

Animals on Set

Safety Guidelines

on-set protocols

- Closed set during animal work; post notices on call sheets and entrances.
- Hold safety meeting led by handler before animal work (cover noise, food, crew movement, FX, vehicles, drones).
- Provide shade, water, rest cycles; monitor for heat/cold stress (especially horses). Stop if animals show distress.
- Secure housing: pens and/or separate holding for animals. No off-camera petting/visits.
- No non-working pets allowed on set.
- Always use qualified animal handlers/wrangers – never untrained crew or owners (EMT is not a substitute).
- Maintain a veterinarian on call; vet on set if remote (≥ 1 hr from care) or higher-risk work.
- Ensure enough trained handlers are present for the planned action.

call sheet requirements for animals on set

- List names and contacts for handlers and veterinarian (on-call or on-set).
- Provide animal inventory (species, count, ages), action descriptions, and risk-mitigation notes.
- Attach required health documents
- Include care, transport, and emergency plans (feed/water/rest, shade/shelter, nearest clinic, after-hours vet).

permits & notifications

- Confirm if animal exhibition/animal control permits are required locally.
- Add animals to the film permit application.
- Register with [American Humane](#) if seeking oversight or “No Animals Were Harmed®” certification.

veterinary plan

- Name a licensed local vet; provide 24/7 contact info in safety plan and call sheet.
- Document pre-shoot health checks and any medication/withholding times.

transport & paperwork

- For interstate moves carry Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (CVIs).
- Meet state testing/ID rules (such as negative Coggins for horses, scrapie ID for sheep).