

VELD FIRE RESPONSE GUIDE

A Practical Guide for SPCA Inspectors and Field Officers
in providing emergency care to animal fire victims



**National Council
of SPCAs**



**NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION
LOTTO FUNDED**

VELD FIRE RESPONSE GUIDE

Purpose of this document: to provide a visual guide to Inspectors on what to expect when dealing with animals affected by veld fires and appropriate actions required to minimise suffering and assist survivors.

The National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) is a statutory body mandated to protect animals.

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SAFETY FIRST



EMERGENCY FIRE RESPONSE NUMBERS

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____

NSPCA STATEMENT OF POLICY

Every living creature has intrinsic value and is a sentient being. The NSPCA considers that the welfare of an animal includes its physical and mental state and that good animal welfare implies both fitness and a sense of well-being.

The Council believes that the animal's welfare should be considered in terms of the five freedoms which are a globally recognised framework for animal welfare.

FIVE FREEDOMS

Freedom from Hunger and Thirst

By ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigour

Freedom from Discomfort

By providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area

Freedom from Pain, Injury or Disease

By prevention, by rapid diagnosis and treatment

Freedom to express normal behaviour

By providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animals' own kind

Freedom from Fear and Distress

By ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering

Farm Animal Welfare Council

The historical development of the protection of animal welfare, and the role of the NSPCA in upholding this mandate, illustrates why the NSPCA plays a critical and unique role in our polity. Its long history of guarding the interests of animals reflects constitutional values. It has taken on the role of protecting animals in all of our interests".

excerpt from Constitutional Court Ruling, 2016

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

(Refer to the NSPCA Operations Manual)

It is an important exercise to identify any potential disasters or emergencies and to have a plan in place to be able to deal with them if the worst happens. Even if you are not handling the disaster yourselves, being able to give the NSPCA detailed and accurate information is an enormous help.

During disasters, people, their properties and animals are affected. It is the responsibility of the owners to ensure that their animals' needs are catered for in these situations. However this often does not happen as the owners are so overwhelmed and traumatised with what has taken place that the SPCA must step in and assist animals in need. Combined efforts between disaster management and animal welfare will determine the community's successful relief.

Every year across South Africa, enormous damage is caused to lives and property due to fires. Some are caused by carelessness, some malicious and some are acts of nature (lightning). Fires commonly occur when veld is dry and winds are strong—ideal conditions for a spark or flame to turn into a runaway fire, sometimes escalating into a fire disaster (when large areas are burnt and there is major loss of life and property). Many animals die every year due to fires, farm animals are the most typically affected, however domestic and wild animals are also affected.

Emergency Service's primary aim is to assist the humans affected and ensure their safety. It is up to the SPCA to liaise with them and do everything possible to assist the animals affected and ensure their safety. Never assume animals have already been assisted. During situations like this humans are given priority.

Disasters /Emergencies include: Snow, Fires, Floods, Chemical spillages etc.

ROUTINE STEPS

Refer to your Resource Contact List which should be kept up to date and easily accessible and should have all the relevant contacts in your area for example:

- Private Veterinarians and State Veterinarians
- Fire Departments
- South African Police Services (SAPS)
- Traffic Departments
- Farmers Associations
- Societies in surrounding area
- Abattoirs in close proximity
- Municipality
- Transportation contacts in the area



In any disaster a, JOC (Joint Operations Centre) is established, usually between SAPS, Emergency Services and other Government Departments. Find out from your local Police, who the JOC contact person is in advance. In the event of a disaster/emergency, they should be contacted as appropriate and asked questions such as:

1. Has a Disaster Management Team been established yet? Obtain a contact name and number.
2. Who is coordinating all the rescue personnel?
3. The exact nature and extent of the disaster.
4. When did the disaster occur?
5. How big an area is involved?
6. How accessible is the area?
7. What animals are involved?
8. Are there any areas that are prohibited due to safety reasons?

We must be alert to what is happening in and around our communities

What to expect:

1. Evacuation of people, containment of fire/threat—dangerous conditions.
2. Damaged property—affected animals needing immediate assistance. SPCA personnel will be critical role-players in addressing animal concerns.
3. Farms and rural communities are typically the worst affected and have the most animals.

LIAISE WITH NATIONAL COUNCIL AND NEIGHBOURING SOCIETIES

Once we have identified who the role players are in the Disaster Management Team, we will meet with them and discuss the following points:-

- Ensure that an effective Disaster Management Strategy is established and implemented to include animals. Promote and assist with the implementation thereof.
- Attend Disaster Management Meetings to be kept abreast of developments and to give our own updates.
- Identify our immediate contact to be informed of any difficulties we encounter.
- Discuss our role and assistance that we can offer. This will include assessing the area and speaking to all affected people, ascertaining numbers and species of animals involved/affected and ascertaining to what extent feed/grazing/shelters have been destroyed.
- Depending on the nature of the disaster, assist with destruction (using the most humane methods and taking into account the different species involved—contact NSPCA for advice) and/or removal of animals.
- Depending on the severity of the disaster and the welfare requirements of the animals, we arrange for feed to be delivered. (The allocation will be determined by our findings on the ground and the **most needy and affected animals** receive benefit NOT the most affected owners.)
- In the event that an area is evacuated, we need to make provision for animals left behind. We may have to assist with setting up a temporary evacuation camp, or moving animals to safe, temporary holding facilities. Please keep in mind that owner identification of each animal is imperative.

It is essential that we liaise closely with the Disaster Team to keep them updated with our findings and to notify them of our whereabouts. Depending on the nature of the disaster – for example fires – where strong winds and smoke are involved, or in snow where there is poor visibility, it is vital that we liaise closely with the Disaster Team, as there may be areas that are not safe for us to work in. Our carelessness could further complicate rescue efforts and we must remember that as part of the rescue team, our SAFETY AND ADHERENCE TO THEIR REQUESTS ARE VITAL.

OUR EARLY INVOLVEMENT WILL ENSURE THAT WE ARE ABLE TO REACH AND ASSIST ALL ANIMALS WITHIN HOURS OF THE DISASTER HAPPENING, WHICH WILL REDUCE ANY FURTHER STRESS AND SUFFERING.

Follow up inspections/assessments must be undertaken at least two weeks after our initial involvement, to ensure that there has been no deterioration in any of the animals or circumstances. If required, we will also submit reports of our findings to National Department of Agriculture to assist with allocation of disaster relief to affected communities

Actions must be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate legislation.

DISASTERS ARE VERY CHALLENGING IT IS IMPORTANT WE ALL WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM!

Sample Resource Contact List—keep adding to the list

Resource	Name	Contact Details
Abattoir		

EMERGENCIES AND DISASTERS PROTOCOLS FOR PLANNING FOR INDIVIDUAL SPCAs

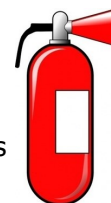
This protocol applies to the pre-planning for emergencies and disasters that may occur and which may affect animals directly or which may affect the SPCA's ability to reach those animals in need. The list is not definitive but is designed as a guide which can be adapted.

1 VETERINARY

- Compile a list of Veterinarians (including State Veterinarians) in your area with emergency contact numbers.
- If relevant, list their specialist fields (domestic, wildlife etc).
- Ensure this list is readily available, including to after-hours duty personnel.
- Liaise with neighbouring SPCAs to include a back-up list of Veterinarians outside your area with emergency contact numbers and including specialist fields.
- If possible obtain addresses and GPS details for each of the above.
- For all the above, include working hours, after hours availability and account arrangements.

2 EQUIPMENT AND CONTACTS

- List your emergency equipment, ensuring it is all in working order and is easily accessible. (Equipment should be checked monthly by both the Manager and the Inspector to ensure it is in working order and available at short notice).
- Liaise with neighbouring SPCAs to list their equipment and provide contact details of how to make contact in case of need including after-hours contact details.
- Compile a list of emergency services in your area with contact names and details including, but not limited to, fire, police, traffic, national defence force. These may be called upon for assistance or asked to arrange for additional assistance.
- Compile a list of people or clubs who may have useful equipment such as boats, helicopters, delivery trucks, 4x4 vehicles etc.
- Compile a list of media and local councillors and have these details readily available for additional assistance and advice.



BASIC ACTION PROCESS

**Develop a network of useful contacts and resources.
BE PREPARED**



BE ALERT—Respond rapidly to news of problems—notify neighbouring SPCAs/NSPCA and key members of your network (i.e. Disaster Response Team)



Trained personnel to go to the affected area and undertake on site evaluation. Physically inspect animals, area and interview people



Field team to give feedback to decide if the situation is under control or more assistance is needed



Emergency euthanasia and treatment to be given to animals as necessary



Follow up to ensure feed is given and animals under treatment are responding

OVERVIEW OF HARM CAUSED TO ANIMALS BY FIRE

Burns are one of the most common and devastating forms of trauma and this type of injury to the skin is caused by heat, electricity, chemicals or radiation (i.e. sunburn).

Fires cause death initially through smoke inhalation and burns. Survivors are challenged by secondary infections and slow lingering death. Unaffected animals are then challenged further by loss of grazing/food.

The SPCA has a vital role to play in responding rapidly to fires:-

- assessing the damage in order to provide appropriate assistance.
- assisting where necessary (especially in euthanasing burnt animals).
- searching for survivors.
- following up to ensure medical/veterinary attention and pain relief is provided.
- following up to ensure feed is supplied.

Example of a Fire Victim



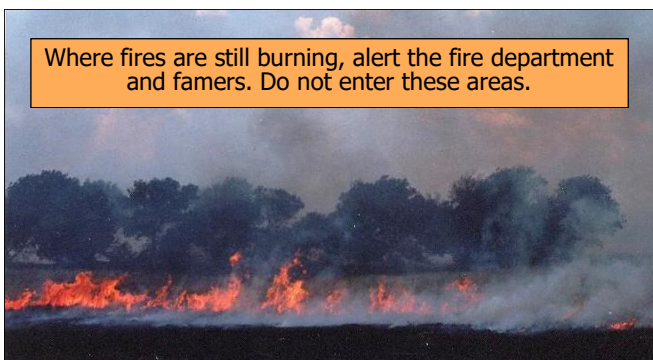
With eyes burnt out and burns over 100% of her body, this dairy cow still tried to walk home

Farm animals are typically the highest number of animals affected, followed by wildlife and domestic animals.

- Some animals are burnt to death in the initial blaze.
- Initial heat may kill animals such as confined pigs that are susceptible to heat stress.
- Smoke inhalation is another common cause of initial death.
- Animals with severe injuries may survive the fire but have severe, permanent damage to eyes, nose, ears, feet and genitals. These animals will in all likelihood need emergency euthanasia.
- Shock can kill animals days after the fire.
- Direct heat from the fire can cause injury to the upper airway above the glottis and there can be rapid swelling of the throat.
- Inhalation injury progresses during the first few days following a burn and results in oedema and sloughing of the respiratory tract mucosa.
- Inflammation and secondary infections typically occur in surviving animals.
- Sloughing of hooves is typical.

Don't forget : Burn injuries are extremely painful

IDENTIFYING TARGET AREAS



Smoke inhalation is dangerous for humans and animals. Smoke disorientates and confuses animals. When trying to escape the smoke, they may run into the fire, fences or barriers. Beware- driving through smoke can be dangerous.



Look for animals in the affected areas. Use binoculars where possible to scan the veld.



Within a day or two after the fire you may also see trucks and trailers loading carcasses. Stop and check animals are dead and ask for a status report.

Action List	
<i>Tick off what you have done</i>	
Obtain a map of the affected area (refer to Google maps to assist)	
Identify affected area/s	
Contact the Fire Department, and other role players	
Go to affected areas and look for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Smoke in the sky 2. Fire burning 3. Area smouldering 4. Signs of animals 5. Burnt houses/veld 	
Drive/walk through the burnt areas and be observant	
Liaise with your SPCA/team and give feedback and updates	
Speak to people you find and ask for information from them	
Liaise with Disaster Management Team	
Liaise with local farmers' organisations	

ASSESSING TARGET AREAS



Depending on the strength, speed and intensity of the fire, some animals may be burnt to death in the blaze and others may die of smoke inhalation.



Animals may also try and flee from a fire but run into fencing, and dead animals are often found along fence lines.

NEVER assume an animal is dead—physically check each one



Fire and smoke are powerful and dangerous and should not be underestimated. Burnt buildings may be unstable, walls may collapse. Only enter when safe to do so - **NEVER ENTER ALONE.**



Surviving animals may be trapped in buildings/kraals/cages/on chains. Some animals flee but later try to return home.

Even with horrific injuries, animals may still be alive and need help.

Animals may appear to be dead and immobile—but check carefully for shallow breathing.

If in doubt, use your captive bolt to stun the animal and sever the throat as a safety precaution.

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Safety first—don't work alone

Notify your office/team leader of your location (send GPS co-ordinates)

Drive slowly or walk through affected areas checking for animals

Check bodies carefully to ensure animals are dead

Emergency slaughter animals where necessary and without delay

Keep records of what you see, location, GPS co-ordinates, number of animals and your actions

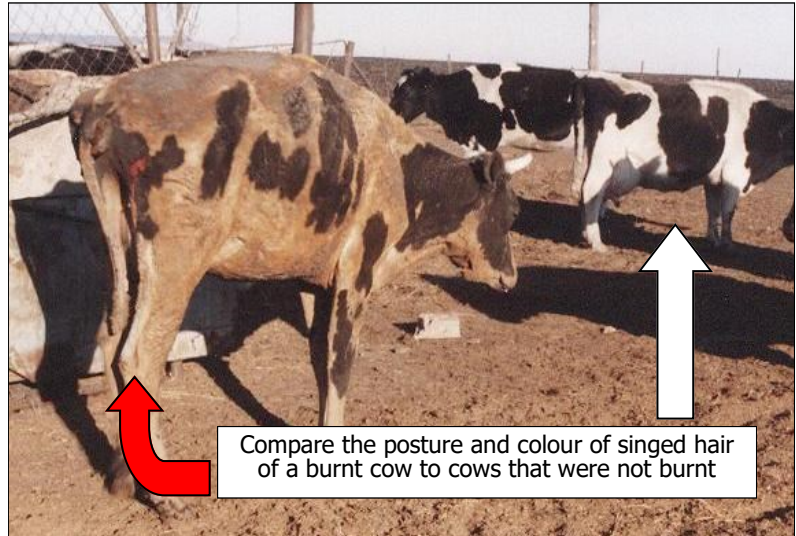
Take photographs of all animals euthanased for legal purposes

Where it is safe to do so—
Check buildings /kraals /poultry cages etc. for surviving or hiding animals or animals returning home

ASSESSING LIVE ANIMALS



A cow with a normal posture, normal wary response to people and glossy coat - good indicators of an animal not burnt



Compare the posture and colour of singed hair of a burnt cow to cows that were not burnt

This cow has been badly burnt and she has been blinded. She has limited movement, is disoriented and in **severe pain**.

Some Warning Signs

Hunched Body posture

Burnt Skin

Veld burnt



Don't assume an animal standing up, or even eating, is unharmed—**check carefully.**

An animal in pain, blinded by the fire will not be able to see what is happening and will rely on hearing and is likely to react erratically and fearfully.

In these cases it is often necessary to use a firearm to destroy the animal from a safe distance because it is not possible to get close enough to safely use a captive bolt.



This cow looked dead but she was still alive

Surviving animals are often taken back to kraals or pens by the owners or staff who hope the animals will be fine. Shock takes effect and the animals collapse—they **appear dead** but are still alive

Severe burns over her whole body.



Emergency slaughter had to be undertaken by an SPCA Inspector to put the cow out of her misery.

Grooves in the soil where the cow has struggled and tried to stand.

Action List - Tick once completed

Found live animal/s	
Check the live animals for:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coat/skin /wool is discoloured Coat/skin/wool is singed/burnt Abnormal breathing Condition of facial and genital areas 	
Check how animal is standing- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal alert position Animal is quiet and still Animal is lying down Animal is standing with head down/or the body position is not normal 	
Undertook emergency slaughter where necessary	
Left warnings for immediate vet. attention where necessary	
Checked carcasses	
Ensured animals are dead	

ANIMAL MOVEMENTS AND WHERE TO SEARCH



Explain to farmers you need to check on staff housing— even if they say everything is fine - go and look for yourself. Often they will only be aware of property loss, human loss or injury and staff may not mention a burnt dog to an employer



Check all the animals. Other welfare issues can be followed up on later



Staff will often be able to advise you of other staff on other farms needing assistance



Don't forget to check inside poultry cages.

Ask about other animals like free range poultry; cats etc

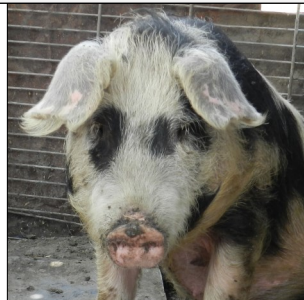


Also check for animals inside homes such as pet snakes, fish, birds and caged rodents



Animals may run from the fire and look for places to hide. They are often terrified and blind or seriously injured and need urgent assistance

Confined animals have little chance to escape



Pigs are susceptible to heat stress and when confined, can die just from the heat of the fire

Animals that are:

- unconscious,
- semi-conscious
- unable to walk
- with extensive burns (i.e. severe burns to more than 15% of the skin or to the face and eyes)
- show severe breathing difficulties

should immediately be euthanased in accordance with legislation, to prevent further suffering



Search all areas thoroughly— animals may hide



Don't assume that because an animal is standing up that they are unharmed

Action List - Tick once completed

Found live animal/s

Searched all obvious areas

Assessed each animal

Checked the live animals for:-

- Coat/skin /wool singed or burnt
- Abnormal breathing
- Burnt face, feet or genitals

Check how the animal is standing

- Normal alert position
- Animal is quiet and still
- Animal is lying down
- Animal is standing with head down/or the body position is not normal
- Normal response to noise and flight zone

Identified owners where possible

Euthanased animals where necessary



TYPICAL INJURIES

Heat from fire on the testicles may negatively affect the fertility of the animal



Owners may want to try and save stud animals but they must get a veterinarian in to treat the animals. Follow up to ensure animals are responding. If not, the euthanasia must be undertaken.

Ensure that surviving young, which have lost their mothers, are old enough to eat/drink by themselves or provision is made for bottle feeding



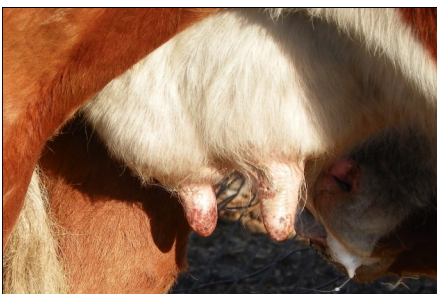
Smoke inhalation is the initial cause of death in many animals. Survivors may further suffer from heat and smoke damage to the respiratory tract. Listen for animals with abnormal breathing or difficulty in breathing and assist them.

Pregnant animals may hide and seek a place to give birth - stress may trigger labour.

Working with the vet and or famer, if the mother is suffering she must be put down and the young (if full term) can be delivered immediately by the vet/farmer

Where mothers with young have to be euthanased, ensure (where possible) to put the mother down first, to minimise her distress with her young being destroyed

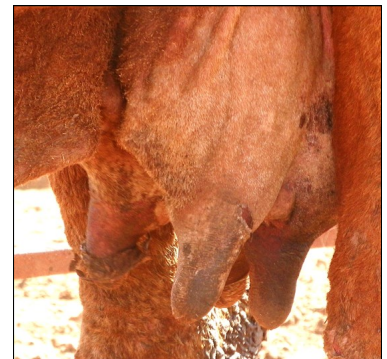
Normal, healthy cow udder



Burnt teats in a heifer



Lactating cow with damaged udder



Burnt teats



Teats that have been burnt and are peeling off

Udders and teats are very sensitive—if they have been burnt, the damage is such that the animal is unlikely to ever be able to feed young again

In some cases farmers may want to keep burnt female animals alive if they are feeding young. If they have been severely burnt or there is burn damage to the udder or teats, they should be destroyed and the farmer can hand-raising or foster the young.

Young cannot be allowed to feed from a mother with a burnt udder

TYPICAL INJURIES

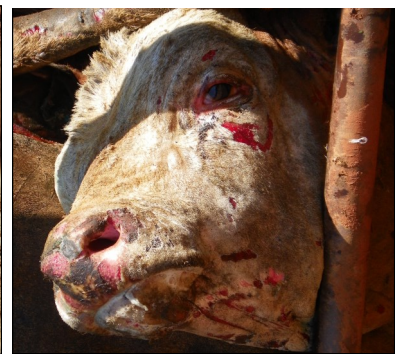


Look for hoof damage. Where the hoof is separating from the foot, the animal should be destroyed. The animal will not be able to walk and this will not heal



Skin of burnt animals is leathery to the touch, hair is burnt off, there is no softness or natural wrinkles

In animals that survive the initial fire, burns to the eyes, face and feet are key areas to check



Blind animals, like this zebra, have no chance of recovering and a marksman should be called in to humanely destroy the animal



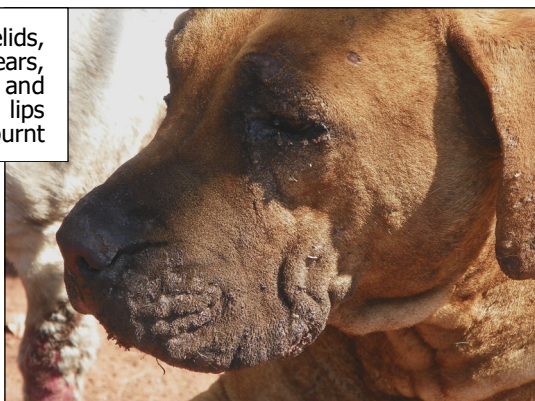
Burn wounds are extremely painful and animals must receive prompt veterinary treatment /appropriate medical treatment or they must be humanely destroyed

Pain relief medication is **strongly recommended** for burnt animals that are under appropriate treatment

DOMESTIC ANIMALS

Inspect all animals—even pets may be burnt so severely that treatment is not feasible and euthanasia is necessary

Eyelids,
ears,
nose and
lips
burnt



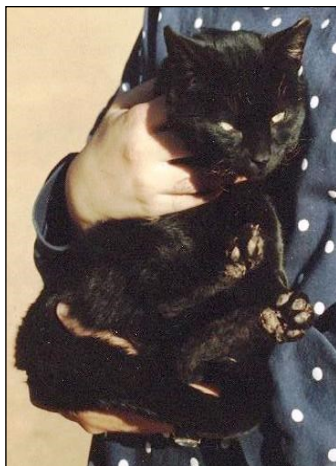
Burnt
skin,
peeling
away in
layers



Hair burnt
off,
exposing
nails and
skin
damage



Pads of
the feet
are burnt
and the
skin has
started
peeling off



Cats can be very vulnerable because they may hide inside a burning building and do not always run away. Death is likely to be caused by smoke inhalation.

Where cats do run away and survive they may return after a few days—check the paws—walking over smouldering ground or buildings results in burnt pads—needing veterinary treatment

Animals who are chained or caged are especially vulnerable as they are unable to escape



If owners report animals missing, advise them to put out food and water and to continue searching. Lost animals will be in need of assistance and rely on the owners to find

If a pet is under veterinary treatment ensure that pain relief is given. Remember that dogs and cats will lick and chew wounds and may lick off creams

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Identify and liaise with owners	
Inspect animals thoroughly	
If owners choose to treat pets ensure they receive veterinary treatment	
Get details of veterinarian	
Get details of treatment including prognosis and pain relief given	
Ensure animals are kept in a clean environment with readily available, appropriate feed and water	
Follow up to monitor progress of animal	

EQUINE

Horses are typically very fearful of smoke and fire, and panic easily. They should be moved to safety as a priority because they can become very difficult to handle safely if they become panicked.



Horses often seem to suffer significant injuries to the face. Eyes, lips and nostrils will be extremely sensitive and veterinary treatment must be given if the owner decides to treat burnt animals



Equine can become easily confused and panicked with smoke; however sometimes they are able to escape the fire and may return days later. Even burnt and blind animals often find their way home, following familiar paths and smelling for water and food

Owners should also ensure they search for missing animals who may still be alive and suffering. Food and water should be put out in several places and searching should not stop until they are found and assisted



Despite the appearance of being hard and tough remember that hooves are sensitive.

Horses and donkeys that are left standing on ground that has been burnt and is still hot, may develop heat induced laminitis. The prognosis for this condition is very poor, so it is vital that animals are moved to safe areas promptly



On closer inspection this horse had severe burn injuries and had to be humanely euthanased. Don't assume that an animal that is grazing is fine



Action List

Tick off what you have done

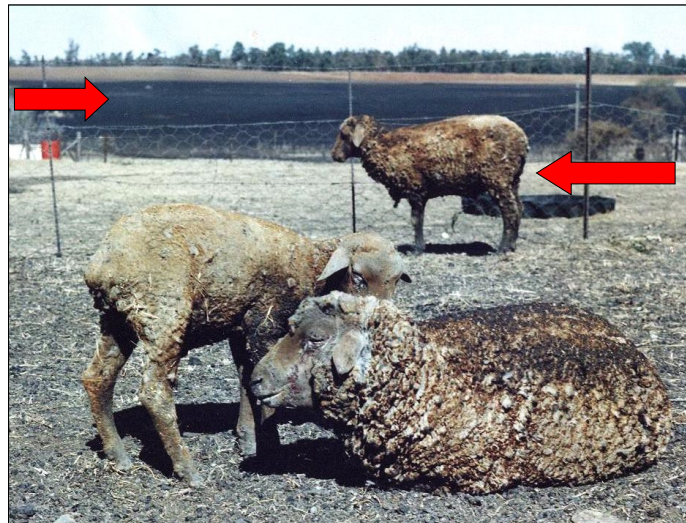
Identify and liaise with owners	
Inspect animals thoroughly	
If owners choose to treat pet donkeys/ horses/ mules then ensure they receive veterinary treatment	
Get details of veterinarian	
Get details of treatment including prognosis and pain relief given	
Ensure animals are kept in a clean environment with readily available, appropriate feed and water	
Follow up to monitor progress of animal	

SHEEP

Sheep may be caught in the fire when out grazing, they may burn to death or die of smoke inhalation

Note the burnt fleece and discolouration on the legs. Importantly note the burnt faces, hunched posture, inability to stand

Don't delay in euthanasing suffering animals



Typically surviving sheep are brought back into camps near the farmhouse.

Inspect these animals individually to assess their condition

Sheep may huddle together and die in a group from smoke inhalation or suffocation. Check thoroughly though because sometimes there are survivors in this pile.

Thorough examination reveals burn wounds over areas not covered by the wool

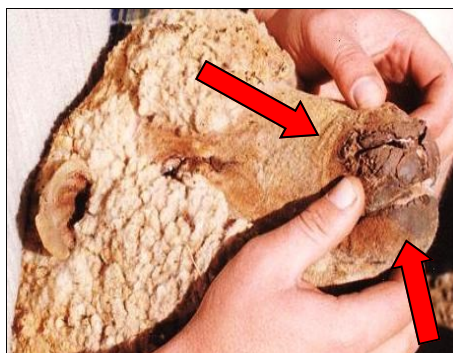


Goats will attempt to run and escape from a fire

With the exception of the wool damage — goats and sheep have similar problems when burnt

Animals that are tied up, chained or confined have no chance to run or escape from the fire and are totally reliant on humans to either protect them or release them.

Although wool is a good insulator it does not cover the whole body



Sheep carcasses piled on a trailer for removal

Because sheep are small enough to be picked up and put on vehicles, burnt sheep are sometimes loaded into vehicles and owners try and take them for informal sale. Ensure that sheep are destroyed before being moved

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Check sheep in open lands—they may be down but not dead

Check sheep in kraals

Check sheep individually for:

1. Downers
2. Burnt eyes/faces
3. Burnt hooves
4. Burns on non-wooled parts of the body
5. Abnormal breathing

Ensure no burnt live sheep are transported

Follow up to monitor progress where animals are treated

POULTRY

Poultry caught in fire often, but not always, die. Birds kept in cages may die or suffer from smoke inhalation



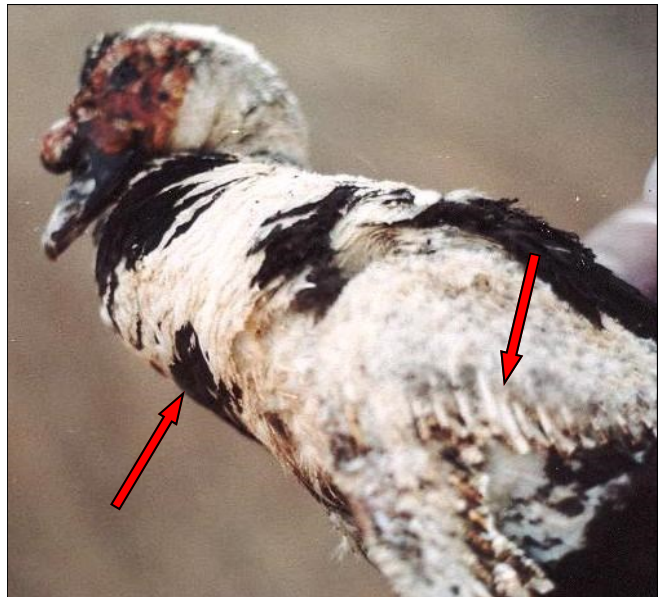
Birds walking on burnt ground may have damage to feet—especially with water-fowl who have sensitive webbed feet



Facial damage—burnt eyes, bill, feathers and sensitive facial tissue



Nesting birds may die on their nests if they are incubating eggs; or they may flee but return to their eggs—as with the goose whose eggs have burnt



Burnt/singed/melted feathers are obvious on burnt birds

Most domestic fowl cannot truly fly and cannot move fast enough to escape a fire (or escape at all if caged).

Check cages thoroughly and inspect all the birds.
Check for injured or burnt birds hiding.

Look for swollen eyes and listen for coughing or abnormal breathing as a result of smoke inhalation.

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Check poultry cages

Ask if all the poultry are present or if some are missing

Check poultry individually and look for:

1. Hiding birds
2. Listen for coughing
3. Burnt /singed feathers
4. Singed feathers
5. Burnt feet
6. Burnt faces

Ensure, where necessary, that burnt birds are humanely euthanased

Ensure food and water is available, damage to cages is repaired and that surviving, unharmed birds have shelter and protection

Advise owners on looking for missing birds

WILD ANIMALS

Wild animals will usually try and flee from fire. However, their success in escaping will depend on the speed of the fire, how fast the animals can move and if there are fences blocking their escape.



Some wild animals may be caught in the fire and die. Others may survive but are so seriously injured they need to be humanely destroyed to prevent further suffering



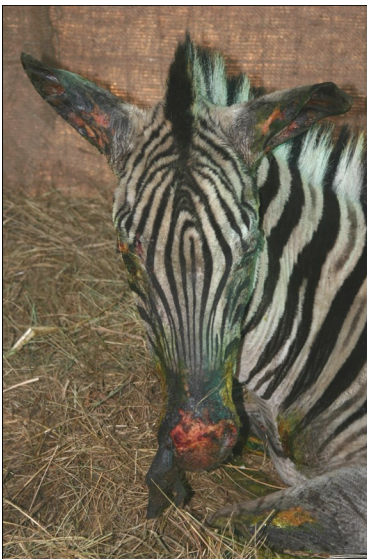
Because they are slow, tortoises are often caught in fires. Depending on their injuries they may recover if taken promptly to an approved rehabilitation centre



Some species of wild birds may be brought in for feet burns as a result of standing or landing on ground still hot from the fire



Smaller animals may have little chance to escape



Wild animals require specialist treatment and remember they are not domesticated, so housing and handling is extremely stressful and can kill them

Don't forget to check for the little animals as you walk through the veld



Some animals hide in burrows—check these carefully—SAFETY FIRST!

Feed and water should be supplied for surviving animals in several, easily accessible areas



Handle wild animals as little as possible

Especially with endangered species, liaise with owners prior to handling

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Identify affected animals	
Inspect animals thoroughly (but remember stress, such as handling, kills wild animals)	
Liaise with owners/nature conservation about appropriate actions (i.e. treatment or euthanasia)	
Ensure euthanasia is undertaken promptly	
Liaise with a wildlife expert	
Follow up to and monitor progress of animal	

FOLLOW UP INSPECTIONS AND ACTIONS



Animals surviving the fire will have no grazing in areas that have been burnt. So they will need to have ready and easy access to supplementary feed and fresh water.

Watering holes should be checked daily for at least 10 days—burnt survivors that were lost often try and find their way to water. These burnt survivors are typically extremely badly injured

In some cases you may assist with taking in emergency food supplies, especially with poor or subsistence farmers, until they are able to arrange the feed/transport



Surviving animals can be assessed daily at the feed stations



When animals come to eat, use the opportunity to inspect them closely to ensure that they are healthy and unharmed.

Follow up inspections are vital to ensure surviving animals are receiving appropriate food, water, care and treatment

Follow up inspections to affected surviving animals should be undertaken daily for the first week

On **follow up** inspections, take special note of hooves that are sloughing off—in these cases destruction is necessary



Shock and secondary infections claim lives of animals for up to three weeks after the fire. Animals that do not respond to treatment or who go down must be destroyed. It is quite common for a number of survivors to go down daily for the first week—this is one of the reasons that **follow up** is vital.

Action List

Tick off what you have done

Inspect affected areas and animals

Inspect food drop off sites

Observe animals at feeding spots to ensure:-

1. Animals are being treated
2. There are no new burnt animals
3. That animals are not losing condition
4. That unweaned animals are receiving the necessary nutrition in the appropriate way (teat & bottle/bucket etc)

Animals are responding to treatment

Animals not responding to treatment are promptly destroyed

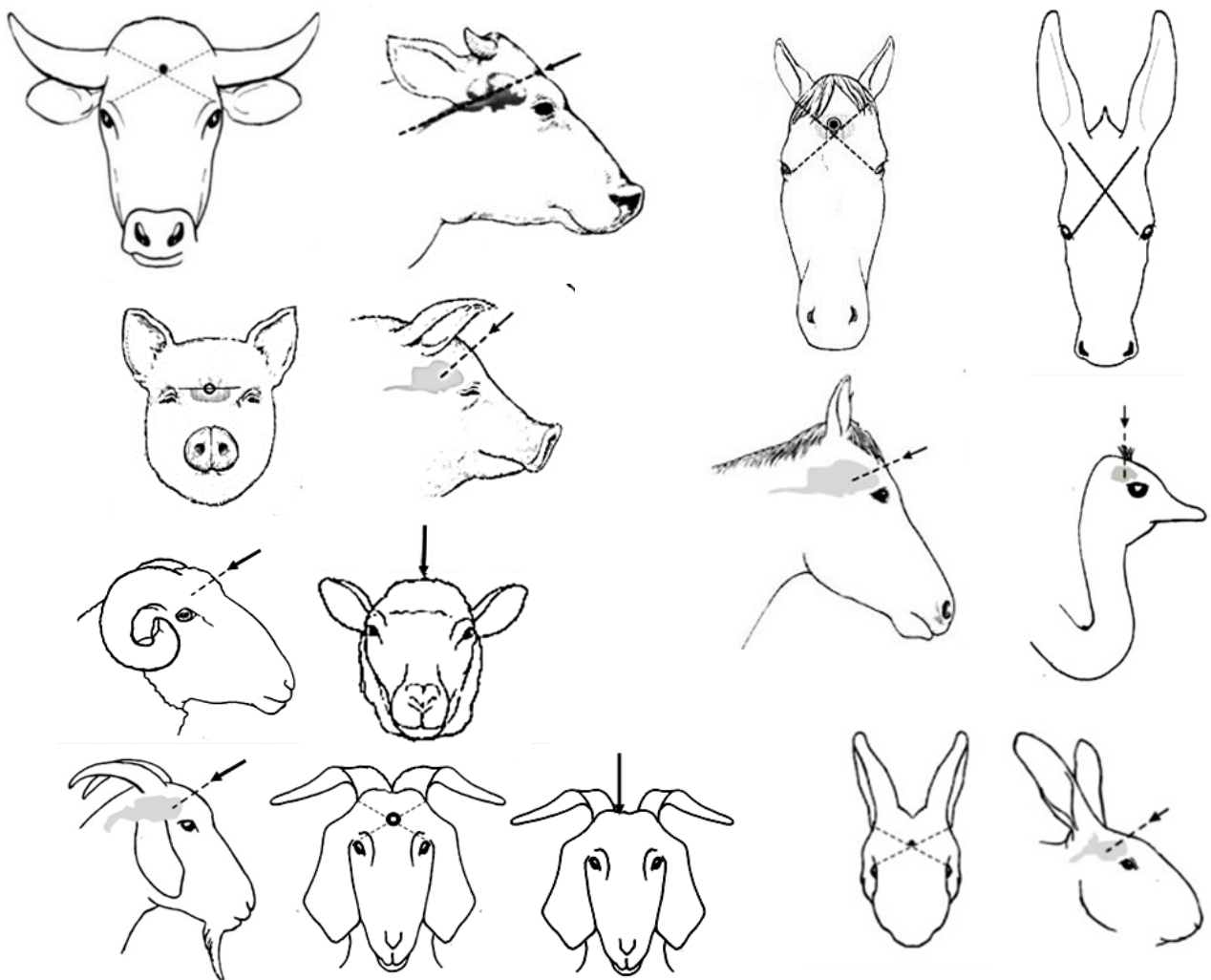
LEGISLATION AND STUNNING POSITIONS

Animals Protection Act No 71 of 1962 Section 5. When police officer may destroy any animal.-

(1) Whenever a police officer is of the opinion that any animal is so diseased or severely injured or in such physical condition that it ought to be destroyed, he shall, if the owner be absent or refuses to consent to the destruction of the animal, at once summon a veterinarian or, if there is no veterinarian within a reasonable distance, two adult persons whom he considers to be reliable and of sound judgment, and if such veterinarian or adult person after having duly examined such an animal certify that the animal is so diseased or so severely injured or in such physical condition that it would be cruel to keep it alive, such police officer may without the consent of the owner destroy the animal or cause it to be destroyed with such instruments or appliances and with such precautions and in such manner as to inflict as little suffering as practicable.

(2) Any police officer who destroys any animal or causes it to be destroyed in the absence of the owner shall, if such owner's name and address are known, advise him of the destruction, and where the destruction of any animal takes place on any public place or public road shall, subject to the provisions of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No.35 of 1984), remove the carcass or cause it to be removed therefrom.

Take photographs and video footage, record names and contact details of witnesses, follow the directions of the Act, report destruction at the nearest SAPS office and obtain an OB number. Follow up according to law.



Shooting and Stunning must only be undertaken by trained and licenced persons who have the knowledge and skills to ensure this is effective and rapid. Remember stunning only renders the animal unconscious and they must be immediately and effectively bled with a large sharp knife, after effective stunning.

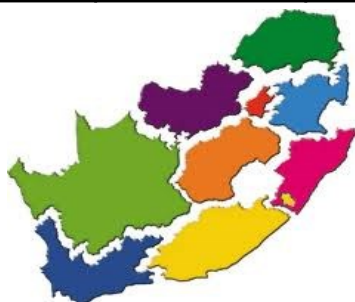


SPCA Contact Numbers



GAUTENG:	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Alberton	011 907 1568	065 616 9004
Benoni	011 894 2814/5	073 511 2261
Boksburg	011 916 5906/7	083 763 6311
Brakpan	011 742 2007	083 696 9052
Carletonville	018 788 6262	064 752 6035
Tshwane (Centurion)	012 664 5644	082 807 5671
Edenvale	011 974 9387	072 183 9794
Germiston & Bedfordview	011 825 5033	082 675 0072
Heidelberg	016 342 4114	071 994 9960
Johannesburg	011 681 3600	083 604 1172
Kempton Park	011 975 6537/8	079 509 7859
Midrand	011 265 9935	083 441 1564/5
Nigel	084 485 7029	084 485 7020
Randburg	011 462 1610	083 381 4732
Randfontein	011 412 3114	078 911 0538
Roodepoort	011 672 0448	076 070 1400
Sandton	011 444 7730	082 460 2765
Springs	082 668 5230	083 377 7029
Tshwane (Waltloo)	012 803 5219	083 453 3863
Vanderbijlpark	016 422 1505	083 292 5862
Vereeniging	016 422 1505	083 292 5862
Westonaria	011 412 3114	078 911 0538

NORTHERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Kimberley	053 831 7625	082 376 7679



FREE STATE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Bethlehem	058 303 3998	083 629 6403
Bloemfontein	051 447 3801	078 322 8332
Kroonstad	056 110 0041	071 271 1731
Parys	056 811 3671	072 894 4061
Virginia	079 776 1153	076 114 4788
Welkom	071 403 4876	082 375 7357

WESTERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Beaufort West	072 847 7312	072 847 7312
Cape of Good Hope	021 700 4140	083 326 1604
Franschhoek	083 745 5344	083 745 5344
Garden Route	044 878 1990/3	082 378 7384
Paarl	021 863 2720	082 510 6387
Swartland	022 492 2781	082 414 7153
Swellendam	028 514 2083	084 737 1948
Wellington	021 864 3726	082 905 9184
Winelands	023 615 2241	071 025 7805

LIMPOPO	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Lephalale	079 398 6784	078 499 2645
Letaba	015 307 2611	083 628 9257
Louis Trichardt	082 965 5151	082 965 5151
Mokopane	015 491 3661	076 538 6291
Phalaborwa	015 781 2415	082 494 2147
Polokwane	015 291 1088	082 804 0065

NORTH WEST	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Mafikeng	018 381 0374	079 018 9552
Rustenburg	014 592 3181	072 933 7723

MPUMALANGA	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Bethal	017 647 5360	072 573 3122
Highveld Ridge	082 869 2350	082 222 1122
Nelspruit	013 753 3582	082 755 8687
Middelburg	013 246 1201	084 432 6278
White River	013 750 0240	082 706 1240
Witbank	013 650 2321	083 657 2421

KWAZULU NATAL	OFFICE NO:	EMERGENCY No:
Amanzimtoti	031 904 2424/5	072 122 7288
Dundee & District	034 212 2851	072 949 6235
Durban & Coast	031 579 6500	083 212 6103
Empangeni	071 174 4746	083 482 3866
Eshowe	087 802 1737	078 306 1439
Greytown	072 096 9634	072 096 9634
Kokstad	039 727 3092	083 207 2447
Kloof & Highway	031 764 1212/3	073 335 9322
Lower South Coast	039 312 0962	083 222 6355
Mooi River & District	033 263 1526	083 385 0807
Newcastle	079 246 1175	072 337 0347
Pietermaritzburg	033 386 9267/8/9	083 627 9736
Richards Bay	035 753 2086	073 551 4564
Umngeni (Howick)	033 330 4557	082 567 8297

EASTERN CAPE	OFFICE No:	EMERGENCY No:
Amahlathi	043 683 1414	072 356 4565
Assissi	042 295 2814	073 121 8963
East London	043 745 1441	083 446 8682
Graaff-Reinet	049 891 0256	072 123 1722
Grahamstown	046 622 3233	064 820 8496
King William's Town	043 643 6008	082 255 4991
Mthatha	047 004 0014	083 759 0576
Port Alfred	081 280 3178	082 676 8605
Queenstown	045 839 2819	082 492 5588
Uitenhage & District	041 992 3016	082 905 4716



NSPCA P.O. Box 1320, Alberton, 1450
Tel: 011 907 3590 Fax: 011 907 4013
e-mail nspca@nspca.co.za www.nspca.co.za

Additional Contacts