

Large Animal Technical Rescue:

Preparing for Large Animal Rescue and
Protecting the Rescuer



Goals

- Spur thought, interest and enthusiasm
- Understand behavior and animals response
- General and critical concepts
- Some manipulation techniques
- Understand the tools necessary to manage and assist with trailer incidents



Disclaimer

- Not all inclusive, very limited scope
- Some images will be graphic involving injuries to people, horses and cattle
- Special thanks to:
 - National Farm Medical Center



Why?



Check the Date



Moscow, Circa 1900



AP Photo by John Bazemore



image by best animal photo of the year 2012





By Julie Reischel



© EuroPic[s]CENJ



By Steve Sisney



Image by KATU





Why should we care?

- Increase the safety of our staff and community
- Improve the health and safety of our animals
- Protect yourself and others from unnecessary financial loss
- Increase our communities' emergency capabilities
 - Disasters occur at a local level
 - Fire, Ice, Auto, Natural, Technical



Why should we care?

- 1st Responders have Incident Response Priorities
 - Life Safety
 - Incident stabilization
 - Preservation of property and the environment
 - Value of the animals



Why should we care?

- NFPA 1670-2014 Edition & 2017 Edition
 - Standard on Operations and Training for Technical Search and Rescue Incidents
 - Chapter 9
- Covers Animal Technical Rescue
 - Gives guidelines for Awareness level, Operations level, Technician Level



Fire/Rescue services are well suited:

- Comfortable with hazardous situations
- Crossover training/experience
 - ICS
 - Confined space
 - Slow and swift water
 - Rope: High/low angle
 - Decontamination
- Have equipment and personnel



Stakeholders in Large Animal Rescue

- Animal professional/care giver
- Owner
- Veterinarian
- Law Enforcement
- Fire/emergency response
- Press/Media
- Good Samaritan



General Concepts



Large Animal Behavior

- Are prey animals
- Are herd-based animals
 - Can be used to our advantage (sometimes)
- Aggression and fear are motivational factors that produce "fight" or "flight"
- Unpredictable due to stress or pain
- A main concern in life is food
 - Can be used to our advantage



Understanding the Animal

- Read an animal to anticipate its behavior
- Pay attention to the
 - Ears: position and movement
 - Eyes: expression
 - Head: elevation and movement
 - Stance: leg posture and position
 - Tail: movement and posture



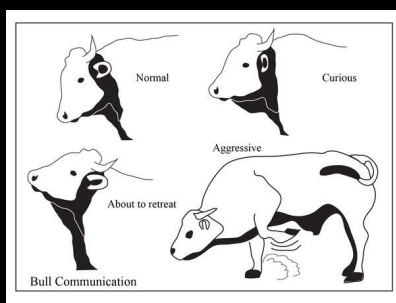
Read your Patient



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Cattle Body Language



Why These Senses and Behavior Matter

- Arrival & Approach to scene
- Reading the horse – Fight or Flight
- Anticipate the animals reactions



Critical Concepts



Think of LAR like Hazmat



On-scene

- Quiet approach
- Low light/noise levels
- Don't rush in
- Scene size-up
- Attend to human injuries first
- IC establishes operation and safety zones, staging areas



Our arrival to the scene of the incident is not calming to the animal!

Thomas Gimenez



Moving trapped/recumbent animals can be immediately dangerous to your life and well being

- In performing this type of procedure you can:
 - Die
 - Be permanently injured
 - Become trapped and a victim yourself



Do's and Don'ts

- Remain calm
- Ask for help
- Think before acting, don't react
 - Size up & situational awareness (360 degrees)
- Utilize ICS
- Don't refuse help or guidance
- "A Rescuer should never become a Victim"





AP Photo By John Bazemore



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Things to Remember

- Containment of animal
- Keep situation calm
 - Animal and Human
- Resist the temptation to put yourself into a compromising position
- Wait for help- you could be the expert
- Use Personal Protection Equipment(PPE)



Plan for containment



Plan for containment



Plan for containment



Simple Containment



By CSP Castle Rock



Less Simple Containment

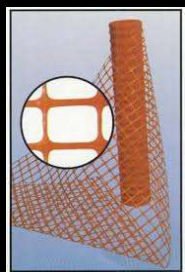


Photo courtesy of Henrico Fire



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Keeping the situation calm

Animal: Feed, Friend, Pharmaceutical, Blindfold



Remove emotional people



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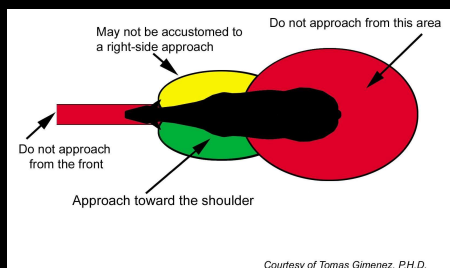


Our Positioning...

- Stay in safety/neutral zones or out of the line of fire
- You can be pushed by the head, hind end, front end and stepped on
- Stay alert, don't be distracted
- Support personnel must be alert, attentive to animal handler, don't cause a distraction



Approaching & Working around a standing horse



Courtesy of Tomas Gimenez, PH.D.

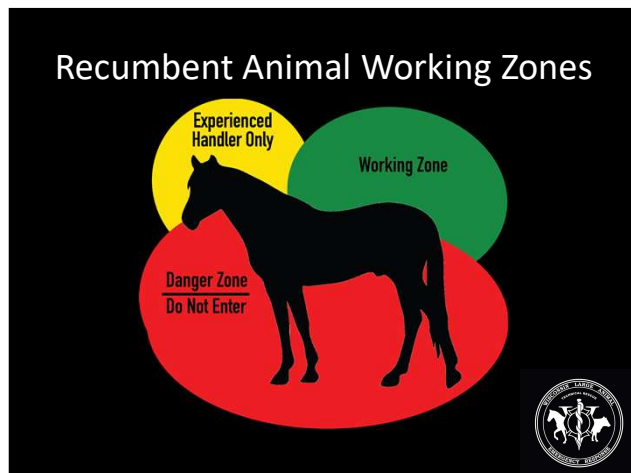


Concepts for working on Cattle

- Cattle want to see you
- Cattle want to move around you
- Cattle want to be with and will go to other cattle
- Cattle want to go back to where they have been
- Cattle can only process one thought at a time

By Curt Pate





Principles

- Don't use the head, tail, or limbs as handles
 - Vertical lift (Surgery) v. Horizontal pull (Trailer)
- Remember your animal's anatomy
- Forces on limbs exponentially increase with friction
- Many of our animals may be in a state where they are unable to "guard" themselves
- You may "rescue" or "move" the body but lose the animal

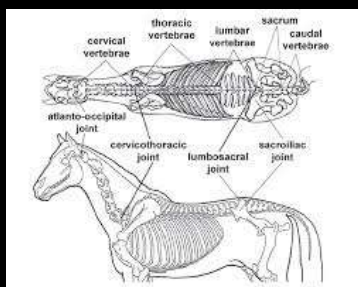


Anatomy

- Determines
 - Equipment access
 - Equipment placement
 - Purchase points for leverage and manipulation
 - Period of time that animal can be recumbent



Anatomy Dictates Equipment Access



Center of Gravity



Strap Placement

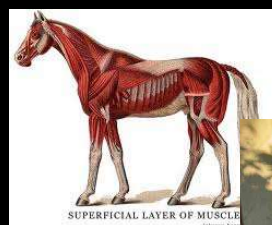


Image by Iron Free Horse



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Do No Harm



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Techniques

- Start with the least technical options
 - Always choose the lowest risk, least technical, fastest means of movement
- Equipment – Many choices (cost and availability)
- Many times proper technique, not muscle, will result in a successful, safe procedure



Equipment



Rescue Strap

- Consists of 3"-4 " synthetic web
- 15-18 feet in length
- Can be purchased from trucking supply
- Can be made from 2½", 3", or 4" hose line
- Loops sewn into the strap at each end



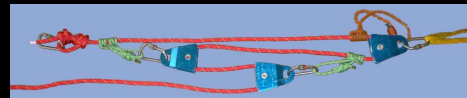
Hooks/Manipulators

- BigEasy, Welded stock, pike poles, paint pole, cane, etc...



Mechanical Systems

Significant training, cost and teamwork needed for successful outcome



Other Odds and Ends

- Rescue Glide
- Knife/bandage scissors
- Webbing
- Rope
 - Multiple 20-30 foot lengths
 - Halters, extension to straps



Examples of some Assist/Drag Techniques

- Rolling a Lateral Recumbent Horse
- Side Assist/Slide
- Rear Assist
- There are others...



Why learn assist techniques?

- Safety, Safety, Safety
 - People and animals
- Increase chance of maintaining health/soundness/production



Rolling the Lateral Recumbent





Side Assist/Drag



Rear Assist/Drag



Side Note: Animals and Ice

- 06' and 07' review of incidents: 85% of rescues & fatalities requiring emergency personnel involvement resulted from humans helping domestic animals



Thank You

Questions?

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