NIMS
National Incident Management System

http://www.fema.gov/nims/

Dr. Rick Riesland
Homeland Security Presidential Directive #5 (HSPD-5)

- Issued on Feb. 28, 2003
- Brought about by the events of Sept. 11, 2001
- Addresses the subject: Management of Domestic Incidents
National Response Plan to be Created

- Single, comprehensive national approach to encompass all hazards.

- HSPD-5 requires all Federal departments and agencies to adopt NIMS AND USE IT.
NIMS Was Created

- Utilized concept of NIIMS (National Interagency Incident Management System) developed by the Forest Service.
- Provided template to enable effective and efficient working relationships for all incidents.
Other HSPD-5 Features

- NIMS to be adopted by all grant recipients by FY05.
- Attorney General has lead role in terrorist investigations.
- Sec. of Defense to give military support to local authorities as directed by the President.
Taming NIMS

- Principles
  - Flexible framework
  - Standardized organizational structure
- Top Down approach
  - Gets “Feds” in on the ground floor of an investigation of a Terrorist Event
  - ICS is really Bottom Up
  - Can be Horizontal
NIMS Components

- Command and Management
- Preparedness
- Resource Management
- Communications and Information Management
- Supporting Technologies
- Ongoing Management and Maintenance
Command and Management

- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACS)
- Public Information Systems
Incident Command System Features

- Flexible
- Common Terminology (position titles)
- Manageable span of control
- Relies on IAP
- Integrated communications
- Organizational resources
- Accountability
Incident Action Plan

- Provide Communication on operations and support activities
- 12 to 24 hour operational periods
- Management by objective
ICS Accountability

- Orderly chain of command
- Check-in for all responders
- Only one supervisor for each individual
Unified & Area Command
Variations to ICS

- Unified Command is used when more than one agency is responding or incident crosses political jurisdictions.
- Area Command is used to oversee multiple incidents.
Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACS)

- Used for incidents that are large scale and require high-level resource and information management.
- May include facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, communications (PIO)
- Support incident management priorities
Emergency Operations Centers (EOC)

- Part of MACS
- Coordinate information and resources
- Typically established at the local and state level
Public Information Systems

- PIO advises Incident Command on all public information matters related to the incident
- JIC (Joint Information Center)
  - Location where PIO staff performs
Preparedness

- Planning
- Training & Exercises
- Personnel Qualification & Certification Equipment Certification
- Mutual Aid
- Publications Management
Resource Management

- NIMS establishes standardized requirements to:
  - Describe
  - Inventory
  - Mobilize
  - Dispatch
  - Track
  - Recover
Communication & Information Management

- NIMS identifies standardized requirements
- Incident Management Communications—between agencies
- Information management enhances incident response if effective
Supporting Technologies

- Voice and Data Communication Systems
- Information Management Systems
- Data display systems
- Others that help refine the NIMS and make it successful
Management & Maintenance

- Routine review & refinement
- Long term
  - NIC (NIMS Integration Center)
The End

Rick Riesland, DVM
at 5353 Yellowstone Rd., #209
Cheyenne, WY 82009
rick.riesland@aphis.usda.gov
307/772.2186