

CATASTROPHIC ANIMAL MORTALITY RESPONSE PLAN

Owner/Operator: _____ Plan Date: _____

Farm Name: _____ Location/County: _____

1. Owner/operator shall **NOTIFY** their **LOCAL VETERINARIAN** of the occurrence.
2. In the event of loss due to disease, the owner/operator shall **NOTIFY** the State Veterinarian (Dr. Martin Zaluski 406-444-2043) or the Federal Area Veterinarian [Dr. Thomas Linfield (406) 449-2220] within 24 hours.
3. If applicable, **NOTIFY** the integrator to remove useable mortalities and remaining live animals.
4. If applicable, **NOTIFY** the individuals and agencies listed on the Emergency Contact(s) sheet.
5. **REMOVE** mortalities from the production areas with healthy livestock.
6. **SECURE** any necessary permit(s) prior to proceeding with the chosen method of disposal (e.g., if an individual is hired to transport animals off premise, a permit is required from the Permitting and Compliance Division of Montana's Department of Environmental Quality, telephone (406) 444-5300). No permit is required if landowners bury or compost their own animals on site.
7. **DISPOSE** of mortalities according to NRCS Practice Standard 316, "Animal Mortality Facility."
8. **RECORD** date of catastrophic deaths, number of deaths, approximate weight of mortalities, and the disposal method.
9. **CHECK SOILS** suitability for carcass disposal by burial.

Access the Web Soil Survey <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/HomePage.htm>

- Identify soils in **Area of Interest (AOI)** tab, then select **Soil Data Explorer** tab
- To print data with area map go to: **Suitabilities and limitations for use** (lower tab)
Disaster Recovery Planning
Catastrophic Mortality, large animal disposal pit
Or Catastrophic Mortality, large animal disposal trench
- To print data only (without map) go to: **Soil Report** (lower tab)
Waste management
Large animal carcass disposal
- The difference between a pit and trench is based on soil strength and side slope stability. Values range from 0.01 to 1.00. The larger the value, the greater the potential limitation.

10. REFERENCE MATERIAL

- Carcass Disposal: A Comprehensive review.
<http://Krex.K-state.edu/dspace/handle/2097/662>

CATASTROPHIC ANIMAL MORTALITY RESPONSE PLAN

Emergency Contacts and Farm Information

Plan Date:	
Farm Name:	
Owner/Operator:	
Location/County:	
Physical Address of Facility:	
Directions to Facility:	
Emergency Contacts:	
Local Veterinarian:	
On-Call Veterinarian:	
Integrator:	
Other:	
Local Emergency Number:	
List of Agencies to Notify within 24 Hours:	
State Animal Health Division:	Office (406) 444-2043
State Veterinarian:	Dr. Marty Zaluski (406) 444-0782
Federal Area Veterinarian in Charge:	Dr. Thomas F.T. Linfield (406) 444-2220
Heavy Equipment Contractor:	
Handling Carcasses:	
Excavating Burial Pits:	
Composting Material Supplier:	
Landfill:	
Other (Specify):	

CATASTROPHIC ANIMAL MORTALITY RESPONSE PLAN

Disposal Options

Approve Site-Specific Disposal Options
 NATURAL DEATH / NATURAL DISASTER

ANIMAL TYPE	BURY (CHECK IF APPLY)	COMPOST (CHECK IF APPLY)	LANDFILL (CHECK IF APPLY)	OTHER (SPECIFY)
DISPOSAL OPTIONS NOTES:				

Approve Site-Specific Disposal Options
 DEATH DUE TO DISEASE

ANIMAL TYPE	BURY (CHECK IF APPLY)	COMPOST (CHECK IF APPLY)	LANDFILL (CHECK IF APPLY)	OTHER (SPECIFY)
DISPOSAL OPTIONS NOTES:				

CATASTROPHIC ANIMAL MORTALITY RESPONSE PLAN

Site-Specific Disposal Location(s) Map

1. Map of emergency staging, composting and burial areas, as allowed.
2. Show ingress/egress routes.
3. Outline areas on imagery; include coordinates of area corners (boundaries) as appropriate.
4. Suggest including a map to the farm from a major highway.

Disposal Requirements

1. Animal carcasses should be disposed of as soon as possible, within 48-72 hours.
2. Alternatives corrective measures are limited to burial and composting.
3. Any vehicles transporting carcasses must be leak proof, covered, inspected, and permitted per State requirements.
4. Establish traffic patterns to avoid crossing livestock pathways and feed lanes with mortality transport and emergency response traffic.
5. On-farm carcass collection, handling and disposal sites should be located:
 - a. As far away from neighboring dwellings and the poultry or livestock operation as site conditions allow.
 - b. Outside the 100-year flood plain; however, if site restrictions require location within a flood plain, it shall be protected from inundation or damage from a 25-year flood event.
 - c. The facility, where practical, shall be generally down gradient from a spring or well.

Reference: NRCS Conservation Practice Standards, ANIMAL MORTALITY FACILITY – MT-316
http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/MT/316_standard_May_2010.pdf
and Compost Facility MT-317
http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/MT/317_standard.pdf

BURY

1. Operators choosing to bury animals must select sites very carefully due to the high risk of ground water contamination.
2. Burial pits or trenches shall located in suitable soil map units identified in the Web Soil Survey, and meet the following criteria:
 - a. Maintain a minimum two (2) foot separation above the seasonal high water table.
 - b. Maintain at least two (2) foot separation between carcasses and bedrock.
 - c. Maintain a minimum of 900 feet from the nearest neighboring residence.
 - d. Maintain a minimum of 500 feet from a well, spring, or water course.
 - e. Maintain a minimum of 200 yards from public lands, including county roads.
 - f. Apply a minimum of two (2) foot of soil cover immediately to reduce flies, odors, and scavengers.
 - g. Mortalities shall remain uncovered or lightly covered until bloating has occurred, or methods employed to reduce or eliminate bloating such as opening animal thoracic and abdominal cavities and viscera prior to placing required cover.
 - h. Excavate a pit or trench with a minimum width of four (4) feet. Excavate an appropriate length necessary to accommodate the mortality carcass. Lengths may be limited by soil suitability and slope.
 - i. Topsoil shall be retained to re-grade the disposal site after the ground has settled until the decay process is completed. Stockpiled soils shall be located at least 20 feet from the edge of the burial pit. Vehicular traffic shall not be allowed within four (4) feet of the pit edge.

- j. Pit or trench bottoms shall be relatively level.
- k. If more than one pit is required, they shall be separated by a minimum of three (3) feet of undisturbed or compacted soil.
- l. For pits or trenches deeper than four (4) feet, side slopes shall be reposed at a maximum slope of 1.5 horizontal to 1 vertical.
- m. Remove field tile (subsurface drains) within the operational area of the burial pit for a distance of 200 feet.
- n. Cover soil shall be mounded over the burial site to accommodate settling.

COMPOST

1. The compost facility for catastrophic mortalities shall have a written protocol for the operation and maintenance.
 - a. A base of carbon source material is required. The carcasses or discarded animal parts and carbon material plus bulking agent are added in layers so that the carbon to nitrogen ratio is in the range of 25:1 to 40:1.
 - b. Carcasses shall be surrounded with a minimum of one (1) foot of carbon material or finished compost.
 - c. Cover to protect from precipitation and prevent excessive moisture on the composting material, but if sawdust or other water-repelling material is used as the bulking agent, a cover may not be necessary.
 - d. Ensure an adequate water supply to maintain moisture in the compost.
 - e. Provide an appropriate filter area or means for collecting contaminated runoff.
 - f. The temperature must be taken and recorded on-site daily. The compost temperature must reach a minimum of 130 degrees Fahrenheit. Approximately seven (7) to ten (10) days are needed in each heat cycle to process the carcasses and kill the pathogens. The temperature drop indicates the time to mix and move the compost. A minimum of two (2) heat cycles is required.
 - g. The finished compost must not contain visible pieces of soft tissue and must be handled, stored, and used according to eFOTG, Section IV, Practice Standards, Nutrient Management (Code 590) and Waste Utilization (Code 633).
 - h. Located on sites with restricted percolation and a minimum of two (2) feet between the bottom of the facility and the seasonal high water table unless special design features are incorporated that address seepage.

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
 ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION
 EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

ANIMAL HEALTH EMERGENCIES

Animal Health Division

disease reporting, quarantines, Montana import requirements

Dr. Marty Zaluski	(406) 444-0782 – o	<u>Enforcement</u>	
State Veterinarian / Administrator	(406) 465-7212 – c		
		<u>Western Area Manager</u>	(406) 892-2626 – o
Dr. Eric Liska	(406) 444-3374 – o	Ernie McCaffree	(406) 439-1774 – c
Brucellosis Veterinarian	(406) 439-5289 – c	<u>Central Area Manager</u>	(406) 444-2015 – o
		Marty Clark	(406) 439-2645 – c
Dr. Tahnee Szymanski	(406) 444-5214 – o	<u>Eastern Area Manager</u>	
Traceability Veterinarian	(406) 465-4051 – c	Travis Elings	(406) 208-8012 – c
Office	(406) 444-2043	Import Permits	(406) 444-2976 Fax (406) 444-1929

Federal Veterinarian's Office (USDA-APHIS-VS)

disease reporting, international requirements, Scrapie ID program, BSE sampling, USDA tags

Dr. Thomas F.T. Linfield Area Veterinarian In Charge (AVIC) Dr. Kammy Johnson Montana Area Epidemiologist	(406) 449-2220 main office in Helena Fax (406) 449-5439	Dr. James Becker Veterinarian Medical Officer (VMO) Port Sweetgrass	(406) 335-2142
Dr. Glen Bailey Veterinarian Medical Officer (VMO) Counties: Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake Mineral, Missoula, Powell, Granite, Ravalli, Deer Lodge, Jefferson, Broadwater, Silverbow, Gallatin, Madison, Beaverhead, S ½ Lewis and Clark	(406) 439-2900	Dr. Brent Thompson Veterinarian Medical Officer (VMO) Counties: Fallon, Carter, Custer, Powder River, Rosebud, Treasure, Big Horn, Musselshell, Yellowstone, Carbon, Golden Valley, Stillwater, Wheatland, Sweet Grass	(406) 208-2965
Dr. Rod Meier Veterinarian Medical Officer (VMO) Counties: Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Pondera, Choteau, Teton, Cascade, Meagher, Judith Basin, Fergus, N ½ Lewis and Clark	(406) 799-3655	Dr. Kenneth Lee Veterinarian Medical Officer (VMO) Port Raymond, Opheim, Ridgeway Counties: Phillips, Petroleum, Valley, Garfield, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux	(406) 478-0045

Diagnostic Laboratory

laboratory findings and tests; pathology

Dr. Bill Layton Diagnostic Laboratory Administrator	(406) 994-6388 – o	Dr. Jeffrey Marshall Assistant Administrator	(406) 994-6345 – o
Office	(406) 994-4885	Fax	(406) 994-6344

ESTRAYS, MARKETS, INSPECTIONS

Brand Enforcement Division

markets and market compliance, brand inspections, investigations

John Grainger Brand Enforcement Administrator	(406) 444-2925 – o (406) 465-2268 – c	Marty Clark Assistant Brands Administrator	(406) 444-2015 – o (406) 439-2645 – c
Office	(406) 444-2045	Fax	(406) 444-2877

District Brand Enforcement Officers

estrays animals – contact your District Brand Inspector as indicated by the counties

Pete Olsen – Dist. #4 Carbon, Stillwater, Sweet Grass	(406) 321-0343 – c	Mark Feist – Dist. #11 Golden Valley, Meagher, Musselshell, Wheatland	(406) 220-1081 – c (406) 632-4439 – o
Larry Elings – Dist. #5 Liberty, Toole, Glacier, Pondera	(406) 450-0001 – c	Ted Wall – Dist. #12 Broadwater, Gallatin, Park, East ½ Madison	(406) 220-0379 – c (406) 285-6896 – o
Matt Noyes – Dist. #6 Yellowstone, Big Horn	(406) 860-2177 – c	Tyler Thomas – Dist. #13 Fergus, Judith Basin, Petroleum	(406) 350-1054 – c (406) 538-3261 – o
Wayne Shipp – Dist. #7 Daniels, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Valley	(406) 439-2819 – c (406) 228-4922 – o	Paul Johnson – Dist. #14 Cascade, Teton, North ½ Lewis and Clark	(406) 231-0268 – c (406) 453-6051 – o
Pat Anderson – Dist. #8 Garfield, N Rosebud, Treasure	(406) 951-0510 – c (406) 234-4316 – o	Tom Harmon – Dist. #15 Flathead, Lake, Lincoln, Northeast ½ Sanders	(406) 253-0426 – c (406) 752-2849 – o
Dan Bugni – Dist. #9 Beaverhead, West ½ Madison	(406) 660-0471 – c (406) 683-6366 – o	Justin Simenson – Dist. #16 Blaine, Hill, Phillips	(406) 654-4009 – c (406) 357-3830 – o
Boone Jones – Dist. #10 Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, West part of Sanders (St. Ignatius South to Lake)	(406) 240-0830 – c (406) 243-5689 – o	Don Selle – Dist. #17 Fallon, South ½ Wibaux, North ½ Carter	(406) 951-0587 – c
Bill Blankenship – Dist. #18 McCone, Richland, Dawson, North ½ Wibaux	(406) 989-0017 – c (406) 365-2191 – o	Tyler Bond – Dist. #21 Powder River, South ½ Carter, South Rosebud (Highway 212 South)	(406) 672-4230 – c
Gary Anderson – Dist. #19 Custer, Prairie	(406) 951-0424 – c (406) 234-4316 – o	Mike Hayes – Dist. #25 Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Powell, Silver Bow, S ½ Lewis and Clark (South of Highway 200)	(406) 439-2890 – c

MISCELLANEOUS RESOURCES

SHERIFF AND POLICE STATION LOCATOR

www.usacops.com/mt/

MT Disaster and Emergency Services-24/7

406-841-3911

MT ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES (MACo)

<http://maco.cog.mt.us/>

(406) 444-4830