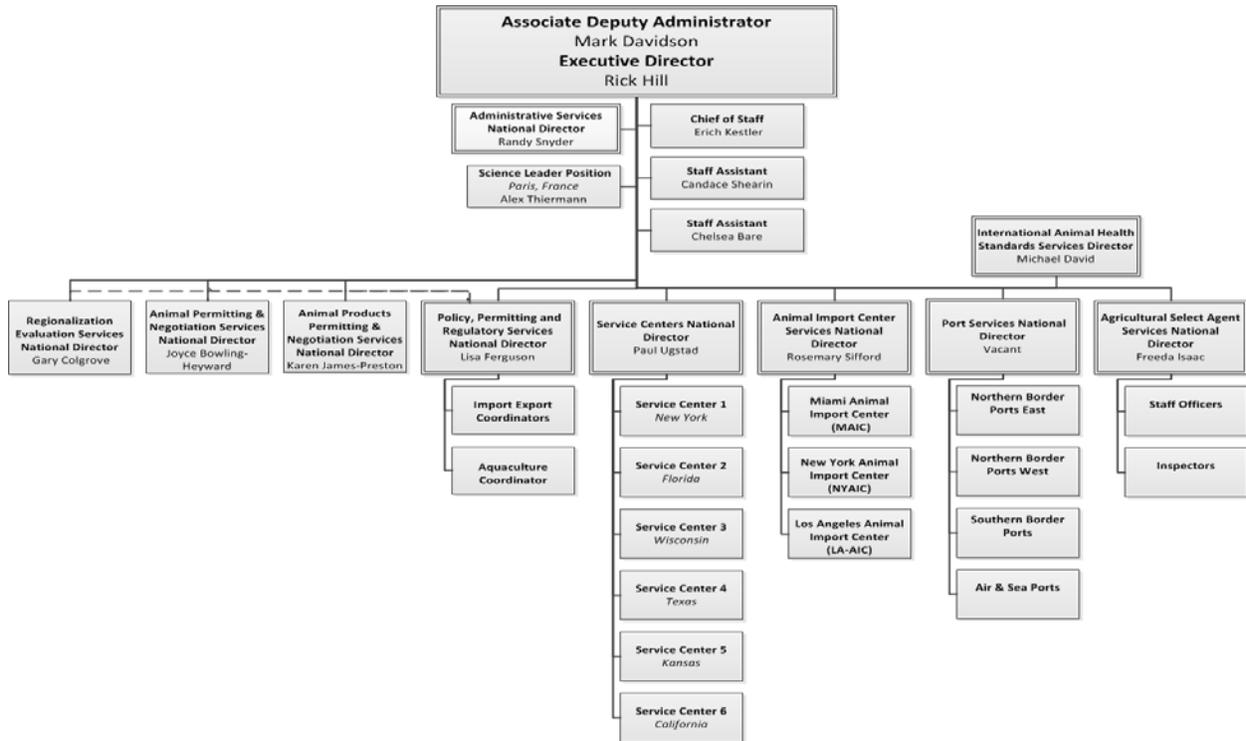
What VS Stakeholders Need to Know:

VS understands that implementing its reorganization will cause some changes to the way stakeholders interact with VS. VS will make every effort to ensure a smooth transition. While contacts may change, stakeholders can expect the same high level of service from VS. An updated list of contacts can be found on the VS website at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/index.shtml, under the section titled "VS Reorganization Information." In addition to contact information, other reference documents will also be posted over time to help stakeholders navigate the new VS organizational structure.

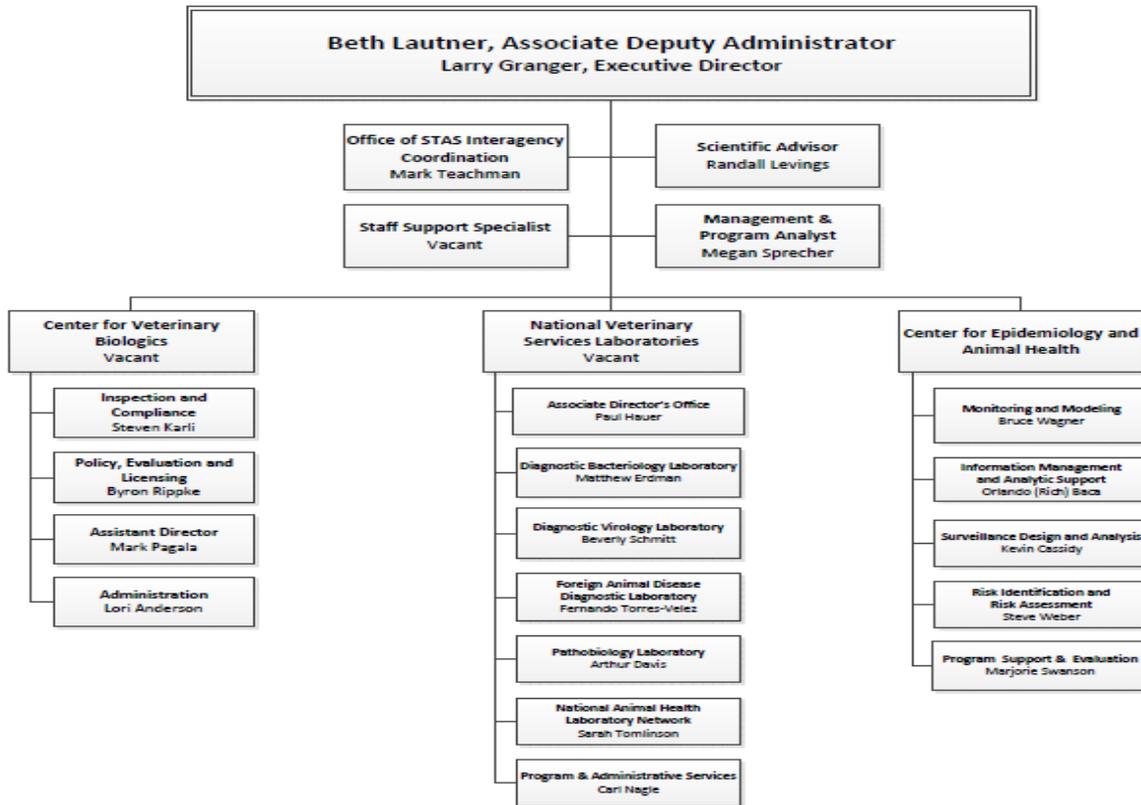
Appendix 1: SPRS Organizational Structure



Appendix 2: NIES Organizational Structure



Appendix 3: STAS Organizational Structure



Appendix 4: PSS Organizational Structure

