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# ***Disaster Preparedness for Animals -- EMAC Deployment to Butte County, CA***

**Board of Agriculture, February 14, 2019**

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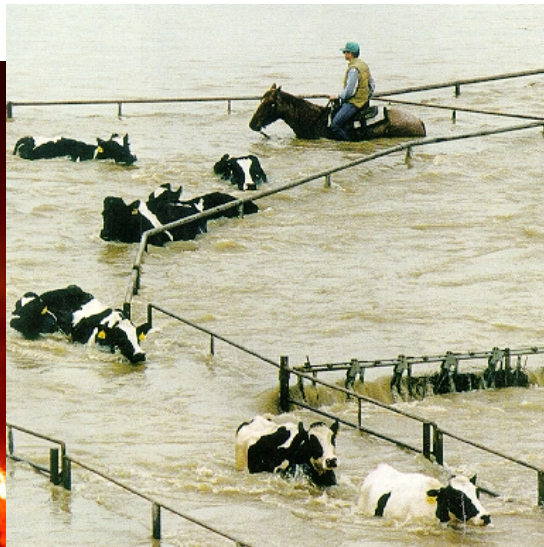
**&**

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District Veterinarian**

# Animals in Disasters

Two main areas for Government Role for Animals in Disaster Preparedness:

- 1) FAD Disease Disaster Response
- 2) Natural Disaster Preparedness



# Preparing For Animals In Disasters Events

- Counties bear the burden for preparedness and response. We assist in development of evacuation plans for pets and livestock.
- Subject matter expertise





# Government and Emergencies

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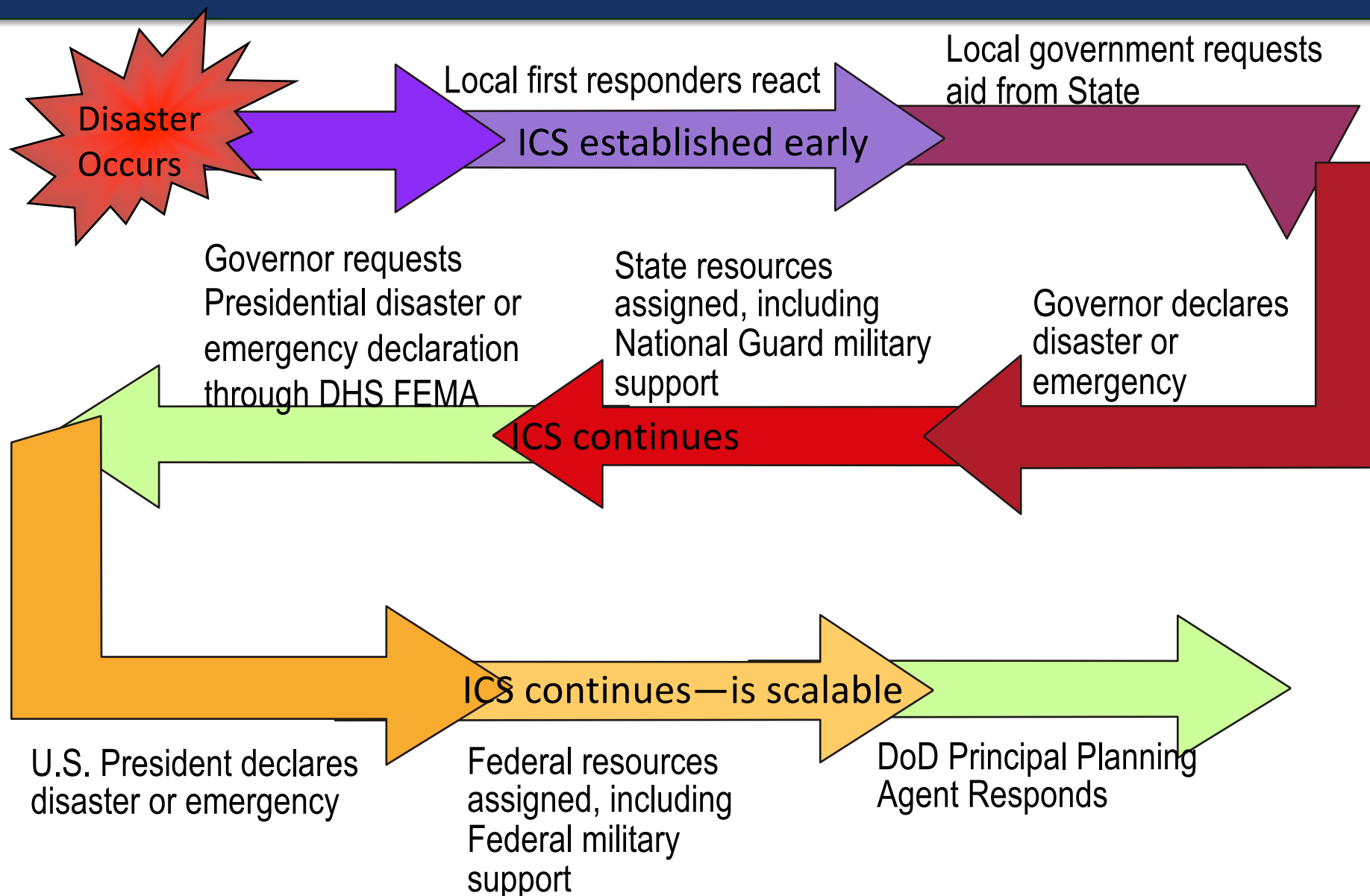
All Emergency Responses are a  
Tiered response

- Local government
- State government
- Federal government
- Integration of Agriculture with E.M.





# Tiered Response

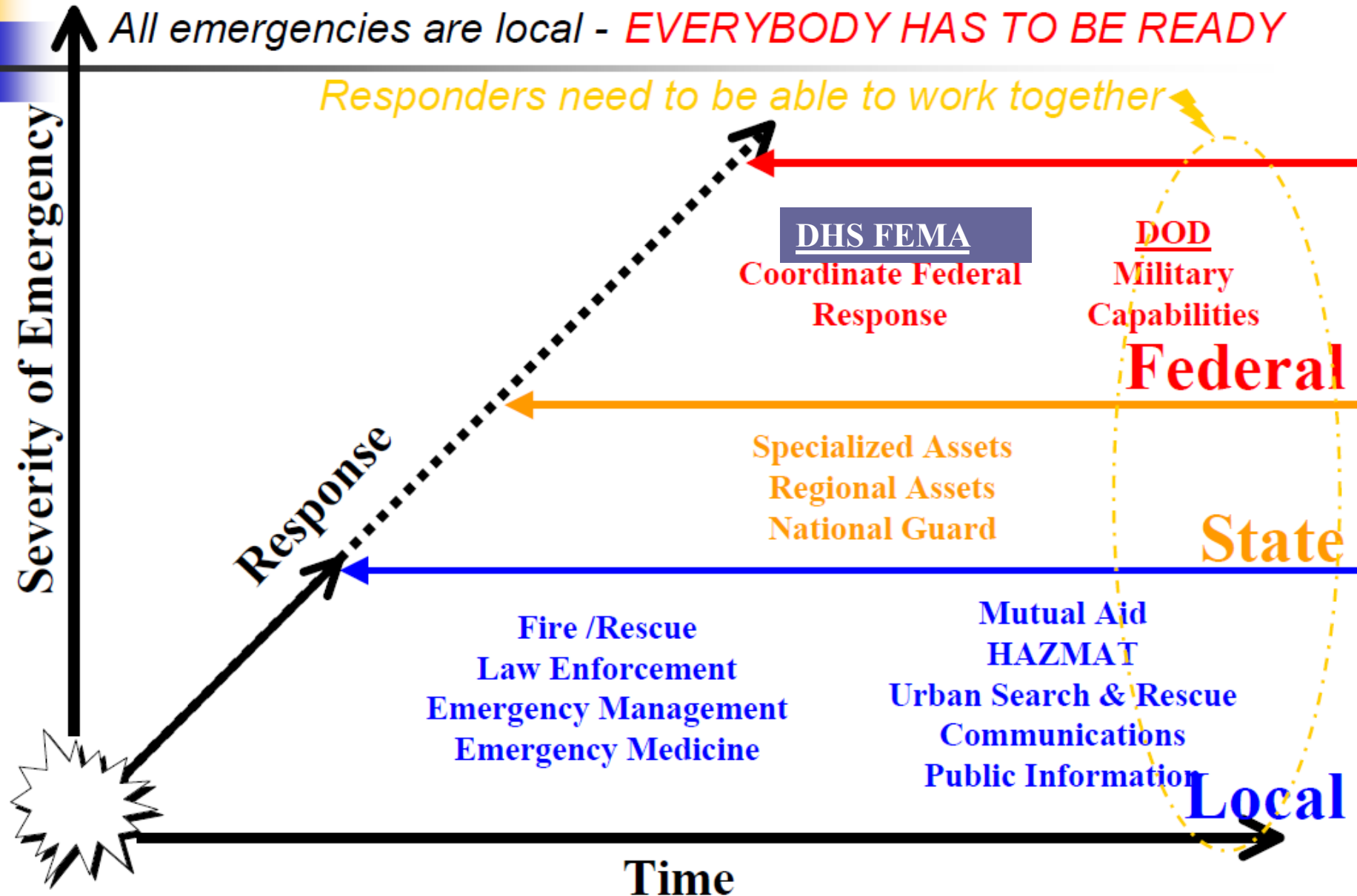




Emergency Management  
Assistance Compact

- EMAC is an all hazards - all disciplines mutual aid compact between states and US protectorates that serves as the cornerstone of the nation's mutual aid system.
- Resources deploy through the state emergency management agencies of their respective states allowing for a coordinated deployment
- Deployments are coordinated with the federal response to avoid duplication and overlap
- EMAC offers assistance during governor-declared states of emergency or disaster through a responsive, straightforward system that allows states to send personnel, equipment, and commodities to assist with response and recovery efforts in other states.

# The Domestic Response Challenge





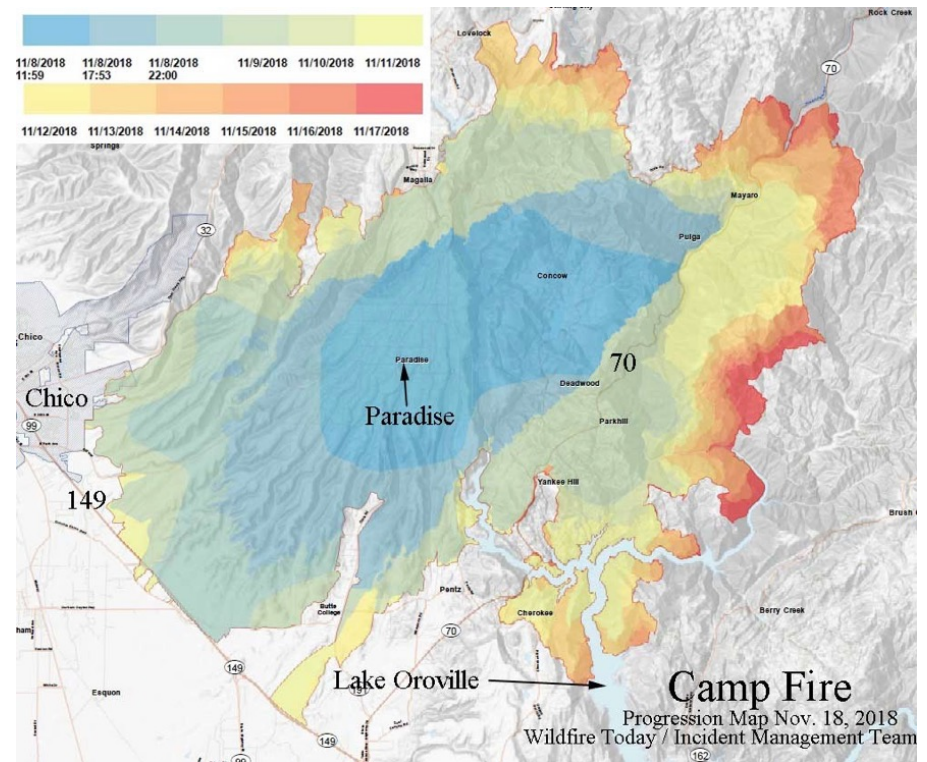
# Oregon Veterinary Emergency Response Team

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- OVERT was organized by Dr. Andrew Clark in 2002. Concern for early responder needs to an FAD.
- Volunteer organization. State Vet provides leadership. Current membership of 50-60 veterinarians and veterinary technicians.
- The importance of planning for animals in disaster was underscored following Katrina (2005). Led to the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006. Oregon Response Plan for Animals in Disasters written 2008.
- Animals in natural disasters training for OVERT began.
- OVERT was catalyst needed for the EMAC deployment

# 2018 Butte County Fires

- Camp Fire started 11/8/2018
  - First reported at 6:33am
  - Entered Concow, CA by 7:43am
  - Entered Paradise, CA by 8:00am
- Wind speeds in excess of 50mph
- Deadliest and most destructive in CA history
  - 86 fatalities (3 still missing)
  - 18,804 structures destroyed
  - 52,000 evacuated



# ODA Deployment

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- CalOES requested shelter team from Oregon 12/8/18
- ODA assembled team of 22 to send under EMAC
  - 1 ODA employee
  - 8 OVERT veterinarians/technicians
  - 6 Humane Society employees/volunteers
  - 4 Josephine County employees
  - 2 Washington County employees
  - 1 Jackson County Employee



# Butte County Animal Shelters

- 3 animal shelters operating
  - 12/15/2018
    - ~1,000 livestock and companion animals
- ODA deployed to Del Oro Shelter
  - ~500 small/companion animals
  - ~70% stray/unclaimed animals
- ODA team worked alongside 30 CA National Guardsman and several local volunteers



# Del Oro Shelter Tasks

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- Medical team oversaw ongoing treatment of fire victims
- Shelter team supervised National Guard and volunteers in animal care
  - National Guard personnel trained to take over Dog/Cat lead and room lead positions on ODA departure
- Intake/reunification team worked to document sheltered animals and reunite with owners
  - ~50 animals returned to owners during ODA deployment

# ODA Take-Homes

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- Update/rewrite Animal Shelter Guide (2005)
- Develop standard intake forms for all Oregon counties
  - Explore electronic records database to match forms
- Build/expand partnerships with state-level organizations involved in animal rescue/sheltering
  - Partner with Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to form advisory panel
- Develop medical SOPs through OVERT for shelter animal care







