

Municipal District of Peace No. 135 Emergency Livestock Response Plan



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The information in this Emergency Livestock Response Plan is intended to be incorporated into Municipal District of Peace's existing Emergency Preparedness Plan. This resource focuses only on the livestock aspect of the event or response. It is highly recommended that all personnel or first responders who may be involved in any active animal handling, whether at a motor vehicle incident, manning an evacuation centre or following a disaster event, should be trained in emergency livestock response and handling.

This resource is intended to provide the tools to make educated decisions. The goal is to reduce danger, risk, and confusion and in turn increase the safety of the responders, the public and livestock. The following sections are considerations for handling livestock during a disaster or emergency event. Each section should be viewed as a general guideline and applicability will vary with each event as each emergency event is different and will have different aspects.

The large scale evacuation of livestock presents a unique challenge to MD of Peace staff and livestock owners. Stock trailers, records of ownership and medical information must be readily available for livestock transportation for the effectiveness of the evacuation.

Some livestock owners do not have the capacity to ensure their animals' safety during emergency situations as their livestock may have been put out to pasture far away from the owners' place of residence. In this scenario, livestock owners often risk their own lives during a disaster by traveling out to livestock areas to check on their livestock. MD of Peace seeks to remedy this situation by creating a livestock evacuation process and procedures. In addition, MD of Peace will establish beforehand designated safe places "Livestock Evacuation Centers" where evacuated livestock can be temporarily housed if needed.

Acronyms

DEM – Director of Emergency Management

EOC – Emergency Operations Centre

LEC – Livestock Evacuation Centre

LED – Livestock Evacuation Director

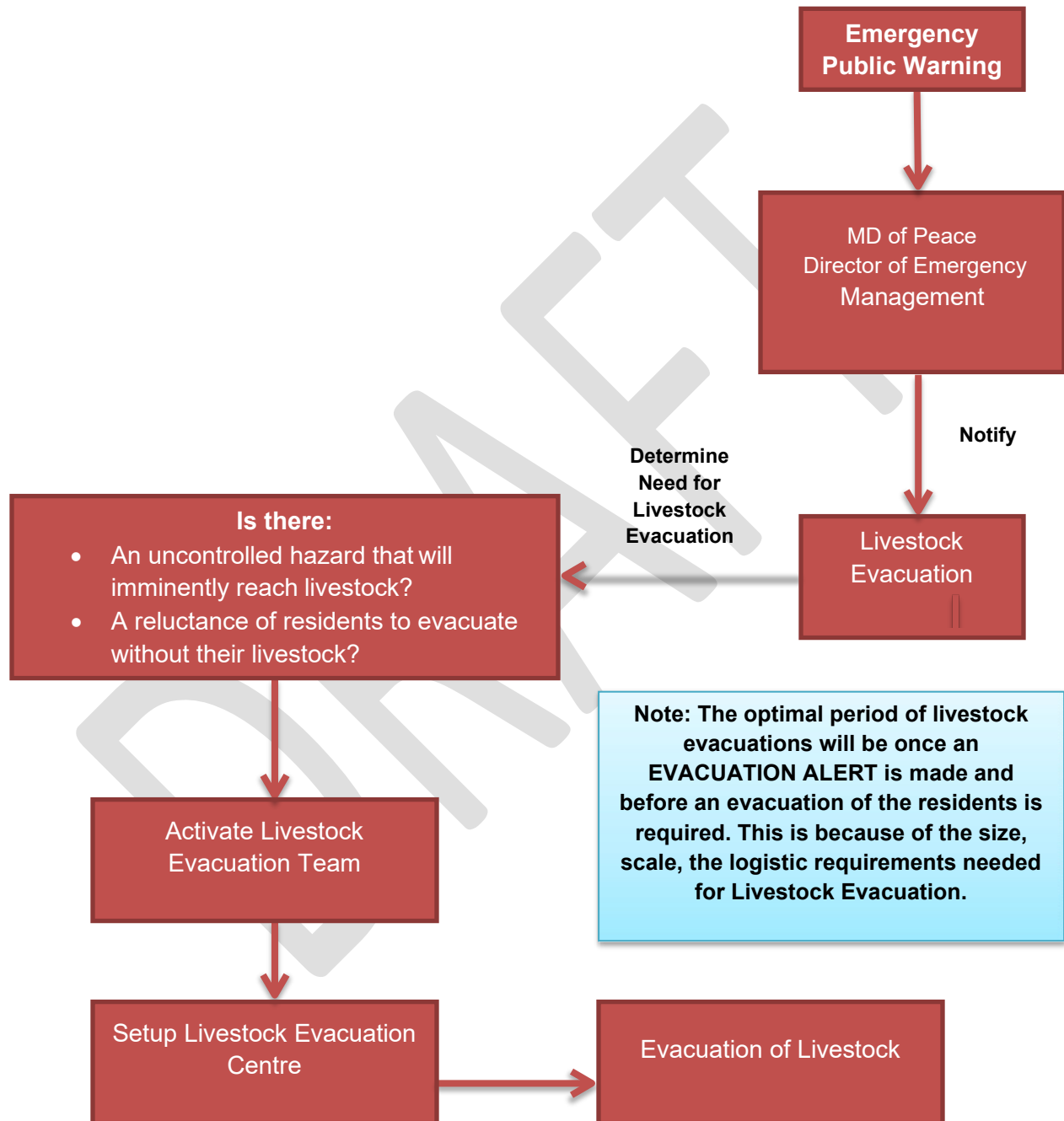
Definitions

Evacuation Alert- An Evacuation Alert is intended to provide residents with the opportunity to prepare their homes and/or businesses, and to encourage closer attention to official communications channels. It may not always be possible to issue an evacuation alert.

Evacuation Order: When the population is determined to be at imminent risk, an evacuation order is issued and people must leave the area immediately. RCMP will enforce evacuation orders.

1.0 IMMEDIATE ACTION

Figure 1-1: Livestock Evacuation Tree



1.3 Emergency Contacts Information

Contact	Info	Phone
Producer Representative	Livestock Investigator	
Barbara Johnson	CAO MD of Peace	780-338-3845
Local Vets		
Peace River Veterinary Clinic	7710-100 Avenue Peace River, AB T8S 1M5	780-624-1606 Email: peacrivervet@gmail.com
Mighty Peace Veterinary Clinic	5307 57 Avenue PO Box 1698 Grimshaw, AB T0H 1W0	780-332-1883 Email: penaht@yahoo.com
North Peace Animal Hospital	10216 101 Avenue PO Box 64 Fairview, AB T0H 1L0	780-835-2750 Email: rmlk1@telusplanet.com
Manning Veterinary Clinic	640 -7 Ave Manning, AB T0H 2M0	780-836-3770
Alberta Agriculture & Forestry	Responsible for the policies, legislation, regulation and services necessary for Alberta's agriculture, food and forest sectors to grow, prosper and diversify; inspires public confidence in wildfire and forestry management and the quality of safety of food; supports environmentally sustainable resource management practices; and leads collaboration that enables safe and resilient rural communities	Toll-free 310-FARM
Provincial Vet	Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian Provides scientific and veterinary leadership in developing animal health policy and in working to prevent and respond to animal health concerns.	Dr. Keith Lehman 7801-427-3448
Alberta Beef Producers	A provincial organization representing beef producers	403-948-3999

Alberta Bison Producers	A provincial organization representing bison producers	780-955-1995
Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association	A Provincial Organization representing cattle feeders (feedlot owners)	403-250-2509
Alberta Chicken Producers	A Provincial Organization representing broiler chicken producers	780-488-2125
Alberta Elk Producers	A Provincial organization representing elk producers	780-980-7582
Alberta Equestrian Federation	A provincial organization representing equine owners	403-252-4411
Alberta Lamb Producers	A provincial organization representing sheep producers	403-948-8533
Alberta Milk	A provincial organization representing dairy producers	780-453-5942
Alberta Pork	A provincial organization representing pig producers	780-474-8288
Alberta SPCA	The Alberta SPCA provides animal protection services and enforces the Animal Protection Act. Peace Officers complete investigations and inspections. They are empowered to inspect any non-residential premises where animals are kept for sale, hire or exhibition and any vehicle used to transport animals.	780-447-3600 to report animals indistress call 1-800-455-9003
Alberta TurkeyProducers	The provincial organization representing turkey producers	780-474-8288
Alberta Veterinary Medical Association	The provincial organization representing veterinarians	780-489-5007
Canadian Food and Inspection Agency	CFIA is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Health of Animals Act which over sees the health and welfare of animals in Canada, including disease outbreak and the transport of animals.	780-831-0335
Canadian Livestock Transport (CLT)	CLT provides training to livestock transporters across Canada. They house a data base of over 1,500 trained livestock haulers and transporters	519-829-2242
Egg Farmers of Alberta	A provincial organization representing egg farmers	403-250-1197

Livestock Identification Services Ltd. (LIS)	Provides inspection services to livestock producers in Alberta. LIS is the delegated authority by the AAF for the Livestock Identification and Commerce Act and the Stray Animals Act	403-934-2500
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	Alberta has two members of the detachment assigned to the investigation of crimes involving livestock. They work in collaboration with LIS	Andrew Grainer 780-509-3293

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2.0 LIVESTOCK EVACUATION AND RELOCATION

2.0 Livestock Evacuation Alert

2.0.1 Alberta Emergency Alert

If the nature and magnitude of the emergency requires warning of residents and the general public, a warning will be broadcasted over all radio and TV Stations utilizing the Alberta Emergency Alert (AEA) System.

Warning messages for the AEA will contain the following basic information:

- Nature of emergency stated clearly at the start of the message
- Identification of the area and population at risk providing geographic descriptions
- Description of actions for members of the public to take for property or self-protection
- Timelines of the expected duration of the emergency situation.

2.0.2 Livestock Evacuation Alert – Livestock Evacuation Team

The MD of Peace Director of Emergency Management will notify the Operations Section Chief after an Alberta Emergency Alert or detection of a hazard in the area. If a livestock evacuation is required, the Director of Emergency Management will notify the Livestock Evacuation Team.

The immediate action decision tree (See Figure 1-1) can assist with determining if an evacuation is required.

2.0.3 Livestock Evacuation Alert – Livestock Producers

When livestock producers receive an Alberta Emergency Alert they should immediately corral /gather their livestock and get ready for evacuation. The Livestock Evacuation Team may also contact livestock producers and advise them to make preparations for livestock evacuation. These preparations should include an inventory of available livestock feed (i.e. hay grain)

The Livestock alert will include:

- Nature of emergency and dangerous effects on livestock.
- Identification for the area and livestock at risk providing geographic descriptions.
- Description of actions for livestock producers to take for livestock evacuation.
- Timelines for livestock evacuation and location of Livestock Evacuation Centre.

Note: The ideal timeline for a livestock evacuation is at the beginning of the evacuation alert and before an evacuation order.

2.1 LIVESTOCK EVACUATION TEAM ACTIVATION

2.1.1 Activation

Members of the Livestock Evacuation Team will be activated, based on an “as needed” basis. The Director of Emergency Management will contact the Livestock Evacuation Director. The first staff member of the Livestock Evacuation Team to be contacted by the Livestock Evacuation Director may be assigned the task of calling/activation additional Livestock Evacuation Team members.

Upon notification, the Livestock Evacuation Team will be advised to report to the Livestock Evacuation Centre or immediately fulfill specific assignments.

2.1.2 Authority

Authority to activate the MD of Peace Livestock Evacuation Plan will come from the MD’s Emergency Operations Centre or the MD of Peace, Director of Emergency Management. (DEM)

2.1.3 Livestock Evacuation Director

Upon activation of the Livestock Evacuation Plan, the Livestock Evacuation Director (LED) will report to the Operations Section Chief in the MD of Peace Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), if activated. The LED will be a member of the MD EOC and attend meetings/briefings in the MD EOC, if required.

2.2 Evacuation

2.2.1 Authority

The Director of Emergency Management may have to initiate evacuation of residents under the following conditions, (but not limited to):

- When it's not safe to remain in the area;
- A fire that forces abandonment of an area;
- A flood that forces abandonment of an area;
- A tornado that forces abandonment of an area;
- A chemical or gas release that forces abandonment of an area.

Upon receipt of direction to evacuate, the Director of Emergency Management will advise residents to:

- Leave the area immediately;
- Proceed to the designated Reception Centre;
- Wait at the Reception Centre until advised that it is safe to return to the area.

Note: Often people are reluctant to evacuate as a result of not wanting to leave their livestock behind. Evacuating livestock prior to the evacuation of the public may increase the likelihood of livestock owners' willingness to evacuate.

2.2.2 Evacuation Stages

If time permits, an evacuation will follow the stages listed below:

Stage 1 – Evacuation Alert:

Purpose: An Evacuation Alert is intended to provide residents with the opportunity to prepare their homes and/or businesses, and to encourage closer attention to official communications channels. It may not always be possible to issue an evacuation alert.

- A warning is issued about an imminent threat to life and property, and people are asked to be ready to leave on short notice.
- Emergency officials will notify residents through the various channels Alberta Emergency Alert, MD website, social media, etc. of the potential need to evacuate.
- Information will be provided about the nature of the hazard and suggested protective actions.

Note: The evacuation of livestock preferably occurs during an evacuation alert stage rather than an evacuation order set by MD of Peace. During an evacuation order, the evacuation of people is the priority; RCMP will be strictly enforcing traffic flows and focus on the safety of residents.

Stage 2 – Evacuation Order:

When the population is determined to be at imminent risk, an evacuation order is issued and people must leave the area immediately. RCMP will enforce evacuation orders.

There are 2 types of evacuation orders:

Voluntary

A Voluntary Evacuation order is issued when emergency officials believe that public safety may be at risk and conditions could worsen very quickly and without notice. Residents with children, seniors, and or residents with special needs are encouraged to leave as they may need extra time and/or support. Residents who choose to stay should be prepared to leave at a moment's notice. During voluntary evacuation evacuees are permitted to return to their homes.

- Emergency officials will notify residents through various channels of the voluntary evacuation order. Channels include the MD website, social media sites, the AEA, etc.
- Information will be provided about the nature of the hazard and suggested protective actions.
- Situation updates on the potentially hazardous conditions will be provided on a regular basis.
- A soft perimeter will be established.
- Travel to and from the affected area will not be restricted during a voluntary evacuation.

Mandatory

A mandatory evacuation order is issued when officials believe that public safety is at risk and conditions are such that MD of Peace is not able to provide its typical level of service (i.e. respond to 9-1-1 calls). It is imperative that you leave for your own safety. By not leaving you will pose a risk to first responders and impede the ability for MD of Peace to respond to the emergency. There will be no forced evacuations; however a perimeter will be established and residents will not be permitted to re-enter the areas until the order is lifted.

- Emergency officials will notify residents through various channels of the mandatory evacuation order. Channels include the AEA, MD website, social media sites, etc.
- Information will be provided about the nature of the hazard, the reason for the evacuation order, and the delayed responses if people choose to ignore the evacuation order.
- Situation updates on the hazardous conditions will be provided on a regular basis.
- A secure perimeter will be established as soon as possible.
- Travel to the affected area will be restricted during a mandatory evacuation.

Stage 3: All Clear

Purpose: The All Clear is issued when the residents are able to return to the affected areas. Depending on the nature of the emergency, this may be done in stages and/or with restricted re-entry.

- The All Clear will be given by the Incident Commander, unless the EOC has been activated, in which case it will be given by the Director of Emergency Management for the affected municipality.
- Emergency officials will notify residents through various channels of the all clear and any conditions for re-entry. Channels include the MD website, social media sites, AEA, etc.
- A perimeter will be maintained during initial re-entry for traffic control.

2.2.3 Transportation

The transportation of livestock to the Livestock Evacuation Centre is the responsibility of the livestock owner. If a livestock owner is requiring immediate evacuation of their livestock but does not have the resources, the Livestock Evacuation Team (Transportation Unit) **MAY** assist, depending on the availability of MD resources.

Livestock owners requiring assistance should call the Livestock Evacuation Centre; however, **all transportation cost will be billed back to the livestock producer.**

Note: The Livestock Evacuation centre (LEC) telephone number will be communicated to the Livestock Evacuation Team and Livestock producers after the LEC is set-up.

2.3 Livestock Relocation

2.3.1 Livestock Relocation to Facilities

Livestock evacuation to designated facilities will be determined on a priority basis and depends on the size and location of an emergency and amount of livestock requiring evacuation. The facilities selected for relocating evacuated livestock will be determined by the Livestock Evacuation Director and the MD of Peace Director of Emergency Management.

Designated livestock relocation facilities are identified in the Table below.

Table Facilities & Resources

Facility & Address	Contact	Equipment/Resources
North Peace Stampede Association Lac Cardinal Stampede Grounds NE22-83-24W5	Robin Saunders 780-597-2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor arena • 15 horse stalls? • Stock Water tanks • Loading chutes • Capacity for? head cattle • etc.
Three Creeks Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 56 KM North East of Peace River • Area 39,529 acres • Cattle 9200 Animal unit per month (AUMs)
Blueberry Mountain Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48 Km NW of Spirit River • Area 9623 acres • 5700 AUMs
Whanham Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 KM NE of Rycroft • Area 18736 acres • 15200 AUMs
Bear Canyon Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 KM North of Bear Canyon • Area 20288 acres • 9700 AUMs
Manning Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.2 KM NW of Manning • Area 9929 acres • 5100 AUMs
Whitemud Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22.5 KM NE of Dixonville • Area 23763 acres • 7800 AUMs

Fort Vermilion Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 KM NE of High Level • Area 19225 acres • 5400 AUMs
Valleyview Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19.2 KM SW of Valleyview • Area 15496 acres • 7200 AUMs
Kleskun Lake Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 KM NE of Grande Prairie • Area 13747 acres • 11200 AUMs
High Prairie Grazing Association	Danielle Gabruck Reserve Agrologist 780-835-7200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 KM NE of High Prairie • Area 28204 acres • 10400 AUMs
Peace River Ag Society		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

List of Cattle Haulers

Name	Phone
Ralph Calder (MD of Peace)	780-597-2127
Pat & Glenna Eastman (MD of Peace)	780-625-2390
<u>Foster's Covered Wagons</u> 15701 101 St, Grande Prairie, AB T8V 0P2	780-513-1340
<u>Country Auctions AB Livestock Hauling</u> PO Box 677, Millet, AB T0C 1Z0	780-387-885
<u>1251219 Alberta Ltd</u> 4905 57 Ave, Two Hills, AB T0B 4K0	780-657-2715

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

BETWEEN
WANHAM GRAZING ASSOCIATION
OF THE FIRST PART
-and-
MD OF PEACE No. 135
OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS: MD of Peace has developed an Emergency Livestock Response Plan (ELRP) to provide livestock producers with immediate assistance for basic needs such as feed, shelter and transportation for livestock during an emergency event, either natural or human caused.

WHEREAS: Livestock Relocation Centres (LRC) are required in the event livestock have to be evacuated to a safe location. Rodeo Grounds, Ag Society Grounds, Riding Arenas, Community Pastures, etc., are obvious choices as these sites are generally equipped with holding structures such as pens and fenced open areas and are easily accessible to house and feed/water livestock.

WHEREAS: Wanham Grazing Association agrees to utilize their facilities as an LRC and will provide MD of Peace with a full schematic of their facilities as well as animal head capacity.

WHEREAS: Wanham Grazing Association will provide MD of Peace with contact information of the person(s) in charge of their facility. This contact will act as the authority during an evacuation at this facility.

WHEREAS: MD of Peace will ensure that all damages (if any) that occurred to the facilities during the period it is utilized as an LRC will be repaired in a timely fashion and will attempt to restore it to its original condition.

WHEREAS: MD of Peace agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Wanham Grazing Association and all the Crown in Rights of the Province of Alberta, their agents and employees, from any claims, demands, actions, and costs that may arise as a result of an act or omission in regard to this exemption.

WHEREAS: Wanham Grazing Association will not be held responsible for any damages, injuries or death of any evacuated livestock during the evacuation period.

WHEREAS: MD of Peace will provide full surveillance security for the facility for the duration of its use as an LRC

WHEREAS: This MOU will be reviewed annually by all parties.

WHEREAS: This MOU can be terminated by either participant at any time, without cause, upon one calendar year within written notice (365) days to the other.

Signed by the authorized officers of the participants:

MD of Peace No. 135 Signature

Date: _____

Wanham Grazing Association Signature

Date: _____

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