An understanding of the need to be ready to evacuate early in case of a wildfire in the area?

Developed an evacuation plan for each of your animals?

Traveled your evacuation route with your trailer?

Assembled an emergency “go” kit for you and your animals?

Teamwork with your neighbors

Identification and supply needs for your animals

Alternate plan if you cannot safely evacuate your large animals

Evacuation advisories

**Evacuation advisories to be prepared for:**

The Plumas County Sheriff is responsible for all evacuation orders. You will be notified by fire personnel, Search and Rescue personnel or law enforcement (Sheriff and CHP). Evacuation advisories may stay in effect for several days. After the threat is mitigated, access may be limited to residents with identification.

**Sheriff’s Evacuation Advisement:** Residents are encouraged to make evacuation preparations.

**Sheriff’s Voluntary Evacuation:** Residents are encouraged to leave the area. Roads will have a “Soft Closure” allowing only residents into the area. General public will not be allowed.

**Sheriff’s Mandatory Evacuation:** Residents are in imminent danger or the potential for imminent danger exists. Roads will have “Hard Closures.” Highways may be closed with the only access for firefighter and law enforcement safety. Residents and the public will be prohibited from free access.

**Shelter in Place:** People are advised to stay secure at their current location by remaining in place as evacuation will cause a higher potential for loss of life.

**Evacuation advisories to be prepared for:**

**WILDFIRE Are you prepared? Have you...**

An understanding of the need to be ready to evacuate early in case of a wildfire in the area?

Developed an evacuation plan for each of your animals?

Traveled your evacuation route with your trailer?

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**BEFORE THE FIRE Learn about**

Teamwork with your neighbors

Identification and supply needs for your animals

Alternate plan if you cannot safely evacuate your large animals

Evacuation advisories

**Animal Identification Tips & Tricks**

Attach ID to each animal.

Attach luggage tags and dog tags with ID to animal crates.

Braid luggage tags or dog tags into your horse’s mane or tag them with paint.

Take several full frame and close up photos of your animals. Include a description of each animal.

Record breed, color, size, markings, scars, and any other significant features.

Include a copy of all medication and registration records.

Keep copies of records in sealed waterproof sealable bags and leave in a safe place. Consider having a digital version of your documentation in a cloud server for access from a mobile or other device. Store a copy with a friend or family outside the area.

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**Plumas County Animal Wildfire Preparation and Evacuation Guide**

**Evacuation advisories to be prepared for:**

**What to expect at evacuation center:**

- Intake forms must be filled out before animals can be offloaded.
- Local and state health and safety regulations do not permit the Red Cross to allow pets in disaster shelters. (Service animals are allowed in Red Cross shelters.)
- Plumas County will endeavor to set up a pet shelter as close as possible to the Red Cross Shelter

**For more info:**

Plumas County Animal Control 530-283-3673
Plumas Co. Dept. of Agriculture 530-283-6365
University of California Cooperative Extension-Plumas Sierra 530-283-6270
**LESSONS LEARNED**

**Butte Fire on September 9, 2015**

A survivor of this fire experienced the destruction of wildfire first-hand. Although she was able to evacuate her animals, many neighbors were not as fortunate. These are her take-aways:

1) *Don’t be complacent, evacuate your animals early!*
2) *Make sure you have places to take them where they can stay for long periods of time.*
3) *If you’re taking them to a shelter make sure they have identification: painting your number on them works great.*
4) *Use crates for your cats and other small animals.*
5) *Don’t wait for someone to tell you to leave, be pro-active, no one may show up!* 
6) *Take the time to pack, you might not have anything to go home to.*
7) *Take pictures of everything, rooms in your home, barn, tack, vehicles you have to leave behind, your property, your home, etc....... This will help you remember what you had for the insurance.*
8) *Check how much insurance you have, read your policy, and know what it covers. Many people were under-insured.*
9) *Take care of yourself and help your neighbors if you can.*
10) *DON'T BE COMPLACENT - BE AWARE OF WHAT'S GOING ON!*

**Remember to:**

- Plan
- Practice the plan
- Place people’s safety first... that includes your own

### HOUSEHOLD PETS

**Cats, dogs, reptiles, guinea pigs, birds**

**Where will you take your pets if evacuated?**

- Contact your vet for a list of boarding facilities and kennels for use in emergency situations.
- Identify hotels in your region that accept pets.
- Ask friends/relatives if they would accept your pet in an emergency.

**Emergency “Go” kit supplies:**

- Pet’s vaccine and medical records, dog license, medications and pet first aid kit
- 7 days of food, water and bowls
- Cat litter box
- Include sturdy leashes, collars, harness and carrier.
- Pet ownership records and photos of your pet (Note your animal’s veterinarian,)
- Copy of pet insurance policies
- Microchip paperwork

**Reptiles:**

- Use escape proof aquarium, kennel or pillowcase for snakes.
- Securely attach all your personal info and reptile’s description, markings, note if it is poisonous, feeding and handling instructions.
- Include paper towels, garbage bags, disinfectants and spray bottle for misting.

### LARGE ANIMALS

**Horses, cattle, sheep, goats, camelids, poultry, etc.**

**Evacuation preparation**

Examine or drive all your escape routes with your livestock trailer to ensure routes are wide enough. Develop alternative routes. Have your trailer hitched to your truck and crates available for sheep, goats and poultry. Practice loading your horses and livestock into trailers!

**EVACUATE EARLY!**

- **Team up with your neighbor.**
  - Develop your plan with your neighbor. Inform each other in case of an evacuation.
  - Know where you can take your animals during an evacuation. Ask friends or relatives if they would accept your animals in an emergency.
  - Inform your friends and relatives of your plan.
  - Post detailed instructions at your barn entrance and horse trailer for emergency responders.
  - Post a list of animals evacuated and any that were left to shelter in place.

**Emergency “Go” kit large animal ID packet.**

- Be able to ID your large animal in a large-scale emergency. Ensure ID by microchip, brands, photos, unique markings, registration papers, and brand papers. Note your animal’s veterinarian contact info.
- Attach your animal’s name, your name and all contact numbers and emergency numbers to the animal’s halter or collar.
- Include copies of vaccination records, Coggins test etc.

**Emergency “Go” kit supplies:**

- 3-day supply of hay, grain and if possible water for each animal
- Medications and first aid kit
- Plastic trash cans with lids, water buckets
- Non nylon leads (leather is best) that won’t melt (in case the animal gets too close to fire) and halters. leg wraps, horse blankets
- Tarps, flashlight, shovel, sharp knife, wire cutters, hoof picks

**If all else fails - What to do if you cannot safely evacuate your large animal.**

- Do not leave your animals confined.
- Get animals out of barn or coop. Close the doors or gates to barns, as horses in danger will often seek the comfort of the known, their pastures and stalls.
- If you can’t take your animals, their best chance is to open the gate and let them go.
- Leave as much hay, food and water as possible in a pre-selected area.
- Be sure your animals have ID on them. In a pinch you can spray paint your name and number on the animal. (Permanent markers on hooves does not work.)