



**EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION 6**

**MASS CARE, EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, HOUSING, AND HUMAN SERVICES  
APPENDIX C: ANIMAL WELFARE**

- PRIMARY AGENCY:** Kittitas County Emergency Management
- SUPPORT AGENCIES:** American Red Cross  
Kittitas County Public Health Department  
Hope Source  
Kittitas County School Districts  
Kittitas County Friends of Animals  
Rodeo City Equine Rescue  
Kittitas Valley Event Center  
Other Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**Purpose**

To provide guidance and coordination to organizations addressing the mass care, housing, and human services needs of people impacted by emergencies or disasters.

1. This support function develops a countywide capability for public shelter support during times of emergency or disaster.
2. To coordinate with appropriate relief organizations, the provision of ESF 6 services to Kittitas County residents, workers and visitors unable to provide for themselves.
3. To support and coordinate organizations providing disaster behavioral health services following an emergency or disaster.
4. To support and coordinate the Kittitas County animal response volunteers in the provision of services for animals displaced during an emergency or disaster.
5. To infuse any activation of ESF 6 with a mindfulness of the necessity to support and coordinate fulfilling the needs of persons with access or functional needs.
6. To ensure that survivors of an emergency or disaster in Kittitas County have adequate food and water to sustain life and health.

## Scope

This ESF promotes the delivery of services and the implementation of programs to assist individuals, households, and families impacted or potentially impacted by emergencies or disasters in three primary functions: mass care, housing, and human services.

Mass care involves the coordination of services to include sheltering of displaced persons, organizing feeding operations, collecting information on the availability of resources and the status of the impacted population, providing information to those who need it, and providing refuge for family pets. Mass care is provided to all people impacted by an emergency or within Kittitas County.

## Limitations

Presently, Kittitas County and its communities can provide emergency short-term protection to meet the needs of residents, an additional percentage of evacuees and pets and animals by maximizing use of public buildings, fairgrounds, churches, and schools as temporary housing, feeding, or medical facilities.

## II. POLICIES

1. All appropriate governmental and volunteer agency resources will be used as available.
2. All services will be provided without regard to economic status, race, religious, political, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, ethnic, or other affiliation.
3. Kittitas County EOC and volunteer personnel will coordinate shelter openings.

## III. SITUATION

### Emergency/Disaster Hazards and Conditions

Several different hazards exist that could cause the need for mass care of the population, either due to evacuation or displacement caused by damaged structures. Those condition are, but not limited to Wildfire, Earthquake, Floods and Hazardous Materials emergencies.

### Planning Assumptions

1. Incidents, natural or manmade, will occur resulting in the dislocation of people and the requirement to provide those people with basic human needs.
2. Mass care requirements during an emergency or disaster may overwhelm relief organizations and social service agencies.

3. Depending on the hazard and the severity of its effects, Kittitas County and relief organizations may have limited numbers of shelters or resources to manage them.
4. Evacuating, displaced, and other populations will include people with disabilities, people who may need assistance, and/or people with medical or other additional needs including people who have limited English proficiency, who use service animals, who require durable medical equipment, and/or who have prescription medication requirements.
5. People with access or functional needs will be culturally, functionally, and medically diverse.
6. The shelter program shall be developed on the assumption that people may have to remain in public shelters for a period of time.
7. There are enough resources available locally to care for the local population for at least two weeks.
8. Some people may have conditions that make communication difficult (e.g., hearing or speech impairment, behavioral or cognitive impairment).
9. The American Red Cross has existing agreements in place for shelters and an activation and staffing plan for shelter operations.
10. Some of the victims who arrive at shelters will bring their pets with them. Evacuation shelters do not accept animals because of health and safety regulations. Kittitas County EOC will be responsible for coordinating shelter arrangements for animals in the event of a disaster.
11. Evacuating and displaced populations will include individuals subject to judicial and/or administrative orders restricting their freedom of movement, such as sex offenders and parolees. The American Red Cross does accept known sex offenders in their shelters.
12. Local area churches and volunteer organizations will mobilize as required.

#### **IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS**

##### **General**

1. It is the intent of this ESF that initial response activities focus on meeting urgent mass care needs of disaster survivors.
2. Recovery efforts are initiated concurrently with response activities. Close coordination is required among public safety and relief organizations responsible for emergency response and recovery operations, and other non-governmental organizations providing assistance.

3. All companion animals and service animals (i.e., seeing-eye dogs) are allowed in shelters. Shelter arrangements will be made to provide for the care of pets.
4. Buses may be used as temporary shelters until more suitable arrangements are made.
5. Some faith-based organizations field personnel to provide spiritual support when requested.
6. The American Red Cross has established a mass care/shelter plan. They are responsible for inventorying potential shelter locations and have:
  - a. Identified usable shelters, to include, but not limited to schools, churches, and campgrounds.
  - b. Written agreements to use shelters, as appropriate.
  - c. Trained volunteers for mass care and shelter operations.
  - d. Established a communication system for communications between shelters and the EOC.
  - e. Established, with other social service organizations, a crisis counseling system.
7. In an actual emergency, information concerning the shelter program including public shelter locations will be disseminated as directed by Kittitas County Emergency Management or the designated Public Information Officer (PIO) in coordination with the American Red Cross.
8. Possible Shelter and/or feeding sites may include, but is not limited to: Central Washington University, public and private schools, Granges, community centers, and churches that have general purpose or community rooms and kitchens, and the Kittitas County Fairgrounds.
9. The Kittitas County EOC will coordinate efforts to provide water, food, and shelter and other physical needs to animals. They will coordinate with the PIO to ensure that information is provided on the location of animal shelters and other animal-related matters. The use of animal volunteer organizations such as Kittitas County Friends of Animals, Rodeo City Equine Rescue, Cle Elum Animal Recuse will be an intricate part in helping find suitable places for pets and livestock.

### **Mass Care**

1. Coordination includes ensuring that the resources required to provide mass care services are in place and that the logistical channels to deliver those resources where and when they are needed are up and running. Coordination also means gathering information related to sheltering and feeding operations in the impacted area.
2. Shelter includes the use of pre-identified shelter sites in existing structures, creation of temporary facilities, or the temporary construction of shelters, and use of similar facilities outside the incident area, should evacuation be necessary. The need for shelters will be determined by the Kittitas County EOC.

3. Food is provided to survivors through a combination of fixed sites, mobile feeding units, and bulk distribution. Feeding operations are based on sound nutritional standards to include meeting requirements of survivors with special dietary needs to the extent possible.
4. Emergency First Aid consists of basic first aid and referral to appropriate medical personnel and facilities, is provided at mass care facilities and at designated sites as defined by ESF 8.
5. Bulk Distribution Emergency relief items to meet urgent needs are distributed through sites established within the affected area. These sites, called Community Points of Distribution (CPODs), are used to provide food, water, ice and other necessities. CPOD operations remain to be thoroughly defined in ESF 7.

## Housing

The ESF 6 housing function addresses needs of survivors in the impacted areas, and is accomplished through the implementation of programs and services designed to:

1. Aid with short-term and interim housing for survivors. Interim housing covers the period after survivors emerge from shelters until they are either permanently re-housed or leave the area.
2. Identify the various factors that could impact the incident-related housing needs and help develop a plan of action to provide housing assistance in the most effective, expedited, and efficient manner available at the time.
3. Identify solutions for short-term and interim housing for survivors, as appropriate. Housing assistance provided to survivors may include rental assistance and temporary housing. FEMA will provide manufactured homes as interim housing locations for up to 18 months in those instances where the number of displaced residents exceeds the housing stock capacity.
4. Assess overall capacity and capability of shelters and ensure that there are sufficient resources to support not only the general population, but also evacuees with functional or access needs and/or unique circumstances.
5. Work with ESF 7 to identify resources to support all individuals including those with access or functional needs. Develop or engage a functional needs assessment that includes subject matter experts, agencies, faith-based organizations and nongovernmental organizations. This group will be responsible for the planning and implementation of resources to support this population.
6. Coordinate with ESF 7 for resources, including picture boards or talk boards, wheelchairs, other durable medical equipment, alternative format materials, specialized diets, medical

cots/beds, privacy curtains, shelter/reception processing site kit items that address the needs of people with access or functional needs.

7. The American Red Cross has developed a mass care/shelter plan for the Kittitas County areas. Along with this plan the American Red Cross has trained volunteers and paid staff to carry out the plan.

## **Human Services**

The ESF 6 human services component implements programs and provides services to assist survivors. The programs and services are to:

1. Support immediate, short-term assistance for individuals, households, and groups dealing with the anxieties, stress, and trauma associated with an emergency or disaster, act of terrorism, and/or incident of mass criminal violence.
2. Coordinate, identify and provide mass care services to individuals with special needs within the impacted area, to include the elderly, children, people with disabilities, and people communicating in languages other than English (including sign language).
3. Ensure water, ice, and other emergency commodities and supplies are distributed to the proper entities on location.
4. Provide support to expedite mail services in affected areas.
5. Plan for unaccompanied minors and adults requiring care/supervision.
  - a. Work with the appropriate law enforcement and legal authorities to develop a disaster protocol for temporary care of unaccompanied children/minors and adults requiring care.
  - b. Coordinate a reunification plan.
6. Coordinate with Region 7 Health District for use of the Alternative Care Facility (ACF).

## **V. RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Primary Agencies**

1. Kittitas County Emergency Management
  - a. Identify the need for mass care and shelter for displaced people unable to provide for themselves because of an emergency or disaster.

- b. Provide information to the public on shelter locations to include pets and animals' locations. Provide information to Limited English Proficiency population.
- c. Coordinate shelter locations, openings and closings with the Sheltering Coordinator.
- d. Coordinate efforts to assist people with access and functional needs in shelters.
- e. Assist in the coordination of interim and long-term housing needs with appropriate relief organizations.
- f. Coordinate shelter locations for pets and animals.

### **Support Agencies**

1. American Red Cross
  - a. Participate in the shelter decision-making process and be aware of the requirements to establish shelter operations.
  - b. Provide representation in the Kittitas County EOC for coordination efforts and issues.
  - c. Provide staff and supplies as disaster conditions dictate and resources are allocated.
    - i. Typically, only a small, local Red Cross shelter staff is available on short notice. For large shelter operations, staffing will be provided through the national level of the American Red Cross but may take up to 72 hours for augmenting staff to arrive.
  - d. Support may also include initial resources such as staff, supplies and locations for mass care shelters, feeding and emergency first aid during large disaster events.
2. Kittitas County Public Health Department
  - a. Provide for the coordination of health and sanitation services and inspections at mass care facilities and other locations when requested by the Kittitas County EOC.
3. Hope Source
  - a. Provide transportation resources to transport special needs or isolated populations to shelters as needed.
  - b. Provide buses for use as temporary shelters.
4. Kittitas County School Districts

- a. Provide transportation resources to transport special needs or isolated populations to shelters as needed.
- b. Provide buses for use as temporary shelters.
5. Kittitas County Friends of Animals, Rodeo City Equine Rescue, Cle Elum Animal Rescue
  - a. Provide volunteers to manage animal sheltering.
  - b. Coordinate with the Kittitas County EOC for emergency transportation of animal needs.
  - c. Assist the Kittitas County EOC in finding pastureland for livestock.
  - d. Manage donations specific to animals.
6. Other Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)
  - a. Support affected populations through cooperation, coordination, communication and collaboration of various voluntary organizations in Washington State.
  - b. VOAD organizations support disaster response as part of their overall mission.
  - c. Primary functions include animal control, building repair, childcare, clean up, clothing, counseling, damage assessment, disaster welfare inquiry, financial assistance, food, human relations, mass care, sheltering, transportation, volunteer staffing, and warehousing and bulk distribution.

## **VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS**

- Situation dependent.

## **VII. REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING PLANS**

- APPENDIX C: Animal Welfare (Attached)

## **VIII. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

- APPENDIX A: Definitions and Acronyms

## **APPENDIX C**

### **ANIMAL WELFARE**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

##### **Purpose**

This document articulates how animal welfare will be coordinated and is the basis for development of supporting plans and procedures consistent with state and national standards for dealing with animals in a disaster. This procedure establishes a working structure for animal rescue, evacuation, and shelter, veterinary services, and mortality management during disasters that occur in Kittitas County. The plan is intended to assist neighborhoods and volunteer organizations in addressing needs of pets, livestock, poultry, swine, and horses during a disaster.

##### **Scope**

This support function applies to all agencies performing assistance to displaced animals.

##### **Policies**

Public Law 109-308, PETS, Evacuation & Transportation Standards act of 2006:

Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 - Amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness operational plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals prior to, during, and following a major disaster or emergency

#### **II. SITUATION**

##### **Emergency/Disaster Hazards and Conditions**

Natural or technological disasters, such as might occur from damage to the infrastructure and roadways, could affect the response from volunteers and emergency medical response.

##### **Planning Assumptions**

Local emergency medical resources will become overwhelmed in any large-scale event.

Volunteer resources would most likely be used due to the fact that first responders will be busy dealing with human issues.

### III. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

#### Organization

Requests for animal assistance will be handled and coordinated through the Kittitas County EOC. Volunteer resources will be coordinated through the Kittitas County EOC.

#### Procedures

Each organization affected by this ESF is responsible for developing and following its own internal standard operating procedures (SOPs) for responding to an incident. The response must follow the concepts of the Incident Command System. If appropriate, a representative from one of the primary agencies will be assigned to the EOC to coordinate issues related to health and safety to the animals.

Livestock disposal will follow the rules and regulations set forth by the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

#### Mitigation Activities

None

#### Preparedness Activities

Public information from Emergency Management on how to care for and transport pets during an emergency

#### Response Activities

In an actual emergency, all responding organizations are responsible for:

- Documenting expenditures for all disaster or emergency related obligations for auditing and reimbursement purposes.
- Documenting all actions taken and reason for those actions being taken.
- Coordinating vital statistics, public information, and technical assistance.
- Providing resources and specialized support functions as agreed upon or provided for in mutual assistance agreements.
- Alerting staff (by agency's procedures) and briefing them of the situation.
- Reviewing plans and procedures and assuring personnel are informed of existing or revised procedures.
- Coordinating needs for augmentation of resources with Kittitas County Emergency Management.
- Conducting emergency operations.

Emergency Management:



## KITTTITAS COUNTY CEMP

- Coordinates resource requests and obtains additional resources from state and other sources, as appropriate.
- Coordinates information between agencies.

### Recovery Activities

All agencies support recovery activities consistent with their departments or organizations' mission and capabilities.

## V. RESPONSIBILITIES

### Primary Agencies

Kittitas County Emergency Management responsibilities include:

- Coordinate the planning and provision of emergency assistance following a local emergency or disaster. Act as the lead agency during an emergency.

### Support Agencies

#### Local Animal Shelters

- Provide support to the primary agency in planning for and providing resources in response to an emergency or disaster.

#### Local Animal Rescue Groups

- Coordinate efforts with the Kittitas County EOC for the transportation, sheltering, feeding and emergency medical care of the animals.
- Manage animal related donations.

#### Volunteer Organizations

- Coordinate efforts with the Kittitas County EOC for the transportation, sheltering, feeding and emergency medical care of the animals.
- Manage donations

## VI. REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING PLANS

- Washington State Department of Agriculture: [Livestock Disposal Manual](#)
- ESF 11: Agricultural and Natural Resources

## VII. TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

- ANNEX A: Definitions and Acronyms