Foot and Mouth Disease Planning and Exercising with Kansas Zoos
Why Zoos?

USDA APHIS Animal Care Cooperative Agreement for Exercises

Noticed by staff at Department
Mostly about pets and sheltering
Section on Zoos was intriguing
While zoos were mentioned in our plan, little coordination had occurred to date.
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Plan A was to conduct a tabletop exercise at each “zoo” in Kansas
Plan B evolved
  • Workshops conducted at each accredited zoo
  • Large Tabletop conducted with all 8 zoos
  • Follow up local exercises are currently being scheduled
Workshop Agenda

USDA APHIS Animal Care overview
USDA Veterinary Services overview
Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Animal Health – FAD Plan overview
Local Emergency Management FAD plan overview
Zoo emergency plan overview
Lessons learned - workshops

• Lots of great conversation!
  – Little knowledge of FMD
  – Less knowledge about the state and federal plans
  – Other partners not aware of zoo plans unless directly involved
  – All agreed that they want to work together in the future
Lessons learned- workshops

• Four hours not enough time!
• Agreed to conduct tabletop with all zoos together
• Follow up exercises will include workshop participants – most will be completed from October (2012) to April (2013)
KAZOO Tabletop
Tabletop Organization

• Three to four scenarios
• Scenarios started at different levels
• Agency representatives described what their role in response is at the current point in time based on their plans
• All had opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions
Discussion #1

- CNN is reporting that USDA is working with Vermont and Massachusetts – investigating a possible Foot and Mouth Disease Outbreak – CNN sites the source as the twitter account of a dairy worker

#vets in suits/hwy
shut/cows down in vt & ma
Discussion Questions

• What is your zoo doing as a result of this information reported by the media?
• Do your plans address events that occur in another state?
• How do you think you could improve your existing plans (regarding this specific inject).
Discussion 2

- USDA requests a 50 state conference call
  - Reveal that FMD has been confirmed at livestock auction facility in Texas
  - + results were obtained an hour ago
Discussion Questions

• Do you think you would even know that this is occurring?
• At what point do you think you would know about the Texas cases?
• When you do find out, what are you doing at the zoo?
• Where do you get CREDIBLE information?
Discussion 3

- Zoo Keeper notices lameness in the Chicoan Peccary – he has also noticed that the animal has been off feed for several days
Discussion Questions

• Describe actions taken at the zoo once the Zookeeper notices the problems with the Peccary
  – Note: If your zoo does not have a peccary, use another cloven hooved animal (camel, alpaca, swine, deer)
Discussion 5

- USDA reports a confirmed outbreak in 3 States
  - Kansas
  - Oklahoma
  - Texas

- A premises in your county is infected

- Maps were provided
Discussion Questions

• Describe the actions that the zoo is taking
• Would you remain open?
• How would you coordinate with officials to ensure essential deliveries are made?
  – Feed, vet supplies, etc.
• What would you be telling the public?
Lessons Learned - Tabletop
• Zoos would like to be IN the communication link – we have since added them to our notification list
• Biosecurity plans need to be revised – what zoo personnel have susceptible species at home?
• Zoos would like additional training, planning assistance, and exercises with responders at all levels.
• Guidance from USDA/AZA needs to be revised
• Clearinghouse for SOP’s, checklists developed by Zoos could be created – managed by AZA?
• Getting together on a regular basis will be institutionalized by having KDA and USDA present at a meeting of all zoos each year.
• KDA and USDA Veterinarians have started working with zoo personnel by providing technical assistance and sometime just “stopping by.”
• GREAT RELATIONSHIP BUILDING!!!!
Zoo Project Costs

- $700 for supplies
  - Folders and printer cartridges
- $7,000 for travel
  - Paid for hotel rooms for zoo personnel to attend the KAZOO exercise in Wichita (@2K)
  - Paid for KDA Animal Health staff to travel to zoo workshops and the KAZOO exercise
    - Funded lodging, per diem, and fuel (No staff hours)

Estimated match for personnel costs @$22,000
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