

North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps

Module 1



Welcome to the North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps training module 1.

Topics

Overview of Federal role in response

Overview of NCEM

Overview of Ag IMT & review of ICS

NCDA&CS EP and NCVRC role

- This module will cover how emergency management functions within North Carolina, the role of NCDA&CS Emergency Programs, and how veterinarians and the NCVRC fits into this dynamic.
- We will describe how emergency management functions from a broader federal perspective and then funnel down to the state and local levels
- There will also be some review of the Incident Command System and National Incident Management System that you learn about in ICS 100, 200, and 700 courses through FEMA

What is the NCVRC?

- NCDA&CS initiative in partnership with NCVMA and NCSU CVM
- Volunteer group of professionals from the animal care community trained to help improve preparedness and response to disasters that affect animals in NC.

NCVRC Mission

The mission of the North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps is to train and coordinate volunteer veterinary professionals to assist local officials during animal emergencies in order to preserve animal well-being and protect public health and welfare.

Objectives

By the end of this module, you will be able to

Explain the basic framework of Emergency Management at the Federal, State, and Local level.

Describe how NCDA&CS coordinates animal response during disasters.

Describe the NCVRC and how it functions during a disaster.

Federal Emergency Management

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

Emergency Support Functions (ESF)

NIMS

- National Incident Management System
 - Blueprint for emergency management and response
 - Applicable to all levels of government
 - Comprehensive in material
 - Outlines Incident Command System (ICS)
 - Gives form and function for National Preparedness System

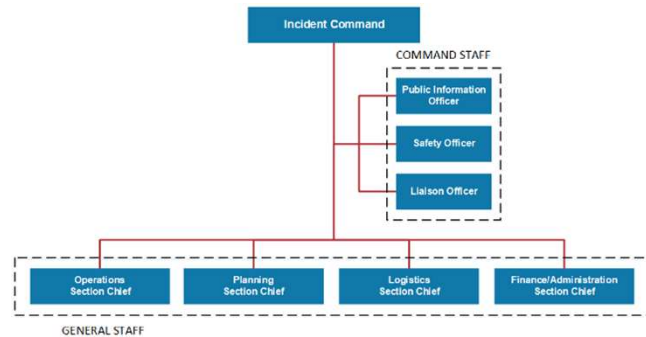


FEMA

- The National Incident Management System is the federal government's standardized approach to emergency management.
- The system provides the framework for agency operation and collaboration.
- This system provides the structure for the Incident Command System that is covered in ICS 100 & 200.

Incident Command System (ICS)

- A component of NIMS
- Standardized approach
- Interdisciplinary and flexible to:
 - Meet the needs of incidents
 - Usable for routine or planned events
 - Common management structure
 - Logistical and administrative support
 - Cost effective



- The Incident Command System (ICS) is part of NIMS.
- It was created by the U.S. Forest Service and multiple California fire services in the 1970s to improve communication and coordination between agencies in response to several devastating wildfires.
- ICS is a standardized way to manage emergency responses, giving a common structure so responders from different agencies can work together effectively.
- It is flexible and can be used for any kind of planned event or emergency incident, big or small.
 - logistical and administrative support so responders can focus on their tasks
 - avoiding duplicated efforts
 - Integrates resources
 - Common processes for management
- Used among various jurisdictions and agencies

<https://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/icsresource/trainingmaterials/>

ICS – 5 Major Functional Areas



Incident Command: Sets the incident objectives, strategies, and priorities, and has overall responsibility for the incident.



Operations: Conducts operations to reach the incident objectives. Establishes tactics and directs all operational resources.



Planning: Supports the incident action planning process by tracking resources, collecting/analyzing information, and maintaining documentation.



Logistics: Arranges for resources and needed services to support achievement of the incident objectives (resources can include personnel, equipment, teams, supplies, and facilities).



Finance/Administration: Monitors costs related to the incident. Provides accounting, procurement, time recording, and cost analyses.

- As you saw in the previous slide, this is an explanation of the positions on that chart
- An incident will always have an incident command, and the rest of the positions are staffed at the direction of the IC

ICS helps to ensure

- The safety of responders, community members, and others.
 - The achievement of incident objectives.
 - The efficient use of resources.
 - Effective incident management relies on a common organizational structure for managing resources, making decisions, and assigning tasks
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- ICS was developed for very good reasons
 - It is a valuable tool when it is used and implemented correctly
 - It is important for veterinarians to understand this system because animal response is incorporated into the human response structure and it is crucial to know how it functions.
 - If you do not take the time to understand how ICS works, confusion and frustration will develop, and you may be asked to leave your response based on how well you can incorporate and function in the large response
 - You are placed into positions based on training and capabilities
 - Your supervisor may be younger/older, have different degrees, etc.
 - You will learn more about Incident Management Teams and the Incident Command System when you complete the FEMA IS courses - ICS 100 & 200

Emergency Support Functions

- Structure for federal interagency support
- Often adopted at the state and local level
- 15 functions w/ additional support annexes
- Supports the Community Lifelines framework



ESF 1: Transportation
ESF 2: Communications
ESF 3: Public Works & Engineering
ESF 4: Firefighting
ESF 5: Information and Planning
ESF 6: Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Housing, and Human Services
ESF 7: Logistics

ESF 8: Public Health and Medical Services
ESF 9: Search and Rescue
ESF 10: Oil and Hazardous Materials Response
ESF 11: Agriculture & Natural Resources Annex
ESF 12: Energy
ESF 13: Public Safety & Security
ESF 14: Cross-Sector Business & Infrastructure
ESF 15: External Affairs

- ESF's outline the specific areas for coordination that are assigned to agencies or groups to coordinate the response for that function.
- 15 total functions with annexes.
- ESF 11 is the main function for agricultural and veterinarians. The NCDA&CS and VRC will also support ESF 6 & 8 during disasters
- We will discuss these at more length later

North Carolina

North Carolina Emergency Management

North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

NCEM

- North Carolina Emergency Management
- Statewide emergency response organization
- Operates through state EOC in Raleigh and 3 Regional Branches divided into 15 Areas



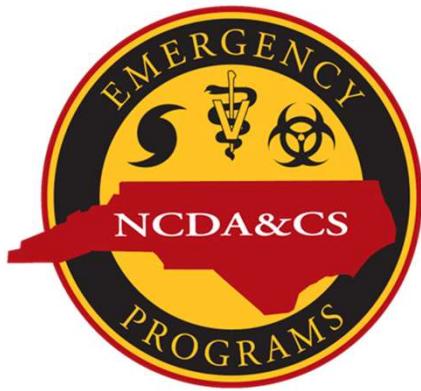
- Operates within the Department of Public Safety
- NCEM is responsible for coordinating NC's emergency and disaster response. They oversee all aspects of response as delegated to by the governor via the North Carolina Emergency Management Act (Chapter 166A)

State of North Carolina EOP

- Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)
 - Comprised of basic plan and functional annexes
 - Basic plan is broader picture of policies, framework, concept of operations
 - Carried out by NCEM
 - NCDA&CS=ESF 11
- Functional Annexes contain event specific plans
 - State Emergency Response Team (SERT)-Annex A
 - Identify agency responsible
 - Role expectations
 - Supporting groups
 - Functionality within the basic plan
 - Ex=natural and manmade disasters & disease outbreaks

- NC has an Emergency Operations Plan that identifies the procedures for responding to major disasters, events, and other impacts
- Utilizes a similar outline to FEMA by defining specific ESF's for NC and the plans that fit NC
- This plan provides structure for state agencies
- If a specific function is not mentioned under the agency or title ESF, that agency may be assigned that duty somewhere else within the document
- Publicly accessible

NCD&CS Emergency Programs



The NCD&CS Emergency Programs Division's mission is to support the agriculture community and protect consumers by coordinating the Department's efforts to plan for, respond to, and recover from emergency events and public health concerns that may impact agriculture in NC.

- Our Mission is to Support the agriculture community and protect consumers by Coordinating the Department's efforts to PRR emergency events and public health concerns that may impact agriculture in NC

Emergency Programs



PREPARE

- Emergency Plans
- Training & Exercises
- Partnerships



RESPOND

- Organized Team
- Effective Approach
- Partnerships

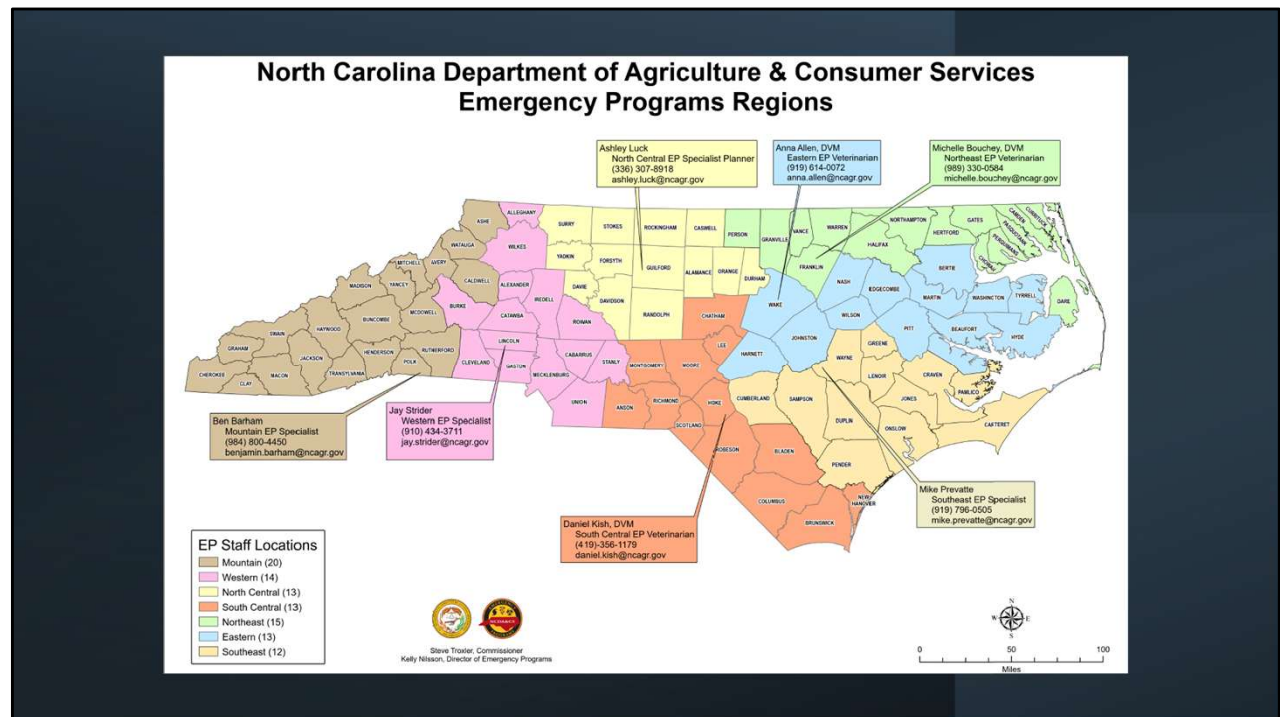


RECOVER

- Resource Awareness
- Improve Plans
- Partnerships

- **PREPARE**
 - Effective emergency planning involves a significant amount of time developing and refining emergency plans to address several threats
 - The plans are developed through with an all-hazards approach
 - We also coordinate and participate in numerous training and exercise opportunities that work through the developed plans to ensure as much preparedness as possible before realistic implementation
- **RESPOND**
 - As you learned about earlier, we utilize ICS to create an organized Incident Management Team that will coordinate the state's animal and agricultural efforts
- **RECOVER**
 - We regularly evaluate plans post incident and look for ways to improve not only plans but also establish and strengthen partnerships
- A common aspect across all 3 stages is partnership. Partnership with other NCDA&CS divisions, state, federal, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGSs), and other stakeholders is vital to each of these stages

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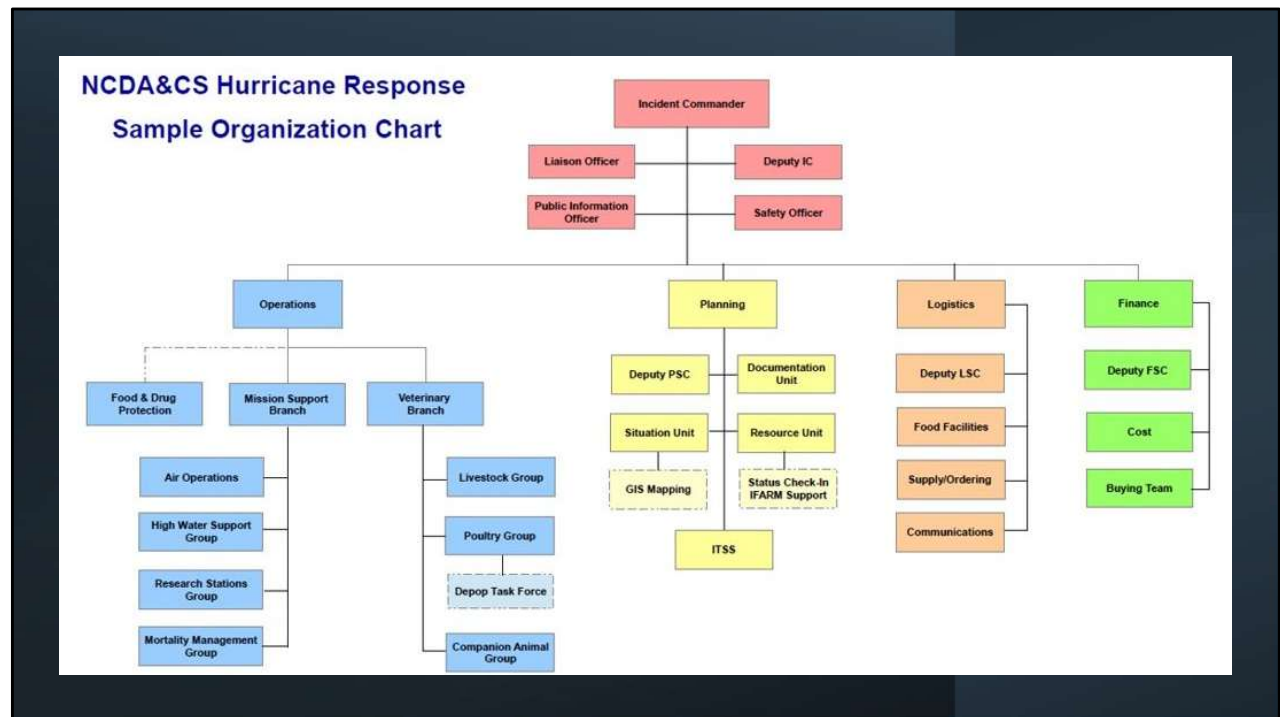
- Emergency Programs divides the state into 7 areas that are covered by field staff
- 4 emergency specialists and 3 veterinarians
- EP also has an Information Support Services (ISS) team that does programming, database maintenance, and GIS mapping

Ag EOC & Responses

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ag Emergency Operations Center in Raleigh• Establish Incident Management Team (IMT)• State EOC liaisons• NCVRC managed here | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal sheltering• Animal Care• Ag Emergency Hotline• Partner Engagement• GIS mapping• Fly over coordination• Ag damage assessments• Search and Rescue• Equipment/supplies• Containment• Transportation• Euthanasia/Depopulation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mortality management• Disease response (animal)• Zoonoses response (collaboration w/PH)• Power outages• Transportation• Chainsaw crews• Debris removal• Structure repair• Harvest and/or disposal• Commodity testing |
|--|---|---|

- Main agriculture and animal operational coordination will occur at the downtown Raleigh office where the Incident Management Team will be assembled
- 1-2 liaisons will report to the State Emergency Operations Center to receive and facilitate requests and coordinate with State Emergency Response Team partners (other state agencies and NGOs)
- Ag EOC will also contain other division personnel and external stakeholder representatives
- This list gives an idea of some of the area and tasks coordinated by Emergency Programs during an incident
- The department can act to support the animal and ag community outside of a disaster declaration also – for example, during an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza or a foodborne illness outbreak

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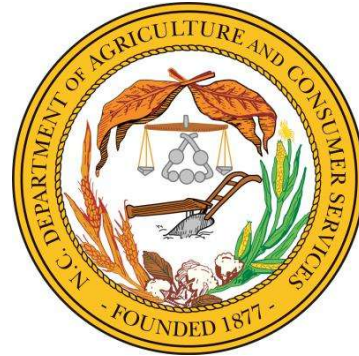


- There are different layers to ICS beginning with the incident commander, command staff, and then general staff
- The size and structure of IMT is scalable to any scenario
- Refer to your FEMA courses to describe command and general staff positions
- VRC would fall under the Operations Section
- Section structure can be customized to the event

North Carolina ESF 11

Agriculture & Natural Resources

- Animal Protection
- Animal and agricultural health
- Technical expertise to support animal and agricultural emergency management
- Ensuring food safety and security
- Wildlife concerns are managed by NC Wildlife Resources Commission (separate agency from NCDA&CS)



- Animal Protection: coordinating animal sheltering per the Pet Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act, feed & water, medical care, relocation, etc. for animals owned, stray, or domestic
- Animal & Ag Health: support animal/veterinary issues (One Health response with ESF-8)
- Technical expertise to support animal and agricultural emergency management: Essentially the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to deal with animals and their needs such as feeding, housing, movement, etc.)
- Ensuring Food Safety & Security: food inspections, lab analysis, foodborne pathogen surveillance. Works to ensure business continuity for the food supply
- NC Forest Service will serve under several ESF's even though they are in the Ag department as they have a variety of equipment and experience
- Need to do additional reading through the State EOP in others ESF's and event specific plans for more detailed description of NCDA&CS responsibilities

North Carolina ESF 6

Mass Care and Human Services

- Sheltering services
 - Meals and water for survivors and emergency workers
 - Volunteer and non-profit organizations
 - Coordinate with pet sheltering partners
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- Main agencies are NC Health & Human Services, Social Services, Red Cross, and other SERT partners
 - Establish state operated shelters
 - Wrap around shelter services includes housing, feeding, mental health resources, medical needs in shelter, accommodations for survivors with additional needs
 - Coordinate volunteer groups such as Red Cross & others
 - Work with NCDA&CS on pet sheltering needs

North Carolina ESF 8

Disaster Medical Services & Public Health

- State assistance for medical needs
- Medical personnel, equipment, patient evacuation, responder health
- Coordinate public health needs

- This is a very large emergency function for NC
- Supplement local needs for medical needs following a declared disaster event or EM request
- Hospitals, Nursing homes, care facilities, funeral homes, etc.
- Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) for technical lead agency with several supporting groups
- NCDA&CS provides a database for monitoring and mapping licensed facilities and EMS systems
- NCDHHS coordinates public health response relating to human health surveillance, food and drug safety, information, vector control, biohazards
- NCDA&CS offers recommendations and services for animal disease issues, food safety, animal care

Local Emergency Management

- Counties and large municipalities have Emergency Managers
 - Responsible for coordinating County/City response to emergencies and disasters
 - All emergencies/disasters begin and end locally
 - Request assistance from other counties, NCEM, NGO's, and private sector as needed
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- County emergency managers directed authority via the governing body of each county (generally county commissioners)
 - Responsible for things that occur within their county borders
 - All emergency management efforts within the county will be coordinated by the county, including municipalities within the county
 - Municipalities may establish emergency management authorities but are subject to coordination by the county
 - Can form a joint agency (ex=Charlotte-Mecklenburg EMA)
 - State of emergency is declared by the governing body or mayor
 - State of emergency covers all area that the body can enact general police powers
 - SOE must be terminated by the governing body that declared it

Partnerships

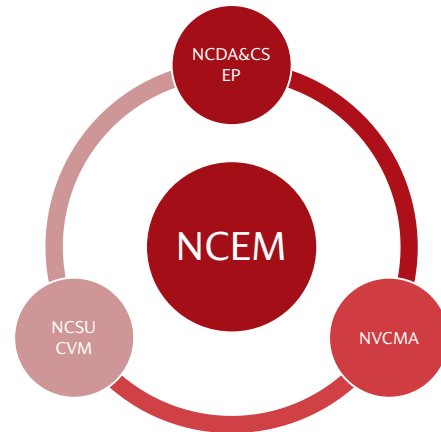
- Emergency Management
 - Cooperative Extension
 - Animal Services (animal control, shelter)
 - Public Health
 - NGOs and Commodity Organizations
 - Academia
 - Veterinary medicine (NCVMA, NCSU-CVM, AVMA)
 - Food & Ag Industry
 - Wildlife, Exotics, and Zoos
 - Federal partners (USDA, FEMA, Military)
 - Other states (NASAAEP, SAADRA, MSP)
 - Private contractors
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- The partnerships are critical to accomplishing our assigned task and fulfilling requests
 - None of our work is conducted in a vacuum
 - These partnerships encompass One Health ideology and practices

Animal Health Response

NC Veterinary Response Corps

NC VRC

- The mission of the North Carolina Veterinary Response Corps is to train and coordinate volunteer veterinary professionals to assist local officials during animal emergencies in order to preserve animal well-being and protect public health and welfare.



- As discussed, NCVRC is a NCDA&CS initiative in partnership with NCVMA and NCSU CVM

Responses

- Natural disasters (local or statewide)
 - Hurricane, flooding, tornadoes, severe storms, winter weather, wildfire
 - Foreign Animal & Zoonotic diseases
 - Human caused incidents
 - Agroterrorism, vehicle accidents, hazardous materials release, power outage, etc.
 - Also, small scale incidents such as livestock trailering accidents
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- Responses could be anything involving animal health and care
 - Foreign animal and zoonotic disease response will be at the discretion and direction of the State Veterinarian and USDA APHIS VS
 - The goal is to have VRC members incorporated with local EM to utilize for local incidents

Deployment (1 of 2)

- NCVRC Members, representing themselves as NCVRC Members on a deployment:
 - Can only be deployed by NCDA&CS or NCVMA
 - Must sign and abide by the NCVRC Code of Conduct
 - Must complete any required trainings
 - Must only work on the missions to which they were assigned
 - Are prohibited from “self-deploying”
- The VRC will only respond through official requests from EM or through fields reports that are verified/agreed upon with local EM
- The VRC is not going to deploy into area that local veterinarians can fulfill the need but is available to support their efforts if needed or until normal business functions can resume

Deployment (2 of 2)

- NCVRC Members are encouraged to volunteer in their communities through official channels and the appropriate Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)
 - Emergency Management
 - Animal Services
 - Cooperative Extension
 - Public Health
 - Recognized 501 c 3 organizations or Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)
 - Reputable organizations will coordinate with AHJ
- Participation in the NCVRC does not prohibit volunteering with other organizations but a member cannot “respond” with another group as a representative of the VRC without an official assignment

Member expectations

- Stay informed and aware
 - Keep up to date with training requirements and suggestions
 - Get involved and network with local county partners
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- All disasters begin and end locally so get involved in your community today!

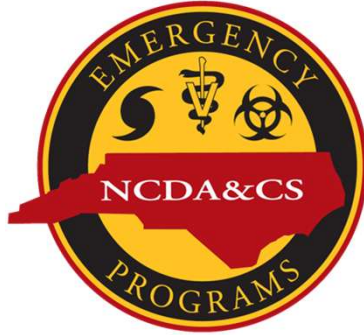
- We encourage members to get involved and stay involved in their community
- There are several ways to be an asset to your community

Let's Review

NCDA&CS responsible for coordinating ESF-11 response under the umbrella of NCEM

NCVRC is voluntary and operates in coordination with NCVMA and NCSU CVM to support animal health

All disasters begin and end locally



Prepare. Respond. Recover.

- Thank you for completing the NC Veterinary Response Corps Module 1.
- Please advance to the following slide for the link to a short quiz to verify completion.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to VRC coordinator Dr. Dan Kish, Daniel.kish@ncagr.gov

Quiz for Module 1

- Link to Quiz
- <https://forms.office.com/g/4DWnDAPSFg>
- QR code to access quiz



- Completion of the quiz is required to receive credit for training module 1