

# **Emergency Preparedness Plan**

**Eldorado Stables  
11 Avenida Eldorado  
Santa Fe, NM  
87508**

Update ~~6/5/2018~~1/21/2020

# INTRODUCTION

## Purpose

Horse owners at the Eldorado Stables live with the potential for disasters such as wildfires. Recent wildfires in other areas of New Mexico showed how vulnerable we are and brought to light issues involving the emergency evacuation, care and shelter of our equines. During a disaster, the state and federal government may offer support for these activities, but the primary responsibility falls on the local infrastructure: Santa Fe County, ECIA, and horse owners.

The purpose of this plan is to protect people, horses, and property during an emergency situation by ensuring the effective evacuation and care of equines at the Eldorado Stables. It describes policies and procedures for evacuation, care and control of equines during a disaster as well as the related roles and responsibilities of horse owners, stable owners, the ECIA, and emergency response personnel.

## Demographics

As of ~~May 2018~~ January 2019, the Eldorado Stables houses 55 equines in 36 barns. The Red Barn located on the property at the North End of the Stables property has ~~no horses at this time~~ approximately 5 equines.

## Responsible Agencies

The following agencies and organizations may help with planning, deploying the resources, and managing the activities of this plan:

1. Santa Fe County Sheriff's Office
2. Eldorado Volunteer Fire Department
3. Animal Control/New Mexico Veterinary Medical Association

The Eldorado Stable Committee (ESC) will be responsible for maintaining this plan that addresses the following activities to be undertaken before, during and after a disaster:

- Communication with Emergency Responders/Santa Fe County Sheriff's Department
- Communicating with equine and barn owners
- Evacuation and sheltering. Evacuation centers will be verified at the start of fire season.
- Veterinary medical care

## National Incident Management System

It is recommended that the ESC, equine and barn owners, and ECIA Board and staff be familiar with equine recommendations from the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the federally-mandated management structure intended for use during disasters. See Appendix 3, NIMS training module, "Animals in Disasters", Module A, Unit 8 "The Care of Livestock and Horses in Disasters."

## Fire Prevention

- Keep a working fire extinguisher in your barn.
- Never smoke, or allow visitors to smoke at the Eldorado Stables.
- If you have solar lighting or battery powered lighting, ensure that wiring is adequate.
- Make sure that your propane is stored properly.

## Fire Preparedness

Be aware of fire conditions.

- Check fire conditions and sign up for email alerts at [nmfireinfo.com](http://nmfireinfo.com)  
**To sign up:** click on the +Follow tab in the lower right corner of [NMFireInfo.com](http://NMFireInfo.com) to sign up to get an e-mail when new NMFireInfo.com posts are added. You can Manage Your Subscription to choose to have updates delivered immediately, daily, or weekly or unfollow when you no longer wish to receive updates.
- Make sure trailers and tow vehicles are in working order and regularly inspected. Check your tire pressure regularly. Keep your tow vehicle gas tank full.
- Loading training. If you do not trailer your horse often, or you do not own a trailer, work with your horses to get them trained to load easily. Make it a goal to be able to load them by only one handler so that in the case of an emergency they could be loaded quickly and easily. Load your horse in the trailer you will be using to evacuate.
- Make arrangements for boarding your horses, e.g., the Santa Fe County Fairgrounds, or make plans with friends who have equine facilities that are located out of harm's way. Have a contact list of friends or family that live in a different area of the country to be the clearinghouse for calls from your family and friends. Write down your arrangements and the list of your contact people, stick it on a clipboard and hang it in the barn. Two commercial haulers that were contacted may be willing to help: Country Jones Rockin CJ Horse Transport (reachable on Facebook) and [windycreekhorsesttransport.com](http://windycreekhorsesttransport.com).
- Equipment. Have flashlights, batteries, and water buckets in a readily accessible place to take with you during evacuation.
- Have emergency evacuation halters (leather) and lead ropes (cotton) with identification tags (use luggage tags or attached metal tags). Nylon halters and lead ropes will become too hot, and injure your horse. Prepare a neckband with your information: use duct tape to make a collar around your horse's neck, leaving at least a fist width or slack. Spin the tape so that it does not stick to your horse. Write your contact information on the tape.
- Establish a buddy system plan with your barn neighbor(s), especially if you do not have a horse trailer. Determine the following ahead of time:
  - responsibilities in the event of an evacuation
  - who will be responsible for trailering
  - where equines will be taken
- Familiarize yourself with several evacuation routes, and drive them with your horse trailer. Determine alternate evacuation routes, on foot, if roads are blocked.
- Understand that smoke inhalation and burn wounds will require veterinary attention. If your equine dies or has to be euthanized, ask that a post-mortem examination be performed at the New Mexico state diagnostic laboratory so that insurance and legal claims can be settled should they arise. Photographs and videos will aid in documentation.
- Know that in disasters, horses from several areas may mix resulting in the spread of contagious diseases. Congregating of horses from different areas can also trigger aggressive behavior resulting in injury. Safeguard your horse as much as possible by keeping vaccinations up to date, deworming, and having/getting a Coggins test.
- Keep your first aid kit ready to go, and routinely update the kit. Consider having one for the trailer, and one for the barn. Clearly label all medications and keep them in a

container that can be quickly located and loaded in an emergency. Prioritize a list of tack to take during an evacuation.

- Permanently identify your equine with a microchip, freeze marking, or tattoo.
- Establish an equine horse identification packet. Include current front and side view photographs of your equines, health certificates, medical histories, dietary requirements, allergies, medications and dosages information, registration papers, and your Form 1H(A) Permanent Equine Transportation Permit from the New Mexico Livestock Board (see <https://www.nmlbonline.com/documents/New%20Mexico%20Equine%20Movement%20and%20Shipping%20Requirements.pdf>). Keep this paperwork with your important papers, and take it with you if you have to evacuate.
- Consider keeping a pair of bolt cutters in a secure location in your barn to cut locks if necessary.
- Make a priority list with human safety as your guiding principle.
- **Practice your plan.**

### Response

- In the event of a possible or actual evacuation, an ESC member will send a broadcast alert to everyone on the Eldorado Stables Roster via DialMyCalls.
- ~~phone tree will be activated, starting with the~~ Any ECIA staff receiving notification of a possible or actual evacuation should contact an ESC immediately.
- ~~General Manager.~~—If you get word of a possible or actual evacuation, start to execute your buddy system plan immediately. Evacuate your horse early, if possible, to ensure their safety and ease your stress. Call your destination to make sure accommodations are still available, and safe, and to alert them you are evacuation.
- Close doors or gates after you exit the barn. Do not turn your horse loose.
- Use the checklist (Appendix 2) to evacuate your equines.
- Once your equines have been transported to a safe area, leave identifiers on (e.g., halter name tags) ensure adequate water (5-12 gallons per day per 1000 pounds) and hay (20 pounds per 1000 pounds). Avoid dietary changes to reduce predisposition to colic, laminitis, and metabolic diseases.
- If your equine does not have a microchip, freeze marking or tattoo, you can:
  - Paint or etch the hooves
  - Body mark with crayons
  - Use a clipper to clip your phone number, or as a last resort paint your cell phone number on your equine (note: using spray paint on an anxious equine will be very problematic!).

### Plan Maintenance

This plan should be read and understood prior to a situation in which the activities described are necessary. It is a dynamic document that will be updated to reflect new developments, incorporating changes in response roles and improvements in response capability developed through ongoing planning efforts.

The plan should complement existing jurisdictional disaster response plans maintained by Santa Fe County Office of Emergency Management.

## **Appendix 1 - Contact Information**

### **Possible Shelter 1 (RODEO GROUNDS)**

[jgbutler408@gmail.com](mailto:jgbutler408@gmail.com) or call or text 505-316-5141

### **Possible Shelter 2 (HIPICO)**

100 South Polo Dr. Santa Fe, New Mexico 87507 1.505.474.0999

### **National Animal Poison Control Center**

(888) 426-4435 (24-hours, fees may apply)

### **American Humane Association (natural disaster support and relief)**

(800)227-4645

**Northern New Mexico Horsemen's Association (NNMHA)** is sanctioned by the Santa Fe County Animal Humane Society for emergency evacuation of equines.

Contact President David Marks: [david.marks.sf@gmail.com](mailto:david.marks.sf@gmail.com) 505-466-0306

### **Santa Fe Animal Shelter and Humane Society**

505-983-4309

## Appendix 2

### Checklist for Fire Preparedness for Equines

- Your written family disaster plan.
- Sign up for New Mexico Fire Alerts.
- Trailer and tow vehicle in working order. Tire pressure adequate. Gas tank full.
- Train horses to load.
- Arrangements made for boarding equines, contact list, on a clipboard in barn.
- Have the following ready:
  - 3-day supply of hay, grain, and if possible, water, for each equine.
  - Equine identification packet (current front and side view photographs of your equines, health certificates, medical histories, dietary requirements, allergies, medications and dosages information, registration papers, and your Form 1H(A) Permanent Equine Transportation Permit from the New Mexico Livestock Board)
  - First aid kit
  - Equine medications
  - Cotton lead ropes, leather halters, neck band
  - Water buckets
  - Identity tags
  - Boarding arrangements/contact list
  - Flashlights, batteries
- Flat tire repair kit

## **Appendix 3**

### **Considerations for Large Animals (Livestock/Horses) FEMA Appendix 8 - Preparation**

During the inter-disaster period, owners are responsible for preparing their animals for possible movement or disaster. This includes providing for food, supplies, vaccine and proof of required infectious disease testing and/or vaccination (i.e. Coggins' testing for horses, Brucella certification or testing and Tuberculosis certification or testing for cattle). See Appendix C for a recommended checklist for livestock owners.

#### **Alert**

New Mexico Livestock Board is responsible for supporting the locals in responding to disasters involving livestock and horses. Requests for temporary housing of large animals will be forwarded to them, and owners will be directed to authorized large animal temporary housing areas.

#### **Response**

Interagency communication immediately after a disaster will be done by telephones (land lines and cellular). Requests for assistance with temporary housing, evacuation/rescue or unconfined large animals will be done directly between agencies. Calls for request of assistance for unconfined horses and livestock in Santa Fe County should be forwarded to the Santa Fe County Sheriffs' Department. It will be up to the responding agencies to determine their ability to respond and to coordinate allocation of resources (i.e. manpower, supplies or space).

When requests for assistance or housing of large animals exceeds the resources of local agencies, requests for assistance will be forwarded to the Animal Health Commission through the local Offices of Emergency Management and Disaster District.

#### **Recovery**

Calls for request of assistance for unrestrained horses and livestock in Santa Fe County will be forwarded to the Santa Fe County Sheriffs' Department who will assess the situation and respond to the call.

When requests for assistance or housing of large animals exceeds the resources of local agencies, requests for assistance will be forwarded to the New Mexico Animal Health Commission through the local Offices of Emergency Management and Disaster District.