



## Livestock Disaster Preparedness Project – MOTOR VEHICLE INCIDENTS

Motor vehicle incidents involving livestock is the most common livestock emergency event to occur in Alberta. Everyday Alberta highways have hundreds of vehicles transporting thousands of animals. Motor vehicle incidents can range from a pickup truck transporting one animal in a stock rack to a commercial livestock trailer transporting thousands of chickens. These events are also unique in that first responders are directly involved in all incidents and are incident command.

### Entities Impacted

- All animals involved the incident.
- Minimal to catastrophic impact on animal health and welfare may include pain and suffering due to injury, death and fear-based stress.

### Response

- Call 911. Provide the location of the incident, the number of animals involved and if there are any loose livestock on the roadway.
- Before exiting the vehicle, evaluate the scene for loose and dangerous animals or any other hazards.
- Check for human injuries first and tend to them. The animals can wait.
- Extreme caution must be exhibited at all accident scenes. Hazards include passing traffic, loose animals or downed power lines.
- If there are loose animals on the roadway, move them off the roadway and gather them in one place.
- Animals cannot be released from trailer until containment is set up. DO NOT RELEASE ANY ANIMALS INTO THE DITCH OR ONTO THE ROADWAY.
- Do not enter the trailer with the animals - wait for first responders to arrive.
- Keep bystanders away from the animal.
- Once first responders arrive, inform them of any relevant information including status of all people involved, number of animals on the trailer and if any animals have fled the scene.
- First responders will have command of the scene upon arrival. The chain of command must be respected at all times.