

Developing movement decision criteria and exercising movement plans for livestock grazing public land allotments in and around FAD control areas through collaboration with industry, state, and federal partners

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Introduction

- In a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak, sheep and cattle owners face unique challenges to mitigate disease exposure risks on **public land allotments**
 - Current Secure Sheep and Wool Supply (SSWS) and Secure Beef Supply (SBS) guidance does not address nuances for ranchers with livestock grazing public lands
- This project sought to explore these complexities and provide guidance documents for industry and decision makers to support animal movement decisions in an FMD outbreak
 - Project is **funded by the USDA National Animal Disease Preparedness and Response Program (NADPRP)** from March 2022 to February 2024

Gap Analysis Topics

- Movement to/from public lands impacted by external factors (weather, forage availability, natural disasters, others)
- Exposure risks (common-use roads, recreationalists, wildlife, others)
- Communication practices between agencies AND agencies to producers

Objectives

- **Create an advisory group** to contribute to, review, and exercise guidance documents and promote awareness within their respective industry or agency segment. *Status: Completed*
 - Public land ranchers (CO, MT, ND, NM, NV, OR, UT) - *Representing 22,000 grazing permittees*
 - Federal land management agencies (Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service)
 - Wildlife agencies (USDA Wildlife Services, US Fish & Wildlife Service)
 - State Animal Health Officials (CO, CA, NV)
 - USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
 - Associations (ASI, NCBA, Public Lands Council)
- **Develop guidance documents** for sheep and cattle grazing public land allotments that addresses managing exposure risks
 - Provide actionable details to guide industry and decision makers on animal movement strategies during an FMD outbreak
 - Make documents available on the SSWS and SBS Plans websites. *Status: In progress*
- **Conduct two different discussion-based exercises** to create the inter-jurisdictional guidance and obtain consensus on an effective animal movement plan to/from public land grazing in an FMD Control Area that aligns with the goals of the USDA FMD Response Plan and Secure Food Supply Plans. *Status: Completed*

Impact of Guidance

- Advisory group evaluated movement scenarios and identified gaps in current movement guidance during and FMD outbreak
 - Reached consensus on 3 movement options and 5 movement decision criteria
- Resources created for **producers and decision makers** will include:
 - Updated Movement Decisions Criteria document (Executive Summary)
 - Updated Normal Management Practices/FMD Exposure Risks document
 - FMD Exposure Questionnaire
 - Just-in-time biosecurity steps
- A **“Public Lands” page under the PRODUCER and REGULATORY OFFICIALS will be created on the SSWS and SBS websites** (expect in 2024)

Project Team:

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