



Household Pets and Service Animals Support

FEMA Mass Care/Emergency Assistance (MC/EA) coordinates and supports the rescue, transportation, shelter, reunification, and care of individuals and their household pets, service, and assistance animals (HPSA) during response and recovery operations to ensure their safety and well-being. Upon request from the state, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments, FEMA MC/EA supports HPSA activities through the provision of technical assistance and resource support to federal, SLTT, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and private sector partners.

Authorities

- Sections 309, 402, 403, 502, 611, 613 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.

Responsibilities of FEMA MC/EA

Pre-Incident

- Provide technical assistance for the development of multi-agency HPSA planning documents, federal response and recovery plans, SLTT emergency operations plans, training materials, and other tools to strengthen and enhance the nation's capacity to support HPSA disaster activities.
- Analyze and incorporate best practices and lessons learned into preparedness activities.
- Develop methods of procurement, pre-scripted mission assignments, and other agreements and mechanisms to provide resources and coordinate and support programs and services for owners and their HPSA during disaster response activities.
- Coordinate with government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector to develop integrated processes and mechanisms to augment national, regional, state, tribal, territorial and local HPSA capabilities.
- Serve as subject matter experts to internal FEMA partners, including the Response, Recovery, Logistics, and National Preparedness Directorates; the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination; and the Office of External Affairs.

Response and Recovery

- Coordinate with federal agencies, NGOs, and other partners to support SLTTs in monitoring, analyzing, and validating the need for human and material resources, programs, and services.
- Provide subject matter expertise and technical assistance in the National Response Coordination Center (NRCC), Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC), Joint Field Office (JFO), State Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and other field offices.
- Assist the STTLs in the implementation of coordinated and integrated HPSA response and recovery activities that meet the disaster-caused needs of evacuees, survivors, and their HPSA.
- Provide resource support, including equipment, materials, supplies, facilities, veterinary services, specialized transportation, and personnel, to support the rescue, transportation, sheltering, and care of HPSA through mission assignments, contracts, and other mechanisms.

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- Coordinate transportation, logistics, response, evacuation, and other issues with other federal agencies, and NGOs at the NRCC/RRCC/EOC/Interim Operating Facility to encourage that:
 - HPSA sheltering needs are addressed in a manner that provides as much interaction as possible between owners and their HPSA.
 - HPSA food and supplies are included in Points of Distributions, mobile feeding, and distribution operations.
 - HPSA are included in the reunification plans and activities.
- Monitor, analyze, validate, and provide support to HPSA activities; identify resource requirements, shortfalls, and limiting factors; and provide information to Federal agencies, state, NGO, and private sector partners.

Triggers for Implementation

- Presidential Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance, Category B.
- Emergency Disaster Declaration.

Tools and Resources

- Public Assistance Policy and Program Guide.
- Individual Assistance Program and Policy Guide.
- HPSA multi-agency coordination support and/or multi-agency support task force.
- Federal and state software systems that support HPSA activities.
- FEMA National Mass Evacuation Tracking System, which includes a capability to track the movement of transportation-assisted evacuees, their luggage, household pets, and durable medical equipment throughout the evacuation process.
- FEMA Emergency Support Function #6 Support System, which manages data and supports GIS products related to emergency household pet shelter locations.
- FEMA MC/EA Resource Management Tool.

Contracts and Agreements

Contract/Agreement	Type
Individual Assistance Services Contract (IASC)	Contract
American Red Cross	Memorandum of Agreement / Interagency Agreement
National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)	Memorandum of Understanding
U.S. Department of Agriculture	Pre-scripted Mission Assignments (PSMA)
Department of Defense (under development)	PSMA
Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response National Veterinary Response Team	PSMA

FEMA's Mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.

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