	LARGE ANIMAL RESCUE		**2015revA**
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Procedure:

Size-Up Considerations

The size-up is one of the most critical components for the development of an incident action plan. The size-up essentially provides an evaluation of the situation confronted by the first arriving unit or member. The first arriving officer, unit or member shall consider the following questions when preparing for an "On Scene" radio report and ensuing Incident Action Plan:

- What has happened?
- What is happening now?
- What is likely to happen?

The first arriving officer, unit or member shall consider the following factors when preparing for an "On Scene" radio report while only committing to what can be seen from the cab:

Description of Event

The first arriving officer, unit or member shall look at the incident location, number of and access to victims and other features that help describe the conditions being faced by the first arriving officer, unit or member.

Staging Location

The first arriving engine, truck and battalion chief shall respond in to the scene. However, the first arriving officer, unit or member may recommend a different placement for apparatus based on terrain or location of the incident.

All other units assigned to the incident shall stage further out than typical. It is important to note that our arrival on scene does not help stabilize this scene; the animal needs as few people around as possible.

Establishment of Command

The first arriving officer, unit or member shall assume and name command based on street address or location. The first arriving officer, unit or member can retain command or pass command to the battalion chief if determined to be a working incident.

Verbalization of passing command to the battalion chief can occur during the "On Scene" report or during the "Follow Up" radio report. The actual upgrade of command will occur when the battalion chief arrives on scene of the working incident; however, the initial incident commander still has command until the battalion chief formally accepts it upon arrival.

Action Taken

The first arriving officer, unit or member shall complete a 360 and transmit they will be conducting a 360 during the "On Scene" report. If the first arriving officer, unit or member recognizes that this cannot be accomplished upon arrival, the member shall transmit that a 360 cannot be completed or announce that a 360 was not completed during the "Follow Up" radio report.

Resource Needs

The first arriving officer, unit or member may address any immediate resource needs based on current conditions or events. Some examples of immediate resources needs are as follows:

- Law Enforcement assistance for controlling bystanders and owners
- Larimer County Animal Control Officer (especially if no animal owner is present)
- Division of Wildlife Officer (in the case of having a wild animal victim)
- Victim rescue
- SOT pre-alert/response
- TEAR team response

- Transportation vehicle (resources such as Horseman's Association or Sherriff's Posse)
- COL Light and Power Boom truck

"On Scene" Report

As mentioned earlier, the "On Scene" report is a description of what the first arriving officer, unit or member encounters. LFRA has adopted and modified the Blue Card Certification program to establish a standard method of initiating command. Therefore, the following is an example of the standard method of transmitting an "On Scene" report:

> *"200, Engine 5…. Engine 5 is on scene. We have one horse in a six foot trench about 100 feet off the road. Have all units continue and stage. This will be 'Main Street Command', send a SOT pre-alert (if not already done by the BC)."*

Incident Action Plan (IAP) Considerations

The development of the Incident Action Plan (IAP) is based on the conditions, actions and resources available to the incident commander. In reference to a large animal rescue, it is imperative that the first arriving unit or member understand the need for established strategies and tactics to be used at the incident as they relate to victim rescue. Operate at a lower risk profile; a large animal rescue is not a life safety risk to anyone but our own personnel.

The development of the IAP begins with the initial dispatch information but does not get communicated until after the first arriving officer, unit or member arrives on scene and transmits their "Follow Up" report. The "Follow Up" report shall serve as the foundation of the IAP along with the Incident Priorities.

The first arriving officer, unit or member shall consider the following factors when preparing for a "Follow Up" radio report and developing the IAP:

Actions

The actions of the first arriving officer, unit or member shall be described in simple terminology. This provides incoming resources a quick briefing on the course of action being taken by the first arriving officer, unit or member.

Assignments

The relay of emergency scene tasks to incoming units is the final step of the IAP. Incoming resources have either been assigned to staging or they have been given tasks in alignment with the IAP and Incident Priorities.

Unlike structure fires, there may not be specific assignments given out during the follow up report. Crews should be prepared to be called to the scene from staging and given assignments by face to face communication with the rescue group supervisor or IC.

The IC may assign a rescue group supervisor if needed. The rescue group supervisor will oversee the recue portion of the incident and their responsibilities may include:

- Forecasting personnel and equipment needs
- Establishing rescue plan and contingent plans
- Supervise task level activities
- Communicate the action plan to personnel assigned to their group
- Keep IC updated on a regular basis by providing CAN reports

Communications

Once assignments have been given by the incident commander, the assigned units or members shall complete the communication loop upon arrival. If arriving units fail to complete the communication loop, the incident commander shall repeat any needed information for clarification or to confirm that the message has been received.

"Follow Up" Report

The "Follow Up" report is a description of what the first arriving unit or member encounters upon completion of a scene size up. LFRA has adopted and modified the Blue Card Certification program to establish a standard method of initiating command.

Therefore, the following is an example of the standard method of transmitting a "Follow Up" report:

> *"All incoming units… 360 completed. Confirmed, one horse stuck in a six foot trench about 100 feet from the road. We will be initiating a rescue operation and crews will start working on accessing the horse; please send a SOT response page. All incoming units report to staging."*

During the "Follow Up" report, Command should request a SOT response or take SOT off of pre-alert if not needed. Large animal rescue incidents have the potential to require large amounts of personnel.

Company Level Functions

First Arriving Engine

The method for how an incident will unfold is often based on the actions of the first arriving engine. The responsibilities of the first arriving engine are often based on the decisions of the first arriving unit or member and the formulation of the IAP.

The following are some of the responsibilities of the first arriving engine:

- Secure the emergency scene
- Determine if this is a rescue or recovery
- Patient access
- Care of the animal after rescue is completed if no owner RP is on scene

Truck and/or Support Companies

The first arriving support apparatus should begin making preparations for patient rescue while waiting for the "follow up" report such as:

- Gather LAR gear
- Determine rescue method – containment, drag or extrication
- Plan initial access routes
- Secondary access possibilities

Revision History:

4/14/2015 Updated format, no change to content.

References:

First-Alarm Operations at a Structure Fire (2008, November). *Poudre Fire Authority Operational Directives,* Section 3.1.1, p. 1-5.

Technical Rescue of Animals (2014). *Poudre Fire Authority Operational Directives, Section 6.1.6, p.1-3*

High/Low Angle Rescue (July 2014). *Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Operational Guideline, p.1-7*

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (July 2013). *Residential Structure Fire Guideline 6.4*, p. 1-10.