



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:
17. OVERVIEW OF
THE NATIONAL VETERINARY STOCKPILE

FAD PReP

Foreign Animal Disease
Preparedness & Response Plan



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Veterinary Services

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The Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan (FAD PReP) standard operating procedures (SOPs) provide operational guidance for responding to an animal health emergency in the United States.

These draft SOPs are under ongoing review. This document was last updated in **November 2013**. Please send questions or comments to:

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FAD PReP

Foreign Animal Disease
Preparedness and Response Plan

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17.1 Introduction

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 9 (HSPD-9) prescribed the establishment of the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) in 2004. The NVS was developed to protect the nation's agriculture and food system by holding medical countermeasures, such as vaccine and antivirals, against the most damaging animal diseases affecting human health and the economy. The directive reflected the national concern that a major animal health incident (intentional or unintentional) could quickly deplete available resources within the State, Tribe, or Territory and overwhelm the private sector's ability to support such a disaster.

Operational in 2006, the NVS can deploy countermeasures anywhere in the continental United States within 24 hours. This capability minimizes resource constraints from hindering a State or local response to an animal health incident. The NVS deploys its assets when Federal and State officials expect the scale of a disaster to deplete local resources and senior Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) management approves the deployment.

The NVS currently resides in the Surveillance, Preparedness, and Response Services (SPRS) Logistics Center, in SPRS, Veterinary Services.

17.2 Goals

17.2.1 Preparedness Goal

The goal for preparedness is to obtain sufficient amounts of critical veterinary countermeasures, including supplies, equipment, field diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutic products, commercial response service animal vaccine, antivirals for responders, or therapeutic products for the most damaging animal diseases affecting human health and the economy.

17.2.2 Response Goal

The goal for emergency response is to deliver the amount of requested animal vaccine, antiviral for responders, or therapeutic products to respond appropriately to the most damaging animal diseases affecting human health and the economy, and be able to provide response support within 24 hours of an outbreak.

17.3 Guidelines

The NVS is the nation's repository of critical veterinary countermeasures, including supplies, equipment, vaccines, and commercial response services such as emergency transportation and commercial 3D. It exists to provide States and Tribes the resources they need to fight catastrophic animal disasters that nature or terrorists may cause. Because the arrival of NVS countermeasures in 24 hours benefits responders in the field only if a State is ready to process and distribute the countermeasures, the NVS maintains a vigorous outreach program that includes

- providing publications that States can download from the [NVS website](#) to help them understand the NVS and plan for using it,
- facilitating the development of State plans that allow States to effectively prepare for and respond to animal health events,

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- providing support for exercises to help States test their logistics plans for the NVS and other resources, and
 - coordinating on-site visits from NVS experts to provide training and planning assistance.

17.4 Procedures

The following is a summary of steps to request NVS countermeasures and the State's responsibilities once the countermeasures arrive. Detailed information can be found in the *NVS Planning Guide for Federal, State, and Local Authorities*. The *NVS Template for a State NVS Plan* provides a format for creating a written State plan:

- The State Animal Health Official (typically the State Veterinarian) and the APHIS SPRS Assistant District Director determine that existing resources will not be enough and decide they need help from the NVS.
- They contact the appropriate SPRS District Director, who concurs with their assessment and calls the NVS/National Preparedness and Incident Coordination (NPIC) emergency hotline, (800) 940-6524.
- The NVS returns the call immediately and engages in a conference call with necessary officials to determine the details of the request, including the
 - damaging animal disease,
 - infected species and estimated number of animals,
 - number of responders fielded immediately,
 - number of affected premises, and
 - name and contact information for point of contact in Incident Command.
- Once APHIS approves the NVS deployment, the NVS informs the District Director and coordinates the deployment with State personnel. Depending on the size of the response and availability of NVS personnel, it may deploy a mobile logistics team to give State personnel technical assistance regarding the NVS.
- The State activates a system (typically one or more warehouses) for
 - receiving the countermeasures,
 - storing them,
 - managing and replenishing the inventory of countermeasures,
 - issuing the countermeasures,
 - staging the countermeasures for delivery,
 - delivering them to responders in the field,
 - recovering unused and reusable countermeasures after an event, and
 - packing recovered countermeasures and coordinating with the NVS for their return to NVS distribution facilities.

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- The State deactivates its system for distributing countermeasures.

17.5 NVS References

The [NVS website](#) provides a wealth of references to help States prepare logistically for large-scale events. The following is partial list:

- The *Planning Guide for Federal, State, and Local Authorities* that suggests what States should consider in their logistics plans.
- The *Template for a State NVS Plan* that provides a convenient format and much of the text a State may want to use in creating its own unique plan for countermeasures from the NVS and other sources.
- A checklist for evaluating readiness that enables States to evaluate their readiness to receive, process, and distribute countermeasures.
- A program brochure summarizing the NVS that States may use to acquaint their personnel and others about the NVS.

Planners who have questions about any aspect of the NVS should send their questions to NVS@aphis.usda.gov.

Attachment 17.A Abbreviations

APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
3D	depopulation, disposal, and decontamination
FAD PReP	Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Plan
NPIC	National Preparedness and Incident Coordination
NVS	National Veterinary Stockpile
SOP	standard operating procedure
SPRS	Surveillance, Preparedness, and Response Services
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture