

Health of Animals Regulations: Part XII: Transport of Animals- Regulatory Amendment

Interpretive Guidance for Regulated Parties

Appendix 2 – Example contingency plan template

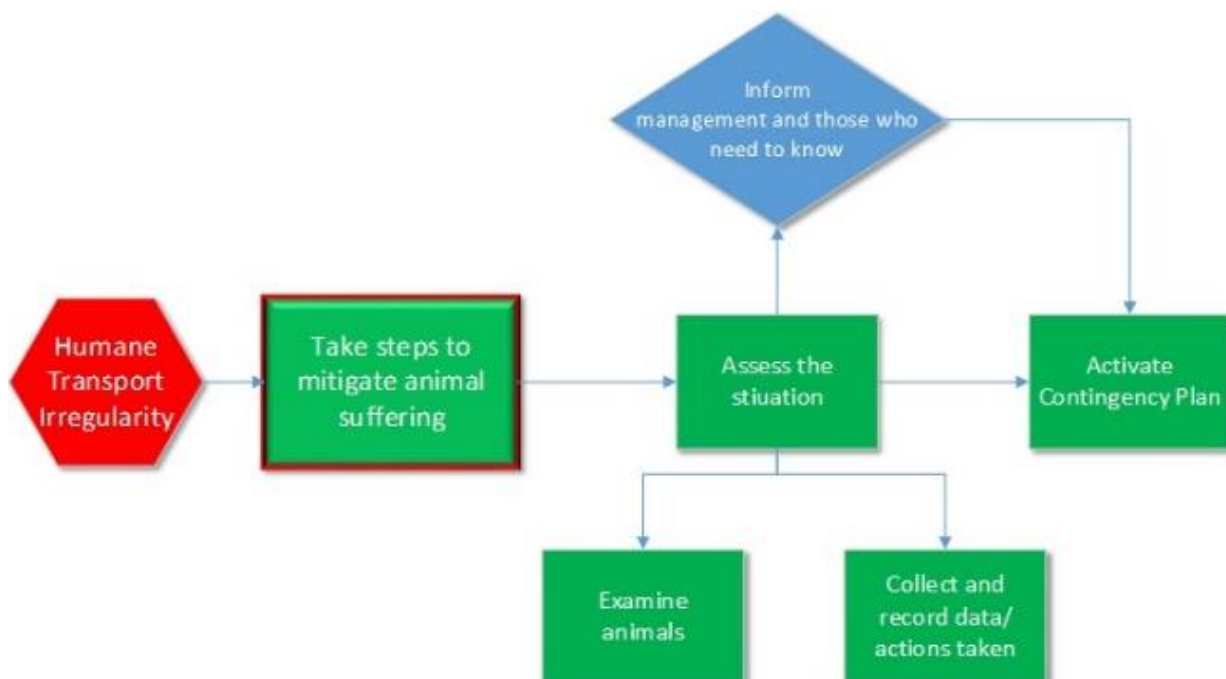
A contingency plan can be verbal or written. Where a non-compliance is identified due to an unforeseen occurrence, such as an accident or road closure, a clear contingency plan may be requested to verify compliance with the HAR. Failure to have a contingency plan is a violation of section 138.2 of the HAR. The plan can be in a number of formats but a written plan will allow for ready access and quick response time.

Provided below is a list of factors to consider when creating a contingency plan and an example of emergency contacts and links to put in a contingency plan (Form 1). As well, an example of a transportation event where a contingency plan would be used is provided (Form 2). These templates may be useful in full or in part depending on type of transporter. The regulated party is not under any obligation to use these. **The specific needs of each transporter and load will need to be considered in the design and content of each unique contingency plan.**

The NFAACC Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle also contains a template for consideration (refer to [Dairy code – Appendix I](#)).

Form 1. Example animal transport contingency plan development template

A contingency plan can take many forms. It is vital that animal transport companies keep animal welfare top of mind and keep their cargo moving in the face of obstacles and challenges. Being prepared with clear contingency plans and communication strategies will safeguard the animals in your care and help your organization remain agile during unforeseen challenges. An effective game plan helps you take care of your team, the animals in your care and your clients, with minimal disruption.



Text version

Company Name (s)

Address of the company:

Driver has been briefed on the contingency plan **YES** Box **NO** Box

Driver humane transport training Box

Type _____

Expiry date _____

GOAL STATEMENT (this is an example, customize to reflect your companies contingency planning goals): **Take action to protect animals from suffering , injury and death in the event of emergency or change in plans. Human safety and animal welfare are our highest priority.**

Communication plan:

Who must be contacted when a situation is identified?

Who will activate the required contingency procedures?

Expected preparation process – What carriers should do prior to loading of animals

Select only healthy animals that are fit for transport, document unusual situations and the actions that you took to protect animal welfare.

- Check vehicle and equipment (standard trip inspection items: tires, hydraulics, air brake system, exhaust system, vents and ventilation systems, tarps, barriers and gates, vehicle clean, flooring is in good condition, no sharp protrusions or animal hazards, fuel, auxiliary generator, feed and watering stems working, emergency equipment on board). Note defects.
- Assess animals prior to loading. Fit for transport?
- Check last known (and next projected) Feed , Water, Rest times (FWR)
- Record keeping: document all actions you have taken/concerns you have related to welfare

Standard animal monitoring process_ en route (this will vary with species, class of animal , length and type of transport, weather, other risk factors – **adjust as needed for your organization**).

- Walk-around inspection done every at least every _____hours, or _____kms
- Check for down animals (non-ambulatory)
- Observe animals, note abnormal or unusual signs or concerns
- Re-evaluate / assess for fitness to transport
- Other

Potential hazards/ events/ challenges or deviations:

Carriers should be familiar with **what actions they are expected to take** if they encounter these situations, possible disruptions or challenges. The list for each company will vary, this is a suggestion. Adjust as required to suit your organization.

- Animals on the load are un-settled (incompatible, fighting, falling)
- Animal becomes ill, compromised or unfit while en route
- Animal requires euthanasia
- Traffic accident
- Vehicle breakdown
- Equipment failure
- Encounter extreme temperatures (hot or cold)
- Weather changes
- Delay in journey
- Cannot use the intended route (road closure, natural disaster, accident)
- Cannot go to the intended destination (natural disaster, plant closure, delay in processing, FWR needed)
- Driver illness
- Encountered hazardous road conditions (sudden braking, tight cornering, unusually bumpy stretch)
- The documentation you need is not available or you have concerns about a load
- If unsure regarding fitness for transport
- **Other situations that apply to your company**

Potential carrier actions to ensure human and animal safety – These are examples of possible actions to consider in response to challenges that may be encountered. The appropriate decisions and actions taken in any given situation will vary depending on the nature of the disruption and the circumstance. Choose only those that are appropriate.

- Communicate situation up and down stream (keep others in the supply chain informed)
- Evaluate time lines and adjustments needed to transport schedule
- Isolate/segregate animals
- Encourage animals to get up
- Animal humanely euthanized
- Remove affected animals

- Provide additional bedding
- Provide water/ provide wet feed
- Wet down bedding
- Provide shade
- Increase passive ventilation if forced to stop/ position vehicle in cross wind
- Adjust ventilation (reconfigure vents and fans)
- Adjust tarps
- Repair tarps
- Temporary repairs to conveyance needed to prevent injury
- Transfer to temporary holding to allow redistribution/reduce load density
- Transfer to another vehicle or back up driver
- Other

Example contingency plan: emergency contacts/ services providers and links (can send with driver)

Producer / source emergency contact

Receiver / consignee contacts (and emergency contacts)

Company emergency contacts:

- Dispatch
- Supervisor
- Herd/flock veterinarian
- Preferred repair company/ mechanic en route
- Preferred towing company
- Back up driver
- Nearest place where animals could be unloaded or re-routed if needed.

Crisis contact numbers to consider including in your contingency planning:

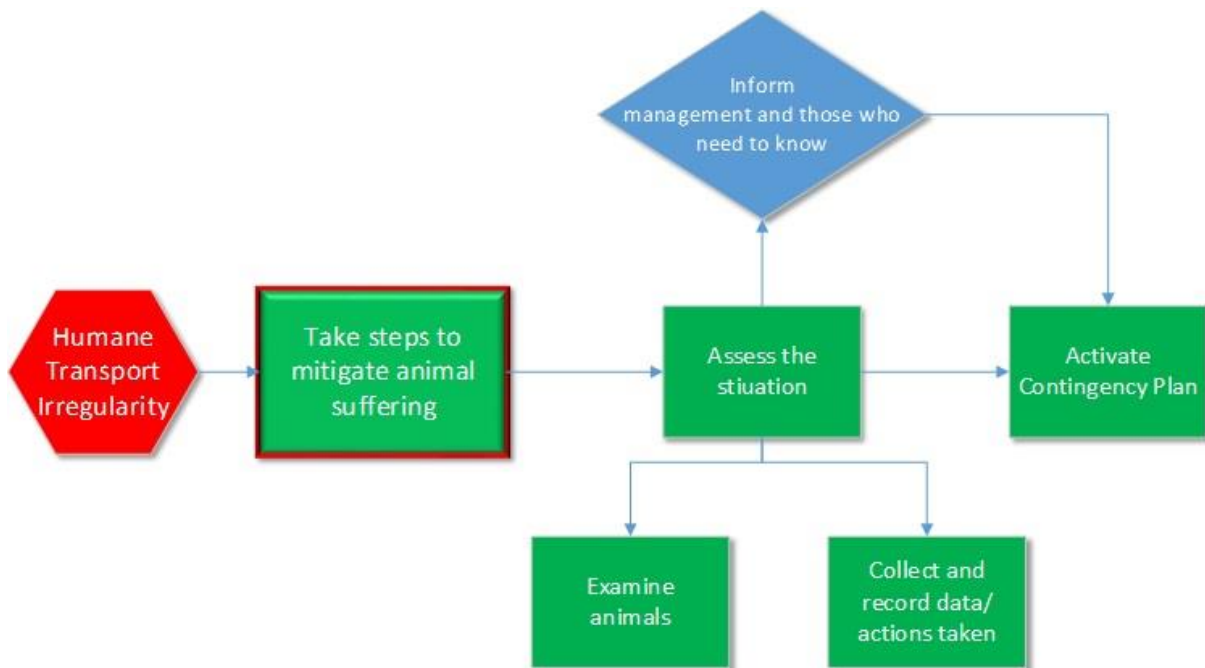
- RCMP
- Local police
- CFIA district offices
- CFIA at intended slaughter facility
- Provincial regulator contact(s)
- Veterinary contacts en-route
- Emergency responders
- Livestock emergency contacts
- Animal euthanasia experts
- Animal handling expertise
- Deadstock collection service company
- Other numbers specific to your company or situation

Industry related links and websites to consider including in your contingency planning

- Highway hotline numbers and web sites
- Routes international website
- CFIA humane transport website
- Provincial animal welfare regulation website
- Current weather conditions website
- The weather network website
- Map quest/ google maps/ yahoo maps links
- Link to species specific NFACC code of practice and transport code
- Livestock traffic emergency information website
- Other

Form 2. Example contingency plan event documentation form: a blank copy could be provided to carriers to document their actions when a contingency plan is activated

GOAL STATEMENT (this is an example, customize to reflect your companies contingency planning goals): **Take action to protect animals from suffering, injury and death in the event of emergency or change in plans. Human safety and animal welfare are our highest priority**



Text version

Company name and contact details

Date _____

Driver briefed on the contingency plan **YES** Box **NO** Box

Producer (or animal source) emergency contacts²

Receiver/ consignee emergency contacts

Transport challenge/ irregularity / deviation identified by carrier

Animal welfare related actions taken by carrier

Carrier's communication activities: refer to contact lists

Who was contacted/informed?

Contact made by:

Time?

- Radio to dispatch
- Text
- Automated system
- Email
- Telephone

Who?

It can be helpful to (briefly) document your understanding of decisions that were made or instructions that were given to you.

Load information (OR attach copy to Animal Transport Record already in place or file number)

1. Preloading assessment of load:

All animals were fit for transport **YES** Box **NO** Box if no, fill out section below or attach copy of Animal Transport Record (or file number)

- Animals identified as compromised at loading and actions taken

2. Routine Animal Monitoring procedures followed during transport process:

All animal OK **YES** Box **NO** Box if no, fill out section below OR attach copy of Animal Transport Records (or file number)

Time _____ Location _____

Document the transport deviation or challenge identified, include: Description of event, contingency actions you took to prevent additional animal suffering, identification of animals involved, who you informed/consulted and/or any additional concerns or comments you have:

Source: *Health of Animals Regulations: Part XII: Transport of Animals-Regulatory Amendment Interpretive Guidance for Regulated Parties*

<https://inspection.canada.ca/animal-health/humane-transport/health-of-animals-regulations-part-xii/eng/1582126008181/1582126616914#app2>