

REDWOOD EMPIRE DISPATCH COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

STANDARD OPERATING POLICY

Animal Emergency Response Teams	Policy	46
Approvals	Updated Date: Aug 20, 2026	
		
Spencer Andreis DOAG Chairperson	Evonne Stevens REDCOM Executive Director	

46.1 Animal Emergency Response Teams

46.2 Team Identifiers: Animal Emergency Response Team, (AERT 3) will be Sonoma Valley Fire/ SCY 91/92. (AERT 8) will be Graton Fire/GFD 83. **These are team names and C A D units.*

46.3 Types of responses: Any animal rescue that initial responders deem the need for a team response or REDCOM determines a response is needed by questioning caller.

46.4 Geographical Team Boundaries: AERT 3 East of Hwy. 101, north and south to the county line. AERT 8 West of Hwy. 101, north and south to the county line.

46.4.1 Responses Out of County: Immediate in county responses only.

46.5 Dispatching: The jurisdictional agency will be dispatched as normal. If the responding or on scene units request the AERT, Battalion 3 will be notified for all AERT 3 requests, *and GFD 83/Graton will be notified for all AERT 8 requests.*

46.5.1 When a “team” goes responding, they will be using an already established 4-digit unit ID.

46.5.2 Code 3 VS Code 2 responses: All teams will be dispatched as a Code 2 response. If a threat to human life is involved, teams will be requested Code 3.

46.5.3 Animal Services: To be dispatched to **EVERY** team response. Animal Control will have the ultimate authority and will establish unified command with on scene resources. Note that Animal Services can only respond to areas per the agency’s contract/agreements with-in the County. If requested by an outside Animal Service agency within the County, County Animal Services will respond.

46.6 Deployment Agreement: Teams will be utilized countywide via the Master Mutual Aid Agreement with all local agencies.

46.7 Equipment locations: Currently, AERT 3 equipment location is at Sonoma Valley Fire Station 5 in Glen Ellen. AERT 8 equipment location is located at Graton FD and Sebastopol FD.