Friends of the Lower Blue River

Livestock Emergency Preparedness

The Livestock Emergency Preparedness Program, sponsored by the Friends of the Lower Blue River, informs you, a livestock owner or caretaker, of procedures that prepare you for the successful evacuation and safekeeping of livestock in the event of wildfires in the Lower Blue River area.

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SEVEN TIPS TO ENSURE SAFE AND EFFICIENT EVACUATION OF YOUR LIVESTOCK IN THE EVENT OF WILDFIRE[1].

- Make arrangements in advance to have your horse trailered in case of an emergency. With your own trailer, plan ahead: be sure the trailer is well maintained; practice loading the horse; the truck's gas tank is full. If you do not have your own trailer or do not have enough trailer space for all of your hoses, be sure you have several people on standby to help evacuate your horses.

- Know where you can take your horse in an emergency evacuation. FOLBR has identified six locations in the Lower Blue River Valley that are considered safe zones. A map of the six locations and requirements for use will be forthcoming.

- Inform friends and neighbors of your evacuation plans. Post detailed instructions in several places to ensure they are accessible to emergency workers in case you are not able to evacuate your horses yourself.

- Place your livestock paper work in a watertight envelope and store where it can be quickly reached.

- Keep halters ready for your horses. Each halter should include the following information: the horse's name, your name, your telephone number, and another emergency telephone number where someone can be reached

- Prepare a basic first aid kit that is portable and easily accessible.

- Be sure to have on hand a supply of water, hay, feed, and medications for several days for each horse you are evacuating.

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[1] Adapted from "Disaster Preparedness for Horses", The Humane Society, and "Your Horses and Disasters", CODE 3.

EVACUATION PLANNING CHECKLIST

☐ Make arrangements in advance to have your livestock moved
- Keep vehicles and trailer(s) well maintained and truck full of gas.
- Practice loading (or moving) livestock
- Establish a network of available resources that can provide transportation or help you move your livestock.
- Be sure to have provider's telephone numbers, and they have clear directions to your facilities.

☐ Know where you can take your horse in an emergency evacuation
- Identify and contact the Safe Zone closest to you, and visit
- Sign the liability waiver (for that Safe Zone)

☐ Inform friends and neighbors of your evacuation plans

☐ Photocopy and place your livestock paper work in a watertight envelope and store where it can be quickly reached.
- Emergency telephone numbers: veterinarian, family members
- Identification photographs
- Vaccination records
- Medical history, including test results for Coggins, TB, and other infectious diseases
- Current medical conditions

☐ Have identification on your animals.
- Tagged halter, microchips, tattoo, ear tag, livestock marking crayon (this is available at Elk Mountain Trading Company, Frisco, for $1.79).

☐ Prepare a basic first aid kit that is portable and easily accessible

☐ Be sure to have on hand a supply of water, hay, feed, and medications for several days for each horse you are evacuating. (Most Safe Zones have water.)

☐ Establish emergency communication pathways
For incoming:
- SCAlert[2]
- Phone tree
- A battery powered NOAA receiver radio

LOWER BLUE LIVESTOCK SAFE ZONES

From south to north in the Lower Blue:

❖ Randy and Kim May – Pioneer Creek Ranch
340 Antler Road
P.O. Box 1830
Dillon, CO 80435
H: 970-468-5602/970-468-7780 C: 970-389-0188 Kim
rkmay@wildblue.net

Directions: Entrance is from the Pioneer Creek gate at the bridge just north of mile marker 108.
http://www.mapquest.com/mq/4-Dw_rNZCT
Access: Call 970-468-5602 for the gate code. Access via Pioneer Creek Road / Fish Creek Road and our driveway. Cattle guards. 340 Antler Road
Property: Three fenced pastures
Accommodate: Approximately 10-12 additional horses – no cattle
Water: Seasonally available via irrigation ditch and available from our well as long as power is available
Sick/injured horses: Some stalls available for injured horses, but cannot separate horses enough to accommodate sick animals

❖ Henry and Sioux Barr
0968 Lindstrom Rd.
Silverthorne, Colorado 80498
468-2594 (h)
389-7533 (c)
Henryebarr@aol.com

Directions: Off highway 9 to Elk Run to Lindstorm Rd
Access: 0968 Lindstrom Rd
Property: Totally fenced. Horse pasture about 30 acres fenced; crossed fenced with electric wire. Perimeter fence is 3 strand smooth 42 inch high
Water: Available. Several large tanks that water could be taken to for outlying areas
Feed: Lots depending on what is needed for how long, depending on time of year good grass and alfalfa
Sick/injured horses: 3-4 stall metal barn; a small pen behind the barn; a larger about a 1 acre pen where my horse is at nights

❖ Helen and Gary Royal
372 Elk Run
P.O. Box 1998
Frisco, CO 80443
H: 970-668-0809 C:970-389-7007
garyhelen.r@gmail.com

Directions: 372 Elk Run Road North on CO-9, turn right onto County Road 2500/Elk Run Rd for 1.1 miles, turn right onto Elk Run Rd for .3 miles, 372 Elk Run Road on right.
http://www.mapquest.com/mq/5-zSp2F4j8tcNlUj0bQo3E
Access: Accessed from our driveway-walk to pastures from there
Property: 2 pastures, 1 big area with not much grass. Pastures are approximately 3, 2 and 1 acres
Accommodate: Not sure how many livestock we could put there. Probably a lot in the short term

Sick/injured horses: Have a barn, but we would need to bring panels in to segregate ill or injured animals. Would have my animals in my dry lot adjacent to the barn, so we're probably not the most ideal spot for those animals, but we could make it work if needed.

❖ John and Sara Almond
1840 Elk Run Rd
P.O. Box 1187
Silverthorne, CO 80498-1187
H: 970-262-2446 Barn: 970-513-4720 C:970-390-3755
mtnwoman@colorado.net

Directions: 1840/1842 Elk Run Road North of Silverthorne on CO-9, turn right onto CR 2500/Elk Run Rd for 1.1 miles, turn left to stay on Elk Run Rd/County Road 2500 for .5, turn left onto Elk Run Rd. http://www.mapquest.com/mq/5-BtOSEdVi

Contacts: At 1840/1842 Elk Run Road are: "B" and Frank Casapulla 970.668.5563 (h), 970.390.8914 (c), and Briar's Barn: 970.513.4720
Property: 40 acres is fenced. There is a barn, round pen, an outdoor arena and two loafing sheds on the 40 acres. The 40 acres is divided into four sections: 1 small dry lot that includes the barn and round pen; 1 small dry lot that includes a loafing shed; 1 grazing pasture that includes a loafing shed; and 1 grazing pasture that includes the outdoor arena
60 acres with no water. People who use the 60 acres as a safe place would need to bring their own water. The 60 acres is fenced and has 2 loafing sheds
Water: 40 acres with water, but our well only makes 2 gallons per minute. People who use our land as a safe place would need to bring their own water
Sick/injured horses: 2 small dry lots. Possibly 2 stalls.

❖ Brett and Sarah London – Pass Creek Ranch
36848 Hwy 9
Silverthorne, CO 80498
H: 970-513-9555 C: 970-485-0090
sarahdiannelondon@gmail.com
bretlondon@gmail.com

Location: 200 Pass Creek Road, just north of Ute Pass Road.
Access: At the main entrance
Property: Entire ranch is fenced and could hold a lot of stock for a short time
Water: Have plenty of water on the ranch
Sick/injured horses: Don't have any small areas for injured animals because they are too close to buildings that may catch fire.

❖ Cow Camp
Cow Camp Extension
Summit County Open Space Council

Location: Across from Green Mountain Reservoir, off Hwy 9, east side
Access: Across from the wind sock that the hang glider community uses
Property: Cow Camp and the Cow Camp Extension are close to 900 acres. Some of it is fenced (the Extension) but the main part is spottily fenced
Water: livestock owners would be responsible for everything -- temporary fencing, water, feed and anything else needed

Sue Pratt – Troublesome Horse Rescue
1049 GCR 2201
P.O. Box 1621
Kremmling, CO 80459
H: 724-3231 C: 531-1695
troublesomehorserescue@wildblue.net

Location: 1049 GCR 2201, 3 miles northeast of Kremmling
Directions: go east of intersection of Hwy 9 and Hwy 40 on Hwy 40 for .9 mile; turn left onto to CR 22/W Troublesome Creek Rd for 2.2 miles, turn right on CR 2201 for 1.3 miles.
http://www.mapquest.com/mq/2-xhJ1xpnZaSh3
Access: At gate. Call 970-531-1695 for instructions on opening
Property: 120 acres, fenced.
Accommodate: approximately 75 horses
Water: Yes
Sick/injured: Accommodate 5 to 10 in arena.

RELEASE FORM

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY, THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND WAIVER OF LEGAL RIGHTS

1. The undersigned _____ (the "Participant"), desires to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the Friends of the Lower Blue River Association ("FOLBR"), should it be necessary as a result of wild fire or similar emergency circumstances, to temporarily relocate some or all of its livestock, including _____to property in Summit and Grand Counties voluntarily made available by others for such temporary relocation purposes through the efforts of FOLBR (the "Activity"). A list of those properties and their owners is attached as Exhibit I.

2. In consideration of being allowed to participate in the Activity, the Participant agrees to indemnify, defend and hold harmless FOLBR, the owners of any property where Participant's livestock may be temporarily relocated and any other persons or entities, public or private, connected with the Activity, together with their respective elected officials, employees, officers, directors, owners, contractors, volunteers and agents (collectively the "Released Parties") from any and all claims that Participant might have as a result of physical injury or property damage sustained by Participant or Participant's livestock in connection with Participant's participation in the Activity. Participant further agrees that if Participant is physically injured or Participant's property, including livestock, is damaged while Participant is engaged in this Activity, Participant will not have any right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against the Released Parties with respect to such injury or damage. Participant further agrees to indemnify and defend the Released Parties with respect to any and all claims from third parties resulting from Participant's negligence in connection with Participant's participation in the Activity. Participant acknowledges that Participant has freely elected to participate in the Activity with full knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the risks involved.

3. Participant signs this Release voluntarily, of Participant's own free will, and intends to be bound by its terms.

4. This Release of Liability is governed by the laws of the State of Colorado and is intended to be interpreted as broadly as possible and shall be binding to the fullest extent of the law. Participant agrees that exclusive jurisdiction and venue for any legal action shall be in the District Court of Summit County, Colorado. If any part of this agreement is determined to be unenforceable, all other parts shall be given full force and effect.

PARTICIPANT HAS CAREFULLY READ THE RELEASE OF LIABILITY, UNDERSTANDS ITS CONTENTS AND SIGNS IT WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

_____ _____

Signature of Participant Date

_____

Printed Name of Participant

TWO WAYS TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS OF LOCATION AND SEVERITY OF WILDFIRE(S).

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR) is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard (including wildfires) information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Working with the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Emergency Alert System , NWR is an "All Hazards" radio network, making it your single source for comprehensive weather and emergency information. NWR requires a special radio receiver or scanner capable of picking up the signal. A battery powered NOAA receiver radio (called Weather Cube) can be purchased at Radio Shack for $24.99.

SCALERT
Summit County Community Notification System is an alert notification system that allows officials to immediately contact you during a major crisis or emergency and can deliver important emergency alerts, notifications and updates to you on all your devices:

- email account (work, home, other)
- cell phone and pagers
- smartphone and other handhelds devices

Be prepared to receive alert notifications by simply registering at http://www.scalert.org/index.php?CCheck=1. A special category for Lower Blue Large Animal owners or caretakers has been added under the category At-Risk/Special Population Registry.

IMPACT OF SMOKE ON LIVESTOCK

Videos of wildfires show not only the fires but the accompanying smoke. This memo focuses on the impact of smoke on livestock. Evacuated livestock may be safe from the fires but not necessarily from smoke. The following excerpts from articles (University of California, Davis; Colorado State University) highlight the affect of smoke on livestock, and how to protect and treat them.

Wildfire within livestock sensory range:
Surface speeds of wildfires vary from 5 –40 miles per hour and all wildfires generate smoke, heat, and sound. Livestock are very sensitive and responsive to wildfire anywhere within their sensory range. Normal reactions vary from nervousness, to panic, to aggressive and resistive escape attempts. Livestock are often injured or killed by fleeing from a wildfire into fences, barriers, and other fire risks. Once the flight syndrome activates it remains active long after the smoke, heat and noise stimuli are removed. Some animal species such as alpacas, llamas – and especially horses – become virtually unmanageable in the face of oncoming wildfire. Experienced handlers (as many as possible), proper equipment, and a firm and prompt evacuation approach, are needed. If time is limited because of fire ground–speed, open possible escape routes and recapture the animals later. In the case of a fast moving fire, some landowners spray paint their phone numbers on the sides of livestock before setting them free. Others attach identification tags to animals. If you choose to leave a halter on your animal, consider attaching identification—such as a luggage tag. Firefighters may cut fences and open gates if time and safety concerns allow.

How Does Smoke Affect Livestock? The effects of smoke are similar for humans and livestock: irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract, aggravation of chronic lung diseases, and reduced lung function. High concentrations of particulates can cause persistent cough, increased nasal discharge, wheezing and increased physical effort in breathing. Particulates can also alter the immune system and reduce the ability of the lungs to remove foreign materials, such as pollen and bacteria, to which livestock are normally exposed

Protecting and Treatment of Livestock from Smoke Particulates:
Limit exercise when smoke is visible. Don't force livestock to perform activities or increase exercise that increase the airflow in and out of the lungs. This can trigger bronchoconstriction (narrowing of the small airways in the lungs). Provide plenty of fresh water located near feeding areas. The consumption of easily accessible water keeps the airways moist and facilitates clearance of inhaled particulate matter. This allows the windpipe (trachea), large airways (bronchi), and small airways (bronchioles) to remove inhaled particulate material in smoke. Dry airways make particulate matter remain in the lung and air passages.

Limit dust exposure by feeding low or dust-free feeds and sprinkling or misting the livestock holding area. This reduces the particles in dust such as mold, fungi, pollens and bacteria that may have difficulty being cleared from the lungs.
If livestock is coughing or having difficulty breathing, contact a livestock veterinarian. A veterinarian can help determine the difference between a reactive airway from smoke and dust versus a bacterial infection and bronchitis or pneumonia. If livestock has experienced coughing over a long period of time, there is a greater risk of secondary problems such as bacterial pneumonia.
Give livestock ample time to recover from smoke-induced airway insult. Airway damage resulting from wildfire smoke takes 4 to 6 weeks to heal. Therefore, plan on giving livestock 4 to 6 weeks to recuperate after the air quality returns to normal. Attempting to handle, move, or transport livestock may aggravate the condition, delay the healing process, and compromise the performance of livestock for many weeks or months.
If your livestock continues to experience primary or secondary problems with smoke-induced respiratory injury, you should contact a livestock veterinarian. Veterinarians can prescribe specific treatments such as intravenous fluids, bronchodilator drugs, systemic antibiotics, or other measures to facilitate hydration and health of the airway passages. Blood tests or other tests may be recommended to determine whether a secondary bacterial infection has arisen and is contributing to the current respiratory problem.