

CERT Animal Response I



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24 Sep 2016

**Animal [Video's\Dogfighting](#) Rescue Saves
367 Dogs**

Module Purpose

The purpose of this module is to teach CERT members emergency preparedness for animal owners and how to recognize specific animal behaviors.



Further Training

- This module is meant to support the training you have already received.
- Preparation for situations involving animals you may encounter performing your CERT duties.
- This is different than the training for CART, SART or NDART teams.
- Training is insufficient to make you a competent, professional handler.

Animal Categories

- This module covers the following animal categories:
 - Household pets and domesticated animals
 - Service animals - Are they all dogs?
 - For-profit animals
 - Non-commercial livestock
 - Wildlife
 - Exotic animals

What You Will Learn

- Animal Issues in Emergency Management
- Animal-Related Emergency Management Functions
- Disaster Planning for Animals
- General Animal Behavior
- Preview of *CERT Animal Response II*

Module Objectives

- Explain why animal issues are an important consideration in emergency management
- Demonstrate knowledge of animal-related emergency management functions
- Explain emergency preparedness for animal owners
- Describe general guidelines for handling animals

Importance of Animal Issues





Why are animals an important component of emergency response?

Why are animals an important component of disaster response?

- **Public Safety**
- **Federal law and policy**
- **Public health**
- **Economic impact**
- **Environmental concerns**
- **Safety of first responders**

Public Safety

- **Some may not evacuate without their animals**
- **Animal owners are more likely to comply with public safety when their animals are safe**
- **Animal populations may escape**
- **Some disasters may force wild animals out of natural habitats.
(Katrina – gators and snakes)**

Federal law and policy

- **PETS Act & Post Katrina Reform Act**
- **Mandates state & local communities to incorporate provisions in their emergency plans for people with household pets & service animals.**
- **Provides FEMA with the authority to set standards for pet plans, mobilize resources, assist state/local communities with the cost of pet response in certain Federal declared disasters**

Homeland Security Presidential Directive HSPD-9

- **Agricultural and food systems are critical infrastructures.**
- **Directs Federal agencies to protect food and agricultural systems in specific ways.**

National Response Framework (NRF)

- Directs the public to make emergency plans for their pets and service animals.
- Local officials ensuring local emergency plans include individuals with pets and service animals.
- Local, tribal and state jurisdictions are responsible for activating a vet/animal response team.
- Requires state to consider individuals with pets or service animals if evacuation is ordered.
- Emergency Support Function (ESF #11) – Ag/Natural Resources. Supports and coordinates animal response and relief activities during Federal response.

Public health

- Disease/bioterrorism act could affect animals in numbers large enough to impact food supply.
- Some bioterrorism (anthrax, plague, etc) could infect animals as well as people.
- West Nile virus outbreak could be detected in animals first.
- Zoonotic diseases may spread faster during disasters.
 - Ex: Floodwaters can carry a zoonotic disease such as Salmonella from farm manure and affect those who have contact with water.

Economic impact

- Approx 2 million farms in US with <2% families live on those farms.
- The value of livestock and livestock products sold in the US each year is approx 100 billion.
- Costs of disasters affecting farmers include animal deaths and lost production. Many of the indirect costs of disasters affect the allied industries, such as feedmills, supply vendors and vets.
- Approx 80% of processed foods contain dairy.

Environmental Concerns

- **Protecting wildlife is essential to maintaining local natural environment.**
- **Disasters can cause the spread of biological and toxic contaminants, harming trees and plants and affecting water supplies.**

Safety of first responders

- First responders may encounter animals during the course of their emergency response duties.
- First responders may have direct responsibilities related to the care or management of animals during a disaster.
- The safety of first responders requires preparation, knowledge and equipment to manage and handle animals.

Why is this important? Why plan for animals?

- **Animal issues have a widespread effect on local communities and our nation:**

- **Pets/service animals**
- **Economic impact locally and nationwide**
- **Public Health**
- **Public Safety**

Animal-Related Emergency Functions





What emergency management functions involve animals?

Animal-Related Emergency Functions

- Needs assessment-effect on animal facilities (zoo's, farms etc)
- Animal populations-managing displaced animals, animal control, management of strays
- Evacuation-household pets & service animals
- Transporting animals-out of disaster area, between home & shelters. (Katrina-no cars)
- Emergency animal shelters-managing
- Search & Rescue
- Reuniting animals with owners
- Sheltering in place-delivering food and water

Animal-Related Emergency Functions

- **Veterinary Care-triage & clinical care, biological risk management, infection control, disease mgmt, and zoonotic disease control during vet interaction.**
- **Animal decontamination-Vets/Professionally trained**
- **Wildlife populations**
- **Deceased animals –public health, proper disposal**
- **Disease emergencies-animal disease, zoonotic dx.**
- **CERT managing encounters with animals that need assistance when conducting primary CERT activities. (ie: Size up/damage assessment of home)**



How many of you own animals?

How many have friends or family who own animals?

Do you have plans that include the animals you own? Now that you've had this training, put together your own plans that include the animals in your life!

Disaster Planning for Your Animals



Video: [Pets of Katrina](#): There is a Place There is a Home (HSUS)



What are some steps you can take to prepare for a disaster?

Preparing for a Disaster

- CERTs should prepare by:
 - Identifying potential hazards
 - Mitigating the impact of hazards
 - Creating a disaster plan
 - Assembling disaster supplies
 - Participating in training and exercises
 - Knowing your community's disaster response plan

Identifying Potential Hazards

- What types of disasters could occur in your local community?
 - Natural
 - Technological
 - Terrorist
- How could a disaster affect your animals?

Mitigating the Impact of Hazards

- Mitigating hazards means taking steps to reduce or eliminate the impact of disasters.
- Making changes that protect properties or facilities is a great step toward mitigation of the impact from hazards.

Mitigating Hazards – Examples

- Encourage animal facilities to relocate out of disaster-prone areas
- Encourage animal facilities to have emergency plans, including evacuation plans
- Encourage livestock owners to develop plans to remove animals when flooding is a threat
- Encourage animal facilities to retrofit their buildings for area-specific hazards: earthquake straps, hurricane clips
- Encourage livestock owners to maintain adequate insurance against potential loss of livestock and buildings.



Animal owners can, and SHOULD, take their own hazard mitigation steps.

But HOW do we do that ?!?!

The following video, “Animals in Emergencies for Owners,” is intended to help pet and livestock owners prepare to protect their animals during emergencies.

- **Developed by CSEPP (Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program) and FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency).**
- **<http://emc.ornl.gov/CSEPPWeb/animals/animalemergenciesowner.htm>**

Creating a Disaster Plan for Animals

- Preparing to Evacuate Your Pet/Service Animal
- Preparing to Stay at Home With Pets/Service Animals During a Disaster
- Pet/Service Animal Care After a Disaster
- Preparations for Livestock
- Special Considerations for Exotic Animals

Preparing to Evacuate Your Pet/Service Animal

- Identify where you will stay if evacuated
- Plan your evacuation routes
- Update vaccinations and identification tags
- Gather evacuation supplies
- Make a plan for evacuating without your pet, in case they cannot come with you for some reason

Reasons to Prepare to Evacuate

- Whenever you feel unsafe, or are instructed to evacuate by authorities.
- It may be unsafe for you to shelter at home in certain disasters.
- Evacuating with animals takes more time.
- Prior planning = efficient evacuation with more options.
- Space in public shelters may be limited – finding private accommodations for you and your pets in advance will give you a better chance of securing a spot for your pet.

Evacuation Considerations

- **Make arrangements with family/friends outside your area.**
- **Find pet-friendly commercial lodging.**
- **Boarding kennels/vet facilities**
- **Emergency pet shelters – check your community**
- **Bring pet's medical records – they must be up-to-date!! (Some facilities won't accept without!)**
- **Current vaccinations!**
- **Photo of your pet -- WITH YOU!**
- **Plan your evacuation routes – MULTIPLE**
- **Up-to-date ID tags that are securely fastened .**

Evacuation Considerations, continued

- If possible, attach name/address of your evacuation site to your pet. (If you cannot take pet with you.)
- ID Microchip – Keep registration up-to-date!
- Gather evacuation supplies for your pet, and store with your family's evacuation supplies – **READY TO GO!** (*We'll cover this later!*)
- *If you have to evacuate without your pet:*
 - *Leave pet loose inside home with food and plenty of water.*
 - *Never leave chained outside!*
 - *Put note on outside of home advising emergency responders what animals are inside and where they are located, and also indicating how you can be reached, and the name/phone of your vet.*

Preparing to Stay at Home with Pets/Service Animals

- Bring pets inside
- Have newspaper on hand
- Be aware that animals may isolate themselves if afraid
- Separate dogs and cats
- Separate smaller pets away from cats and dogs (ex: gerbils, birds, etc...)



Preparing to Stay at Home with Pets/Service Animals, continued

- **Animals have instincts about severe weather changes, and will often isolate themselves if afraid.**
- **Bringing the animal inside early will stop them from running away.**
- **Never leave a pet outside, or tied up, during a storm.**
- **If dogs are very afraid of severe weather, confining them to an appropriately sized airline crate may help calm them, and prevent them from causing damage.**

Caring for Pets and Service Animals After a Disaster

- Animal behavior may change after a disaster
- Leash pets for the first few days
- Displaced wildlife may pose a threat to pets
- Downed power lines are another hazard



Making Preparations for Livestock

- Ensure all animals have identification
 - Brand, ear tag, chip, ear tattoo, non-toxic paint on side/hooves
- Have an evacuation plan
 - Relocate on property
 - Transport animals to safe site
- Evacuation sites should be prepared for livestock
- If not evacuating, identify safest shelter

Making Preparations for Livestock, cont'd

- Take precautions in severe cold weather
 - If below 0 degrees F, action must be taken to prevent hypothermia, frostbite and other cold-weather injuries:
 - Shelter, plenty of dry bedding for insulation of vulnerable anatomy from wind and frozen ground, windbreaks, plenty of food and drinkable water (not frozen).

Consequences of Cold Exposure in Livestock

- Severe cold weather injuries or death primarily occur in the very young or in debilitated animals.
- Cases of cold weather-related sudden death in calves often result when suffering from undetected infection, esp. pneumonia.
- Sudden unexplained deaths and illnesses should be investigated quickly to ID the cause and protect remaining animals.
- Animals suffering from frostbite do not exhibit pain. It may be up to two weeks before the injury becomes evident as the freeze-damaged tissue starts to slough off.

Special Considerations for Exotic Animals

- Owners should have a plan to secure animals during emergencies
- Exotics may need to be separated from other animals (liability, temperaments)
- Exotics may need to be registered with authorities, consult local laws
- Special environments: noise, humidity, temperature, light sensitivity, etc... (iguana)

Assembling a Disaster Supply Kit

- Evacuation Checklist
 - For pets/service animals
 - For livestock
- Shelter-in-Place Checklist
 - For pets/service animals
 - For livestock
- Post information for emergency personnel on your property

EXERCISE! Design a Disaster Plan

- Individually write out a disaster plan for your animals (or animals you know).
- Note any elements in the plan that require more information.
- Plan should include: Shelter options, evacuation supplies for 72 hours, shelter-in-place supplies for 1-2 weeks, emergency contact info, description of animals.
- (20 minutes)



Did anyone do a plan for livestock?

How about for an exotic pet?

Any other animal plans you came up with?



Congratulations!!

You now have the beginnings of your animal disaster plan!

Be sure to follow-through and fill in any missing details in your plan, make the preparations in your plan and gather your supplies!

Grouping Animals

What do these animals have in common?



Characteristics of Predator Animals



Vision

**Binocular
Depth-perception
Eyes forward**



Feet

Claws or nails



Teeth

**Penetration
Biting
Tearing**



Instincts

**Hunt
Chase
Kill**

What are some examples of predator animals?

Grouping Animals

What do these animals have in common?



Characteristics of Prey Animals



Vision

Wide Field of vision
Eyes on the side



Feet

Hooves for running and pawing



Teeth

Grazing
Grinding



Instincts

Escape
Run

Animal Domestication

- Breeding species for desired characteristics
- Domesticated animal behavior
- Domesticated animals may revert to instinctive behavior
- Predator animals may chase and attack
- Prey animals may run or hide
- 3 dogs is all it takes for “pack mentality”

EXERCISE: Dog and Cat Behavior

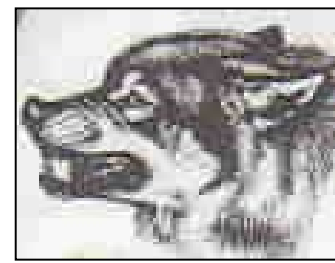
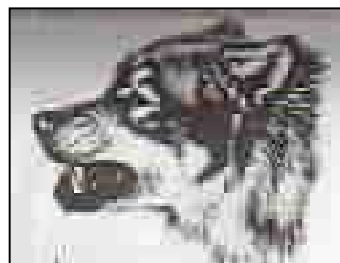
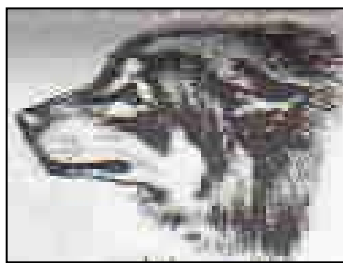
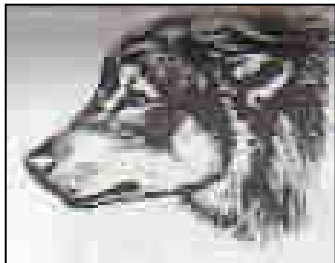
- IG 36-39

Recognizing facial expressions and body language of dogs and cats will prepare you for handling these animals appropriately during an emergency response (and during normal life, too!).

Dog Facial Expressions



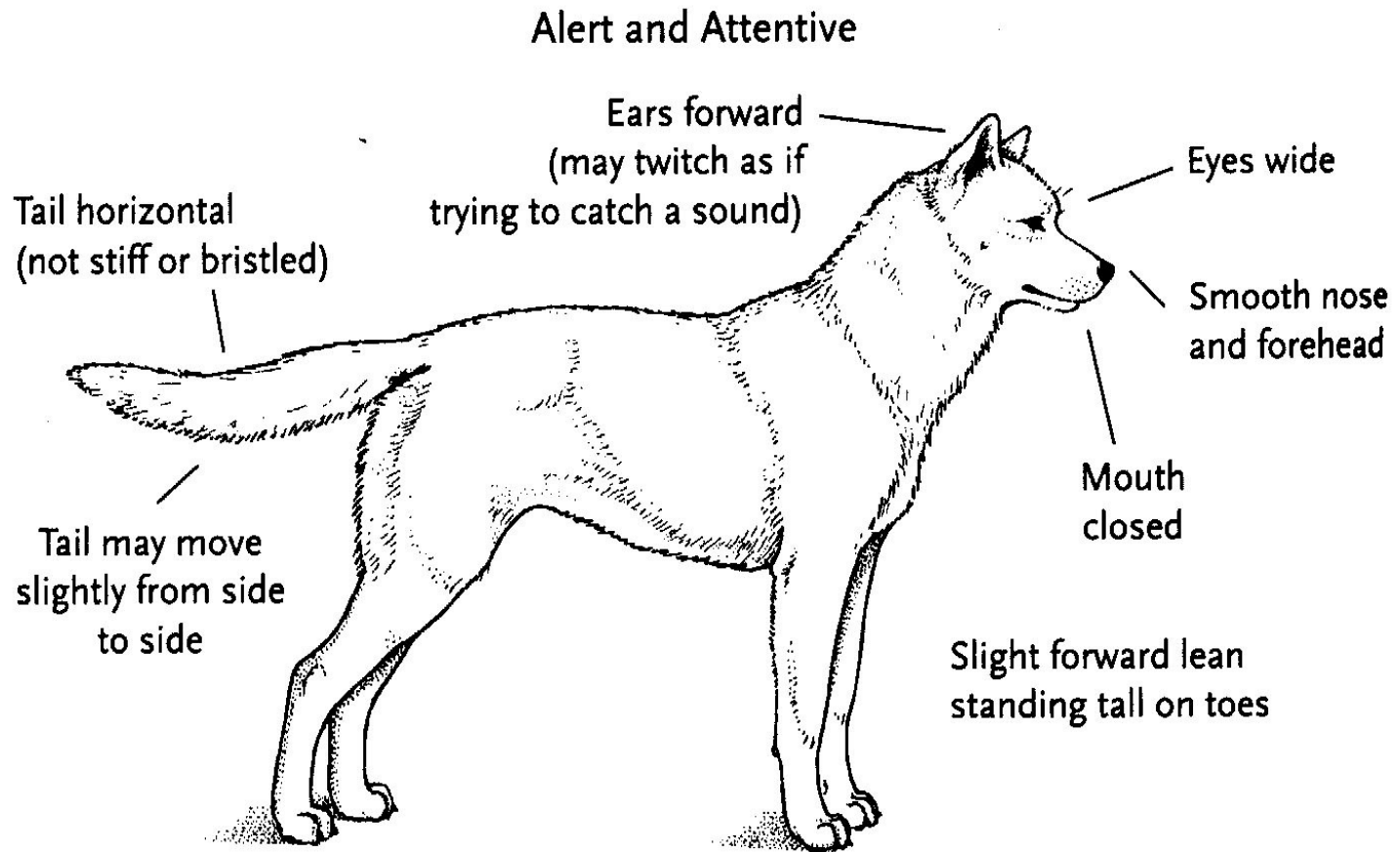
Increasing Aggression



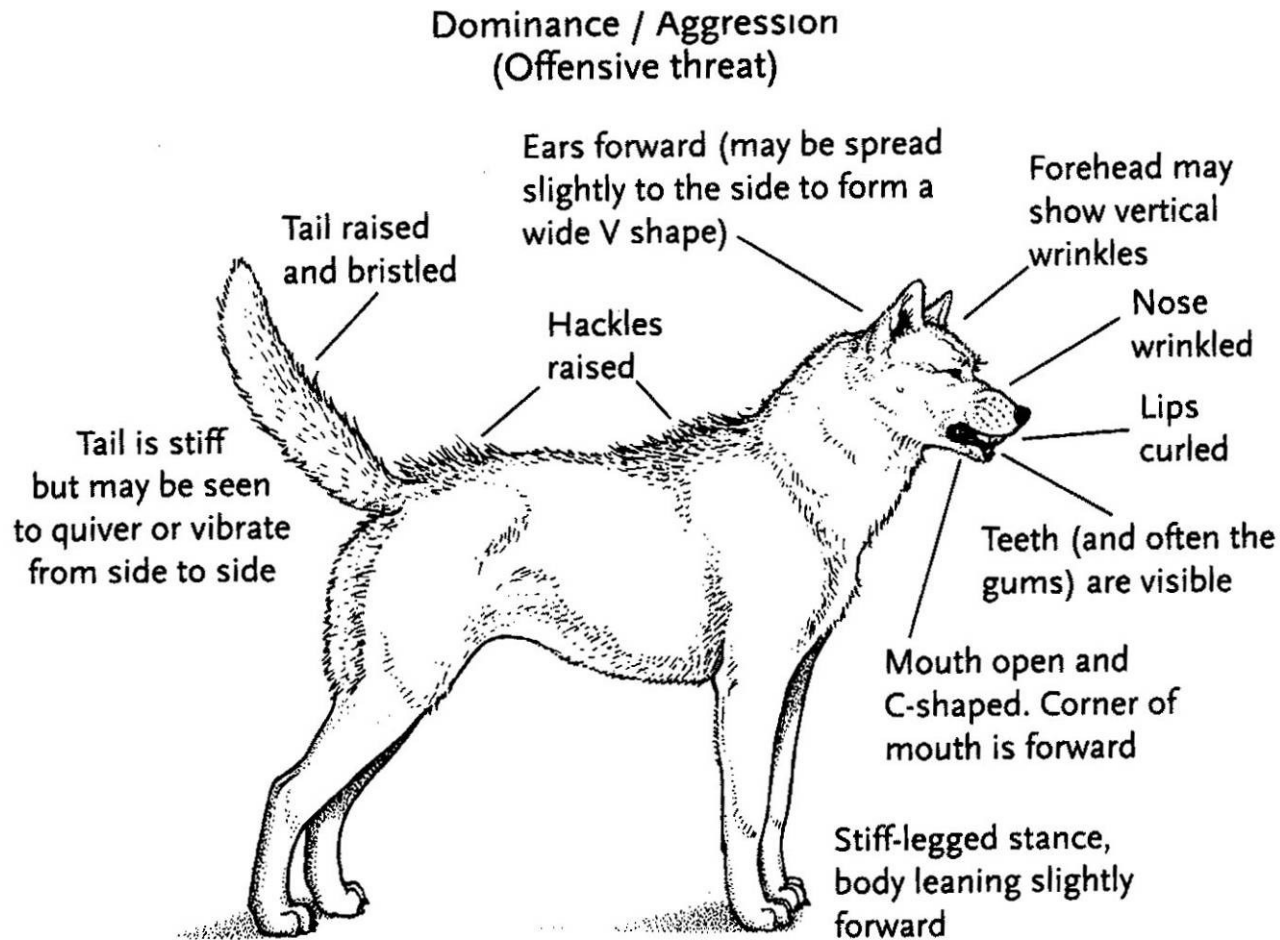
Increasing Fear



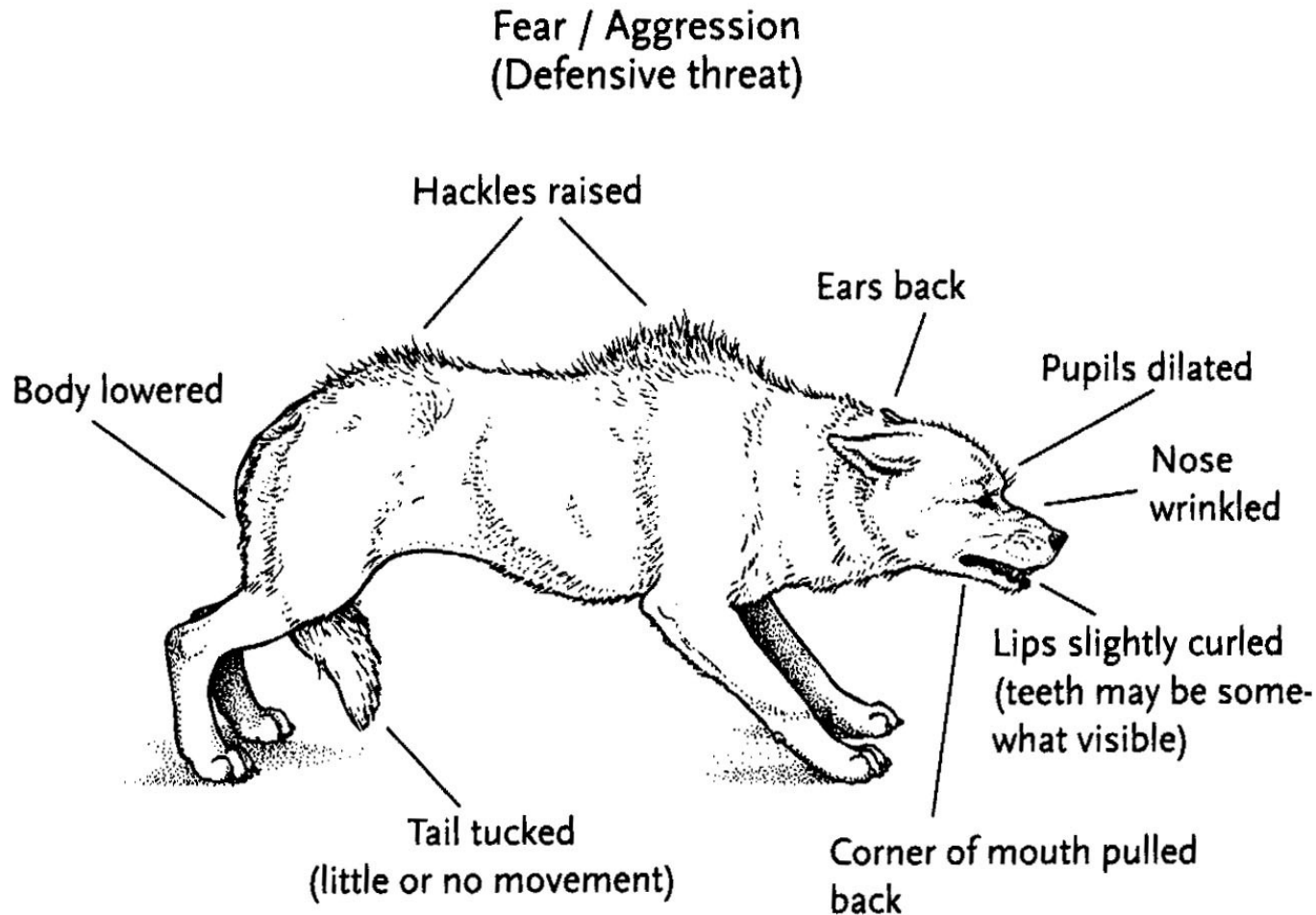
Dog Body Language



Dog Body Language (cont'd)

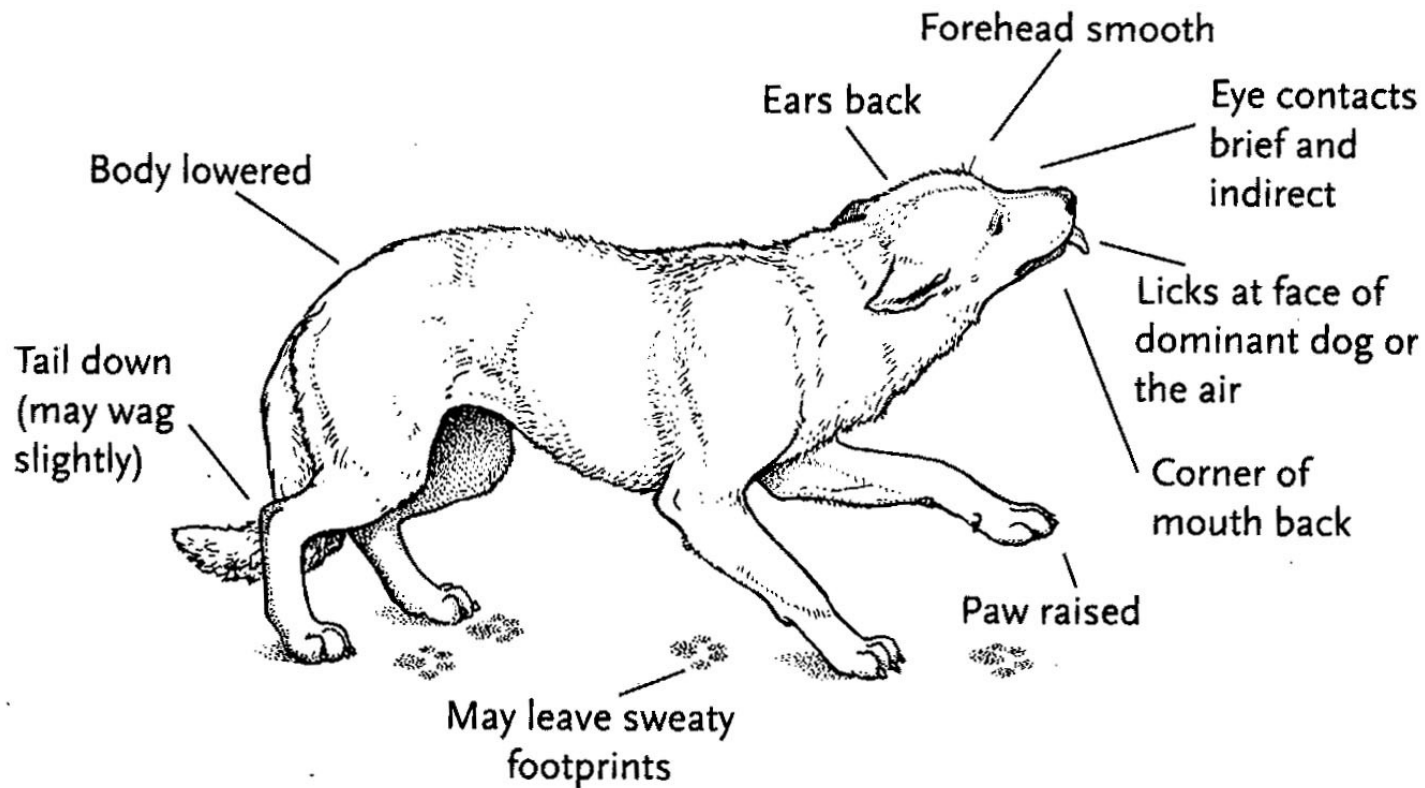


Dog Body Language (cont'd)



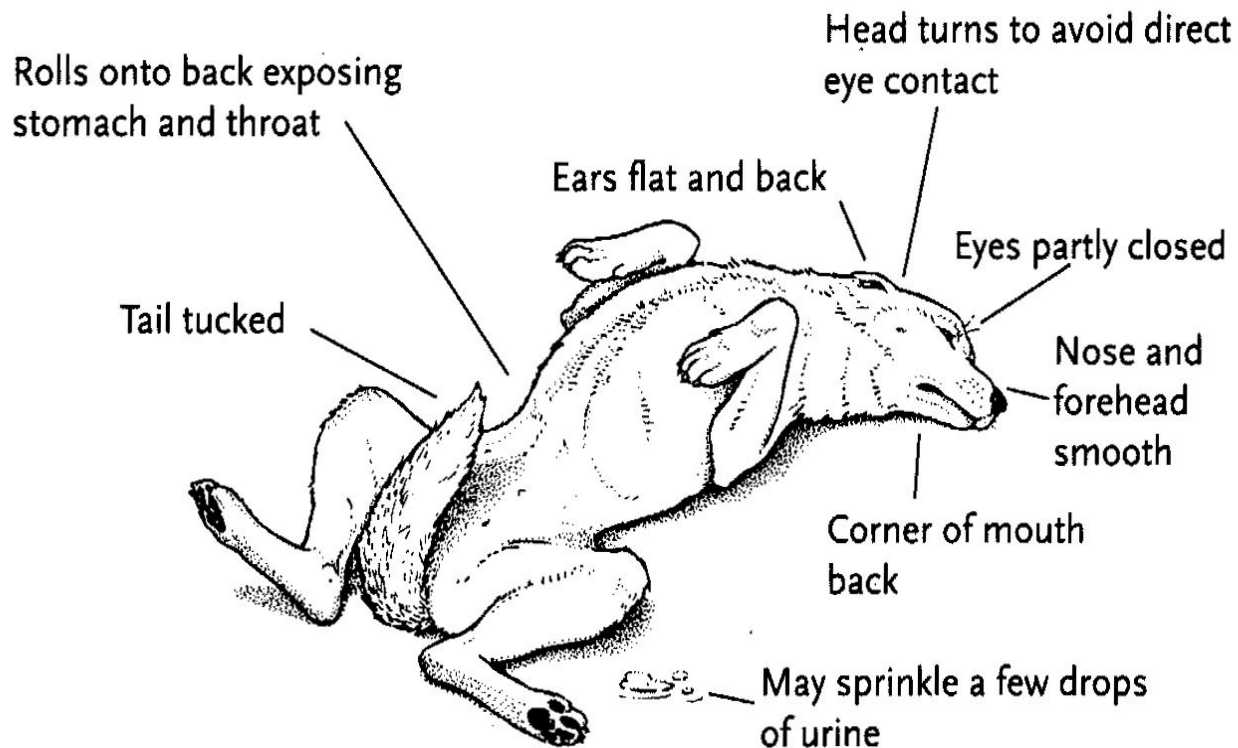
Dog Body Language (cont'd)

Fear / Submission
(Active submission)



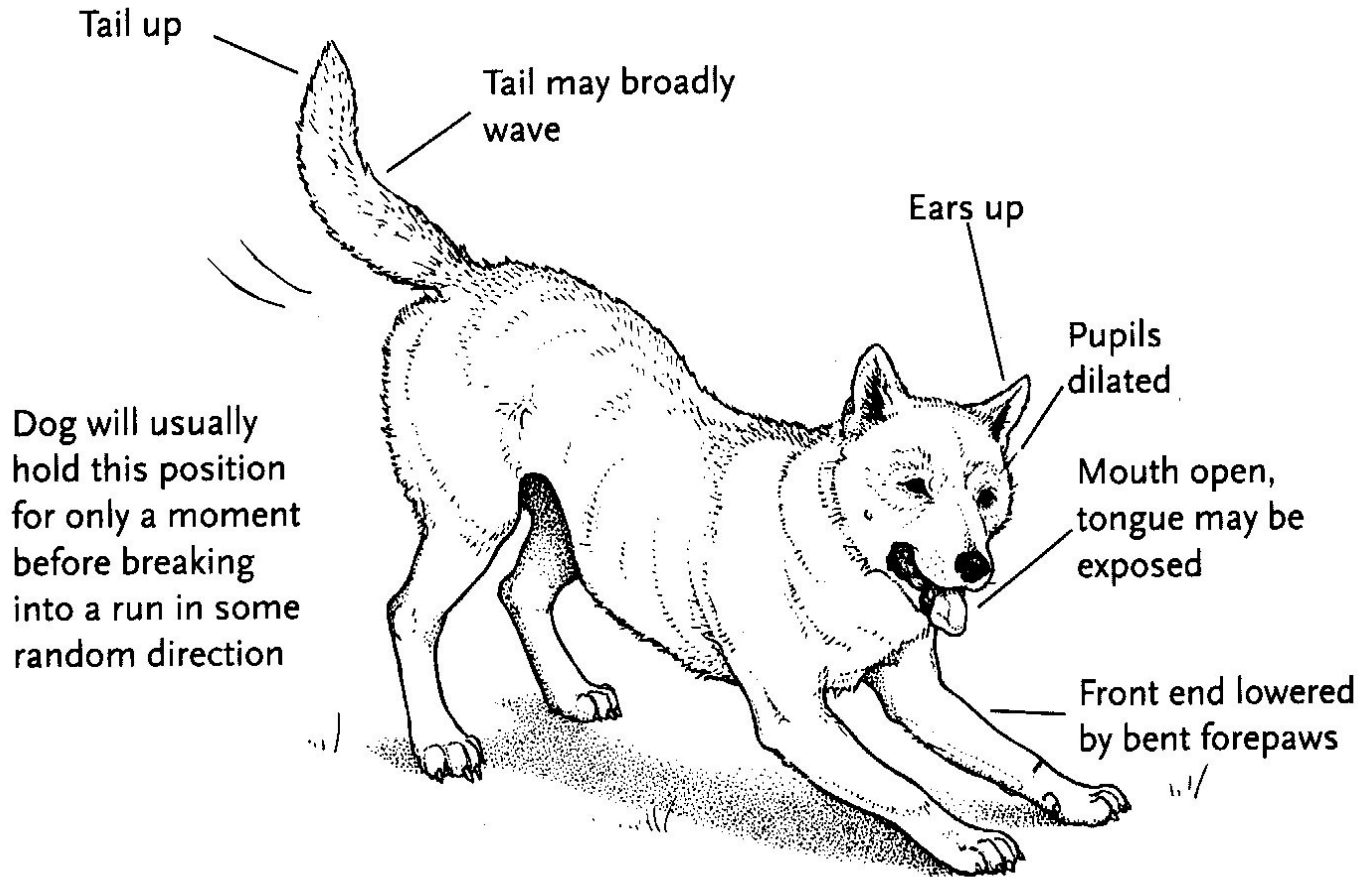
Dog Body Language (cont'd)

Extreme fear / Total submission
(Passive submission)

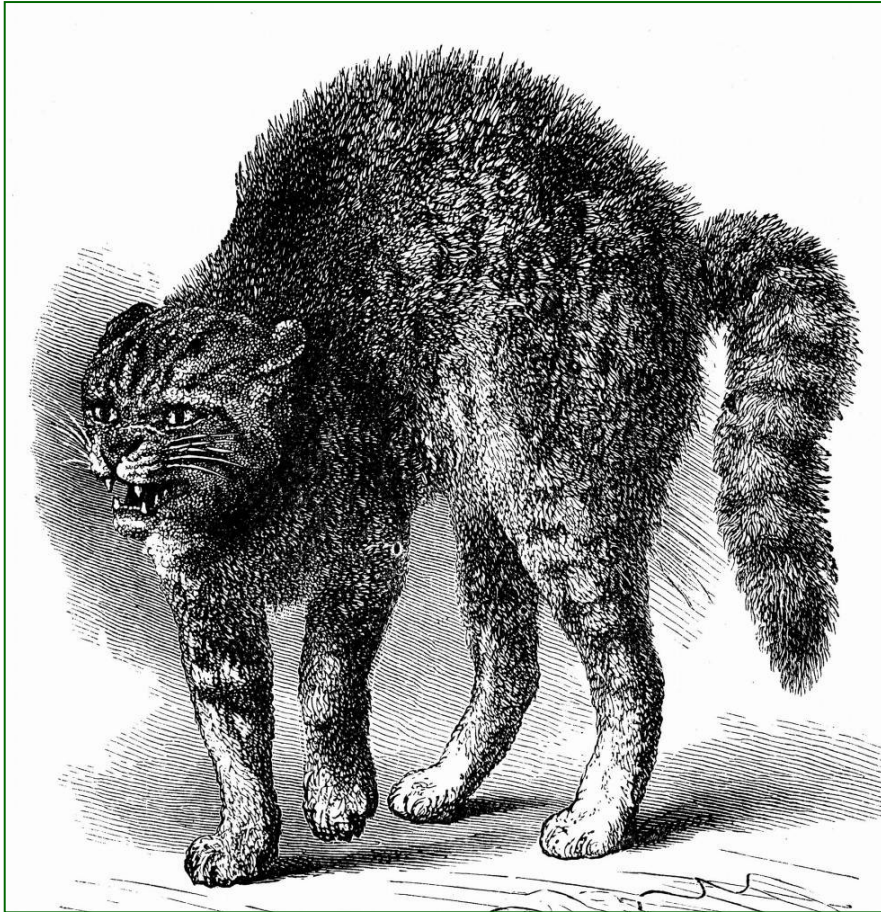


Dog Body Language (cont'd)

Playfulness



Cat Body Language



- Rear higher than front
- Tail down
- Tail fluffed
- Ears out to side of head
- Direct eye contact
- Raised fur on back

Cat Body Language (cont'd)



- Relaxed posture
- Relaxed tail
- Ears pointing up and out
- Claws retracted

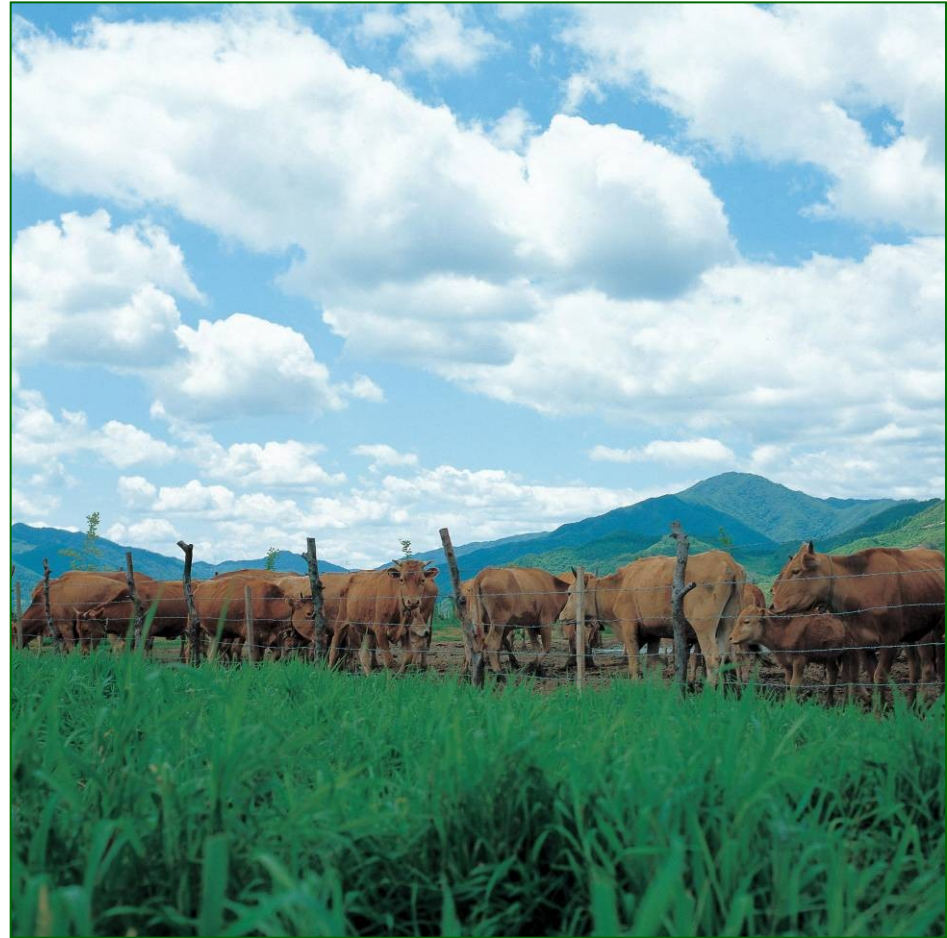
Cat Body Language (cont'd)

- **Slitted Pupils – The cat can be angry, OR it can be that the light is very bright**
- **Round Pupils – The cat can be excited, scared, or it can be dark in the room**

Horses, Cattle, and Swine

(IG 43-45)

- Horses
 - Instincts
 - Senses
 - Behavior
 - Body language
- Cattle
 - Bovines
 - Bulls
 - Tips
- Swine



Identifying Animal Behavior



Animal Response I

Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Animal Response I

Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Animal Response I

Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Identifying Animal Behavior (cont'd)



Preview of *Animal Response II*



Animal Response I

Preview of *Animal Response II* (cont'd)

- Come back for *Animal Response II* to learn:
 - Your role as a CERT member responding to animal issues
 - How to protect yourself during animal encounters
 - Knowledge and skills for CERT functions involving animals

Module Summary

- In this module, we reviewed:
 - Animal Issues in Emergency Management
 - Animal-Related Emergency Management Functions
 - Preparedness for Your Animals
 - General Animal Behavior