



NATIONAL *fish, wildlife & plants*
CLIMATE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

Project Title: *Develop and Implement Strategic Approach to Identify, Assess, and Respond to Emerging Issues and Pathogens affecting Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health*

Headline Title: *Heightened Awareness for Emerging Pathogens*

Brief Summary (Abstract): *USDA APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) is developing and resourcing new approaches to identify and assess emerging issues and pathogens that could affect the health of livestock in the U.S. The recent detection and spread of pathogens such as corona viruses in swine in the United States demonstrates the need to increase our awareness of emerging pathogens of terrestrial and aquatic animals throughout the world, our understanding of the risk they may pose to animal health in the US, and improve measures to prevent entry and spread of the pathogens of concern. VS is currently finalizing an emerging diseases framework document to provide direction and consistency to our approach. We will partner on this effort with appropriate State and Federal agencies, including APHIS Wildlife Services for livestock diseases that may be shared by wildlife.*

Project Location: *Involved Veterinary Services offices.*

Partners: *Partners in the strategic effort are still being defined and could include other APHIS units including Wildlife Services and International Services, State Animal Health Agencies, Animal Industries, Public Health agencies and the Department of Homeland Security.*

Background: *Engaging in emerging disease detection and response is not new to Veterinary Services. Since 2001, VS strategic plans have incorporated identification and response to emerging diseases within the major goals. The “VS: A New Perspective” document also includes the concept of identification, analysis, and response to emerging diseases. The strategic approach being developed will incorporate new approaches, advanced technologies, and improved communication capabilities in order to enhance our capability to identify and respond to emerging diseases of concern to U.S. animal health.*

Project Goals: *To be developed*

Strategy Goals Implemented: *Goal 7 (in progress)*

Climate Impacts Addressed: *Increased understanding of how climate change is affecting animal health in other countries and assessing the risk of similar factors affecting the U.S. animal and aquatic animal populations; maintaining health of U.S. animal population through preventing, rapidly detecting and responding to incursions of emerging pathogens and invasive species which could decrease the health of U.S. animal populations and the ecological stability of their environment.*

Status of Project Implementation: *The Framework document is being finalized from a VS perspective. Once finalized, additional input may be gathered and next steps for implementation developed.*

Project Outcomes: *To be determined.*



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Funding Sources: *USDA APHIS VS (initial phase)*

Photos/Attachments: *Not at this time*