**Introduction**

In today’s society, first responders may be called to incidents involving large animals. Proper training of best practices and appropriate use of specialized rescue equipment can improve the chances of a successful rescue and minimize risk of injury to both animals and first responders. This reference sheet has been developed as a part of the workshop offered by Equine Guelph. The techniques reflected in the reference sheet should not be attempted without appropriate training. The improper use of the referenced technique(s) can potentially cause serious injury to both first responders and animals.

**Equipment Summary**

![Image of equipment summary]

- 2 working ropes
  - 19mm x 15 metres
  - (3/4” x 50 feet)
- 5 Guide Ropes,
  - 12mm x 6 metres
  - (1/2” x 20 feet)
- 2 Ratchet straps
  - 2” with flat J
- Protection Blanket
- 5 Carabiners
- Storage box
- 2 Emergency Halter
- Main Glide Sheet
- Head Protection
- 2’ or 60cm Prusik Rope
- 4’ - 3’ or 90cm Round slings
- Hobble Restraint Rope
  - (small carabiner & pulley)
- 2 – 30’x4’ webbing
  - (15m x 12-15cm)

Victor MacPherson
Reminders:

Action at Scene

- Establish scene safety
- Establish incident command and operate under the Incident Management System (IMS) framework
- Establish an Incident Action Plan
- Acquire rescue equipment and human resources (i.e. may need a veterinarian on scene or an individual with specific livestock expertise)
- Establish containment facilities

Animal Safety

- Heads, tails and limbs are not handles – DO NOT use them for pulling (serious injury and potentially life threatening injury can result)
- Always protect the animal’s eyes
- Establish and maintain head control at all times.
- Allow a rescued animal the time it needs to stand if it has been rescued from a downed position. DO NOT force it to stand and move.
- Some animals may need sedation prior to performing the rescue to reduce the risk of injury to the animal and responders

Resources

- Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue Inc. (Training) (tlaer.org)
- British Animal Rescue and Trauma Care Association (bartacic.org)
- College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida (Large Animal Rescue Training)
Local Resources:

Veterinarian: _____________________________________________________________

Equine: __________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Livestock: __________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Poultry: ____________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Mutual Aid Department(s): _________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Livestock Hauler(s): _______________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Heavy Tow Operator(s): _____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Heavy Machinery Operator(s): ______________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Fencing Supply Company: ___________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Livestock Specialist(s)(i.e., local producer): __________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________

Equine Guelph thanks the large animal rescue training professionals

for providing and reviewing content.