



Agricultural Commissioner

Shasta County Disaster Agriculture/Livestock Access Program

Following the Carr Fire, Zogg Fire and the most recent Dixie Fire in our communities, the Shasta County Board of Supervisors supported the development of a systemic program to provide options for commercial agriculture and livestock operators to access restricted areas following a natural disaster to provide care to essential operational needs and livestock. Coordinating with local agencies, the University of California Cooperative Extension (“UCCE”) and the Shasta County Agricultural Department (SCDA) have established a program, through the issuance of a Commercial Agriculture/Livestock Pass (ALP), which **may** permit commercial agriculture and livestock operators to gain entrance to evacuation zones, or other restricted areas, to provide feed, water, medical treatment, and other care to large scale commercial agriculture/livestock operations.

On pages 2 – 4, you will find an overview of the program, including specific qualifications for the ALP, registration information, and training requirements.

The ALP application is available online at: <https://www.shastacounty.gov/agriculture>

The registration and training for the pass is being managed by Larry Forrero, Shasta County Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor, University of California Cooperative Extension.

All ALPs will be administered and approved through the SCDA.

If you have any questions, please contact Larry Forrero, UC Cooperative Extension Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor (email: lcforrero@ucanr.edu or tel: 530-224-4900), or John Ingram, Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner (email jingram@shastacounty.gov or tel: 530-224-4949).

Larry Forrero
UC Cooperative Extension

John Ingram
Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner



Shasta County Disaster Livestock Access Program

For the purposes of this program, a commercial agricultural/livestock operator (CALO) is defined as:

Livestock – includes all commercial livestock operations within Shasta County. Proof of commercial livestock status **may** include any of the following:

- An Internal Revenue Service Schedule F (Form 1040) attesting to the applicant's Profit or Loss From Farming.
- Assessor's parcel numbers confirming agricultural zoning for the property or properties upon which access is sought.
- Agricultural land lease documentation. (Required to accurately map locations on the pass).
- Documentation from the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency attesting that the applicant is a commercial livestock producer.
- Current registration of a livestock brand with the Bureau of Livestock Identification.

Agricultural – includes all commercial agricultural operations within Shasta County. Proof of commercial agricultural status **may** include any of the following:

- An operator identification number or restricted materials pesticide permit issued by the Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner.
- An Internal Revenue Service Schedule F (Form 1040) attesting to the applicant's Profit or Loss From Farming.
- Assessor's parcel numbers confirming agricultural zoning for the property or properties upon which access is sought.
- Documentation from the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency attesting that the applicant is a commercial agricultural producer.

Agricultural (Beekeepers) – includes all commercial apiary operations within Shasta County. Proof of commercial apiary operation status **only** includes the following:

- Pursuant to California Food and Agriculture Code § 29040 all apiary operations must be registered annually with the Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner.

- **Application for Registration:** To become enrolled in the program, a CALO will need to provide contact information, APNs of grazing sites, general season of use, livestock description and count, and other information by completing the online form at **<https://www.shastacounty.gov/agriculture>**

- **Mandatory Training:** To become enrolled in the program, a CALO must complete an initial training program.
- **2024 MANDATORY Training:** For those that have not already taken the mandatory training, an additional training is scheduled for **July 24, 2024 at 6PM at the Shasta College Farm.**
- **Livestock Access Pass:** An Agricultural/Livestock Pass (ALP) will be issued by the Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner's Office to a CALO, upon submission and approval of an application for registration, which must be presented to law enforcement, fire personnel, or other emergency personnel at a point of entry in order to gain entrance to an evacuation zone, or other restricted area, caused by a natural disaster for the purpose of providing feed, water, medical treatment, and other care to large scale commercial livestock, subject to the discretion of the emergency personnel.
- **Conditional Access:** Decisions for access can rapidly change during a fire or other natural disaster and will be dependent on safety conditions at the time and upon approval of emergency personnel. Livestock care shall only be made during daylight hours, and all persons must immediately depart the restricted area by the same route as entry. An escort may be required in any instance and all restricted entry will be dependent on approval of on-site emergency personnel. During initial evacuation phases, do not expect to gain access to restricted areas by presenting/using the ALP as during such time all efforts involve the safe removal of people. Once the situation has stabilized, which may take over 24 hours or even days, then the ALP will be considered an option by law enforcement, and fire personnel, or other emergency personnel. During an emergency, do not contact Shasta County Animal Control or North Valley Animal Disaster Group for assistance to notify them that your commercial livestock is behind fire lines.
- **Pass Database:** The ALP registration database will be maintained and updated by the Shasta County Agricultural Department. Data will be available to key agencies, including, but not limited to, Shasta County Cal-Fire, California Highway Patrol, and the Shasta County Sheriff's Office.
- **Violations of Pass:** The utilization of the CALO is for the purpose of providing feed, water, medical treatment, and other essential activities to commercial agricultural and livestock operations within the evacuation zone or other restricted area. Thus, if you are found outside of the scope of this purpose, then your ALP may be permanently revoked.
- **Insurance and Risk:** Access in an area closed to the public during a disaster may affect the coverage of your property liability insurance, vehicle or equipment insurance, and worker's compensation coverage. As you re-enter your property be aware that hazardous conditions may still exist. Program administrators, collaborators, and trainers shall not be liable for injury or death of someone participating in activities resulting from the inherent risk of re-entering damage areas to feed, water, and medically treat livestock. The CALO submitting an application for registration, hereinafter referred to as the "Applicant/Permittee"

or “A/P,” understands that he or she is requesting access to restricted areas subject to official road closure and not otherwise accessible to the public. In so requesting access, A/P acknowledges the inherent risks and hazards caused by recent catastrophic fires, including the existence of declared local health emergency, which extend to the restricted areas. A/P shall be solely responsible for the safety of those individuals covered by any ALP issued by the County of Shasta and shall be solely responsible for any damage to any equipment used by A/P during such requested access. A/P shall hold harmless the County of Shasta and its officers, agents, employees, volunteers, or representatives from and against any and all liability, claims, actions, proceedings, losses, injuries, damages, or expenses of every name, kind, and description, including litigation costs and reasonable attorney's fees incurred in connection therewith, brought for or on account of personal injury (including death) or damage to equipment or property arising from A/Ps access under any issued ALP. Further, A/P shall be solely responsible and shall hold harmless the County of Shasta from any and all acts or omissions of A/P or its officers, agents, employees, volunteers, contractors, and subcontractors in accessing the location listed in the issued ALP. A/P further understands that any ALP issued covers access only to the location identified in the issued CALO and the direct access route to/from said location; stopping along access routes is strictly prohibited. A/P and its officers, agents, employees, volunteers, or representatives shall not wander, loiter, or otherwise meander from the location listed in the issued ALP, and shall be subject to immediate arrest for trespass into restricted areas and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.