MANAGING ANIMALS IN DISASTERS (MAiD)
Improving preparedness, response, and resilience through individual and organisational collaboration

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THE MANAGING ANIMALS IN DISASTERS PROJECT (MAiD) IS SEEKING TO IDENTIFY AND BUILD BEST PRACTICE APPROACHES TO ANIMAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO ENABLE ENGAGEMENT WITH ANIMAL OWNERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES.

YEAR 1: Establishing an evidence base
First year activities included a series of small studies, documentation research, and broad stakeholder engagement

► To scope the issues and challenges in animal emergency management in the Australian context and,
► To identify priority areas for future focus and outputs.

Recent Project Outputs
► Workshops: Scoping workshop with stakeholders to discuss issues and priorities, workshops run by RSPCA QLD with local government to assist with planning for animals.
► EMA Podcast: Contribution to podcast on animals in disasters (July 2015).

END USER COMMENT – Sandra Barber, Manager Community Education, Tasmania Fire Service
One of the primary responsibilities of the Tasmania Fire Service is to support bushfire-prone communities to plan and prepare for bushfires. Small holders and animal-related businesses in these communities face additional challenges in preparing their properties, pets and livestock. This research project has already led to enhanced collaboration between government and community organisations working in this area. We look forward to gaining a better understanding of the concerns of animal owners, so that we can better inform and support their bushfire planning and preparation.

YEAR 2: Targeted research
Establishment of baselines and priority-setting in Year 1 have led to two targeted research projects.

► Integration of Emergent informal volunteers: looking at the challenges and benefits within the context of animal emergency management, using the 2015 Sampson Flat bushfires as a case study. Status – in progress.
► Living on the edge - peri-urban animal owners: Integrating the mapping of animals and the intentions of owners to develop dialogues with owners, local government, and other stakeholders to aid animal emergency management. Status – in development.

MAiD: The Project
Issues: Consideration of animals can impact on people’s decision making and behaviour during natural disasters causing potential issues for public and responder safety.
Goal: To improve outcomes for public safety and the resilience of responders, animal owners, those with animal-related businesses, and their communities.