Quick Checklist: Basics for Fire preparedness

Partners in preparedness: Have you established/reinitiated relationships with:

* Local fire department, Local police department, Local EMS, local emergency management, CAL FIRE
* State veterinarian (critical in disease events, but may also be a resource for natural disasters and fire)
* Exotic animal industry facilities within 50 miles[[1]](#footnote-1)
* Non-governmental Organizations
* Facility insurers

Review your Plan elements

* Review your plan, and remember to keep in mind the 3 main objectives of incident management
  + Preserve human life
  + Stabilize the situation
  + Protect animals, property and the environment
* Identify the resources and individuals necessary to implement your plan
* Ensure that the people who are expected to respond know what to do
* Inventory your resources! Determine resources that you need…but don’t have….and discuss how they could be acquired
* Make sure phone lists, and contact lists are updated and as complete as possible
* Determine by what means (internet, text) and with what equipment (radios, cell phones) you will communicate critical information to staff, patrons, vendors, etc.
* Ensure that critical Administrative functions can continue from somewhere, whenever possible
* Determine how critical facility data will be saved and accessed off site
* Determine who and how facility infrastructure will be assessed pre and post incident
* Determine which animals may or may not be evacuated and review how that would be accomplished. Remember, you need a safe place to evacuate to.
* Discuss special needs for a ‘ride out’ team that may be required to remain on grounds. Their safety is paramount.
* Determine/discuss alternative food, and water sources and fuel (incident may prevent deliveries, damage public works, etc.)
* Discuss the unique food supply and storage needs (frozen food, etc.) that may present challenges in prolonged closure or infrastructure damage.

Additional resources

Ensure you are receiving relevant alerts regarding wildfire conditions and activity. Resources from CAL FIRE to consider include:

<http://calfire.ca.gov/communications/socialmedia>

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Ready-for-Wildfire-App/>

Resources for Planning:

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_zones_maps> - Ensure you are aware of the most updated information regarding your wildfire risk.

<https://zahp.aza.org/resources/> - The Zoo Best Practices Working Group documents include many helpful checklists that may be useful for updating the wildfire portions of your plan.

<http://calfire.ca.gov/communications/communications_factsheets> - Fact sheets to assist with wildfire-specific preparation and considerations.

1. Facilities closest to you are important. They will have the closest resources and may be able to dispatch staff to assist (once they are properly trained and credentialed). Remember…if you are planning to evacuate, you need a place to evacuate ‘to’. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)