



# Animal Evac New Zealand NZRT Partnership Programme

## Introduction

Animal Evac New Zealand Trust is the country's only dedicated animal disaster management charity.

We are a stand alone and not influenced by agendas: political, religious, activist or otherwise.

We work with local authorities, civil defence and emergency services to support the humane evacuation of animals alongside the evacuation of people; and establish pet friendly shelters where human evacuation centres have been established to promote keeping families together and safe.

Through the roll-out of flagship 9-hour Foundation Course, we have found many of our volunteers have come from or are with CDEM Response Teams (NZRTs) or similar groups. We have been approached by some organisations asking if there could be some partnership opportunities, especially given the future and functions of some NZRTs remains unclear.

Research clearly shows that failing to evacuate companion animals during emergencies can significantly contribute to evacuation failure or illegal re-entry of pet owners to rescue their animals left behind. The psychosocial impact of pet loss and forced separation or abandonment is also of significance and mainly preventable. Animal inclusive emergency management has a positive effect on saving more human lives, so the function of Animal Evac New Zealand is seriously important for community resilience.

## Options

There a range of options for partnering with Animal Evac NZ, all established through a Memorandum of Understanding. The options include:

- Individual assistance
- Team accreditation
- Team transfer

## Individual Assistance

This is where you release your volunteers to be seconded to Animal Evac NZ. It provides more deployment opportunities to them, especially when your team has not already been activated or is not required. Volunteers report to the Animal Evac NZ commander and all intensive purposes, they are a volunteer under Animal Evac NZ and follow our policies and codes. Such volunteers are added to our D4H Team Management system for updates and call-outs.

## Team Accreditation

This is where your team is accredited by Animal Evac NZ to be called out under a co-branded response. The command of the team remains under your control, however as with the CIMS environment, the team is tasked by the Animal Evac NZ commander. The team is required to have some basic animal management equipment and have at least six people including team leaders who have completed the foundation course, with at least three people including a team leader that have undertaken our foundation course, regardless of specialist track (shelter, field and/or equine).

Your team must maintain accreditation in at least one of the response group requirements, being field response, shelter response, or equine response. With each of these specialisations requiring specific training and equipment (Annex A).

Accredited teams are then licensed whilst they maintain accreditation, to be co-branded (i.e. uniform patch/vests, trailer, vehicles etc, though these may be removeable and affixed during animal evac deployments if this suits the team's management). Accredited teams will be listed on our website as a response partner.

The team leader will have access to our D4H Incident Manager, so tasks can be assigned, and information exchanged during an Animal Evac NZ response.

## Team transfer

There are some NZRTs and similar organisations that during the past few years have experienced less support and the issue of future viability has become a sensitive topic. We have been asked by some NZRT's for us to put the idea out to the NZRT community that if your team is considering winding up, that you consider transferring your team and assets into Animal Evac NZ to form a team under our charitable trust. Many dissolution clauses allow for assets to be transferred to another similar charity if they are to be wound up. In such cases, we can negotiate a solution that works for your volunteers, us and ultimately the community to ensure existing expertise and resources stays in the community for future emergencies. If transferred, existing NZRT's will keep their number suffix i.e. NZRT-13 would become AENZ-13). Our preference is for existing specialist animal rescue teams (i.e. NRU and VERT) to hopefully continue with the support of their owning organisations. Other volunteer teams outside of the NZRT system are welcome to discuss partnering with Animal Evac NZ.

## Further information

For further information visit our website [www.animalevac.nz](http://www.animalevac.nz) or contact:

Steve Glassey, Chairman  
Animal Evac New Zealand Trust

Email [steveg@animalevac.nz](mailto:steveg@animalevac.nz)

## Annex A: Team Accreditation Requirements

### Base requirements

Training	Resources
>6 members attended AENZ Foundation Course	Basket type muzzle set, leads, pet carriers (min. 20 and may be disposable type), dog catch pole (including improvised).
>1 Team Leader attended AENZ foundation course	Basic CIMS documentation/kit

### Field Response

Training	Resources
USAR Awareness or higher	USAR PPE, tools, marking equipment.
Flood Worker Safety or higher	PFDs, helmets, throw bags
Rural Fire Safety	Preferably: Rural Fire PPE
Dog Safety/Bite Prevention	N/a
Animal Handling*	

*\* Must have qualified veterinary nurse, veterinary technician or veterinarian, or warranted SPCA Inspector (current or former) or TLA Animal Control Officer (current or former), OR have an Animal Evac NZ volunteer/s assigned to the team with such credentials.*

### Shelter Response

Training	Resources
Animal Evac Sheltering course	Laptops/tablets and 4G/Wifi
Animal care	Minimum: X20 XL dog crates, 20x cat crates. Animal Evac NZ Shelter Cache equipment list recommended.
Animal Handling*	Basket type muzzle set, leads, pet carriers (min. 20), dog catch pole.

*\* Must have qualified veterinary nurse, veterinary technician or veterinarian, or warranted SPCA Inspector (current or former) or TLA Animal Control Officer (current or former), OR have an Animal Evac NZ volunteer/s assigned to the team with such credentials.*

## Equine Response

Training	Resources
Large Animal Rescue**	Strops, head protector, large animal lifting harness, harness and rope, shepherds' crook, rescue glide, ropes/pulleys/karabiners, blankets, halters, spreader bar, air/water mud injector.
Trailer driving/towing/backing	Horse float or horse truck

*\* Must have experienced horse owner with large animal rescue experience/training (SES, Massey University, Rescue 3, Code 3, ITRA etc), OR have an Animal Evac NZ volunteer/s assigned to the team with such credentials.*