

## R6 Animal Rescues (NCI 15)

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### ***Purpose***

This document provides for:

- NZFS attendance at animal rescues (although callers referred to the SPCA as the primary rescue agency).

### **Instructions for Animal Rescues**

#### ***Executive Officers' responsibilities***

A procedure on animal rescue will be issued when, in the opinion of the Chief Fire Officer, it is relevant to the Fire District.

Fire Region Managers will ensure that every Fire District in the Fire Region has, where relevant, a procedure in accordance with this instruction.

Local procedures will take into account:

- response to this type of incident
- crew safety
- health checks in the event of an animal bite or contact with contagious substances
- tactics
- equipment requirements
- command and control
- response of other expert agencies
- use of personal protective clothing
- scene safety
- working in rough terrain
- appliance availability for other emergencies.

## Hazard Identification and Control: Animal Rescues

### Hazard control

All hazards will be controlled by eliminating, isolating where elimination is impracticable, or minimising, using one or more of the control methods given in the following table:

### Animal rescues

Hazards	Control measures
<b>Approaching the site</b>	
<p><i>Significant hazards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• difficult terrain</li> <li>• weather conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vehicles only taken off hard standing if conditions permit</li> <li>• provide protection from weather for staff involved</li> </ul>
<b>Conducting the rescue</b>	
<p><i>Significant hazards:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unpredictable behaviour of animals</li> <li>• microbial infection</li> <li>• site of the rescue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• all personnel to be trained in the conditions to be encountered and the safe practices required when working at animal rescues</li> <li>• brief crews on incident action plan and safety measures</li> <li>• cordon off hot zone</li> <li>• restrain the animal/s where appropriate</li> <li>• secure an escape route</li> <li>• use PPE /barrier gloves</li> <li>• personal hygiene</li> <li>• light scene where applicable</li> <li>• follow the advice of expert agencies</li> <li>• seek veterinary support</li> <li>• identify best skills among crew members for the job</li> <li>• appoint a Safety Officer</li> </ul>