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Disaster Preparedness for Yak Breeders

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A little about me...

I have very little experience with yaks!

I do have experience with most other livestock.

I do have experience with emergency response.

? Experience evacuating animals

And my wife says I have no experience....





Pueblo County C.A.R.T



Community. Animal. Resource. Team.
Large Animal
Division



Why Prepare?

Preparation is the key to handling any situation calmly and efficiently.

Provides foresight and planning for whatever comes against you.

Without a plan panic tends to set in.

Panic and livestock don't mix.



Preparedness

What hazards present the most risk to you and your animals?

- Fire
- Flood
- Tornadoes
- Blizzards
- Other

How are you going to handle each of these?

- Evacuation
- Shelter in place



Preparedness

Talk to local law enforcement and emergency responders.

- Learn their capacity and capabilities.
- Inform them about your operation and potential needs in a disaster.

Does your area have a predetermined evacuation protocol for livestock?

- CART Team
- Shelter sites



Preparedness

Assess your handling capabilities.

- Do you have proper facilities to confine and load your herd?
- Do you have a way to get your animals out?
- Identify others that can assist in times of need.

Where are you going?

- Is it far enough?
- Is it safe?



Animal Evacuation Kit

Animal Identification and proof of ownership.

- Tags
- Brands
- Bill of sale
- Registration papers
- Pictures

Feed

Water

Supplements

Supplies



Scenario #1

Major winter storm/Blizzard

Are you prepared?

- Evacuate or Shelter in place?
- What supplies will you need to mitigate this incident?
 - Limited transportation?
 - Loss of power?



Scenario #2

Flood

Evacuate or Shelter in place?

- Flash Flood
- Long term flooding

What will you need to mitigate this incident?

- Loss of access.
- Loss of power.
- Contamination of water and feed sources.



Scenario #3

Fire

Evacuate or shelter in place?

- Depends on the fire.
 - Barn fire
 - Wildland fire

Shelter in place:

- What do you need?
- What are the risks?

Evacuate:

- What do you need?
- When do I decide?



Firefighters Perspective

1. My safety comes first!
2. Then yours!
3. Then your property.
 - Animals are considered property.



Conclusion:

As a responder to emergency incidents, it is expected that I be properly trained and prepared to effectively handle the task. Is it too much to ask that residents and animal owners be prepared and trained to do their part as well?

None of us are Superman!



