

FOREIGN ANIMAL DISEASE (FAD) CONTAINMENT AND QUARANTINE

2024 (Pre-Helene)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

This tab documents plans to prevent the spread of a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) by quarantine and containment of designated animals, equipment, and personnel in order to contain a FAD in as small an area as possible until it can be eradicated.

II. SITUATION AND ASSUMPTIONS

A. SITUATION

1. North Carolina's agribusiness industry along with businesses who depend on it could be crippled for years or longer with a major outbreak of a FAD in the state. Export for those susceptible species could be stopped and production would decrease. Businesses would fail. Tax revenue generated directly and indirectly would diminish dramatically. The state's ability to export that type of livestock or products derived from livestock would virtually end for a minimum of three to five years. If the disease spreads to other states, it could have a devastating impact on the United States' ability to compete in the global marketplace. If the disease is zoonotic, then the threat to human health and well-being would greatly increase the socio-economic impact and the response and recovery resource requirements.
2. Many FADs exist endemically around the world which makes them a constant threat to the US. When an animal shows signs consistent with a FAD in NC, the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) State Veterinarian (SV) will classify the animal(s) as suspect and additional testing by USDA will be performed for confirmation. Even a single confirmed case of a FAD in NC threatens significant portions of the state's susceptible animal population. Depending on the extent of the outbreak, quarantine(s) may be required for a single farm/premises, several farms/premises, an entire county, several counties, or the entire state.

B. ASSUMPTIONS

1. The disease is very contagious, and it is critical to maintain strict biosecurity.
2. Laboratory confirmation may not be possible before the disease has spread well beyond its initial point. Containment Zoning defines areas around infected premises where protocols such as increased biosecurity and

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permitted movement controls may be implemented. The size of these zones will depend on the disease and animal density in the affected area(s) but may expand to involve multiple counties.

3. If NCDA&CS does not have sufficient resources to manage the Control Areas, they may call upon the NC Division of Emergency Management (NCEM) for assistance as part of the State Emergency Response Team (SERT).
4. The SV, by following USDA's guidance, would designate the Control Areas and movement restrictions.

III. ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

A. ORGANIZATION

Once SERT activation occurs due to a suspected or confirmed FAD ca, all response activities will be coordinated through the SERT, the Ag EOC and the SV's Office. Formal communications will be through the NCSPARTA and EMRS2 (USDA) Systems for the purpose of documentation, tracking, and direction of activities. Following USDA guidance, all disease response positions such as Case Managers, Site Managers, and Biosecurity Officers will be utilized to prevent the spread of disease from infected premises. There are certain IMT positions that can only be held by specifically trained USDA personnel. The AgIMT will work with the SERT to implement the containment procedures. The size and composition of response teams will be determined according to the size of the area, operations, activities, and availability of personnel. The North Carolina State Highway Patrol (NCSHP) and local law enforcement will be assigned enforcement roles within containment zones as part of their patrol duties for restricted animal movement during an outbreak. NCNG may be requested to assist in various roles during an outbreak.

B. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. NCDA&CS SV in coordination with the USDA AVIC will:
 - a. Exercise overall responsibility for a FAD incident investigation, classification, containment, control, and remediation.
 - b. Activate the Policy Group and Incident Management Team at the appropriate time of FAD investigation or confirmation.

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- c. Appoint qualified individuals to serve in key technical areas of FAD incident response.
 - d. Guide the Policy Group to make decisions and recommendations to the Incident Commander/IMT regarding FAD response activities and resource commitment.
 - e. Coordinate response activities with NC SERT and USDA.
- 2. The SERT Operations Section (Emergency Services Branch) will:
 - a. Coordinate with appropriate agencies to establish law enforcement quarantine teams of sufficient size to cordon the area(s) identified by veterinary authorities.
 - b. Coordinate with the SERT Logistics Section to arrange for the NCNG to assist with assigned activities as needed.
 - c. Provide formal communication through the NCSPARTA System for purposes of documentation, clarity, and tracking of response activity.
- 3. The SERT Operations Section (Human Services Branch) in coordination with the SERT Logistics Section will arrange for establishment and operation of comfort stations to support operations.
- 4. The NCSHP will serve as lead agency to enforce animal movement restrictions on public roadways.
- 5. The Emergency Services Branch (Enforcement Section) and all other State, County, and local law enforcement agencies will assist the NCSHP and NCNG as necessary with movement restriction enforcement activities.

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IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

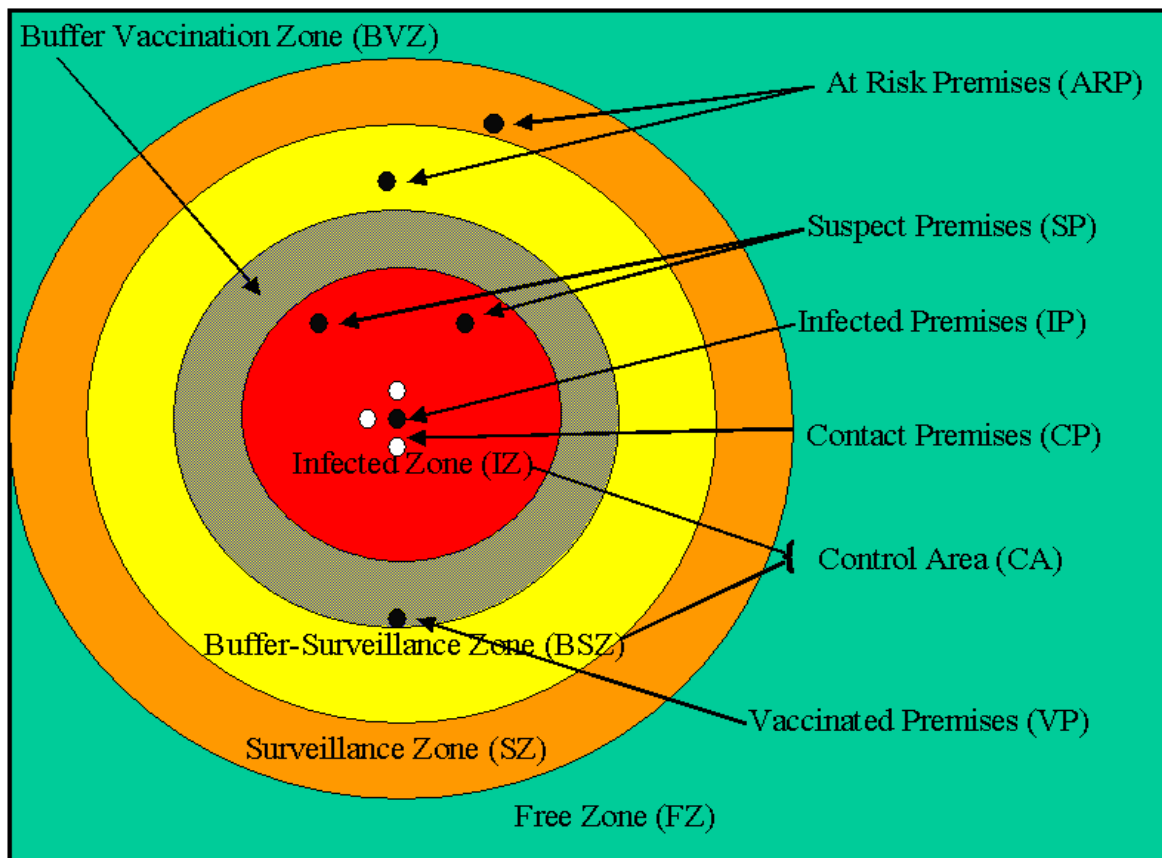
1. Containment Zones and response activities will be conducted under the authority and direction of the NC DA&CS SV with support and assistance from the SERT and particularly from the NCSHP, the NC National Guard (NCNG), local law enforcement and emergency response agencies. The SV or designated representative from NCDA&CS will provide technical guidance in addressing the FAD and participating as the lead agency during a FAD outbreak. The SV's Office will work collaboratively with the USDA Area Veterinarian in Charge (AVIC) on FAD response including containment zoning, permitting of animal and animal product movements, and quarantine enforcement.
2. Premises for which quarantines may be implemented include infected premises, suspect premises, and contact (exposed) premises. The size and shape of the Containment Zones will be set by the SV (Policy Group) to be consistent with established biosecurity requirements as well as the epidemiology and national standards for the specific FAD.
3. Entry/exit points to allow movement of permitted animals and animal products, equipment, personnel, etc. will be set under direction and authority of the SV. A typical structure for a Containment Zone is shown below. Decontamination is addressed in Tab D of this appendix.
 - a. Infected Premises. Entry and exit are restricted. Thorough decontamination, following established protocols is necessary for all personnel, equipment, vehicles, and supplies to exit premises.
 - b. Infected Zone. Susceptible animal movements are controlled through permitting. Biosecurity protocols are required on premises with susceptible animals to protect animals from disease entry (NC Standardized Biosecurity Protocol). Scheduled surveillance activities will be implemented in this zone to determine the extent of disease spread. The initial infected zone would extend ~2 miles (3 km) or as designated by the SV for the disease present from the infected premises.
 - c. Buffer (Surveillance) Zones. Surveillance zones can be designated as buffer zones, vaccination zones, etc. depending on measures being implemented within them. Biosecurity protocols will be required and permitting for animal/animal product movements as stipulated by SV. Scheduled surveillance activities will be implemented in this zone to

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determine the extent of disease spread. This may equate to the 6-mile (10 km) ring used in some other disease plans.

Example of Quarantine/Control Area Zones:



V. REFERENCES

- A. NC General Statute 166-A, North Carolina Emergency Management Act, as amended
- B. NC General Statute 106 as amended, April 2001.