

During an animal health emergency response, ensuring the health and safety of responders will be essential. Specific hazards encountered during a response may vary depending on the situation. Increasing your awareness of the potential hazards and procedures for reporting unsafe working conditions will better prepare you to ensure the health and safety of yourself and other responders during the response event. This presentation will review the key factors related to responder security and safety during an animal health emergency response. [This information was derived from the Foreign Animal Disease Preparedness and Response (FAD PReP)/National Animal Health Emergency Management System (NAHEMS) Guidelines: Health and Safety (2011).]

S Security Officer

• Works with Operations Section Chief
• Duties
• Assesses security threat
• Enforces entry and exit requirements
• Establishes personnel identification system
• Uses temporary fencing if needed

Maintaining security at the incident site is important for protecting the health and safety of responders and the public. The Security Officer works under the Operations Section Chief to establish and maintain security for the incident site. All personnel must adhere to the security procedures established for the incident. Personnel will receive information about on-site security procedures during their initial briefing.

Duties of the Security Officer include:

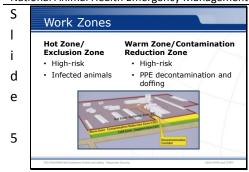
- Assessing the potential security threats to all buildings, dwellings, and sites occupied by APHIS personnel
- Enforcing entry and exit requirements
- Establishing a personnel identification system, and
- Determining the need for temporary fencing

S I i d Site Security and Safety e 3

It is important to be aware of the different types of work zones to ensure security and safety. Work zones control site access, which will reduce the spread of disease. Let us examine the purpose of work zones, and the different type of work zones.

S Work Zones i Purpose of work zones - Control site access - Reduce risk of spread of disease - Establishment of work zones - Personnel are properly protected - Work activities/contamination are confined - Personnel can be located quickly

Controlling access to the site is important in order to control movement of people into and out of the incident area, reduce the risk of spreading infectious agents or hazardous materials to clean areas, and to monitor the area for signs that an agent is spreading. Additionally, the establishment of work zones ensures personnel entering the worksite are properly protected against hazards while working; work activities and contamination are confined to certain areas, and personnel can be located quickly and evacuated if necessary.

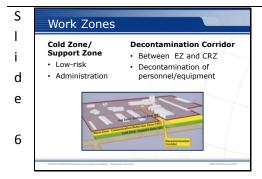


The Exclusion Zone (EZ) or Hot Zone is the high risk area where infected animals are housed and is potentially contaminated and considered unsafe. Examples include an area of a farm, local market or roadside stand. PPE must be worn. Appraisal, depopulation, disposal, and facility cleaning and decontamination of the site and equipment occur in this area. Personnel and equipment enter and exit the EZ through designated access points in the Contamination Reduction Zone (CRZ).

The CRZ or Warm Zone is a high risk area due to the potential of exposure to pathogens and chemical disinfectants. Entry from the CRZ to either the Support Zone (SZ) or Exclusion Zone occurs through designated access points. For workers exiting the EZ, final decontamination and disinfection of PPE and equipment, as well as final doffing of PPE occur in the CRZ. Site-specific protocols for PPE, decontamination and disinfection must be strictly followed. [This graphic shows a sample setup of work zones on a farm. Graphic illustration by: Dani Ausen and Andrew Kingsbury, Iowa State University]

The Support Zone (SZ) or Cold Zone is the "cleanest" work zone with the lowest relative risk of exposure to pathogens and other hazards such as decontamination chemicals. Facilities for donning PPE before entering other zones are provided. Contaminated articles and equipment are prohibited in these areas; decontamination activities are also prohibited.

The Decon (Decontamination) Corridor is the area between the EZ Control Line and the CRZ Control Line. Decontamination of personnel and equipment occurs along the corridor with stations for depositing tools, equipment, protective clothing and other items. The level of contamination should decrease along this corridor from the EZ to the SZ. Teams enter and exit the EZ through the access control points at each end of the corridor. [This graphic shows a sample setup of work zones on a farm. Graphic illustration by: Dani Ausen and Andrew Kingsbury, Iowa State University]



S i d Personnel Security and Safety e 7

Personnel must be accounted for at ALL times. Personnel working in the Exclusion Zone and assigned to field work should utilize the "buddy system". Personnel will work in pairs and stay in close visual contact in order to observe each other and quickly summon assistance in the event of an emergency. Let us take a closer look at accountability and the "buddy system".

S Accountability 1 Personnel i - Accounted for at ALL times - Site investigations, contaminated areas d Communication e - Methods established by Security Officer - Cell phone, radio, hand signal, etc. · Enter/exit through designated points

Personnel must be accounted for at all times during a deployment. This includes personnel conducting site investigations or personnel working in confined contaminated zones. The Security Officer will establish methods to ensure all personnel are accounted for at all times. Communication may be by cell phone, radio, hand signal or other method as assigned for the specific situation. Personnel must enter and exit the deployment facility through designated points and follow check-in and check-out procedures. When leaving the facility, responders must verbally notify their Team Leader of their destination.

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S **Buddy System** 1 · Hot Zone/Exclusion Zone i · Work in pairs - Close visual contact d - Assist partner as needed e - Observe for signs of distress - Periodically check PPE - Find emergency assistance 9 if needed

Personnel working in the Exclusion Zone and assigned to field work should utilize the "buddy system". Personnel will work in pairs and stay in close visual contact in order to observe each other and quickly summon assistance in the event of an emergency. Consult the Incident HASP or the Safety Officer for details regarding incident-specific procedures. Responders using the buddy system will:

- Remain in close visual contact with their partner.
- Assist their partner as requested or needed.
- Observe their partner for signs of distress (e.g., heat stress or other difficulties.)
- Periodically check the integrity of their partner's PPE (refer to the FAD PReP/NAHEMS Guidelines: Personal Protective Equipment and briefing instructions for further details) and
- Notify the site manager or other site personnel if emergency assistance is needed.

[This photo shows two responders using the buddy system while working during a response. Photo source: Gordon Harman, FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness]

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Safety Issues

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We will look at the following safety considerations in the next slides: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);

Driving and Vehicle use;

Accident protocol; and

Non-cooperative owners.

Safety While in PPE • Essential to worker health and safety • Know time limits • Be aware of safe levels exposure in hazardous environments • Monitor for signs of fatigue and heat-related illness

The proper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential to worker health and safety and prevents the spread of harmful agents beyond the control area. For more information, see FAD PReP/NAHEMS Guidelines: PPE (2011), and Biosecurity (2011). Certain types of PPE should only be worn for a specified length of time. Know the time limits for assigned PPE. Responders, especially those who are assigned to work extended hours, need to be aware of the limitations of protective equipment and the maximum allowable wearing time. Responders working in hazardous environments must be aware of the safe levels of exposure to hazardous environments. Contact your Team Leader or Safety Officer with questions regarding exposures to hazardous materials. Fatigue and heat-related illnesses are common problems associated with the use of PPE on worksites. Responders must monitor themselves and their team members for signs of fatigue and heat-related illnesses. [This photo shows a responder working in PPE. Photo source: FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness]

S Driving/Vehicle Use Ι · Responders with driving responsibility i - Must take 8-hour National Safety Council Defensive Driving Training d · Must have a valid drivers license · Obey all traffic laws e • Vehicle use only for government business and basic personal needs - Meals, hotel 1 2

Responders using vehicles are responsible for their safe operation and condition. All response personnel with driving responsibilities will take the 8 Hour National Safety Council Defensive Driving Training for new employees with a 4 hour refresher course documented every 3 years. Vehicles will be issued only to personnel with valid driver's licenses. Have your driver's license in your possession when operating a vehicle. Make sure the vehicle registration information is in the vehicle. Vehicles are to be used only for government business and basic personal needs (e.g., transportation to and from hotels, meals, grocery store, etc.). Vehicles may not be used for personal purposes. Additional driving and vehicle use guidelines are outlined in the FAD PReP/NAHEMS Guidelines: Health and Safety. Persons violating the vehicle use protocols may be subject to discipline.

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Vehicle Use

I Inspect vehicles before and after use
Interior and exterior
Vehicle inspection guidelines in APHIS Motor Vehicle Manual
Personnel may be held responsible for damage

Accidents can happen. Personnel may be held personally responsible for damage to vehicles. Always inspect the interior and exterior of all vehicles for damage before and after each use. Information on what constitutes a vehicle inspection is contained in Chapter 4 of the APHIS Motor Vehicle Manual.

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Following any vehicle accident occurring on the road, contact the State Highway Patrol and your supervisor. Follow the protocol for seeking treatment of personal injuries. If a parked vehicle is hit, response personnel should contact the owner of the vehicle and exchange information. If possible, take pictures of the vehicles. The Highway Patrol does not need to be notified in the event of an accident involving a parked vehicle. [This photo shows a motor vehicle accident. Photo source: Katelyn Harvey, Iowa State University]

S Vehicle Accident Protocol Ī · Report all accidents/damage i Accident reporting kits - All Agency motor vehicles d - Found in glove box e · Accidents due to recklessness/negligence - Not tolerated - Personnel held responsible 1 5

All motor vehicles assigned to the Agency should contain accident reporting kits (AD-651), found in the glove box. (MN-Property will send packets to ICS; ICS must distribute). Use Standard Form 91 (SF 91) "Motor Vehicle Accident Report," available from the Finance Unit or Ground Sup-port to make an accident report. State Personnel should use Form STD 270, "Vehicle Accident Report," available from the Finance Unit or Ground Support to make an accident report. Vehicle accidents due to recklessness or negligence will not be tolerated. Response personnel may be held personally responsible for damage to vehicles.

Access to private premises Owners may react differently Procedure Travel in teams Cell phones are necessary Avoid confrontations Leave the area if safety concerns exist Document all quarantine compliance and safety concerns

· Contact law enforcement if needed

Non-Cooperative Owners

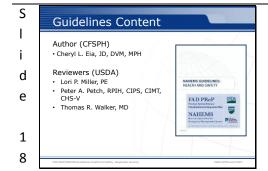
During some incidents it will be necessary for personnel to gain access to private premises to undertake job duties. Owners may react to teams requesting entry onto their property in different ways depending on the nature of the incident and the work to be performed (e.g., examination and testing of animals, depopulation). In interacting with owners, use the following guidelines:

- All field personnel must travel in teams. No one should be in the field alone
- All field teams must have a cell phone and phone number list
- Avoid confrontation. A situation can escalate without warning
- If a field team has a safety concern, they should leave the area, and, depending on the urgency of the situation, call their supervisor or law enforcement
- Field teams must document all quarantine compliance and safety concerns
- If requested, law enforcement can periodically check the area, or off-duty officers may be hired to help maintain the peace. Field teams should contact their supervisor if they feel law enforcement back up is necessary



More details can be obtained from the sources listed on the slide, available on the USDA website

(http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/emergency_management/) and the NAHERC Training Site (http://naherc.sws.iastate.edu/).



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