



# Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan

Federal/Provincial Agreement in BC



















# Funding provided by:





The 2019 BC Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan and Annexes (federal/provincial agreement) were made possible with funding from the Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative. This program is administered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia with financial investments from the Province of British Columbia.

For more information about Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia:

www.iafbc.ca

# **APPROVALS**

# Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan

The purpose of the Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support Plan is to provide an agreement whereby federal and provincial agencies accept responsibilities for collaborative response to a foreign animal disease event in British Columbia.

Effective response to a contagious foreign animal disease outbreak requires coordination of not only the critical disease control response, but of the many expected activities needed to support those specialized functions.

We, the undersigned, adopt this Plan as a framework for an active and cooperative response organization that may be required to ensure the coordinated, efficient, and effective prevention and/or eradication of a disease outbreak in British Columbia. The policies and procedures detailed in this Plan are approved for use in the circumstances specified therein.

The signatories to this agreement assume responsibility for regularly maintaining the FADES Plan and ensuring readiness for activation. This may include participating in annual reviews of:

- All agency agreements and memoranda of understanding
- Response facilities and equipment readiness and capabilities
- Information technology systems and criteria
- Notification process, including testing contact information

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# **FOREWORD**

In developing the British Columbia (BC) Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support (FADES) Plan, the governments of Canada and BC agree to accept specific responsibilities in addressing a foreign animal disease event in BC. The six signatory agencies – Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Public Safety Canada, BC Ministry of Agriculture, Emergency Management BC, BC Ministry of Health, and BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy – agree to a collaborative organization for controlling foreign animal diseases and managing the consequences of such events.

While this plan was originally designed to define the roles of the various agencies in response to a reportable foreign animal disease in BC, the principles can be modified and used for any animal disease event. This can include diseases that are not foreign but federally reportable, diseases that are provincially reportable and notifiable, or emerging diseases that are not currently named as reportable or notifiable either federally or provincially.

In addition to providing a clear basis for accord among multiple federal and provincial interests, the signing agencies acknowledge that the role of the BC FADES Plan should reflect more than an agreement. This document is designed to serve a number of purposes, including the following:

- Inform Others A concise, written plan should explain in clear language how the principal organizations intend to work together in response to foreign animal disease outbreaks. It should allow members of the local animal industry, local authorities and Indigenous governments, among others, to see where they fit in the collaborative efforts needed for success.
- Support Training The BC FADES Plan should be applied in training those responsible for emergency response among all relevant agencies and support organizations.
- Guide Emergency Response During response to an outbreak, the Plan should summarize key policies and roles to promote coordination, guide responders in appropriate action, and lead them to other relevant documents.
- Record Lessons Learned The Plan should contain enough detail to allow important lessons from exercises and actual disease events to be captured in concise, tangible guidance for application in future outbreaks.

Although prepared on behalf of the six coordinating agencies, the signatories encourage all stakeholders to consider and adopt relevant elements of this Plan in responding to a foreign animal disease outbreak in British Columbia. Participants in this Plan agree to share human resources in foreign animal disease response. Personnel from local authorities, Indigenous governments and the animal industry may be utilized in any function, based on personal qualifications and need.

This Plan supersedes all other plans.

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# **ACRONYMS/INITIALISMS**

**AAFC** Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

ADM-EC Assistant Deputy Ministers' Emergency Council (was Central Coordination

Group (CCG)) (BC)

**AERT** Area Emergency Response Team (CFIA) **AHFP** Animal Health Functional Plan (CFIA) **AHRT** Animal Health Response Team (CFIA)

**AGRI** Ministry of Agriculture (BC)

**BCCDC** British Columbia Centre for Disease Control

**BCEMS** British Columbia Emergency Management System

**BCSPCA** British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

**CAHSN** Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network CCG Central Coordination Group, is now the ADM-EC **CEMRS** Canadian Emergency Management Response System

**CFIA** Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Chief Veterinary Officer (one Federal and one per Province) CVO

C&D Cleaning and Disinfection

DMCEM Deputy Ministers' Committee on Emergency Management (BC)

DV District Veterinarian (CFIA)

**ECC Emergency Coordination Centre (BC)** 

**ELDS** Emergency Lab Database System (AGRI/CFIA) **EMBC** 

**Emergency Management British Columbia** 

**ENV** Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (BC)

**EOC Emergency Operations Centre** 

**ERT** Emergency Response Team (CFIA)

**FAD** Foreign Animal Disease

**FADES** Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support **FAST** First Assessment and Sampling Team (CFIA)

**FLNR** Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural

Development (BC)

FPT Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Governments

**GCPE** Government Communications and Public Engagement (BC)

GIS Geographical Information System

HLTH Ministry of Health (BC) **HSP** Hazard Specific Plan IAP Incident Action Plan IC **Incident Commander ICP Incident Command Post ICS Incident Command System** 

IΡ Infected Place

ISC Indigenous Services Canada

JEOC Joint Emergency Operations Centre

JIC Joint Information Centre

LMIS Livestock Market Interruption Strategy

M-DEC Ministers' – Deputies' Emergency Council (BC)
NAAHLS National Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory System

NCFAD National Centre for Foreign Animal Diseases (CFIA Animal Disease

Diagnostic Laboratory located in Winnipeg, MB)

NEOC National Emergency Operations Centre (CFIA)

NERT National Emergency Response Team

OIE Office International des Epizooties (World Organisation for Animal Health)

PAHS Plant and Animal Health Strategy (AAFC)

PCZ Primary Control Zone

PHAC Public Health Agency of Canada

PIQ Premises Investigation Questionnaire (CFIA)

PREOC Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (BC)

PSPC Public Services and Procurement Canada
RERT Regional Emergency Response Team (CFIA)

RVO Regional Veterinary Officer (CFIA)
SMC Senior Management Committee (CFIA)

TRAN Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (BC)

VIC Veterinarian in Charge (CFIA)

# 1 OVERVIEW

#### 1.1 Introduction

The agrifoods industry in British Columbia (BC) is a key economic driver for the province and plays a vital role in BC's food supply security. A \$14B industry, it provides approximately 62,900 jobs in BC.

The introduction of foreign animal diseases (FADs) can have severe consequences to livestock production, the agricultural community and the related value-chain, including export markets. In addition, there are effects to tax revenues, consumer confidence and public health.

The Canadian government considers FADs as threats to national security and, through the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), leads response efforts to control the disease with appropriate urgency.

It is therefore the intent of the Federal Government and the Government of BC to establish a response plan that encourages all levels of government to join forces, involves members of the local livestock and poultry industries and private citizens in controlling and eradicating the disease, and anticipates the need for economic and social recovery.

The purpose of this Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support
(FADES) Plan is to identify the arrangements whereby stakeholders
at all levels are able to collaborate in achieving individual and
collective objectives in managing a FAD outbreak in BC. Sections of this plan may be utilized to
effectively prepare responders for animal disease events outside the scope of this plan as well.

#### Examples of Foreign Animal Diseases include:

- Foot and mouth disease
- African swine fever
- Notifiable avian influenza

#### 1.2 AUTHORITIES AND ROLES

In a major outbreak, no single federal agency can or should manage the risks from FADs in isolation. There is also much at stake for provincial, regional, local, and individual interests. In addition, any response effort is more cost-effective when it can take advantage of the significant provincial resources, local knowledge, and industry expertise available in BC. See Annex A for more in-depth information on roles.

#### 1.2.1 Federal Role and Legislation

The CFIA develops and delivers programs and services designed to protect Canada's livestock resources. They help to mitigate risks associated with animal diseases that can be transmitted to humans by controlling diseases within animal populations. The CFIA supports the health of Canada's animal

resources and instils confidence in the safety of Canada's animals, animal products and by-products, and production systems.

The primary federal instrument empowering the CFIA during FAD outbreaks is the *Health of Animals Act*. This legislation addresses the need to prevent the introduction of FADs into Canada and to prevent the spread of diseases that could affect human health or have a significant economic effect.

Under this Act, the CFIA has produced plans, strategies and guides for eradicating FADs. See Annex D for information and links to these references. Responsibility for implementing these plans in BC rests with the Director General, Western Operations for CFIA.

The **CFIA Animal Health Functional Pan** (AHFP) provides the framework for response across Canada. The 2019 BC FADES Plan utilizes the AHFP response structure and the AHFP is a resource for further specific response details.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)'s primary role during an emergency is to support the sector in relation to recovery for economic impacts and trade.

Some of the Federal legislation applying to FAD outbreaks in BC:

- Health of Animals Act
- Canada Labour Code
- Emergencies Act
- Emergency Management Act
- Privacy Act

The federal *Emergency Management Act* authorizes Public Safety Canada to coordinate among federal government institutions a 'whole of government' response in cooperation with the province and other entities. Public Safety Canada is the federal government's primary agent for coordinating the provision of federal assistance in response to an emergency in support of CFIA and/or the province.

#### 1.2.2 Provincial Role and Legislation

In general, provinces respond to emergencies based on their provincial emergency legislative authorities. Under BC's *Emergency Program Act*, Emergency Management BC (EMBC) through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General bears responsibility for implementing provincial emergency plans, including the coordination of provincial resources and can request assistance from the federal government when required.

The Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) is responsible for the production, marketing, processing and merchandising of agriculture and seafood products, including the carrying out of animal health programs. AGRI provides support to the federal government in response to FADs.

In a FAD, AGRI will:

- Support response activities on the ground with personnel, facilities and equipment
- Facilitate response participation of key provincial stakeholders (e.g., industry, local authorities, Indigenous governments, other ministries)
- Provide laboratory diagnostic services
- Support disposal of animal carcasses, which is jointly managed by producers, industry organizations and federal/provincial/municipal governments
- Assist industry, local authorities and Indigenous governments with recovery
- Participate in trade resumption planning and related activities at the request of the federal government (AAFC)

Provincial legislation applying to FAD outbreaks in BC:

- Animal Health Act
- Emergency Program Act and Regulations
- Environmental Management Act and Regulations
- Public Health Act

Note: see the full list in Annex B

AGRI has prepared an emergency response plan to support a wide range of hazardous events for implementation by the Minister of Agriculture, when required.

Under BC's *Animal Health Act*, the Province has the ability to limit the spread of current and emerging diseases, and better respond to potentially disastrous outbreaks. This Act enables the provincial government to respond as needed with modern animal disease management practices such as inspections, seizures, orders, penalties and enacting emergency powers. In this way it shares many similarities to the *Federal Health of Animals Act*, which is focused on FADs.

Under BC's *Environmental Management Act*, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy is authorized to manage and control disposal of such wastes as animal carcasses and related material. The Minister is authorized under the Act and the Hazardous Waste Regulation to exempt certain wastes from regulation when dealt with according to adopted protocols or methods.

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has three groups that may be involved:

- The Range Program manages Crown range tenures. Staff have contact information for producers with tenures and are aware of the location of livestock on range land, especially cattle and some sheep.
- Feral bison and wildlife are the jurisdiction of the Resource Stewardship Division, Wildlife Management.
- Wildfire Management Branch may provide resources to assist the FAD response and/or coordinate provincial resources.

The Ministry of Health is authorized under the *Public Health Act* to control communicable diseases to protect the public from health hazards.

The Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) works toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in BC and includes understanding and supporting the opportunities and identified needs of Indigenous peoples.

Annex B lists the federal and provincial statutes and regulations of relevance to reportable disease outbreaks among animals in BC.

#### 1.2.3 Local Authorities and Indigenous Communities

In British Columbia, local authorities have primary responsibility for preparing plans and controlling local emergency response under BC's *Emergency Program Act*. As local authorities, each municipality, regional district, and treaty First Nation in the province are expected to activate emergency plans appropriate to the level of risk and impact in their respective communities. The level of engagement will vary depending upon the specific FAD, although it is important to note that FADs will often have an impact at the community level.

For First Nations on reserve, Chief and Council are responsible for the actions taken on reserve and are encouraged to consult and coordinate with EMBC during an event.

#### 1.2.4 Industry

Industry has an important role to play in a FAD emergency response, and this will differ depending upon the situation and their capacity. Key support activities may include:

- communicating and providing support to industry members including allied trades
- implementing biosecurity measures
- assisting with movement control measures and traceability
- collaborating in response activities
- providing expertise and resources
- linking to other industries for a coordinated industry response for diseases that go to numerous species (e.g. FMD for cattle, bison, dairy, etc.)
- · responding to environmental issues as they arise
- ensuring the health and welfare of livestock in their care
- assisting with evaluation procedures for CFIA compensation
- supporting recovery activities

In order to fill this role, the livestock industries have organized response structures which vary in relation to their organization's resources.

The BC Poultry Association has an emergency response plan with an EOC structure that regularly practises the poultry industry response actions.

The BC Dairy Association, BC Cattlemen's Association and BC Association of Cattle Feeders have developed:

- Plans that set out the roles and responsibilities for the industry organization and key members of staff organized around an Emergency Management Committee.
- Handbooks that describe the producers' roles in the key activities anticipated, and the information they will need to have on hand.

These have been developed through the Canadian Animal Health Coalition. More information about the plans and handbooks can be found at: http://www.animalhealth.ca under Emergency Management.

The other livestock industry associations will have members available to assist with the response efforts.

Additional companies, agencies and associations can have a role in traceability and movement control:

- The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency administers the animal identification program and traceability initiatives for beef and dairy cattle, bison, sheep and goats. They own and manage the Canadian Livestock Tracking System database.
- Ownership Identification Inc. (OII) administers a brand registration and livestock inspection program in BC which can provide information to assist in implementing movement controls.
- PigTrace Canada is an identification and traceability system for the Canadian hog industry.

Allied trades including feed suppliers, abattoirs, livestock haulers, etc. can have a role in reducing spread by implementing biosecurity measures, communicating with producers, providing expertise, etc.

#### 1.3 SCOPE OF THE PLAN

The scope of the BC FADES Plan includes the following elements:

#### 1.3.1 Geographic Area

The geographic area addressed by the BC FADES Plan includes the entirety of the province of BC, including federal lands and Treaty First Nation lands.

#### 1.3.2 Diseases

Planning addresses all federally-reportable FADs listed by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) as transmissible diseases that have the potential for very serious socio-economic or public health consequences, and are of major importance in the international trade of animals and animal products. Depending on the disease, a large-scale joint response may not be required.

Figure 1.1 (next page) is a guide only and is not exhaustive; new and emerging diseases may be added to this list by the CFIA as required. Please refer to the CFIA website for the most up-to-date information:

http://inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/2018/eng/1329499145620/1329499272021

In addition, while this plan was originally designed to define the roles of the various agencies in response to a reportable FAD in BC, the principles can be modified and used for any animal disease event. This can include:

- Diseases that are not foreign but federally reportable under the federal Health of Animals Act and Reportable Disease Regulation.
- Diseases that are provincially reportable and notifiable under the BC Animal Health Act and BC Reportable and Notifiable Disease Regulations:
- https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animalsand-crops/animal-health/reportable-notifiable-diseases/notifiable-diseases
- Emerging diseases that are not currently named as reportable or notifiable diseases under federal or provincial legislation.

Figure 1.1 Partial OIE List of Reportable Foreign Animal Diseases

Reportable Foreign Animal Diseases	
Disease	Animal Species Affected
African Horse Sickness	Horse, mule, donkey, zebra
African Swine Fever	Members of the pig family
Bluetongue	Cattle, bison, deer, goat, sheep & wild ruminants
Bovine Tuberculosis (Z)	Usually cattle and bison, but practically all mammals including sheep, goat, horse, pig, llama, alpaca, deer, fox, mink, raccoon, dog, cat
Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) (Z)	Cattle
Brucellosis (Z)	Many species of mammals, particularly cattle, swine, bison, elk, deer, goats, sheep, horses & other ruminants.
Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera)	Domestic and wild pigs
Chronic Wasting Disease (Z cannot be ruled out)	White-tailed deer, mule deer, moose, elk and reindeer
Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia	Cattle, water buffalo, Asian yak, American bison
Contagious Equine Metritis	Horse
Cysticercosis (Z)	Most commonly cattle and pig, can include bison
Equine Infectious Anemia	Horse, donkey, mule
Equine Piroplasmosis	All equine species (horse, mule, donkey, zebra etc.)
Fowl Typhoid and Pullorum Disease	Chicken, turkey, duck, grouse, guinea-fowl, pheasant, quail, sparrow etc.
Foot and Mouth Disease (Z*, very rare, with little effect)	Cattle, sheep, swine, goat, deer, bison & other cloven-hoofed domestic & wild ruminants. NOT horse.
Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (Z)	Food producing birds-chicken, turkey, quail, guinea fowl etc. as well as waterfowl, pet and wild birds
Lumpy Skin Disease	Cattle
Newcastle Disease (Z, minor)	Wide variety of avian species, both wild and domestic
Peste des Petits Ruminants	Sheep, goat, domestic deer
Pseudorabies	Swine mainly. Also, cattle, sheep, goat, dog, cat, mink, fox, raccoon and rat
Rift Valley Fever (Z)	Sheep, cattle, goat
Rinderpest	Cattle, buffalo and other even-toed ungulates
Scrapie	Sheep, goat
Sheep Pox and Goat Pox	Sheep, goat
Swine Vesicular Disease	Swine
Trichinellosis (Z, low risk)	All mammals
Venezuelan Equine Encephalomyelitis (Z)	Horse, mule, donkey and zebra
Vesicular Stomatitis (Z)	Horse, ruminants such as cattle, sheep, members of deer and llama families, swine

<sup>\* (</sup>Z) = Zoonosis, i.e. affects humans.

#### 1.3.3 Stakeholders

The Plan anticipates the cooperative efforts of all key stakeholders in response. Whether working directly in the organization structure designated within this Plan, or as an external organization, all stakeholders are encouraged to adopt the principles of collaboration in mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

This Plan interacts with other plans to address response support at the regional and national levels. Separate plans for the Ministry of Health and health authorities in BC address response to human health threats.

#### 1.3.4 Response Levels

Specific policies and procedures address initial response operations at the 'site' or 'field' level coordinated through a Joint Incident Command Post (ICP), and anticipate support operations to one or multiple Joint ICPs through a Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC).

#### 1.3.5 Recovery

Response support includes planning for individual, industry and community recovery that considers social, economic and environmental components.

#### 1.4 PLAN DESCRIPTION

Users of this Plan will find that guidance on disease response is presented in four levels of detail.

#### **1.4.1** The Plan

The main body of the Plan contains a concise explanation of how the many stakeholder agencies intend to work together in an emergency involving a FAD in BC. It provides overview material and core concepts to allow agency personnel and other reviewers to quickly get a sense of how things work. It references CFIA's AHFP considerably as that plan lays out the response structure that will be used across Canada. This plan does not repeat all the information in the AHFP. Instead the BC FADES Plan points to the AHFP as required to ensure users can access the most up to date information related to the AHFP, maintained by the CFIA. BC specific response structures and information are outlined in this plan.

#### 1.4.2 Annexes

Support materials attached to the Plan offer specific guidance for use in emergency situations, including BC-Specific Job Action Sheets, BC specific forms, legal authorities, organization roles, references, training, and contact information.

#### 1.4.3 Job Action Sheets (Checklists)

Each function in the response at the Joint ICP and JEOC levels has access to a Job Action Sheet (checklist) that outlines the responsibilities and actions for that position. These are maintained by CFIA in conjunction with the AHFP. BC-Specific Job Action Sheets are included in *Annex G* of this Plan.

#### 1.4.4 Forms

CFIA has developed a set of forms to be used in response which are kept in conjunction with the AHFP. Only BC-Specific forms are found in *Annex H* of this Plan.

#### 1.4.5 Other Documents

References are listed in *Annex D*. Currently, the CFIA offers fact sheets, disease prevention guidelines, and response procedures for many diseases. This information can be found at:

http://inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/eng/1303768471142/1303768544412

Hazard Specific Plans are reviewed regularly by all stakeholders through the Canadian Animal Health Consultative Committee.

Disease-specific guidelines are expected to be considered in addition to the generic functions and activities in the JEOC.

BC specific protocols for dealing with materials arising from a FAD outbreak have also been developed and will be discussed in the Disposal section.

#### 1.5 KEEPING THE PLAN CURRENT

The BC Provincial Chief Veterinary Office (CVO) with AGRI and the CFIA Director of Operations (BC Food and Animal Programs) will hold and maintain the updated master copies of the BC FADES Plan and all annexes.

The signatories to this agreement assume responsibility for regularly maintaining the BC FADES Plan and ensuring readiness for activation.

The BC Provincial CVO and the CFIA Director, BC Operations (Food and Animal Programs) may arrange annual reviews of:

- Relevant agency agreements and memoranda of understanding
- Joint ICP and JEOC facilities and equipment readiness and capabilities
- Information technology systems and criteria
- Notification process, including testing contact information

The BC FADES plan should be reviewed every 5 years, and updated immediately following a response where significant changes have been identified/recommended.

The signatory agencies anticipate ongoing training of primary and alternate personnel to prepare for FAD response, and participating in at least one training event annually to test and improve the BC FADES Plan and its elements.

# 2 CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

#### 2.1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Given the intent of the federal and provincial governments to work together during response to foreign animal diseases (FADs), the agencies agree on a number of basic principles. These best practices have been proven in previous FAD responses in British Columbia (BC) and are summarized below.

## 2.1.1 Incident Command System (ICS)

All federal, provincial, and local agencies apply the principles and concepts of ICS during initial and expanded operations. This enables responders trained in ICS for wildfires, earthquakes and other emergency events to use the same ICS approach for FAD response.

# 2.1.2 BC Emergency Management System (BCEMS)

For events that require provincial resources, all agencies agree to adopt elements and protocols of BCEMS, such as preparing incident action plans, situation reports and managing public information.

# 2.1.3 Joint Response Organization and Shared Facility

Signatory agencies agree to collaborate during a FAD outbreak through a combined organization for response operations, located at one or more Joint Incident Command Posts (ICPs) and/or Joint Emergency Operation Centres (JEOCs).

# The 12 Principles of ICS:

- Five Primary Functions (Command/ Management, Operations, Logistics, Planning, Finance/Admin.)
- Establishing and Transferring of Command
- Single or Unified Command Structure
- Management by Objectives
- Consolidated Incident Action Plans
- Comprehensive Resource Management
- Unity and Chain of Command
- Manageable Span of Control
- Modular Organization
- Personnel Accountability
- Common Terminology
- Integrated Communications

## 2.1.4 Multi-Source Staffing

Participants in this Plan agree to share human resources in staffing initial and expanded response organizations to cut personnel costs, increase communication, enhance effectiveness, and share information. Personnel from local authorities, Indigenous governments or industry may be utilized in any function, based on qualifications and need. For example, local industry representatives may be called to participate at the Joint ICP or JEOC in Liaison.

Information, Operations, Planning, and Logistics functions to utilize their local knowledge, expertise, networks, etc. Personnel remain under the administrative and policy control of their agencies, while answering to management requirements of the Joint ICP or JEOC.

#### 2.1.5 Unified Command

Responders to FAD emergencies apply Unified Command in the Joint ICP or JEOC to allow key agencies who have jurisdictional or functional responsibility to jointly develop a common set of response objectives and strategies with each agency representing the responsibilities and resources of their respective agencies. The signatory agencies agree to collaborate in Unified Command in FAD response organizations, as and when advisable.

#### 2.1.6 Management by Objectives (Incident Action Plans)

The signatory agencies agree to apply the principle of 'management by objectives' in developing and implementing actions for both initial and expanded response. Incident Commanders and/or JEOC Directors ensure written incident action plans (IAPs) are created that provide responders with direction for specific activities.

#### 2.1.7 Resource Management

Tactical resources assigned to an incident are acquired and managed by the ICP Management team for site activities. All resources intended for expanded response through multiple Joint ICPs are coordinated through the JEOC but still managed through Incident Management Teams at each Joint ICP. Resource ordering is coordinated among the contributing agencies to reduce competition for resources and to enhance access to limited or critical resources.

#### 2.1.8 Integrated Communications

The agencies agree to share communications to enhance the ability to exchange information between response organizations during an expanded response. The Logistics Section at either the Joint ICP or the JEOC develops effective information technology and telecommunications protocols. The signatory agencies agree to apply the information technology and telecommunications used by the CFIA, accounting for federal network rules for information technology. The PSPC and CFIA have worked on establishing an inter-operability system that allows suitable access by all government agencies within the Joint ICP and JEOC to databases, e-mail, and Internet.

#### 2.1.9 Site Authorities

The Incident Commanders have full authority to control response actions, personnel, and site access. The Incident Commanders have decision-making authority for all tactical operations. The JEOC Directors are responsible for the overall strategic management, coordination, and response decisions in the JEOC.

#### 2.1.10 Public Communications

To maintain public trust and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders, communications to the public are coordinated between agencies and industry via the Joint ICP and/or JEOC.

#### 2.2 RESPONSE ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT

The BC Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support (FADES) Plan anticipates response activities as described in the following text and shown in Figure 2.1

#### 2.2.1 Site Tactical Response/Incident Management

A Joint ICP is activated to manage site response activities which can include numerous premises. The Incident Commanders control all tactical activities within the geographic area covered by the Joint ICP.

Under the overall direction of the Incident Commanders, field teams undertake tactical activities in a FAD response at Infected Places (IPs) and suspect or atrisk premises with the objective being to eradicate the disease.

#### 2.2.2 Site Support/Regional Coordination

A JEOC is activated, if required, to coordinate and support one or more Incident Management teams at the Joint ICPs. JEOC functions may integrate with a Joint ICP in situations where only one Joint ICP is activated. The JEOC may turn to other Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) such as a Provincial Regional Emergency Operation Centre (PREOC), Ministry EOC, or local authority EOC for support with resources (equipment and personnel), local knowledge and expertise to the JEOC and/or the Joint ICP.

Industry may also provide support to the JEOC and Joint ICPs through their response structures which may be an Industry EOC, Industry Emergency Management Committee or from Association members.

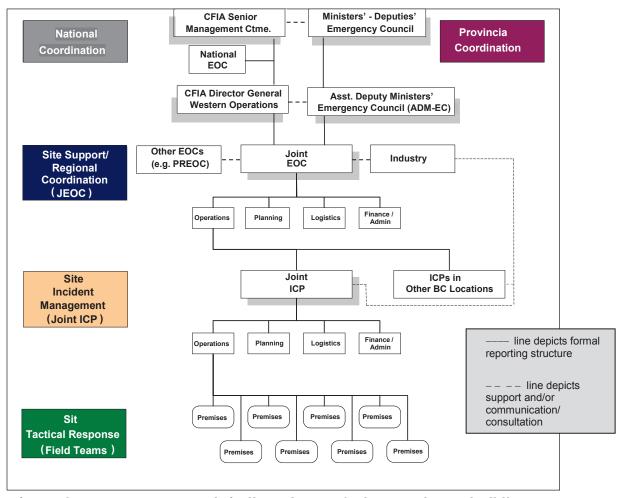


Figure 2.1. Response Levels in the BC FADES Plan. Note: Not all these structures will be activated for every response. Also, a Premises could be an Infected Place, a Premises that is under disease surveillance or a Premises that is under quarantine/movement control.

#### 2.2.3 Provincial Coordination

If the JEOC requires strategic direction and policy support at the provincial level, it may request assistance from the Assistant Deputy Ministers' Emergency Council (ADM-EC). The ADM-EC is key for sharing information across the provincial government, accessing resources and high-level policy direction. Specific policy direction may be obtained from the executive of the Ministry with jurisdiction for the area that requires policy direction. Industry may provide input at the Provincial coordination level.

In addition, Provincial Executive Directors and Directors within and between Ministries may have coordination calls in order to share information, arrange

resources and coordinate the across provincial government support to the response.

In a very large event, the Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC) may be activated. The PECC would also report to the ADM-EC.

#### 2.2.4 National Coordination

If the JEOC requires federal support in terms of resources or guidance, it may request assistance through the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) in Ottawa. If the NEOC is not activated, the JEOC may request assistance through the Office of the Western Director General or other Branches within CFIA. The National Senior Management Committee provides policy review, decision making, strategic assessment, financial management and policy conflict resolution for the NEOC.

In the event of significant livestock market interruption, the Livestock Market Interruption Strategy (LMIS) Steering Committee has developed a governance structure including Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, industry and other stakeholders to develop resolutions to market interruption issues. The JEOC would link into this structure through the Federal Provincial Territorial Assistant Deputy Minister Policy and Regulatory Committee to provide advice and recommendations related to response.

# 2.3 JOINT ICP AND/OR JEOC STAFFING

The initial Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors are responsible for staffing the essential functions of their respective Joint ICP or JEOC. The Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors determine appropriate staffing based on an assessment of the current and projected situation.

Staff for the Joint ICP or JEOC may be composed of designated personnel from any of the following organizations:

- Federal employees
- Provincial employees
- Indigenous government employees
- Local authority employees
- Industry representatives
- Non-government organizations

The guiding principle in staffing a Joint ICP or JEOC is that all members must have the knowledge, skills, and attitude needed for success in the assigned functions, regardless of position or organization. While serving in the Joint ICP or JEOC, every person assigned to a function agrees to act in good faith and on behalf of the agencies with jurisdiction.

Joint ICP or JEOC personnel and agencies may change throughout the course of an emergency to avoid burn-out. Effective transitions including an overlap in staffing will help to maintain the required continuity of effort.

Initial staffing of the Joint ICP or JEOC may be as follows:

**Incident Commander or JEOC Director** – CFIA and BC Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) both provide the Incident Commanders and/or JEOC Directors, for Unified Command.

**Deputy Director** – The role of Deputy Director may be filled by personnel from CFIA, AGRI, or Emergency Management BC (EMBC). There may be more than one Deputy Director in the Joint ICP or JEOC.

**Liaison Officer** – AGRI and EMBC provide Liaison Officers to coordinate communications to provincial and municipal partners and stakeholders. Industry would provide input through the Liaison Officer.

Information Officer – The CFIA provides qualified personnel to serve as the Information Officer in the Joint ICP or JEOC. Professionals representing BC's Government Communication and Public Engagement may also serve jointly as an Information Officer. Local Government Information Officers may serve in the Joint ICP or JEOC Information Section.

**Safety Officer** – The role of Safety Officer will be filled by someone with the correct training and experience for the position, most likely from CFIA. In BC, it is crucial that AgSafe BC be linked in with the Joint ICP Safety Officer.

Operations Section Chief – The signatory agencies agree that the Joint ICP or JEOC coordinates response through one Operations Section Chief, assigned by the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors and approved by CFIA and AGRI. As there are BC regulations pertaining to the disposal of carcasses and animal products and by-products, it is important to have Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy and AGRI representatives in the Joint ICP Disposal Group.

**Planning Section Chief** – The Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors select one Planning Section Chief among available qualified personnel. Due to policy, regulatory and technical considerations, the Chief will most likely be from the CFIA.

**Logistics Section Chief** – This position requires a person who is familiar with agency and government resources, understands the procurement process and knows what resources are required for response and may come from AGRI or CFIA.

**All Sections** – Staff in the Joint ICP or the JEOC functions may be drawn from any participating agency, including local authorities, Indigenous governments, industry, and contractors. Sub-positions within the Joint ICP or JEOC organization may be filled by qualified personnel independent of rank or agency affiliation

#### 2.4 OTHER BC SPECIFIC RESOURCES FOR THE JOINT ICP AND/OR JEOC

For a FAD event in BC, the following resources may be useful in supporting response efforts. See *Annex C for contact information.* 

#### 2.4.1 4-H British Columbia

The 4-H program has over 2,300 youth members and over 600 volunteer leaders across the province, with many youth members involved with livestock. Through AGRI's Youth Development Program, 4-H BC can spread information to youth with livestock in the event of a foreign animal disease outbreak.

#### 2.4.2 AGRI Animal Health Centre (Abbotsford)

The leading accredited full-service veterinary laboratory in Western Canada, it offers more than 400 laboratory diagnostic tests for agents that may be found in wild and domestic birds, mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians. AGRI's Animal Health Centre is part of the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN), an integrated federal-provincial-university laboratory network to diagnose serious animal infectious diseases.

The Lab uses the AGRI Emergency Lab Database System (ELDS) during Avian Influenza events. It is an independent, event-specific, shared database that manages diagnostic information. Designed to handle a high-volume sample submission rate, it provides real-time test results to key decision makers.

#### 2.4.3 AgSafe BC

AgSafe BC provides health and safety materials and services around the province to farm employers and farm workers. AgSafe BC is an independent association, governed by a Board of Directors whose members represent BC farm employer and worker organisations. They can provide support to Joint ICPs and JEOCs. An industry partner to WorkSafeBC, AgSafe BC has no role in WorkSafeBC regulatory enforcement.

## 2.4.4 BC Agriculture Council (BCAC)

As a 'Council of Associations', BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) represents nearly 30 farm associations that in turn generate 96% of provincial farm gate sales in BC. BCAC plays a key role in facilitating communication and collaboration amongst all B.C. agriculture stakeholders. During an event, BCAC can have a communications role and/or act as a liaison with Joint ICPs and/or the JEOC and BC agriculture industries either directly or indirectly

affected. For a catastrophic animal disease event in BC, BCAC could play a more significant role to be determined by the nature of the event.

#### 2.4.5 BC Chief Veterinarian Officer, CVO (Abbotsford)

The CVO is responsible for ensuring that notifiable or reportable diseases are controlled under the measures laid out in the BC *Animal Health Act*. They supervise the AGRI Animal Health Centre and are often a BC spokesperson for a FAD event.

#### 2.4.6 Horses and Cattle Ownership Identification Inc. (OII)

A company that administers a brand registration and livestock inspection program in BC for cattle, horse and bison. They could assist with providing information around animal movement.

#### 2.4.7 RCMP Livestock Section

A position within the RCMP is the Provincial Livestock Corporal who has specific knowledge of working with livestock. They can be the key contact within the RCMP and have a liaison role with other RCMP members assisting in response, including the provision of education around dealing with livestock and farmers/ranchers.

#### 2.5 RESPONSE GOALS

The signatories support the following response goals set out in priority under the BCEMS as follows:



# Response Goals

- Ensure the health and safety of responders
- Save lives
- Reduce suffering
- Protect public health
- Protect infrastructure
- Protect property
- Protect the environment
- Reduce economic and social losses

In developing strategies to control FADs, responders consider the following additional diseasespecific goals:

Rapid Response - By the time a highly contagious disease has been detected, the disease may be incubating in other herds or flocks. An immediate response is required involving all stakeholders working together.

Identification - Prompt laboratory identification ensures that appropriate response follows a suspected outbreak. This is essential, especially in cases where the agent involved may spread quickly.

Containment – Strategic quarantine and movement control of infected and exposed animals and animal products is paramount in halting the spread of disease. In the initial stages, a complete ban of all movement of animals, vehicles, and other contaminated products may be implemented.

Eradication – The destruction and disposal of affected and exposed susceptible animals, and decontamination of all affected areas, may prove critical in controlling the spread of the disease. All selected destruction methods shall fully consider animal welfare.

#### 2.6 DECISION-MAKING

#### 2.6.1 Incident Commanders

The Incident Commanders have full authority to control response actions, personnel, and site access. The Incident Commanders have decision-making authority for all tactical operations. Because a guiding principle of the BC FADES Plan is unified command, whenever Incident Commander is referenced, it includes both of the unified command Incident Commanders.

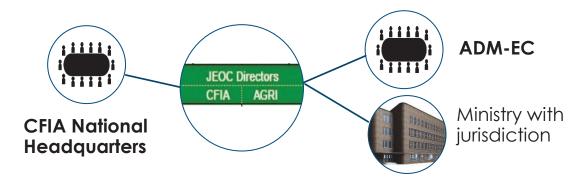
The Incident Commanders assess, evaluate, and make decisions in consultation with the Joint ICP command staff and cooperating agencies. Under Unified Command, joint decisions are implemented through one Incident Action Plan and under one Operations Section Chief.

#### 2.6.2 JEOC Directors

Once the Joint Emergency Operations Centre becomes active, the JEOC Directors are responsible for supporting site activities and coordinating multiple Joint ICPs in the province. As above, when the JEOC Director is referenced, it includes both unified command JEOC Directors. The Incident Commanders at a Joint ICP may refer any decisions that cannot be resolved to the JEOC.

The Liaison Officer at the Joint ICP and/or JEOC works with industry agency representatives who represent a broad spectrum of stakeholders, to ensure their suggestions and preferences are considered by the JEOC Directors in Incident Action Plans as well as to ensure the resources, knowledge and experience in industry are utilized to their fullest extent in the response.

#### 2.7 STRATEGIC POLICY GUIDANCE



Federal strategic guidance and policy interpretation is provided by CFIA National Headquarters.

Provincial Level strategic guidance and policy interpretation is provided to the JEOC by the ADM-EC or the Executive of the Ministry which has jurisdiction over the policy area.

Neither provincial nor federal policy support groups have responsibility for direct emergency management at the site during a FAD event.

#### 2.8 OPERATIONAL INFORMATION FLOW

Operational information coming to and disseminated by the Joint ICP or JEOC must be managed carefully.

#### 2.8.1 Five Basic Types of Information

#### 2.8.1.1 General Information

General information may be exchanged among any members of a response organization, and this Plan encourages lateral communication among response functions. Verifying general information is an important step before taking action.

#### 2.8.1.2 Management Direction

Management directions must follow the lines of authority established for the response organization. For the Joint ICP and the JEOC, these lines are represented in the organization charts presented in Sections 4 and 5 of this Plan. For example, command decisions and priorities are communicated between the Incident Commanders and Command Staff and Section Chiefs. The Incident Commanders approve all action plans.

#### 2.8.1.3 Situation Reports

Situation reports are prepared by the Planning Section for approval by the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors. All response staff forward incident situation information to the Planning Section for compiling a Situation Report within a reasonable time. The Planning Section prepares at least one Situation Report in each operational period and distributes it throughout the organization.

#### 2.8.1.4 Resource Requests (Request for Resources or Assistance)

Resource requests normally flow to the Section Chiefs at the Joint ICP or JEOC, or directly to the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors. The Section Chiefs forward resource requests to the Logistics Section. If needs cannot be met, requests may be forwarded to the PREOC (if activated), the NEOC (if activated) or the CFIA Western Area Office.

#### 2.8.1.5 Technical Reports

Technical reports generated by the response are catalogued by the Planning Section and made available to any function.

#### 2.8.2 Use of Standard Forms

The signatories agree to use the standard forms associated with the CFIA Animal Health Functional Plan (AHFP). BC specific forms are included in *Annex H* of the BC FADES Plan.

#### 2.8.3 Private and Confidential Information

All participants in this Plan agree to share information for the purposes of managing the FAD event in BC, including and not limited to the following:

- Epidemiology reports
- Premises inspection reports
- Laboratory test and surveillance results
- Personal information that identifies individuals

Privacy is a significant and legal issue. Each participant will act in good faith to protect personal and confidential information according to the respective legislation governing emergency response to disease outbreaks. All participants will enact measures to secure information that requires protection, including paper and electronic formats.

Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan, the release, subsequent disclosure, and sharing of personal and confidential information between the participants will be in accordance with each participant's access to information and protection of privacy legislation.

### 2.9 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

In any FAD emergency, there is a pressing need for timely, accurate, open and coordinated information to news media, stakeholders and general public information services. Consistent messaging with partners and with the public is a key element to instilling public confidence and facilitating collaboration among stakeholders.

Proactive communication of both the risks and the response measures is critical to successfully managing public perception and disease spread.

#### 2.9.1 Three Types of Information

#### **Public Information**

This effort ensures the public within the affected area receives complete, accurate, and consistent information and advice on how members of the public can protect their interests.

#### **Internal Information**

The Joint ICP and the JEOC also ensure that all responders are kept informed of current safety alerts, response actions taken to date, and progress in managing the event.

#### **News Media Information**

The Joint ICP and/or the JEOC serves as the coordination point for all media contact, including the coordination of news media releases by officials representing the range of stakeholder agencies.

#### 2.9.2 Elements of Agreement in Managing Emergency Information

#### 2.9.2.1 Collaboration in the Information Function

A successful information program depends on cooperation among all levels of government and industry. Multiple sources of information may confuse the public and could lead to serious consequences. The signatory agencies agree to integrate information professionals in a single function.

#### 2.9.2.2 Information Personnel

CFIA leads the information function for a FAD event. The BC Government Communications and Public Engagement (GCPE) coordinates all media information on behalf of provincial ministries and agencies, and coordinates the distribution of information. The province, local authorities, Indigenous governments and industry may support the distribution of information materials.

## 2.9.2.3 Joint Information Centre (JIC)

Where demand requires a significant information effort, the Information Officer function may be organized into a separate section and units. A Joint Information Centre (JIC) may be established by participating agencies to assist in implementing a collaborative Information Strategy at the Joint ICP and/or JEOC levels.

## 2.9.2.4 Shared Messages

Information messages concerning all aspects of the event are developed in collaboration and shared among stakeholder agencies and industry prior to distribution, where possible. Media releases or press briefings should involve all affected agencies. Agencies agree to make independent public announcements only with respect to their individual expertise and legislative responsibilities.

## 2.9.2.5 Spokespersons

The spokespersons for an event will be coordinated through the Information Officer. CFIA's Canadian Chief Veterinary Officer usually serves as the lead federal spokesperson, and may delegate this authority to another subject matter expert or others. The Provincial Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) or delegate acts as the lead spokesperson for the Province on the topic of FADs. A Medical Health Officer may speak for the regional health authorities. Other federal and provincial agencies may name key spokespersons to liaise with media as appropriate. In addition, representatives of the local agriculture industry may choose to speak on behalf of their constituents.

## 2.9.2.6 Information Strategy

The Information Officer and assistants consider the policy requirements of all levels of government in setting out strategies for approval by the Incident Commanders and JEOC Directors.

## 2.10 Access to Emergency Funds

All federal agencies are responsible for initially incurring costs of operations and support provided to the CFIA, and subsequently providing a record of those costs to CFIA for collation and analysis.

The CFIA will only reimburse provincial government, local authority and Indigenous government costs where they act as CFIA agents, perform activities on behalf of the CFIA, and have received prior CFIA approval for specific cost items.

All assisting BC government ministries shall track their response costs, prepare their accounts, and submit them to Emergency Management BC (EMBC) for collation and analysis. EMBC may then submit a consolidated claim on behalf of the BC government to the CFIA for evaluation and payment.

Local authorities and Indigenous governments shall track their individual response costs and submit any claims that had prior CFIA approval directly to the CFIA for assessment.

Provincial government, local authorities and Indigenous governments may be eligible for some recovery costs which would be coordinated through EMBC. Prior to expenditure, it is recommended that entities discuss eligible expenses with EMBC.

## 2.11 JOINT ICP AND/OR JEOC MEETINGS

Four types of meetings are contemplated at a Joint ICP or JEOC to enhance collaboration, at the discretion of the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors.

# **Briefings**

All participants in the Joint ICP or JEOC

# **Management Meetings**

Incident Commanders and Command Staff or JEOC Management Staff

# **Section Meetings**

Section Chiefs with their Section Staff

# Incident Action Planning Meetings

Joint ICP or JEOC Management Staff and Section Chiefs

# 3 RESPONSE STEPS TO A FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE EVENT

## 3.1 GENERAL STEPS

Figure 3.1 outlines the general response steps upon notification of a foreign animal disease (FAD). Specifics of each step are described in the rest of the chapter. Note that depending on the disease and the outbreak circumstances the order may be different; some steps may be skipped or others added.

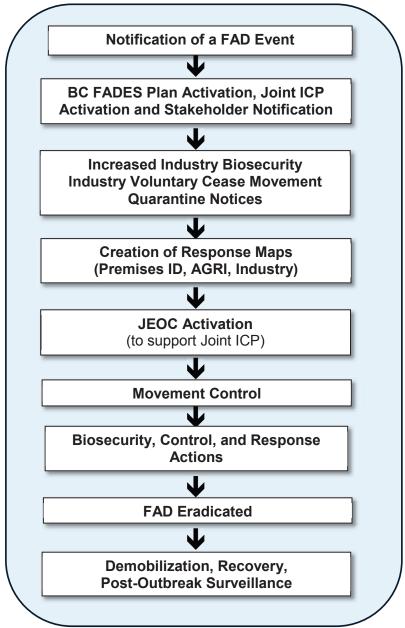


Figure 3.1 General steps in a foreign animal disease response.

## 3.2 NOTIFICATION OF A FAD EVENT

Animal owners, veterinarians and laboratories are legally required to immediately report to Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) the presence of an animal that is suspected of being affected or contaminated with a federally reportable disease. Initial notification of a suspected FAD may come from a producer, abattoir, diagnostic laboratory, local veterinary practitioner, public health unit, or the British Columbia (BC) Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO). If the initial notification comes through the BC CVO then the BC CVO contacts the CFIA Regional Animal Health Veterinary Officer.

The CFIA Animal Health Functional Plan sets out the initial response procedures. The Animal Health Disease Response is divided into five phases:

- 1. Disease Suspect Phase
- 2. Disease Investigation Phase
- 3. Disease Decision Phase
- 4. Disease Action Phase
- 5. Disease Recovery and Demobilization Phase

On the initial report of a FAD, the CFIA District Veterinarian may investigate premises as the Incident Commander, and determine the need for further response.

A field investigation team, under the direction of the CFIA Incident Commander, conducts a thorough epidemiological investigation once they arrive at the suspect premises.

# 3.3 FADES PLAN ACTIVATION, JOINT ICP ACTIVATION AND STAKEHOLDER NOTIFICATION

The CFIA and BC Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) determine to activate the BC FADES Plan and to activate a Joint ICP to coordinate the response to the FAD outbreak (see Section 3.6 for some specific Joint ICP activation steps). In order to formalize the activation, the CFIA Incident Commander creates a Decision Record invoking the BC FADES Plan and activating a unified response structure, that is then signed by the appropriate authorization level of CFIA and AGRI.

The Incident Commanders perform these procedures:

- Determine which functions are required at the Joint ICP to respond to the specific disease outbreak. This could be a small activation (minimal functions required), medium activation (moderate amount of functions required) or large activation (most functions required).
- Identify the specific locations of the Joint ICP and determine the functions immediately required.
- The AGRI Incident Commander obtains an Emergency Management BC (EMBC) Task Number by calling the BC Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) at 1 800 663 3456. The main purpose of the EMBC task number is

- to track provincial expenses that may be claimed back from CFIA (see section 2.10)
- Contact Response Personnel The Incident Commander or delegate (Joint ICP Logistics when activated) contacts qualified personnel to fill each of the required Joint ICP functions with staff from CFIA, AGRI, other Ministries, industry, other agencies and stakeholders.
- The Joint ICP Incident Commanders develop an initial Incident Action Plan to determine initial objectives.

# The Incident Commanders or delegate provide the following when contacting staff:

- Brief description of event
- Person who authorized the response activation
- Where and to whom to report
- Reminder to bring any necessary supplies and materials
- Inquire as to estimated time of arrival

Concurrently, a notification process for the various agencies and groups engaged in a FAD response in BC is carried out. It is outlined in Figure 3.2 on the next page.

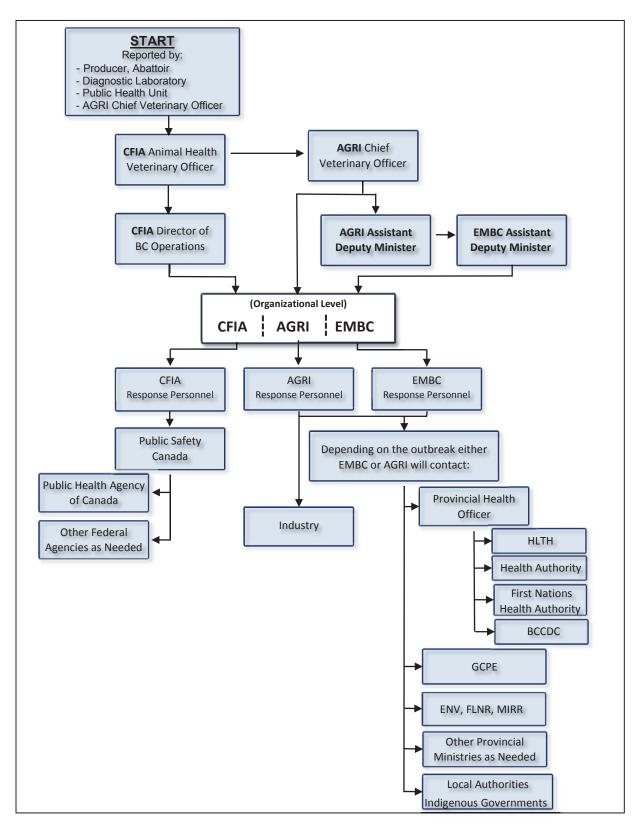


Figure 3.2 Notification process for a FAD Event in BC.

# 3.4 INCREASED INDUSTRY BIOSECURITY/INDUSTRY VOLUNTARY CEASE MOVEMENT/QUARANTINE NOTICES

When industry is informed of a potential FAD outbreak, they will usually send out information about the FAD outbreak to their producers/ranchers with a recommendation to increase the biosecurity on the producer's farms, ranches and other premises. Some industries in BC such as cattle, dairy and poultry have formalized levels of biosecurity such as Green, Amber, Red with specific actions outlined for each biosecurity level.

As stopping the movement of anything that may carry the disease is a key strategy in controlling a FAD outbreak, there is a role for industry to have voluntary cease movement protocols. When a premises is identified as having or in some cases suspected to have a FAD, the initial restriction applies only to that premises. However, industry may recommend voluntary cease movement restrictions in an area around the suspect premises in advance of additional mandatory movement restrictions that will follow. The voluntary cease movement protocols usually apply to all animals, animal products, or anything that may come in contact with the animals. The size of the industry voluntary cease movement area will vary depending on the industry and the specific disease.

The CFIA issues a quarantine notice to the premises with the mandatory quarantine movement restrictions. This would normally be followed by the declaration of infected place (IP) and the identification of an infected zone.

## 3.5 CREATE RESPONSE MAPS

In order for the FAD response to be effectively coordinated, maps of all the premises that have species that could be impacted need to be created. In BC there is a Premises ID system where livestock and poultry premises can be registered and given a unique Premises ID number.

For some industries (poultry, dairy, pork) there are requirements for locations to be registered with a Premises ID program and Premises contact information (addresses, farm names, producer contacts) to be maintained at the Marketing Board/Association Offices. In order for AGRI to create maps of the premises, this contact information needs to be provided to AGRI from the Industry Marketing Boards/Association Offices. There are MOUs in place between AGRI and all Industry Marketing Boards/Associations to ensure this data exchange occurs promptly.

For other industries, registration is not mandatory. For those that have registered, the Premises ID contact information is maintained by AGRI which makes the creation of maps easier. However, the percentage of premises registered for 'non-mandatory' industries is lower.

As it is essential to have definitive, updated parcel identification for the Declaration of Infected Place, and as this this can be challenging for some industries (e.g. cattle on rangeland), there needs to be a concerted effort between all levels of government and industry to ensure the correct information is obtained.

## 3.6 ACTIVATION OF JEOC

The CFIA and AGRI may activate a Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC) to support the Joint ICP, with the JEOC Directors identifying and confirming the location and initial requirements of the facility.

The JEOC Directors follow the same steps as outlined in Section 3.3 for the Joint ICPs such as determining the size of activation for the JEOC, location of the JEOC, identifying and contacting JEOC staff and creating an initial Incident Action Plan for the JEOC. A second EMBC task number is not required for the activation of the JEOC if a task number has been obtained for the Joint ICP.

## 3.7 MOVEMENT CONTROL

As stated earlier, movement control is a key strategy in controlling a FAD outbreak. Movement control measures can vary significantly depending on the disease; specific movement control measures are outlined in the CFIA individual disease specific plans. For example, at the outset of a highly contagious FAD, the premises with the FAD will be under quarantine and an industry voluntary cease movement recommendation around the premises may be put in place. That will generally be promptly followed by the CFIA identifying an infected zone around the IP with the premises in the infected zone requiring licences for any movement. The size of the infected zone will be determined by the specifics of the FAD such as the type of disease, physical and geographic boundaries, progression of the outbreak, density of animals and production types.

Movement of animals, animal products or anything that may have contact with the animals (feed, manure, etc.) within the infected zone will require a licence from the CFIA.

If appropriate, there will be a declaration of a Primary Control Zone (PCZ) by the Federal Minister of Agriculture. A federal declaration is not required to activate an ICP or JEOC to control a FAD.

The boundaries of the PCZ are defined by the CFIA based upon the advice from the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors.

With a Declaration of a PCZ, other zones will be established:

- Infected Zone the main focus of control efforts and encompasses all known infected places. Outer perimeter is up to 5 km beyond affected premises
- Restricted Zone surrounds infected zone; its distance is based on the epidemiology of the disease under consideration in order to prevent spread
- Security Zone between the outer perimeter of the Restricted Zone and edge of the PCZ
- Free area outside the Primary Control Zone, considered free of the disease

With a PCZ, permits of various kinds from the CFIA, will be required to move animals, animal products or anything that may come in contact with animals.

All this is done in order to prevent the spread of the FAD.

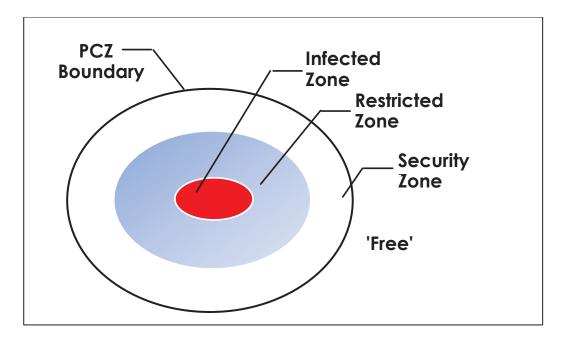


Figure 3.3 A Primary Control Zone (PCZ) may or may not be implemented. The shape of zones will be impacted by the shape of the Infected Place(s).

## 3.8 BIOSECURITY, CONTROL, AND RESPONSE ACTIONS

The Incident Commanders ensure that, in addition to movement control measures, other biosecurity, control, and response actions are taken to control and eradicate the disease. This includes but is not limited to:

- Biosecurity Actions
  - o implementing appropriate biosecurity measures
  - ensuring the cleaning and disinfection of infected places and animal transports
- Control Actions
  - o evaluating suspect animals
  - o conducting surveillance (at-risk premises, dead animal, pre-movement)
  - o epidemiological investigation
  - tracing animals, people, equipment etc. that came on and have left the IP that could have carried the infection
  - o considering the use of vaccination where appropriate
- Response Actions
  - o destroying and disposing of infected animals and materials as needed

If animals, animal products and by-products need to be destroyed in order to eradicate the FAD then disposal of these materials has to be done in an accepted manner that will prevent spread of the infectious agent and complies with federal, provincial and municipal legislation.

In BC, the BC Hazardous Waste Regulations, the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation, and the Organic Matter Recycling Regulations overseen by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy describe requirements for disposal of these materials, however they do not outline the specific disposal protocols for each FAD.

Cleaning & Disinfecting the IP is the responsibility of the premises owner and protocols are available for a number of FADs, or will be developed during the outbreak. The cleaning & disinfection is done under CFIA oversight.

#### 3.9 FAD ERADICATED

With a rapid response involving all stakeholders working together it is hoped that the FAD outbreak will be eradicated quickly and before it spreads to many premises. Once all IPs have been identified and control measures applied to kill the infectious agent, CFIA will remove the infected zone or PCZ so commercial and non-commercial farms in the control zone are no longer under quarantine.

However, the quarantine on the IPs remains in place. It will be removed upon completion of a waiting period (length dependant on disease) that follows cleaning and disinfection of the IP under CFIA oversight.

Following the successful eradication of the FAD, with no FAD detections, Canada can notify the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) that BC is free of the FAD. This is important to reestablish international trade.

# 3.10 DEMOBILIZATION, RECOVERY, AND POST-OUTBREAK SURVEILLANCE

Once the disease is eradicated the Joint ICP and JEOC can be demobilized, with partial demobilization starting well before the waiting period starts. Demobilization involves shutting down the ICP and JEOC, getting equipment back and ready for future responses, ensuring documentation is properly maintained, conducting reviews of the response, etc. For a large response this can be a lengthy task.

Recovery starts during the response phase and before demobilization, although it continues well after demobilization is finished. It includes actions such as providing psychosocial counseling to producers, post-outbreak surveillance to meet World Organization for Animal Health guidelines, restocking farms or ranches, re-establishing both domestic and international markets, rebuilding viable industry activities and supporting community recovery. See Section 6 for further details on recovery.

# 4 SITE RESPONSE/INCIDENT MANAGEMENT – JOINT ICP

## 4.1 OVERVIEW

In order to control a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak, a Joint Incident Command Post (ICP) will likely be established. The Joint ICP is the location from which the Incident Commanders direct the site response. It is the field location where the primary tactical-level incident command functions are performed.

Animal disease events may have numerous incidence sites (Infected Places and other premises) associated with the outbreak. A single Joint ICP can serve as the central coordination point for activities that will be carried out on each of those sites. The location and size of the Joint ICP is dependent on the nature of the specific disease, i.e. the potential for rapid and/or extensive spread of the infectious agent.

Operation of the Joint IPC follows the Guiding Principles outlined in Section 2.1.

In a wide-spread outbreak, several separate Joint ICPs, each with their own Incident Commanders, could be established with each reporting to the Joint Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) for support and coordination. For example, a separate Joint ICP could be located in each of the Fraser Valley, Okanagan, Peace River, etc. for an outbreak such as Foot and Mouth Disease.

## The Joint ICP is responsible for:

- Managing and directing activities that occur at the incident site(s)
- Determining specific objectives, strategies and tactics for site personnel
- Implementing response and control measures on site(s)
- Information gathering and dissemination
- Liaison among agencies with jurisdiction and with industry

## 4.2 ACTIVATING THE JOINT ICP

A decision to activate a Joint ICP will be made by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)Regional/Area Management team in discussion with the Provincial Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) and senior British Columbia (BC) Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI) staff. This decision occurs with the release of non-negative test results, but may be made in advance of the release of laboratory results. A federal declaration of emergency is not required to being response activities or to activate a Joint ICP.

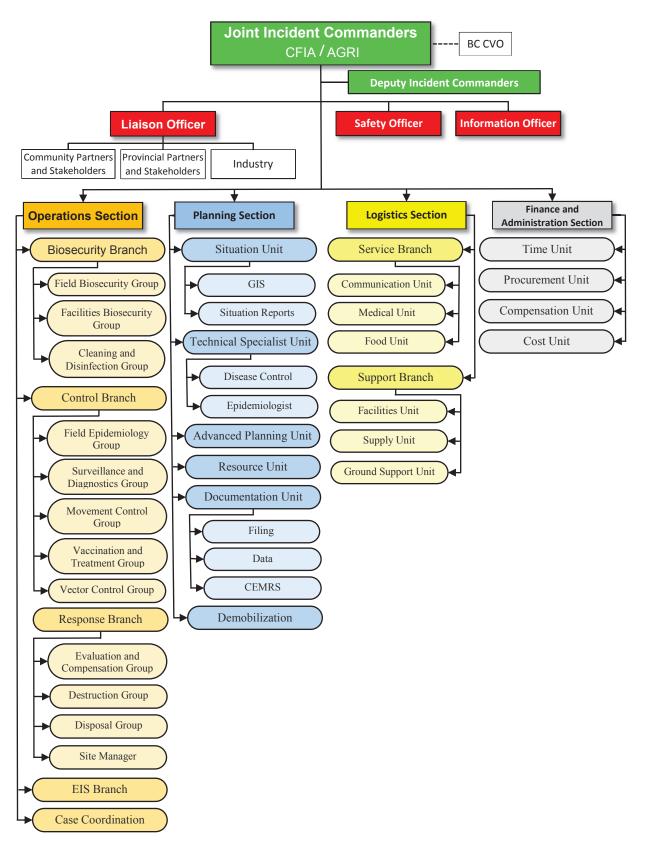


Figure 4.1 Function Chart for a Fully-Activated Joint Incident Command Post (ICP)

## 4.3 JOINT ICP ORGANIZATION

The organization of the Joint ICP follows the Incident Command System (ICS). A fully activated Joint ICP is shown in Figure 4.1, adapted from the CFIA Animal Health Functional Plan (AHFP). As per ICS principles, not every function will be activated in every situation, only those functions that are required for the specific response in question.

## 4.4 Joint ICP Functions

A brief overview of each position or section is given, with BC specific information as required. For more details on the branches or units within each section see the AHFP. Also see Section 2.3 (Joint ICP and/or JEOC Staffing) for information on best options for filling some of these roles.

#### 4.4.1 Joint Incident Command

At the ICP there will be Joint Incident Commanders, one from CFIA and one from AGRI, with each representing the responsibilities and resources of their respective agencies. In keeping with the principles of unified command there will only be one Incident Action Plan for the ICP and one Operations Section Chief.

#### 4.4.2 Command Staff

#### 4.4.2.1 Ligison Officer

The Liaison Officer is responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies. Industry provides input through the Liaison officer.

## 4.4.2.2 Information Officer

The Information Officers serve as the conduit for public information to and from the Joint ICP including traditional media, social media and any information lines established for the public.

#### 4.4.2.3 Safety Officer

The Safety Officer monitors safety conditions, assesses hazardous and unsafe situations and develops measures for assuring the safety of all assigned personnel.

## 4.4.3 Operations Section

The Operations Section coordinates and oversees the tactical response activities which include: biosecurity, surveillance and diagnostics, field epidemiology, movement control, vaccination, evaluation, destruction, disposal, and cleaning and disinfection. Some of these are conducted by field teams at incident sites (premises) while others are done at the Joint ICP

The Leader for each Field Team is fully authorized to direct members in accomplishing their respective tasks. The role of the Team Leader includes ensuring the safety among team members, scheduling team activities, assigning tasks, providing equipment and supplies and managing issues as they arise.

## 4.4.3.1 Biosecurity Branch

This branch is responsible for biosecurity protocols and procedures directed at preventing the spread of infectious agents during an animal disease incident through the Field Biosecurity Group and the Facilities Biosecurity Group. The protocols and procedures are applied to all locations where responders work during the course of the outbreak. Robust biosecurity practices are critical to prevent the spread of the disease.

Cleaning and disinfection oversight of Infected Places (IP)s occurs through the Cleaning and Disinfection Group in this Branch. Note that this is just oversight; the cleaning and disinfection of an infected premises is the responsibility of the premises owner.

#### 4.4.3.2 Control Branch

This branch directs and coordinates all control activities in support of the strategic priorities established by Command. The control activities include the field epidemiology, surveillance and diagnostics, movement control, vaccination and treatment, and vector control groups.

## 4.4.3.2.1 Movement Control Group

Movement Control is a key strategy in controlling a FAD. As stated earlier, movement control measures will vary depending on the disease. A general outline of movement was described in Sections 3.4 and 3.7.

The Movement Control Group looks after the licences or permits required for movement.

Requirements for approving licences and permits, and thus allowing movement, will vary with the disease and may include livestock health sheets, negative results from lab testing as well as other details about the movement.

Industry can play an important role in recommending prioritization of certain movement permissions that need to be completed as they have the best understanding of what movements are time sensitive.

## 4.4.3.3 Response Branch

This Branch directs and coordinates all depopulation activities on IPs, including all actions taken on premises where the disease is known to exist, to eliminate the infectious agent from susceptible species and the environment. It consists of the Site Manager and Destruction, Disposal, and Evaluation and Compensation Groups.

## 4.4.3.3.1 Site Manager

The Site Manager is the primary Joint ICP contact for the IP owner when destruction and disposal activities are taking place on the IP. The Case Officer is the contact for the IP Owner for all other times (see 4.4.3.5 Case Coordination). Some industries have also identified a member to be the one industry person who is the primary industry contact for the owner.

#### 4.4.3.3.2 Destruction Group

Destruction of all susceptible species and things potentially contaminated by the infectious agent is carried out in a humane manner approved by and performed under the direct supervision of the Joint ICP Destruction Group. This is important for ensuring compensation under the *Health of Animals Act.* Note: compensation is related to things ordered destroyed.

# Rapid Response Teams (Example from the BC Poultry Sector):

In BC, Rapid Response Teams (RRT) have been established and trained for Notifiable Avian Influenza outbreaks. These teams are made up of CFIA staff, AGRI staff, Poultry Industry members and Allied Trades personnel. Their purpose is to build capacity for the Joint ICP, mainly in the Operations Section. RRT members have been trained for: Destruction, Biosecurity, Cleaning & Disinfection, Surveillance and Diagnostics, Movement Control, and Disposal. For more specifics on the responsibilities of these branches and groups, see the AHFP.

### 4.4.3.3.3 Disposal Group

The Disposal Group ensures that carcasses, animal products and animal by-products (the material) are disposed of in an acceptable

manner that will prevent the spread of the infectious agent, and complies with federal, provincial and municipal legislation.

The following BC regulations apply to disposal of the materials:

- Hazardous Waste Regulations
- Agricultural Waste Control Regulation,
- Organic Matter Recycling Regulations

These regulations, overseen by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV), describe general requirements for disposal of these materials. However, they do not outline the specific disposal protocols for each FAD.

Wastes that contain or may contain infectious disease agents are Class 6 dangerous goods under the federal *Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act*. All such waste is subject to the BC Hazardous Waste Regulation under the provincial *Environmental Management Act*.

Section 53 of the BC Hazardous Waste Regulation allows for an exemption for hazardous wastes that do not pose a threat to human health or the environment when handled in accordance with protocols approved by ENV. In order to meet the Section 53 Exemption, the Disposal Group will identify the site-specific disposal protocols that will be used and put them forward to ENV for approval prior to disposal of FAD material.

For some infectious agents it may be possible to deactivate the infectious agent by on-farm composting (e.g. Avian Influenza), while for others (e.g. Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)) it may not be possible on the farm and other disposal methods will have to be determined that do not pose a threat to human health or the environment.

In addition, other regulations need to be considered in developing the disposal strategy and plan. The Agriculture Waste Control Regulations apply if the material is applied to a producer's own land or leased land, and the Organic Matter Waste Regulations apply if the material goes to another operator.

It is expected that an ENV staff person will be part of the Joint ICP Disposal Group in order to assist with the development and approval of the disposal plan and the associated paperwork needed for its implementation.

See Annex G for the AGRI/ENV Component of Disposal Group Job Specific Action Sheet.

## **Disposal Protocols:**

Working with CFIA, ENV and the BC Ministry of Health, AGRI has developed several protocols that can be used to create situation-specific action plans for disposal.

The latest disposal protocols drafted or approved (See References for links to disposal protocols):

- Protocol #1 Protocol for On-Farm and Centralized Burial of Infected and Non-Infected Poultry and Livestock
- Protocol #2 On-Farm, In-Barn Biological Heat Treatment of Materials Potentially Infected with Avian Influenza
- Protocol #3 Protocol for On-Farm, Out-of-Barn Biological Heat Treatment of Material
  Potentially Infected with Avian Influenza
- Protocol #4 Transportation of Infected and Non-Infected Poultry or Livestock and Associated Wastes (under development)

Other protocols may be developed during the response depending on the need.

## 4.4.3.3.4 Evaluation and Compensation Group

The Evaluation and Compensation Group assesses the market value of animals, animal products and animal by-products that have been ordered destroyed. For some species, part of the process includes identification of an evaluator (to work with the CFIA evaluator) by the affected producer. Some livestock industries in BC have indicated that they can provide assistance in identifying these evaluators for producers. Note: compensation is related to things ordered destroyed.

#### 4.4.3.4 Enforcement and Investigation (EIS) Branch

The Enforcement and Investigation Services (EIS) Branch may direct or coordinate all enforcement activities in support of the strategic priorities established by Command.

#### 4.4.3.5 Case Coordination

The Case Managers serve as the primary CFIA contact for the owner of premises where CFIA will conduct response activities. A Case Manager may be the primary contact for several premises. Note: The Site Manager is the contact during on farm actions such as destruction.

## 4.4.4 Planning Section

The Planning section collects, evaluates, processes, displays and disseminates information for use at the incident.

## 4.4.5 Logistics Section

The Logistics Section manages strategic support needs including equipment, supplies, facilities, services, personnel and other resources.

## 4.4.6 Finance/Administration Section

The Finance and Administration Section manages all strategic financial and administrative service issues for tracking emergency response costs. Consider having an AGRI person in this section to assist with tracking of provincial costs.

## 4.5 OTHER SITE FACILITIES

Other site facilities are established depending on the type and complexity of the FAD outbreak. Some other facilities that may be activated include:

**Incident Base:** Resources that are out of service or waiting for tactical assignment report to this location. Examples of activities conducted at an incident base include responder orientation and exit interviews, general administrative duties, equipment receiving/inventory/repair. The incident base may be co-located with the Joint ICP.

**Staging Area:** The location established where resources await tactical assignment. When the sites are a far distance from the Joint ICP, it is worthwhile to activate a staging area. For example, a gathering point for the field teams can be set at a convenient location. It can be co-located with the Incident Base, Joint ICP or other location.

## 4.6 CONTROL OF POTENTIAL JOINT ICP CONTAMINATION

Procedures should be established to ensure that visitors to the Joint ICP do not pose a biosecurity risk.

# 5 SITE SUPPORT/ REGIONAL COORDINATION - JOINT EOC

## 5.1 OVERVIEW

The Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC) supports all response activities at a Joint Incident Command Post (ICP) or multiple Joint ICPs, and provides for the overall coordination of multiagency response. When required, the JEOC is staffed by:

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) personnel
- Representatives from British Columbia (BC) Government Ministries:
  - Ministry of Agriculture (AGRI)
  - Emergency Management BC (EMBC)
  - Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategies
  - Other Ministries as required
- Other stakeholders

Specifically, the JEOC centralizes information about the foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak, coordinates control and response activities among the assisting agencies, identifies critical needs, and establishes priorities for action.

Operation of the JEOC follows the Guiding Principles outlined in Section 2.1.

# In Serving a Site-Support Role, the JEOC:

- Coordinates support activities that are best managed on a provincial or regional level, such as laboratory testing, advance planning and recovery.
- Coordinates multiple federal, provincial, regional, and cross-border agencies, including industry.
- Acquires resources at community, regional, provincial, and national levels.
- Directly informs and seeks policy guidance from senior officials at provincial and federal levels.

## **5.2 ACTIVATING THE JEOC**

The CFIA in conjunction with AGRI may activate the JEOC when one or more Joint ICPs are established for disease response.

In situations where only one Joint ICP is activated, strategic JEOC functions may integrate with the Joint ICP. When multiple Joint ICPs are activated, the JEOC may locate separately to provide overall coordination and strategic support.

## **5.3 JEOC ORGANIZATION**

The purpose of the JEOC organization is to provide support to a Joint ICP, to coordinate multiple Joint ICPs in a large-scale FAD event, to maintain up-to-date information, to coordinate related activities, and to provide the public with information.

The JEOC organization also coordinates large-scale media relations at the provincial and national levels.

This facility brings together the agencies responsible for making operational decisions in support of a Joint ICP or ICPs. The size and composition of the JEOC may vary according to the requirements of the particular circumstances, as determined by the JEOC Directors.

The JEOC structure for a fully developed response organization based on the Incident Command System is shown in Figure 5.1 on the next page. It is adapted from the CFIA Animal Health Functional Plan (AHFP).

Not every JEOC function is activated in every situation. The requirements of the response dictate the functions to be activated. As a minimum, an active JEOC only requires two JEOC Directors.

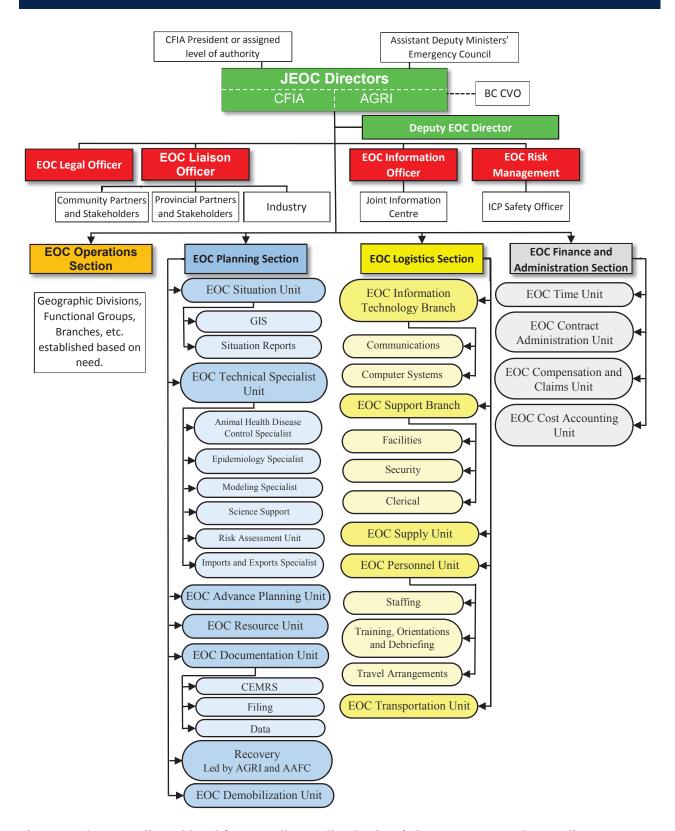


Figure 5.2. Function Chart for a Fully-Activated Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC)

## **5.4 JEOC FUNCTIONS**

FAD response coordination may require a number of functions at the JEOC, and all are managed by the JEOC Directors. Following the principles of ICS, the functions at the JEOC may include: Management, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.

A brief overview of each JEOC position and section is given. For more specifics on the branches or units within each section, see the AHFP.

#### **5.4.1 EOC Directors**

The JEOC Directors (one from CFIA and one from AGRI) are responsible for the overall strategic management, coordination, and support, for a rapid resolution of an incident, and return to normal operation.

## 5.4.2 Management Staff

## 5.4.2.1 Legal Officer

If activated, the Legal Advisor provides legal advice to the EOC Directors and to the Incident Commanders at the Joint ICP.

#### 5.4.2.2 Ligison Officer

If activated, the Liaison Officer is responsible for establishing and maintaining interagency contact, ensuring that the supporting nationally and provincially based agencies are aware of the incident status. The Liaison Officer also provides information concerning the resources that could be supplied by the public and private sectors. The industry representative(s) would provide input through the Liaison officer.

## **5.4.2.3** Information Officer

The Information Officer serves as the conduit for public information to and from the JEOC including traditional media, social media and any information lines established for the public.

#### **5.4.2.4** Risk Management Officer

If activated, the Risk Management Officer is responsible for developing and recommending measures for assuring personnel safety, assessing and anticipating hazardous and unsafe situations, advising on Occupational Safety and Health legislation and policies and investigating

accidents. The Risk Management Officer links to the Joint ICP Safety Officer and provides support to that position.

## **5.4.3** Operations Section

The JEOC Operations Section serves as the primary information/reporting conduit between the Joint EOC and the Joint ICP. Therefore, information such as incident reports, situation reports, resource requests, etc. that come from the Joint ICP flow through the JEOC Operations Section. The JEOC Operations Section forwards the incoming information to the appropriate function in the JEOC.

When there is a single Joint ICP, the JEOC Operations Section may be small (one or a few people). However, with multiple Joint ICPs activated there may be one person (or several people) in contact with each Joint ICP. The JEOC Operations Section may be divided by geographic divisions (e.g. Fraser Valley, Cariboo, Northwest BC, etc.). In large events where the Joint ICPs require significant support from the JEOC, the JEOC Operations Section could also be organized as branches or functional groups.

## **5.4.4 Planning Section**

The JEOC Planning Section conducts the same activities as the Joint ICP Planning Section – collects, evaluates, processes, displays and disseminates information. When a single Joint ICP is activated, the Joint ICP Planning Section may be able to perform most of this work. However, when there are multiple Joint ICPs, the JEOC Planning Section collates all the information from all the Joint ICPs so that overall situational awareness is maintained and planning can be done on a wider scale.

Advance Planning and Recovery activities are often handled at the JEOC level. The Recovery focus is led by AGRI and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and in large events may transition out of the JEOC into a Recovery EOC, Recovery Steering Committee or other entity.

## **5.4.5** Logistics Section

The Logistics Section manages the incident support needs including equipment, supplies, facilities, services, personnel and other resources both for running the JEOC as well as filling any resource requests coming from the Joint ICP.

## **5.4.6 Finance/Administration Section**

The Finance and Administration Section is responsible for managing all financial and administrative issues critical for tracking emergency costs and reimbursement accounting, and providing expert advice on staffing, contracting, hours of work, leave, standby, relocation and overtime.

If there is a single Joint ICP, this work may be managed by the Joint ICP Finance and Administration section. However, with multiple Joint ICPs, this section would roll up and manage all the emergency costs for the event.

## **5.5 JEOC FACILITIES**

The Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC) is a physical facility where stakeholders can gather to collect and evaluate information, make strategic decisions governing the FAD response effort, and coordinate assistance to the Joint ICP(s).

CFIA currently is capable of activating a fixed facility for a JEOC on demand and may initially use District offices, with the final location to be selected by the JEOC Directors.

EMBC agrees to allow the immediate activation of any Provincial Regional Emergency Operation Centre (PREOC) for use as a FAD Joint Emergency Operations Centre, as defined in this Plan, on a temporary basis while CFIA establishes a more permanent JEOC facility. This agreement is subject to the availability of the PREOC, i.e. it is not already committed to another emergency response.

When required, Public Service and Procurement Canada (PSPC) establishes and approves federal government contracts required for CFIA disease response activities.

# 6 RECOVERY

## 6.1 RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

After a foreign animal disease (FAD) has been eradicated, the recovery phase may include components of restocking, re-establishing markets, and rebuilding viable industry activities. Depending on the disease, the impacts can be more widespread, and affect whole communities. The 2001 United Kingdom Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak affected tourism, retailers, community events, the transportation of non-agricultural products and had significant psychosocial impacts, particularly on farmers and responders, but also beyond these groups.

It should be noted that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)'s primary role is in response. However, they provide data to support recovery efforts, and conduct post-outbreak surveillance to meet World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines and to facilitate trade. They also promote preparedness and mitigation activities to reduce the risk of future events. The Province, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), industry, local authorities and Indigenous governments will engage more significantly in supporting individual, industry and community recovery efforts.

Planning for the recovery phase occurs at the Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC) level and needs to start during the response phase. If a JEOC is not activated, this would occur at the Joint ICP. The JEOC Recovery Unit has responsibility for initially estimating the requirements for and scope of recovery. Depending on the scope and scale of the FAD, the JEOC Recovery Unit in cooperation with affected communities and industry associations, will support the transition to appropriate entities (e.g. Recovery Steering Committee, Community Recovery Managers) that will develop medium to long term support programs for farmers, ranchers, allied trades, communities, tourism, regional retail businesses, etc.

Recovery efforts would benefit from a Recovery Plan with a clearly articulated set of objectives to address anticipated impacts. The JEOC may discuss and agree on recovery objectives at any time, and such objectives may be used to guide the recovery program. The outcome of the recovery phase may be a 'new normal'.

See the Recovery Unit Job Action Sheet in Annex G for further details.

## **6.1.1** Three components of recovery efforts

## 6.1.1.1 Individual recovery

An effective recovery approach empowers individuals to take steps within their ability to access recovery resources available to them. It includes Business Continuity and psychosocial support for those directly affected as well as those who suffer secondary impacts from the event.

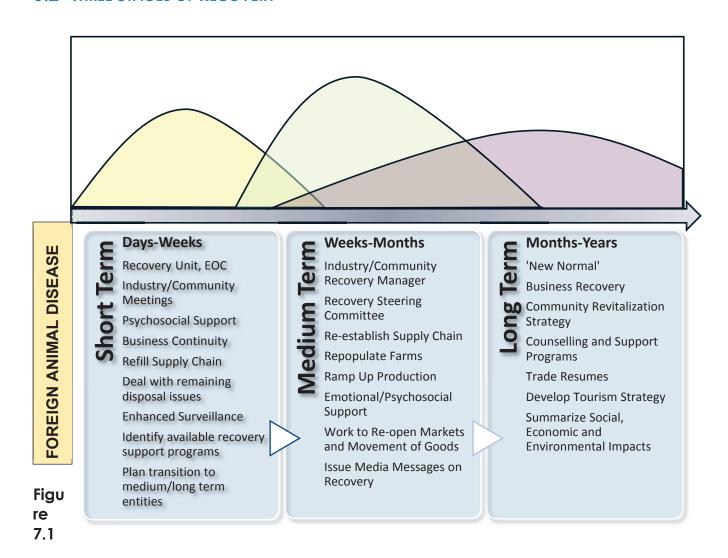
## 6.1.1.2 Industry Recovery

AAFC's primary role during an emergency is to support the sector in relation to trade and economic impacts. Work should commence immediately to begin re-establishment of value chains and markets for recovery at a sector level. There may also be focus on mitigation and prevention activities to reduce the risk of the FAD occurring again.

## 6.1.1.3 Community recovery

Community recovery actions aim to limit losses, reduce suffering, and restore the psychosocial and economic viability of the community.

## 6.2 THREE STAGES OF RECOVERY



## Three stages of Recovery with potential activities.

## 7 GLOSSARY

Α

#### **Action Plan**

See Incident Action Plan in Glossary.

#### Activation

The act of initiating the emergency plan and different levels of support.

#### **After-Action Review**

A formalized discussion of an event that focuses on performance standards and enables those involved in the event to review what happened and why, and discuss how to maintain identified strengths and address identified weaknesses.

## **Animal Health Response Team**

A CFIA team, as a sub-set of an Emergency Response Team, that specifically responds to an animal health emergency.

## **Assignments**

Tasks given to resources to perform within a given operational period, based on tactical objectives in the JEOC Action Plan.

## **Assistant Deputy Ministers' Committee on Emergency Management (ADMCEM)**

In BC, the ADMCEM is responsible for a whole-of-government, strategic, and integrated approach to emergency preparedness, prevention/mitigation, response and recovery efforts for all hazards. During major emergency events, the ADMCEM operationalizes to the ADM-EC.

#### Assistant Deputy Ministers' Emergency Council (ADM-EC)

In BC, the ADM-EC, previously the Central Coordination Group (CCG), is composed of the Assistant Deputy Ministers that would normally form the ADMCEM, and depending on the emergency event, additional ADM representatives may be added, to support the Ministers'-Deputies' Emergency Council (M-DEC) and to ensure integration with the provincial response structure during an emergency response.

В

#### **Biological Heat Treatment (BHT)**

A method of virus eradication in virus-positive materials using heat generated by aerobic biological activity, specifically micro-organisms in the presence of a carbon source, such as wood products.

#### **Biocontainment**

Procedures taken to prevent spread of disease from a site.

#### **Biosecurity**

Procedures taken to prevent the introduction of disease to a site.

## **British Columbia Emergency Management System (BCEMS)**

BCEMS is a comprehensive framework that helps ensure a coordinated and organized approach to emergencies and disasters. Developed under the authority set out in the BC *Emergency Program Act*, BCEMS is currently mandated for use within the Government of BC and recommended as best practice for all emergency management stakeholders in BC.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/bcems/bcems guide 2016 final fillable.pdf

## **Business Continuity**

The planning and preparation of a company to make sure it overcomes serious incidents or disasters and resumes its normal operations within a reasonably short period.

C

#### **Chief Veterinary Officer**

The top-ranking veterinary official, either Federally or Provincially, with animal health responsibilities.

#### **Command Staff**

Consists of the Information Officer, Safety Officer and Liaison Officer. They report directly to the Incident Commanders (ICP).

#### **Communicable Diseases**

An infectious disease that is contagious and that can be transmitted either directly or indirectly from one source to another.

#### Containment

Strategic quarantine and movement control of infected and exposed animals and animal products is paramount in halting the spread of disease. In the initial stages, a complete ban of all movement of animals, vehicles, and other contaminated products may be implemented.

## **Confirmatory Negative**

If, on completion of the initial investigation of the premises under investigation, it is determined from clinical signs and epidemiological history by a CFIA Veterinary Inspector that a FAD cannot absolutely be ruled out, a laboratory specimen is submitted to a CFIA laboratory and classified confirmatory negative. Note: This only applies to terrestrial animal health.

#### **Confirmed Diagnosis**

When the agent is isolated and identified or an antigen has been identified, and clinical signs consistent with the disease or other epidemiological information indicate disease. Additional characterizations and typing are not required.

#### **Critical Period**

The epidemiologically significant period for tracing purposes on a confirmed positive premises is generally the period from the estimated date of introduction or the maximum incubation period (as cited by the OIE) prior to the onset of clinical signs. Field determination of critical period must be made with consideration for the species present and their propensity for clinical expression.

#### **Critical Resource**

Materials, personnel, and finances that are in short supply and high demand. As supply does not meet demand then allocation priority decisions will need to be made.

D

## **Declaration of Primary Control Zone**

A declaration is a signed document issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, under the authority of the *Health of Animals Act*, identifying the disease, prescribing the limits of a control zone and making regulations accordingly. A declaration is not required to respond to a FAD or establish an ICP or JEOC.

#### Decontamination

The process of cleansing an object or substance to remove contaminants such as micro-organisms or hazardous materials, including chemicals, radioactive substances, and infectious diseases.

#### **Demobilization**

The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status. This includes personnel, volunteers, facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources.

#### **Deputy Ministers' Committee on Emergency Management (DMCEM)**

Reporting to the Deputy Minister to the Premier, the DMCEM leads executive-level prioritization and alignment of provincial emergency management policy, legislation, and operations—to ensure that time and resources are directed towards the most critical emergency management issues and initiatives. In response to major emergency management events, the DMCEM will operationalize, serving as the core group for M-DEC.

## **Destruction (of animals)**

The act of humanely killing live animals (which includes fertilized eggs, embryos, by the CFIA 'animal' definition). In accordance with Section 51 of the *Health of Animals Act*, compensation is limited to animals that are ordered destroyed.

#### **Disposal Protocols**

Working with CFIA, ENV, and HLTH, AGRI has developed several protocols that can be used to create situation-specific action plans for disposal. AGRI personnel can query their Ministry records for the latest approved disposal protocols. See Section 4.4.3.3.3.

#### **Dispose**

Various methods exist to deal with the remaining biomass following destruction (e.g. bury, compost, burn, render).

Ε

#### **Emergency Lab Database System (ELDS)**

See Section 2.4.1.

#### **EMBC Task No.**

A control number assigned by EMBC for tracking an approved response. A task number does NOT indicate approval of emergency response funding.

## **Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC)**

In BC, the ECC is the 24-hour reporting, dispatch and incident tracking centre of EMBC. A Provincial Duty Manager can be contacted at 1-800-663-3456 at any hour for guidance on emergency response.

## **Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)**

The physical location at which coordination of information and resources to support incident management (on-scene operations) activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction.

#### **Epidemiological Investigation**

An investigation to identify and qualify the risk factors associated with the disease.

#### **Evaluation**

The process whereby an animal, product, by-product, feed, bedding or things used to care for animals is given a market value. The value of the animal may be higher or lower than the maximum amount allowed under the Compensation for Destroyed Animals Regulations.

#### **Exposed Premises**

Premises with susceptible animals that have been in contact with infected animals, fomites, or infected products or by-products.

E

#### Farm of Origin

The farm or ranch where an animal was born or the first farm of ranch to which the animal was moved after its birth if it was born at a place other than a farm or ranch. This includes all areas of land, buildings, and other structures on those areas that are used under one management for breeding or raising animals, except any of those areas where the animals may be commingled with animals that are from another farm or ranch.

## **Field Investigation Team**

On the initial report of a FAD, a field investigation team may be struck under the direction of the CFIA Incident Commander to conduct a thorough epidemiological investigation at a suspect premises.

#### Field Team

See Section 2.2.1.

#### **Fomite**

A term used to include all things (i.e. inanimate objects) that have been in contact with an infected animal, so as to retain some of the infectious agent and can serve as a source of infection.

### Foreign Animal Disease (FAD)

A reportable disease under the *Health of Animal's Act*/Regulation, Schedule 2, or an immediately notifiable disease that does not exist in Canada for which CFIA has a strategy, or another disease which after due consideration, is added by the Minister and fulfills the above requirements.

## Foreign Animal Disease Emergency (FADE)

This term refers to an outbreak of a foreign animal disease requiring immediate action to contain, control and eradicate the disease.

## Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support (FADES) Plan

The purpose of the Plan is to provide an agreement whereby federal and provincial agencies accept responsibilities for collaborative response to a foreign animal disease event in British Columbia. See Forward and Section 1 Overview for further details.

#### **Functions**

Refers to the five major activities e.g. Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration. The term 'function' may also be used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function.

G

#### **General Staff**

Consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief and the Finance/Administration Section Chief.

Н

u

### **Incident Action Plan (IAP)**

The response organization in a FADES event should specify the actions required to meet certain response objectives, set out by the Incident Commanders or JEOC Directors for the next operational period. These will reflect the overall response strategy. The IAP may have a number of forms or sub-plans as attachments (e.g., communication strategy, depopulation plan, or C&D plan). See the CFIA Incident Action Plan Form, and the CFIA JEOC Action Plan Form.

#### **Incident Base**

See Section 4.6.

## **Incident Commander (IC)**

The individual responsible for the command and control of site operations at the FAD event site(s).

#### **Incident Command Post (ICP)**

The field location where the primary command functions are executed. The ICP may be co-located or shared with the incident base, staging area, or other incident facilities.

## **Incident Command System (ICS)**

A standardized on-scene emergency management concept specifically designed to allow its user(s) to adopt an integrated organizational structure equal to the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.

#### **Incident Management Team**

The Incident Commander and appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

#### **Incident Objectives**

Statements of guidance and direction necessary for the selection of appropriate strategies and the tactical direction of resources. Incident objectives are based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished when all allocated resources have been assigned. Incident objectives must be achievable and measurable, yet flexible enough to allow for strategic and tactical alternatives.

### Indigenous

Includes all people of Indigenous ancestry, including First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

## Infected Place (IP)

Legal term for a place that has been declared to be infected place by an inspector (under section 22 of the *Health of Animals Act*) and consequently restrictions have been imposed in accordance with section 25 of the Act limiting the movement of animals, animal products and by-products, things, etc.

A declared infected place may be an infected premises, an exposed premises, a contact premises, or more simply a premises that is declared infected because of its close proximity to a positive premises that are suspected of having an infection. Distinction may be made by stating suspect infected place versus positive infected place.

#### Infected Zone

CFIA may identify an infected zone around an infected place, with the premises in the infected zone requiring licences for any movement. The size of the infected zone will be determined by the specifics of the FAD such as the type of disease, physical, geographic boundaries, progression of the outbreak, density of animals and production types. Movement of animals, animal products or anything that may have in contact with the animals (feed, manure, etc.) within the infected zone will require a licence

#### Information Officer

A member of the Command Staff in ICS who is responsible for interfacing with the public, responders, and media requiring information directly from the incident. The ICP Information Officer is supported by the Information Officer at the JEOC. The Information Officer may have assistants.

J

## **Job Action Sheet (Position Checklist)**

Detailed document containing responsibilities, reporting structure, task lists, references, and other information pertinent to a responder's delivery of a particular position.

## **Joint Emergency Operations Centre (JEOC)**

A designated facility established by multiple agencies or jurisdictions to support all response activities at a Joint ICP or multiple ICPs and provides for the overall coordination of multi-agency response.

#### **Joint Information Centre (JIC)**

An element of the ICP and/or JEOC where agencies may collaborate in the planning and dissemination of information during an emergency.

#### **Joint Incident Command Post (ICP)**

A designated site established by multiple agencies or jurisdictions to manage the response to single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries.

K

П

#### **Liaison Officer**

A member of the Command Staff in an ICP or a JEOC responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies, including the linkage to industry.

### **Licence to Move**

A Licence to Move is written permission to move animals, animal products or anything that may have contact with the animals (feed, manure, etc.) from any controlled place. Any premises under quarantine must obtain a License to move anything.

#### Livestock

In British Columbia, 'livestock' is defined as per the *Farm Practices Protection Act* and Minister's Standards to include:

Alpacas Horses Sheep Aquaculture animals Llamas Swine

Cattle Mules Other exotic livestock
Donkeys Musk oxen prescribed by the Minister

Fur Farmed Animals Poultry raised for eggs, Game Farmed Animals feathers, skin or meat

Goats Rabbits

## **Livestock Market Interruption Strategy (LMIS)**

A governance structure including AAFC, industry and other stakeholders to develop resolutions to significant livestock market interruption issues.

## **Local Authority**

Local authorities are defined by the BC Emergency Program Act to include:

For a municipality, the municipal council

For an electoral area in a regional district, the board of the regional district

M

## **Management by Objectives**

In ICS, this is a top-down management activity that involves a three-step process to achieve the goals. The steps are 1) Establishing the incident objectives, 2) Selecting the appropriate strategy(s) to achieve the objectives, and 3) Implementing the strategy through Incident Action Plans.

#### **Management Staff**

In the JEOC – consists of the Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer and Director.

## **Marketing Board**

B.C.'s regulated marketing system is a government-legislated system that provides for the orderly production and marketing of certain agricultural commodities (hogs, milk, poultry). Agricultural commodity boards, with government-appointed chairs, regulate each of the sectors.

### **Maximum Incubation Period**

The longest known or assumed period which elapses between the introduction of a pathogen into a susceptible animal and the occurrence of the first clinical signs of the disease. The OIE standard for agent incubation should be consulted.

## Ministers' - Deputies' Emergency Council (M-DEC)

During an emergency event, the M-DEC is activated and composed of key ministers and deputies to provide direction for policy and strategic decisions to the ADM-EC—previously the Central Coordination Group (CCG). The composition of the group varies depending on the event hazard and identified consequences or

potential consequences of the emergency or disaster. M-DEC reports to the Office of the Premier and Cabinet.

## Mitigation

Mitigation includes activities taken to eliminate or reduce the probability of an emergency event, or to reduce its severity or consequences prior to a disaster or emergency.

#### **Movement Control**

Restrictions placed on movement of animals and things to prevent spread of disease. Movement is tracked, monitored and controlled through an effective permit system that is strictly enforced.

Ν

## National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NC-FAD)

This is the national centre of expertise in Canada relating to the research and diagnostics of foreign animal diseases in Canada. This laboratory is part of the Canadian Food Inspection Laboratories Directorate and is listed as: CFIA Winnipeg Laboratory - NC-FAD. The laboratory is the national reference laboratory in Canada for all foreign animal diseases. The laboratory provides services in virology, bacteriology, histopathology, serology, pathology, and molecular biology.

## **National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC)**

The physical location designated by CFIA where key personnel gather to collaborate at a national level to support the response, coordinate information and provide strategic direction during a response.

#### National Emergency Response team (NERT)

The NERT develops the National policy, National operational strategy and National communication plans, and interfaces with other federal departments and stakeholder groups.

#### **Notifiable Diseases**

Diseases listed in the BC Reportable and Notifiable Disease Regulations for which there is a requirement that a report be made to the office of the BC Chief Veterinarian within 24 hours if a person has reasonable grounds to suspect that the disease has occurred.

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/animal-health/reportable-notifiable-diseases/notifiable-diseases

0

## **OIE**

See World Organisation for Animal Health in Glossary.

#### **Operational Period**

The period of time scheduled for execution of a given set of operational actions as specified in the action plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually not more than 24 hours.

Р

#### **Permit**

Once a primary control zone is established, permits are required to move livestock, livestock products or supplies on or off premises in the control zone. Permits are managed by the Joint ICP, sometimes with the assistance of Industry members who, with their knowledge, can provide input on permit prioritization.

#### **Planning Meeting**

A meeting held in the ICP or JEOC as needed throughout the duration of an incident to select specific strategies and tactics for response operations, and for service and support planning. The planning meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

#### **Position Checklist**

See Job Action Sheet in Glossary.

#### **Premises**

A geographically defined location including a ranch, farm, stable, abattoir, or other establishment on which animals are kept.

#### **Premises ID**

Premises Identification links livestock and poultry to geographic locations and is an important part of a full traceability system that also includes animal identification and animal movement. https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/programs/premises-id

#### **Preparedness**

The phase of emergency management during which action is taken to ensure that individuals, businesses, and the jurisdiction/organization are ready to undertake emergency response and recovery.

#### **Primary Control Zone (PCZ)**

See Section 3.7.

#### **Producer**

A farmer or rancher that raises livestock or poultry.

#### **Protocols**

AGRI, ENV and CFIA have drafted protocols of interest in a FAD event, e.g. disposal protocols for infected (positive) and non-infected (negative) birds. See Disposal Protocols in Glossary and See Section 4.4.3.3.3.

#### **Provincial Emergency Coordination Centre (PECC)**

The BC PECC may be established by EMBC to manage activities at the provincial level in BC. The PECC follows the same basic organizational support levels of ICS.

#### **Provincial Regional Emergency Operations Centre (PREOC)**

EMBC activates a PREOC to manage emergency response activities at the regional coordination level and coordinate the joint efforts of government and non-government agencies in a region.

#### **Psychosocial**

Psychological and sociological aspects of the well-being of an individual, family group, organization, and/or community. Psychosocial services after a disaster aim to provide the necessary support for people to reestablish their ability to meet their emotional and psychological needs as well as those of others.

#### Q

#### Quarantine

A quarantine is a regulatory control that may be placed on animals or things when they are suspected or confirmed of being affected or contaminated by a disease. Restrictions, including movement controls, are applied to animals and/or things to prevent the spread or transmission of disease.

R

#### Rapid Response

By the time a highly contagious disease has been detected, the disease may be incubating in other herds or flocks. An immediate response is required involving all stakeholders working together.

## Rapid Response Team

See box in Section 4.4.3.3.

#### Recovery

The phase of emergency management in which steps and processes are taken to:

- Restore self-sufficiency and increase resilience in individuals, families, industries, organizations, and communities
- Repair communities affected by a disaster
- Restore conditions to an acceptable level or, when feasible, improve them

## Regional Emergency Response Team (RERT)

The CFIA team acting in a defined region.

#### Rendering

The breaking down of animal tissues into constituent fat and protein elements by the application of heat, pressure or other means.

#### **Reportable Diseases**

Diseases identified by the OIE including transmissible diseases that have the potential for very serious and rapid spread, irrespective of national borders, have serious socio-economic or public health consequences and are of major importance in the international trade of animals and animal products. See Figure 1.1.

#### Resources

Equipment, supplies, personnel, volunteers, and facilities available for assignment or staging in support of emergency management activities.

#### Response

The phase of emergency management during which actions are taken in direct response to an imminent or occurring emergency/disaster in order to manage its consequences.

## **Resource Request (Request of Resources or Assistance)**

If locally available resources (material goods, equipment, or personnel) are insufficient for operational needs, assistance may be requested through ICP Logistics, JEOC, another agency, local authority, First Nation or through the PREOC via a Resource Request.

S

#### Section

That organization level with responsibility for a major functional area of the incident, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration.

## **Section 53 Exemption**

Section 53 of the BC Hazardous Waste Regulation allows for an exemption for hazardous wastes that do not pose a threat to human health or the environment when handled in accordance with protocols approved by ENV. See Section 4.4.3.3.3.

#### Site Level

The response level that manages the tactical response to an emergency/disaster.

#### Site Support Level

A coordination level within BCEMS that is activated to provide policy direction and resource support to site level operations. Under the BC FADES Plan, the JEOC provides site support to the Joint ICP.

## Situation Report (Sit Rep)

Generated at regular intervals (at the end of each operational period), the Sit Rep provides a situational overview/update including information on incident impacts/consequences and the projected outlook.

## **Staging Area**

Temporary locations to store site-level resources while awaiting assignment. Locations should have the capability to store large amounts of equipment, supplies, materials, and vehicles. Each Staging Area has a Manager, who reports to the Operations Section Chief.

#### Surveillance

The goal of surveillance and diagnostic activities is to detect new outbreaks of disease. Surveillance activities represent the collection of samples from or the testing on all premises deemed to be at risk due to geographic proximity or contact with an infected premises.

П

#### **Tactical Response**

The physical deployment and directing of resources on an incident to accomplish the required objectives.

## **Technical Specialists**

Personnel with special skills that can be used where required within a response organization. Technical Specialists may be needed in the areas of specific animal diseases, weather, water resources, environmental concerns, resource use, and training. Technical Specialists report initially to the Planning Section but may be assigned anywhere within the Joint ICP or JEOC structure as needed, including at field sites.

П

#### **Unified Command**

In ICS, Unified Command is a joint team effort that allows all agencies with jurisdictional responsibility for the incident, either geographical or functional, to establish a common set of incident objectives, strategies and action plans. This is accomplished without losing or abdicating agency authority, responsibility, or accountability.

V, W, X, Y, Z

## Value Chain

The whole range of goods and services necessary for an agricultural product to move from the farm to the final customer or consumer.

#### Vector

An animal (frequently an insect) that has the potential to transmit a disease directly or indirectly, from one animal to another animal.

## **Voluntary Cease (Stop) Movement by Industry**

When a foreign animal disease is detected, the industry may recommend voluntary cease movement restrictions in an area around the suspect premises in advance of additional mandatory movement restrictions that will follow. The voluntary cease movement usually applies to all animals, animal products, or anything that may come in contact with the animals. The size of the industry voluntary cease movement area will vary depending on industry and the specific disease.

## **World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE, Office International des Epizooties)**

The OIE is an intergovernmental organization created by the International Agreement of 25 January 1924, signed by 28 countries. Each member country undertakes to report the animal diseases that it detects on its territory. The OIE then disseminates the information to other countries, which can take the necessary preventive action.

#### **Zoonotic Disease**

A disease that normally exists in animals but that can infect humans.