

# A+EIMN

Animal Emergency Incident Management Network  
(Australia & New Zealand)

# Overview



# What is the AEIMN?

- Stakeholders
- Safety and welfare
- Sharing and collaboration
- Multiagency and interagency
- Setting standards
- Training, response, policy
- Support and resources



# What is the AEIMN?

- A stakeholder representative association for animal incident emergency management
- Promotes safer practices and welfare at incidents involving animals
- Brings stakeholders together to share best practice, knowledge, skills and experience in training, education, training, response and policy
- Promotes local, regional, state, national and international collaboration
- Multiagency, interagency, interdisciplinary



# Why do we need the AEIMN?

- Unified purpose, unified voice, single point of contact
- Visibility, credibility, identity, transparency
- Recognition by other agencies and organisations
- Neutral framework for our activities (an enabling 'scaffold')
- Community of practice (collaboration, sharing, learning)
- Setting standards and agreeing best practice
- Reference point for animal incident emergency management
- International engagement and recognition



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- 1. To advance** all aspects of animal emergency incident management
- 2. Engage with local,** national and international organisations
- 3. Develop knowledge and skills** through setting standards and facilitating interagency training
- 4. Influence policy,** advocacy to government, emergency services, vet profession and the public

All Images: David King



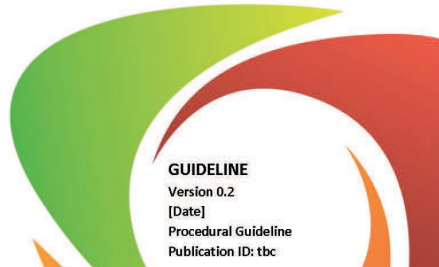
# Unified purpose, unified voice, single point of contact

## Stronger together



### Large Animal Rescue Operations

Final draft of Large animal rescue operations guideline for review by the working group.



ACMAIM301 Use manual techniques to safely move large animals



## Animals matter

AEIMN (ANZ) brings Australian and New Zealand veterinarians together with large animal rescue subject matter experts (SMEs) to develop and promote best practice rescue techniques.



83% of the public will risk their lives to save an animal\*

If our emergency service organisations don't rescue domestic animals, members of the public will put themselves and others at risk unnecessarily to try to save an animal

- Some ESOs may be concerned about the risk to their workers when working in close proximity to large animals\*\*
- Some ESOs don't include domestic animals in their respective legislation and say: "it's not my problem"
- Some ESOs may be concerned about the cost to build a large animal rescue capability.

### AFAC Large Animal Rescue Operations Guideline \*\*\*

This NEW guideline is for Australian and New Zealand fire and emergency service organisations (ESO) attending incidents involving large animals and is primarily about the rescue and relocation of large animals and provides guidance on how to manage the risks associated with working in close proximity to large animals.

### 3. Natural disasters and emergencies

**Objective**  
To ensure the health, safety and welfare of horses in natural disasters and emergencies.

**Minimum standards: Natural disasters and emergencies**

- S3.2 A person responsible for a horse must ensure the horse is attended to as soon as reasonably practicable after a natural disaster or other emergency in which the horse is affected.
- S3.3 A person must never pull a horse by the tail by attaching the tail to a vehicle or other device that will pose a risk to the welfare of the horse.
- S3.4 A person must not lift a horse by one or more of the following:
  - its head,
  - its neck,
  - its tail, or
  - its legs, unless the horse is anaesthetised and lifted by all four legs with equipment specially designed for lifting horses in such a manner.

#### Recommended guidelines

- G3.1 Owners of properties at which horses are kept should put in place an emergency plan that includes plans for the management of all horses on the property in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency.

#### Note

##### Natural disasters

WA experiences a wide range of emergency threats including fire, extreme weather (cyclones) and floods, which may endanger the welfare of horses. It is the responsibility of owners and carers to properly plan for emergencies in order to keep them safe. Every property where horses are kept should have an emergency plan in place in the event of an emergency such as a bushfire or flood.

Cutting fences or leaving external property gates open during a fire can pose a safety risk to horses as well as people evacuating and emergency responders. More information about preparing for natural disasters can be found on DFRD's website.

##### Other emergencies

Horses may become involved in other emergencies such as being trapped inside a vehicle after an accident, trapped in dams or mud, or caught on a gate. Horses can become dangerous to themselves and rescuers when they are distressed, injured or feel trapped.

##### Emergency rescue

In the event of an emergency rescue, it is preferable that people who are specially trained in large animal rescue skills are consulted or called to attend. Often, a veterinarian will be required to sedate the horse before the rescue is attempted. As an incorrect rescue attempt may result in injury to the horse and/or handler, it is better to assess the situation, prepare appropriately, and wait for assistance before attempting a serious rescue. Any horse suffering injuries after a natural disaster or other emergency must be provided with appropriate treatment (see Chapter 6), or euthanased without delay (see Chapter 16).



Vet Practice Magazine Article Sept.2022

### AEIMN ADVISORY SHEET

Relocating horses or livestock by boat

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> October 2022 | Version: v1.0 | Authorised by: AEIMN(ANZ) board (PENDING)

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#### After Action Review

Complete this form after performing a rescue operation or participating in an animal incident. The AAR is an opportunity to share the learnings from the incident with the other stakeholders in the AEIMN (ANZ).

Date and time of the incident	State & Country
Person completing the AAR	Geographic location of the incident
Organisation or agency	

Describe the incident and what you and your team did to undertake the rescue operation or to participate in the animal incident. Please include images if available.

TEXT

Stakeholder Forum

5-6 May 2022

University of  
Melbourne,  
Werribee, Victoria.





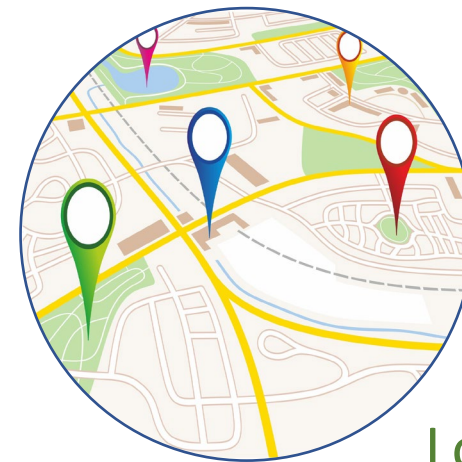
International



National

# A+EIMN

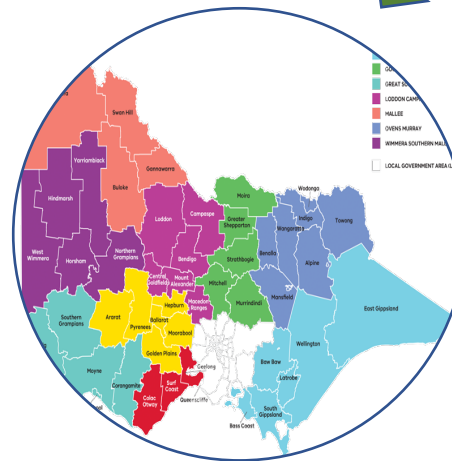
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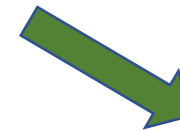
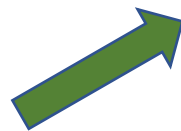
Local



State



Regional





# Who is on the AEIMN Board?

<b>Chair</b>	Josh Slater	Head of Melbourne Veterinary School at the University of Melbourne.
<b>Vice Chair</b>	David King	NSW State Emergency Service (NSW SES) Hawkesbury Unit Deputy Commander and the Co-chair of the NSW SES General Land Rescue Capability Development Group
<b>Secretary</b>	Julie Fiedler	Currently undertaking a PhD relating to sports horse welfare at the University of Melbourne.
<b>Treasurer</b>	Erica Honey	Principal Consultant at Erica Honey Consulting which focuses on AEM and Organisational Development in the veterinary and animal industries
<b>Director</b>	Dr Christine Smith	Equine veterinarian and Managing director of Agnes Banks Equine Clinic
<b>Director</b>	Gina Kemp	Manager of the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) team that coordinates animal welfare in emergencies in NZ at the National and Regional levels.
<b>Director</b>	Rod Stebbing	Emtrain Fire and Community Safety Pty. Ltd. (Emtrain), and CEO of National Workplace Services Group Pty Ltd

# Where next for the Network?

1. **Engaging responding agencies:** How do we engage all emergency services in all states and overcome fears of corporate risk?
2. **Engaging vets:** How do we fully engage and train vets in emergency response so they can fulfill their role at incidents (safety and welfare?)
3. **Translation:** How do we translate best practice (guidelines, protocols, training, command structures, response) to non-emergency services settings (racing, equestrian, transporters, stockyards)?
4. **Stronger together:** How do we foster and promote engagement by all stakeholders (including Government) with our Network (unified purpose, unified voice, single of point of contact), and how do we connect into the international emergency community?

# Where next: Community resilience

- Joining up – unified approach – all stakeholders – one voice
- Not if, but when – preparation, response, recovery – are we prepared?
- Policy development and influence, advocacy and engagement
- Interdependency - humans, animals and the environment
- Animals integrated into all aspects of planning, preparation, response and recovery – all agencies, all situations
- Integration and including volunteers into emergency response
- Animals as conduits into the community; and as conduits between stakeholders and the community: social license to operate
- Human animal bond and its wide-reaching impact on safety, health and outcomes (safety, physical health, mental health of everyone)

# Where next: Evidence, data, learning

- Using our community of practice as a learning environment to capture data, generate the evidence, develop best practice
  - Responder safety and animal welfare
- Building learning into every incident – structured learning and reflection through after action reviews – sharing and evaluating
- Leadership from emergency services and veterinary organisations



# Social Licence to Operate

- We work in the public eye/in full view of the public
- Casualty centered approaches to animals *and* humans
- Humans, animals and the environment (One Health/One Welfare)
- Perceptions – *how* we do things as well as *what* we do
- Communication – appropriate, relevant, accessible language (no barriers)
- Actions – appropriate training, data capture and review, continuous improvement (and explaining what we do to stakeholders)



# AEIMN

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## Make a difference – Get involved

## Tell your network about us

## Join AEIMN ANZ

*Images: David King*





**AEIMN**  
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