

Animal Health Emergency Management Response Planning Update

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Panel 27 – Models and Databases for Decision Makers on
Foreign Animal and Zoonotic Diseases

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VS NCAHEM Mission

- Develops strategies and policies for effective incident management
- Coordinates incident responses
- Three divisions:
 - Interagency Coordination
 - Preparedness and Incident Coordination
 - National Veterinary Stockpile



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APHIS Emergency Response

Key Concepts

- Partnership between State, Federal, industry, and Tribal entities
- Integrated and coordinated response to emergencies
- Communicate, prepare, assess, test, and exercise
- Response capabilities
(Finance/Administration-Logistics-Ops-Planning)
- Integrate, synchronize, and cooperate



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APHIS Emergency Preparedness

- Old approach was **response** oriented
- New approach is **prevention, preparedness, mitigation, and recovery** oriented
- New focus is:
 - all-hazards and multi-agency
 - applicable to intentional and catastrophic incidents
 - designed to operate with large scale interagency coordination
 - applicable to incidents with single or multiple sites



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Animal Emergency Response Guidance

- Revised Investigation Policy
 - Emphasizes actions and responsible officials
 - Clarifies priority designations & process
- Reworked national planning and response guidance
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant
 - Specific and comprehensive



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APHIS FAD PReP

- Foreign Animal Disease
Preparedness and Response Plan
 - Introductory and general sections
 - Disease specific plans (HPAI, FMD; others to come)
 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant
 - Detailed checklists and standard operating procedures
 - Draft available for comments, edits and suggestions



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Document Overview

National Response Framework (NRF)

A guide to how the Nation conducts all hazards responses.



National Incident Management System (NIMS)

A comprehensive, nationwide, systematic approach to incident management.



Strategic Guidelines, Plans and Concept of Operations—USDA

USDA Departmental level preparedness and planning guides.



Emergency Preparedness, Response & Management Systems—APHIS

APHIS level emergency management leadership and resources.



National Animal Health Emergency Management System—APHIS-VS

Clear, comprehensive, functional plans and tools that define for Federal, State and local officials the goals, objectives, strategies, procedures and timelines for effective FAD preparedness and response.



Veterinary Services Memorandums, Directives, & Notices—APHIS-VS



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Agent-Specific Response Planning

- Agent Response Plan
- Improved Emergency Response Guidance
- Agent Exercises
- Agent Modeling Activities
- NVS
- Countermeasure Strategies
- Coordination with Department of Homeland Security (DHS)



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APHIS FMD PReP

FMD Preparedness and Response Plan Topics

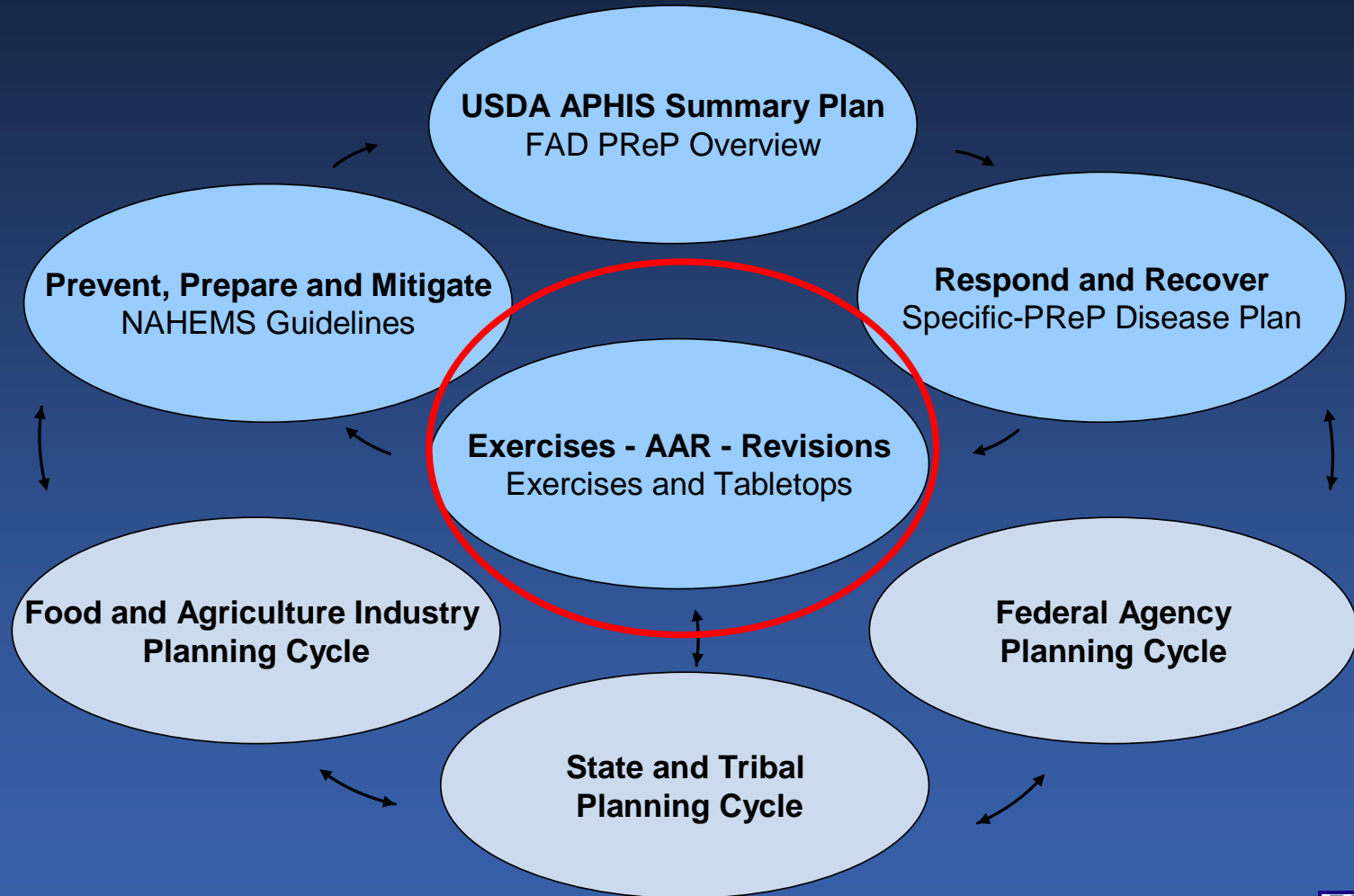
- Etiology and Ecology
- Case Definition
- Surveillance Objectives
- Diagnostics
- Communications
- Epidemiology
- Health and Safety
- Biosecurity
- Quarantine & Movement
- Mass Depopulation
- Disposal
- Vaccination
- Wildlife Management
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Appraisal and Compensation
- Emergency Management
- NRF & NIMS Structure
- Recovery
- Information Management
- National Veterinary Stockpile



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Fed/State/Tribal/Industry Coordination



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Modeling Activities

- Models are useful for understanding effects of mitigation strategies (vaccination, movement controls, etc.), planning for resource needs (stockpiling), and developing response exercises
- Models are loaded in a high speed computing environment (one can run on a regular PC)
- Models can account for cost parameters to support benefit/cost comparisons for various disease control strategies



Additional Modeling Activities

- Joint Modeling Operations Center
 - APHIS and Department of Homeland Security
 - Using animal disease spread models to develop and test strategies for containing outbreaks and devising countermeasures
- Foreign Animal Disease Threat Subcommittee
 - 13 Federal agencies collaborating together
 - Reviewing proposals to fund disease spread and economic models



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North American FMD Vaccine Bank (NAFMDVB)

- Consortium with Canada and Mexico established in 1982
- Acquires, stores, and quality controls concentrates and master seeds
- Contracts for finishing concentrate, procures conventional vaccines
- Monitors activity of virus strains globally
- Integrating with NVS
- Activated upon finding FMD in North America
 - Decision by Chief Veterinary Officers of all three countries



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Ongoing FMD Vaccine Planning

- International transport of antigen NAFMDVB in United States to manufacturers overseas for processing and return of finished vaccine
- International transport of commercial vaccine from manufacturers overseas and return to end users
- Transport of samples and reagents to labs
- Contractor large animal handling and depopulation training



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Overall Disease Response Resources

- **Supplies:** National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS)
- **Response Personnel:** National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps (NAHERC)
- **Laboratory Capacity:** National Animal Health Laboratory Network (NAHLN)



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NVS: Helping States Plan and Exercise

- Vigorous outreach effort to educate States
- Published NVS guide to educate States and help them plan to activate NVS
- Brief officials on information in the NVS guide
- Operate NVS web site:
 - <http://nvs.aphis.usda.gov>
- Support State exercises to test readiness



Current NVS Projects

- Improved rapid transport of samples to Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (5 hours versus 15 hours)
- Working on procedures to expedite the rapid movement of vaccine antigen concentrate overseas to be finished and returned
- Exercise to test vaccine movement
- Logistics analysis of requirements for supporting lab network surge during outbreak



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NAHERC: Personnel Surge Capacity

- NAHERC was formed in 2001 to provide an emergency reserve of veterinary professionals to respond to animal health emergencies
- The improved application process (through USAJobs), a NAHERC web site, a NAHERC coordinator, and outreach efforts have increased enrollment
- NAHERC currently has 606 members:
 - 262 Veterinary Medical Officers
 - 344 Animal Health Technicians



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NAHLN: Laboratory Surge Capacity

- NAHLN is a network of university and State laboratories approved to test certain samples
- NAHLN provides standardized rapid diagnostic techniques used at State/regional/national levels
- NAHLN can test more than 40,000 reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction FMD samples per day (working two shifts)
- Mobile laboratories may be needed in the future to assist with pen side diagnostic testing



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Continuity of Business Planning

- Greater emphasis in response pre-planning to minimize disruptions to business operations in future outbreaks
- Sector and commodity based risk assessments and industry biosecurity programs integrated into Area Command or Unified Command decision making



Continuity of Business Planning (cont.)

- Movement and permits for animals and animal products (by commodity and biosecurity program)
 - within control area
 - into control area
 - out of control area
- *Bottom line:*
 - Contingency plans for hour zero forward



Current Gaps

- Data
- Rapid Modeling Capability (within a day)
 - Trained Analysts with Trusted Models
- Common Operating Picture
 - Incident Mgt Team to National Coordination Team
- Complete Knowledge of Industry Business Rules
 - Continuity of Business
- Processes to Support Rapid Permitting
 - Continuity of Business Risk Assessments
- Methods to Deliver Exercises Often
 - Train and respond the same



Comments on DPS and FASTrans

- Common Operating Picture – all in one spot
- ‘Business’ rules being better defined
- Better transport data to fit in models



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Questions?



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