

(P2-35) Loose Livestock in Disaster and Emergency Situations, Risks to the Public and Emergency Responders
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Introduction: The general public's association with livestock (cattle, sheep and horses) raises a need for public safety. During emergency/disasters, animals are accidentally/intentionally released from containment structures. Loose livestock become agitated with unpredictable behavior which is a risk to both humans and animals. Specific training/protocols for responders are necessary for dealing with livestock.

Problem: Livestock running loose in populated areas raises risks to people, especially during capture attempts. Untrained personnel subject themselves to undue danger when assisting with livestock capture. Capture plans should be in place in advance and training should be provided to first responders on safety issues regarding animals.

Methods: A review of a loose livestock event brought forth the following considerations: (1) Evaluate the risks of a loose livestock/public event; (2) Inspect containment facility and identify secondary containment barriers, including fencing, buildings, rivers, etc.; (3) Develop plan for capture and containment within the immediate facility and surrounding area; (4) Provide training: training exercises, animal capture, basic animal behavior, and Incident Command System for first responders; (5) Arrange for emergency care or humane euthanasia for injured animals; (6) Coordinate capture and transport activities with local livestock experts.

Results: Production of a comprehensive loose livestock plan can prevent injury and/or death to both people/animals. Agencies involved in safety and emergency response should have a well written plan that can be used by all appropriate local agencies involved in loose livestock response. The utilization of a loose livestock worksheet (template) with professional training is essential for emergency response agencies.

Conclusion: Disaster managers should develop a comprehensive plan and training program with other local agencies in advance of an event to respond effectively to capture loose livestock.

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(P2-36) Evolution of Pet Owner Disaster Preparedness - California Wildfires from 2003 to 2009

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California wildfires are expected and they are followed by landslides and floods. A changing culture in traditional responders has co-evolved with a culture of pet owner disaster preparedness in California. This is demonstrated by the documentation of the in California wildfires from 2003–2009. The 2003 wildfires in San Diego County involved a massive relocation of people, small companion animals and over 700 horses. It was a milestone event in allowing co-located human and animal shelters.

The intent was for animals to be maintained in adjacent shelters, but the result was humans taking up residence with their animal companions. Pet owners sought to keep their family, including their pets, together. It appeared that pets were providing comfort to their owners. In the same region during 2007, pet owners mobilized rapidly. They were clearly more prepared than they were in 2003. During 2008, a record 1400 fires were burning in California on July 1st. The Santa Barbara Gap Fire mobilized an expert Santa Barbara Equine evacuation team. The human Red Cross evacuation center allowed small animal cohabitation. At the same time, the Butte Lightning Complex fires (37 fires) involved a unique cohort of canine evacuees for an extended duration and requiring unprecedented veterinary volunteers. In 2009, the Santa Barbara Jesusita fire threatened an urban area and evacuation of 35,000 people. It included a vulnerable human population with health disabilities that required ambulance evacuation assistance. Small companion animals were allowed to evacuate in the front cab of the ambulance. Ambulance drivers remarked that they dreaded forcing patients to leave behind their pets and it was a relief to bring the pets along. In summary, the response to repeated California wildfires from 2003 to 2009 has demonstrated an evolving culture of animal disaster preparedness for both traditional responders and companion animal owners.

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(P2-37) The Triage and Medical Management of Alcoholized/Intoxicated Patients at the Zurich "Street Parade", One of the Biggest "Techno Dance Parades" of Europe

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Background: Every year, the City of Zurich hosts the "Street Parade". This is one of the biggest European "techno parade" dance parties attracting way over a half a million mostly young people who party on a 2 km route along the lakeside of the City. Many of these guests drink alcohol and some eventually consume other drugs (e.g., GHB, Ecstasy, LSD). Combinations of these drugs may affect conscience eventually leading to a critical medical condition. Until recently the emergency-posts at the scene, as well as the emergency rooms of the local hospitals have been "flooded" with such patients, leading to obvious logistical problems.

Discussion of Intervention: Over the last years the Ambulance Service of the City of Zurich utilized an unused shelter close to the event scene, where these "intoxicated" mostly young patients were medically supervised and taken care of. The shelter has room for 108 patients. Every patient is first triaged; if a patient suffers from something else than just "intoxication" (e.g., cuts from broken glass) he is sent directly to the hospital for adequate treatment. The patients are then numbered, if needed showered, and receive a bed where they are regularly assessed for pulse, oxygen saturation, blood pressure and GCS by professional personnel. In parallel, if their clothes are dirty, they are washed and dried so the patient will have something clean to dress at the moment of dismissal. The average time of the patients in this shelter is 3 hours 7 minute and the charge is 600 CHF (approx