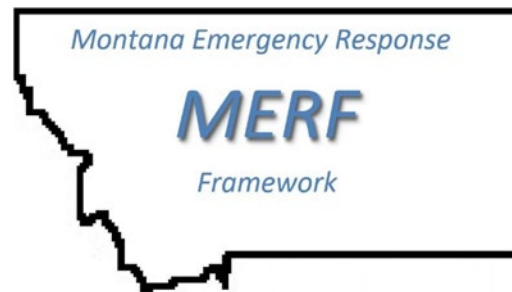


Emergency Support Function



2022

Annex # 11

Agriculture & Natural Resources



Authorization & Concurrence:

This Annex is considered operational and serves as a guide for rendering assistance whenever the **Montana Emergency Response Framework (MERF)** is activated. It supersedes all previous editions.

Approved: _____

Date: _____

Record of Changes

All changes to this plan annex are to be dated on the master copy kept by the Montana Disaster & Emergency Services (DES).

Date Posted	Change	Recommending Agency/Individual

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Section I: Agencies

Coordinating Agency:

Montana Disaster & Emergency Services

Primary Agency:

Montana Department of Livestock

Support Agencies:

Montana Department of Military Affairs

Montana Department of Agriculture

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Montana Historical Society – State Historic Preservation

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, & Parks

Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation

Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services

Montana Department of Labor & Industry

Montana Department of Transportation

Montana Department of Justice

Section II: Purpose & Scope

Purpose:

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #11 – Agriculture and Natural Resources organizes and coordinates State support for the protection of Montana’s agricultural and natural and cultural resources during emergencies. ESF #11 works during actual and potential incidents to provide nutrition assistance; respond to animal and agricultural health issues; provide technical expertise, coordination, and support of animal and agricultural emergency management; ensure the safety and defense of Montana’s supply of meat, poultry, and processed egg products; and ensure the protection of natural and cultural resources and historic properties.

Scope:

Responding to Animal and Agricultural Health Issues

Includes implementing an integrated local and State response to significant incidents threatening the health of animals, plants, or humans exposed to animals or plants. The Department of Livestock and the Department of Agriculture collaborate with the Department of Public Health and Human Services to deliver effective response that integrates human, animal, and environmental health. Includes responding to requests from the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) to assist local jurisdictions to facilitate coordination of the public and private sector and nongovernmental organization (NGO) resources to provide surge response capabilities pertaining to agricultural animals/livestock, wildlife, and other animals such as exotics/zoo animals.

Safety of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products

Includes conducting routine inspections to ensure the safety of regulated products that enter commerce; the inspection and verification of food safety aspects of regulated slaughter and processing facilities and import facilities at ports of entry; laboratory analysis of regulated product samples; control of regulated products suspected to be adulterated; foodborne disease surveillance; and investigations.

Providing Nutrition Assistance

Includes working with state agencies to determine nutrition assistance needs, obtain appropriate food supplies, arrange for delivery of the supplies, and authorize the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP).

Protecting Natural, Cultural Resources, and Historical Properties (NCH) Resources

Includes appropriate response actions to preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, and inform long-term recovery of NCH resources. This includes providing post event assessments of damages and providing technical assistance and resources for assessing impacts of response activities on NCH resources.

Section III: Assumptions & Relationships

Assumptions

For the purpose of designing responses in an all-hazard environment, this annex outlines the following assumptions:

- Livestock, wildlife, birds, plants, and crops may be affected by a disease or insect outbreak. Plants and animals may die of such an outbreak or need to be destroyed/depoulated.
- Agricultural production capability and/or value may become severely limited. Such an event could greatly impact the economic stability and viability of communities across Montana and regions across the Nation.
- The time between the reporting of a disease and its identification as an emergency is critical. A highly contagious disease could spread rapidly through a region via markets, product movement, and fomites (people, vehicles, etc.).
- A community's resources would be rapidly depleted if the outbreak involved multiple facilities or large areas.
- Positive and prompt actions by local, state, and federal authorities will be required in order to stop a highly contagious disease.
- Some landowners, individuals, or groups may strenuously object to depopulation of animals or destruction of plants. Some people may not consider the threat of the disease spread valid and may take actions counterproductive to control and eradication efforts.
- First responders may not be familiar with the special conditions of an animal or plant health emergency. These include quarantine, biosecurity precautions, personal protective equipment, decontamination, etc.
- Volunteers will want to help and can make a significant contribution to the efforts of ESF #11 response.
- Animal and agricultural health responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with local and state authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition; animal, plant, and environmental health; and support of the American economy and trade.
- An emergency or disaster may deprive substantial numbers of people access to food or the means to prepare food. In addition, commercial food supplies and distribution networks may be substantially disrupted due to partial or total devastation of food products stored in the affected area.
- Damage projection models will be used to calculate the number of people affected in order to assess the amount of emergency food and water needed to meet anticipated demand.

- Quantity usage tables will provide the guidance on serving sizes provided. These tables will also help guide the forecasting of supply needs to provide resources to the community.
- An emergency or disaster may result in the evacuation or displacement of animals/livestock.
- Actions taken during an emergency threatening cultural and historic resources will be done in collaboration with the appropriate local, state, and tribal agencies.

Relationships

This document does not relieve tasked agencies with the responsibility for emergency planning. The following section outlines the relationships between state agencies and local, tribal, private, and non-governmental organization partners in supporting ESF #11 (agriculture and natural resources) response and recovery activities:

Local & Tribal Governments

Local and tribal public health officials retain primary responsibility for the welfare of individuals and animals within their jurisdictions. Generally, at the local level, the animal control agency is the authority that has jurisdiction for non-disease animal emergency management issues within a given community. Transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area are arranged by local and voluntary organizations. Local animal and agricultural health responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with state authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition; animal, plant, and environmental health; and support of the American economy and trade.

Local and tribal mutual aid and assistance networks facilitate the sharing of resources to support response activities. Local and tribal authorities are responsible for obtaining required waivers and clearances related to ESF #11 support and are responsible for requesting state support through the jurisdiction's public health and emergency management agencies when incident exceeds local capabilities.

Responsibility for situation assessment and determination of resource needs are ascertained primarily through the local and tribal incident management system. Shortages resources are adjudicated at the lowest jurisdictional level. Local and tribal law enforcement offices coordinate with the local or on-site Incident Commander within the disaster area to determine evacuation areas, roadblocks, and access control points.

Private Sector/Non-Governmental Organizations

Most animal and agriculture emergency response resources and assets are owned or controlled by the private sector and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO). Animal emergency management is a blending of emergency management and animal handling expertise. At the local level, veterinarians, farmers, animal control agencies and humane organizations, breeders, wildlife rehabilitators, and others make up the animal infrastructure within a community. These entities should be encouraged to collaborate with government to meet emergency animal needs in their communities.

Animal and agricultural health responses are conducted in collaboration and cooperation with state authorities and private industries to ensure continued human nutrition; animal, plant, and environmental health; and support of the American economy and trade. Businesses where animals are integral to operations (such as production agriculture, zoos/exhibitors, research facilities, breeders, animal welfare agencies/sanctuaries, and veterinary hospitals) should be encouraged to have contingency plans in place for animals housed in the facility, in the event of a disaster or emergency. Nonprofit networks, such as the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Association of Zoos

and Aquariums/Zoo Animal Health Network, can provide information on contingency planning for veterinary facilities, zoos, and other congregate animal facilities.

Cultural heritage institutions (such as museums, libraries, archives, records repositories, and historical societies) should be encouraged to develop emergency plans, including having contingency plans in place for their collections in the event of a disaster or emergency. Nonprofit networks, such as the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, can provide information on cultural and historic resources at risk. Voluntary organizations may support local jurisdictions in arranging transportation and distribution of food supplies within the affected area.

State Government

State departments and agencies are responsible, within their statutory authorities, for providing assistance to local jurisdictions when local capabilities are overwhelmed by a disaster. The State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) serves as the principal point for coordinating state, local, tribal, and federal resources as in the delivery of emergency assistance to affected jurisdiction(s). At the state level, the Department of Livestock coordinates animal response activities. Inspection of meat, poultry, and processed egg products; production and import facilities; and distributors during a response may be conducted by state authorities and the regulated industry, if needed, to ensure public health and support the American economy and trade.

The SECC will coordinate with the primary agency and support agencies in the use of state resources to support ESF #11 response activities. State resources will supplement, not supplant, local resources. When activated to respond to an incident, the primary agency and support agencies will develop work priorities in cooperation with local and tribal governments and in coordination with the SECC.

If the Governor has declared an emergency, resources may be requested through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), the nation’s state-to-state mutual aid system that is processed through the SECC.

Section IV: Core Capabilities

The following table list the core capabilities and their key activities that the coordinating, primary, and supporting agencies collectively support. Though not listed in the table, all ESFs, including ESF #8 (Public Health and Medical Services), support the core capabilities of Planning, Operational Coordination, and Public Information and Warning.

<u>CORE CAPABILITIES</u>	Key Activities – The SECC coordinates with the primary agency and supporting agencies to coordinate resources in support and response for the following key activities during actual or potential incidents:
Logistics and Supply Chain Management	<p>Nutrition and Food Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranges transportation for food supplies. <p>NCH Resources Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical advice and guidance in the development and application of measures and strategies to protect, preserve, conserve, rehabilitate, stabilize, and guide the recovery of NCH resources.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists in emergency compliance with relevant Federal environmental laws, such as emergency permits/consultation for natural resources use or consumption, during emergency response activities. • Shares best practices and assists in development of programmatic approaches to address and expedite NCH-related requirements for all Federal actions/initiatives taken to respond to or recover from an incident requiring a coordinated Federal response. • Provides assistance and expertise in addressing impacts to properties of traditional religious and cultural importance.
<p>Mass Care Services</p>	<p>Nutrition Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determines nutrition assistance needs. • Identifies and requests appropriate food supplies. • Requesting and operating the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. <p>NCH Resources Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical guidance and advice to inform decisions on placement of temporary housing sites and staging areas and mitigate possible damage to natural and cultural resources. • Conduct surveys of wetlands, archeological sites, and biological assessments to assist with evaluating sites to inform planning and operational decisions. <p>Animal Emergency Assistance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate an integrated State response to meet the emergency assistance needs of animals and their owners. • Facilitates multi-agency coordination with NGO agencies for animal response activities. • Provides technical assistance and subject matter expertise to local and NGOs regarding animal response issues.
<p>Critical Transportation</p>	<p>NCH Resources Protection</p> <p>In support of response operations for damaged bridges, roads, culverts, borrow pits, and ditches:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct surveys and evaluations for archaeological resources, historic structures, cultural landscapes, biological resources, wetlands, and critical habitat. • Assesses, evaluates, and/or makes recommendations for both natural and cultural resources to mitigate damage from incidents and reduce impacts to these resources resulting from repair, road surveying, and construction. • Provides monitors to protect sensitive resources during response operations. • Assists with environmental compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. – Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation. – Migratory Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, Coastal Management Zone. <p>Safety and Defense of the Nation’s Supply of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures meat, poultry, and processed egg products in commerce are safe.
<p align="center">Environmental Response / Health and Safety</p>	<p>Safety and Defense of the Nation’s Supply of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures regulated facilities are capable of providing safe meat, poultry, and processed egg products. <p>NCH Resource Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinates with ESF#10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources. Serves as the State lead on zoonotic and wildlife diseases. Assists with environmental compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation. Migratory Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, Coastal Management Zone Performs assessments and surveys to assist with planning and operational decisions (e.g., temporary housing and sheltering plans). Monitors environmental conditions and sampling. Provides technical guidance and advice on mitigating impacts of contaminants and recommends clean up actions to minimize damage to sensitive resources from response activities. Provides technical guidance and advice on debris removal plans to minimize the impact on sensitive environmental resources. Provides technical assistance, guidance, best management practices, and consultation on threatened and endangered species.
<p align="center">Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services</p>	<p>Animal and Agricultural Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responds to animal and agricultural health emergencies under statutory authority. Coordinates with appropriate agencies on management of zoonotic disease. Coordinates with appropriate agencies to ensure that animal/veterinary health issues (including both disease management and medical management) are supported. <p>Food Safety and Inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensures the safety of the Nation’s supply of meat, poultry, and processed egg products.
<p align="center">Infrastructure Systems</p>	<p>NCH Resources Protection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists with environmental compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation. Migratory Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, Coastal Management Zone. Performs assessments and surveys to assist with planning and operational decisions. Monitors response operations to protect sensitive resources.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical guidance and advice on mitigating impacts of operations and recommends response actions to minimize damage to natural and cultural resources. • Coordinates with other agencies on the removal of debris affecting NCH resources. <p>Safety and Defense of the Nation’s Supply of Meat, Poultry and Processed Egg Products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures that when regulated facilities in the affected area return to operations, they produce safe meat, poultry, and processed egg products.
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Section V: Operational Functions

The following table lists the operational functions that both the primary agency and supporting agencies most directly support for ESF # 11 (Agriculture and Natural Resources):

<u>PRIMARY AGENCY</u>	<p>Operational Functions – Department of Public Health and Human Services serves as the primary agency. The operational functions for the primary agency include:</p>
Montana Department of Livestock	<p>Animal products for human consumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates assessing damages to supply. • Coordinates with local and tribal officials, as well as with State and NGO partners, to determine the meat, dairy, and egg nutritional needs of the population in the affected areas. • Works with state and voluntary agency partners to ensures timely distribution of meat, dairy, and eggs in good condition to the proper location, once need has been determined. <p>Responding to animal disease and pests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detects animal disease anomalies and pests and assigns foreign animal disease diagnosticians to conduct investigations. • After diagnosis of disease, circulates warning notice to appropriate state officials in order to facilitate a timely and efficient response. • Coordinates tasks with other ESFs, state veterinary emergency response teams, and voluntary animal care organizations to respond. • Coordinates with appropriate agencies on zoonotic disease surveillance activities. • Coordinates with appropriate agencies on animal/veterinary issues. • Implement an integrated State response to an outbreak of a highly contagious or economically devastating animal/zoonotic disease. • Ensure that animal/veterinary issues in natural disasters are supported. • Provides technical assistance or subject matter experts as requested on animal issues to support local emergency operations centers and the SECC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports public information by providing animal subject matter expertise in support of Joint Information Center (JIC) operations. • Coordinates the appropriate resources in assessing humane care of animals during evacuation, transportation, and sheltering. • Facilitates coordination with species-related subject matter expertise. • Facilitates coordination with technical expertise or subject matter experts in veterinary medicine, animal husbandry, animal transportation, euthanasia, bio-physiology, toxicology, and radiation biology. • Facilitates resources from private and public sector animal industry groups. • Regulates movement of animals across public transportation systems. <p>Ensuring the safety and security of the meat, dairy, and egg supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates or provides resources for the execution of routine meat, dairy, and egg safety inspections and other services to ensure the safety of meat, dairy, and egg products that enter commerce. • Facilitates laboratory analysis of meat, dairy, and egg samples. • Facilitates control of meat, dairy, and egg products suspected to be adulterated. • Facilitates field investigations of food-borne disease surveillance as it relates to meat, dairy, and eggs.
<u>SUPPORTING AGENCIES</u>	Operational Functions – The operational functions for the supporting agencies may include:
Montana Department of Military Affairs	<p>National Guard - 83rd Civil Support Team (CST) <i>Upon approval by the Governor:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support civil authorities at domestic biological incident sites by identifying biological agents/substances, assessing current and projected consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional support. <p>Army and Air National Guard <i>Upon approval by the Governor:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide logistical support to SECC and transportation capacity to move essential resources. • Provides available military medical personnel to assist in agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic incidents. <p>Disaster and Emergency Services Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates contracting, acquisitions, and deployments of veterinary personnel, equipment, and supplies in response to requests for State assistance, as appropriate. • Coordinates National Guard assistance, when requested and upon approval by the Governor. • Coordinates and/or deploys personnel to fill positions in operations centers and on emergency response teams and other entities, as necessary.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate emergency-related response and recovery functions related to agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic resources. • Coordinates international and domestic offers of agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic-related assistance and support. • Provides assistance in the allocation and prioritization of agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic-related resources. • Coordinates the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery actions among agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic stakeholders at state and local levels. • Provides equipment and personnel as needed for immediate lifesaving response operations. • Assist in coordinating the provision of temporary emergency power to critical facilities (e.g., hospitals, water treatment plants, shelters, fire stations, police stations). • Coordinates EMAC, Federal, and International offers of agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic support. • Coordinates and/or provides situational awareness regarding agriculture, livestock, and cultural/historic incidents.
<p>Montana Department of Agriculture</p>	<p>Director's Office:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Montana Drought Plan as a member of the Drought Advisory Committee. • Coordination with other Montana agencies, other states and USDA during agricultural emergencies. • Analytical Laboratory Bureau in Bozeman tests products for the presence of pesticides, heavy metals, and other potential contaminants and can assist during emergencies with testing of water quality and product contamination. <p>Agricultural Services Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and verification of organisms. • Investigation and monitoring. • Identification and implementation of appropriate response and control options for plant pests and invasive plants. • Develops and maintains bio-surveillance systems to detect exotic plant pests and disease and coordinates surveillance activities with local and tribal governments. • Identifies and confirms the presence of newly detected exotic plant pests and diseases. • Coordinate emergency response to newly detected plant pests and disease of economic or environmental significance with local and tribal governments. • Coordinates the mitigation of the intrastate movement and potential spread of exotic plant pest and disease in Montana. • Register pesticides and coordinates with EPA on exemptions from registration for use in emergency or crisis situations. • License pesticide applicators.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can assist DEQ and other agencies with information about the location of facilities, product risk classifications and other technical data. • Regulates movement of plants/produce across public transportation systems. • Conservation Division: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lead division addressing protection of natural, cultural and historic resources. <p>Commodity Services Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical assistance in emergencies that may involve feed and fertilizer products.
<p>Montana Department of Environmental Quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides policy advice and guidance on the laws, regulations, policies, procedures, and emergency permits requirements related to environmental compliance for response, recovery, and mitigation activities. • Conducts surveys and evaluations for archaeological resources, historic structures, cultural landscapes, biological resources, wetlands, and critical habitat. • Provides expertise and resources to assist in the removal and disposal of oil and/or hazardous materials debris affecting NCH resources. • Provides investigative support and intelligence analysis for incidents involving oil or hazardous materials. • Provides technical assistance, subject matter expertise, and support for biological, chemical, and other hazardous agents on contaminated facility remediation, environmental monitoring, and contaminated agriculture (animal/crops) and food product decontamination and disposal. • Makes available an environmental data archive for determining baseline conditions. • Provides expertise and resources to assist in the removal and disposal of contaminated and non-contaminated debris affecting NCH resources and animal carcasses. • Assists in emergency compliance with relevant environmental laws, such as emergency permits/consultation for natural resources use or consumption, during emergency response activities. • Provides technical advice, information, and other assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and reestablish or stabilize NCH resources (e.g., ecosystems, biological resources, geological resources, hydrological resources, energy resources, etc.) • Provides expertise and assistance on lake and river ecosystems. • Works with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other appropriate agencies to identify suitable and available antimicrobial and other pesticides to be used to treat and decontaminate crops, environmental surfaces, and water. <p>The Remediation Division:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical expertise, guidance, and other input regarding the presence of contamination, identification of cleanup standards across

	<p>media, evaluation of risk, selection of cleanup alternatives for implementation, and preparation of public information.</p> <p>The Waste & Underground Tanks Management Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical expertise, guidance and monitoring to landfill operators, local governments, and members of the regulated community regarding the proper storage, treatment, transportation, disposal, tracking and identification of solid and hazardous waste. <p>Air Resources Management Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical expertise, guidance, monitoring and permits for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste through burning.
<p>Montana Historical Society</p>	<p>State Historic Preservation Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate sharing of technical information and development of agreements between jurisdictions to preserve and protect historic properties (location information on potentially sensitive archaeological sites can only be shared with professional archeologists). • Provide technical assistance and advice in emergency compliance procedures in pursuant of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) during immediate emergency response activities affecting historic resources and properties. • Provide technical advice and guidance on procedures and protocols for preservation of historic resources. • Identifies and carries out procedures to communicate such technical guidance for use by stakeholders and participants in consultation pursuant of the NHPA. • Provides policy advice and guidance on the laws, regulations, policies, procedures, and emergency permits requirements related to historic preservation compliance. • Helps historical institutions and sites obtain needed resources during disasters by facilitating the identification of organizations, agencies, and individuals that can provide such resources. • Provides support to historic institutions by facilitating the identification of subject matter experts in cultural and resources. • Provides assistance and expertise in addressing impacts to historical properties.
<p>Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical advice, information, and other assistance to help prevent or minimize injury to and reestablish or stabilize ecosystems, biological resources, fish and wildlife, endangered species, migratory birds, etc. <p>Wildlife Health Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and survey for wildlife diseases, respond/investigate morbidity/mortality events, and inform management decisions (staff include a veterinarian, disease ecologist, veterinary technician, and wildlife disease technician). • Serves as the point of contact for wildlife disease emergencies that have resulted from disasters.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assists with the prevention, control, and eradication of any disease involving wildlife; and carcass disposal facilities/locations, as appropriate. <p>Wildlife Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides expertise and consultation on endangered species that are impacted from disasters (e.g., the Australian wildfires and its impact on endangered species) <p>Fisheries Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implements activities determined appropriate to reestablish fisheries that have been damaged from disasters.
<p>Montana Department of Natural Resource and Conservation</p>	<p>Conservation and Resource Development Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides technical and financial assistance to local governments, state agencies and private citizens for conservation, development, protection and management of the state's natural resources. Assists conservation districts that provides voluntary, incentive-based programs to empower private landowners that implement conservation on their property. Assists conservation districts in meeting their legal requirements to carry out conservation programs locally and with the Montana Natural Streambed and Land Preservation Act (310 Law). Issues loans to borrowers for infrastructure improvement projects. Manages the financial administration of Montana's Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund (WPCSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan programs and oversees the Regional Water program. Administers several grant and loan programs and provides assistance to conservation districts for the administration of water reservations. <p>Forestry Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works to maintain and improve the health of Montana's forests, watersheds, and the communities that depend on them. Executes the Montana Forest Plan for improving forest health and reducing wildfire risk across the state. Partners with the USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and other partners to plan and implement forest restoration projects on federal lands that address shared priorities. <p>Trust Lands Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the direction of the State Board of Land Commissioners, manages the state trust timber, surface, and mineral resources. Manages Montana's forested trust lands to promote healthy and diverse forests. Lease and manage agreements for crop and rangeland uses on school trust lands throughout the state. Responsible for leasing, permitting, and managing oil and gas, metalliferous and on-metalliferous, coal, sand and gravel agreements on school trust lands throughout the state. Manages all activities on trust lands not classified as grazing, agriculture, or timber.

	<p>Water Resources Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect state water and to promote adequate future supplies for domestic, industrial, agricultural, recreation, the conservation of water for wildlife, aquatic life, and other beneficial uses. <p>Board of Oil and Gas Conservation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers the Montana oil and gas conservation laws. • Promotes conservation and prevents waste in the recovery of resources. • Regulates oil and gas exploration and production. • Determines the measures be taken to prevent contamination of or damage to land or underground strata caused by drilling operations and production. • Issuance of drilling permits. • Approval of enhanced recovery projects. • Inspection of exploration and production sites and facilities, • Investigating complaints. • Plugging and reclamation of orphaned oil and gas wells.
<p>Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates monitoring of the environment during radiological emergencies. <p>Public Assistance Bureau (Health and Community Services):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can provide Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). • Administers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provide benefits to eligible families to supplement their food budget and increase their ability to purchase healthy foods. • Coordinates with appropriate stakeholders to determine the nutrition needs of the population in the affected area. • Coordinates with appropriate stakeholders to determine the nutrition needs of the population in the affected area. • Coordinates with USDA and Farm Service Agency to determine the availability of USDA foods that could be used for human consumption. • Assess damages to food supplies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifies and assesses requirements for food and distribution services after the emergency phase has ended. • Coordinates feeding to agriculture responders, when requested. • Assesses the availability food supplies and storage facilities capable of storing dry, chilled, and frozen food. • Submits requests to federal government to operate the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) and issue D-SNAP to qualifying households within the affected area from emergencies or disasters.
<p>Montana Department of Labor and Industry</p>	<p>Employment Relations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical assistance related to worker safety and health issues. <p>Division of Insurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide representative as needed to give advice and assistance to disaster victims.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide consumer protection services and investigate complaints against insurance companies doing business in the State of Montana. <p>Business Standards Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides regulatory professional licensing waivers and exemptions during emergencies.
<p>Montana Department of Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct surveys and evaluations for archaeological resources, historic structures, cultural landscapes, biological resources, wetlands, and critical habitat. • Assesses, evaluates, and/or makes recommendations for both natural and cultural resources to mitigate damage from incidents and reduce impacts to these resources resulting from repair, road surveying, and construction. • Provides monitors to protect sensitive resources during response operations. • Assists with environmental compliance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. – Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation. – Migratory Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Act, Coastal Management Zone.
<p>Montana Department of Justice</p>	<p>Criminal Investigation Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the request of local law enforcement, become involved in investigative activities in crimes against animals. • Conduct felony level criminal investigations in support to Dept. of Livestock Investigators. <p>Prosecution Services Bureau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist local County Attorneys with state felony prosecutions filed in District Court. <p>Highway Patrol Division</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists local law enforcement with traffic control, logistics, and public safety management during movements and observation associated with quarantine. • Assist with controlling Ingress and Egress of public transportation systems to prevent the public from entering a contaminated livestock area. <p>Forensic Science Division</p> <p><i>Dependent upon the type of laboratory test being requested. Inquiry with the Division and Lab Administrator needs to occur first.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist with serology/DNA testing. <p>Natural Resource Damage Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pursue new natural resource damage claims at sites across Montana where a release of hazardous substances has injured the state’s natural resources. • Performs necessary natural resource damage assessments. • Pursues lawsuits against responsible parties throughout Montana. • Use settlement monies to prepare and implement restoration plans. <p>Montana Analysis & Technical Information (MATIC)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designated by the Governor as the fusion center in Montana.• A focal point for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of public safety and threat related information for the purposes of decision making for local, state, federal, and tribal partners while ensuring the rights and privacy of citizens.• Provides relevant information on criminal activity and credible threats that could potentially threaten public safety and critical infrastructure security to appropriate partners.
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