

## AVMA 2023 Disaster Situational Awareness Report #5 Thursday August 10, 2023 Hawaiian Islands Wildfires

- Tuesday August 8, 2023, Red Flag and High Wind Warnings issued for all islands. High winds were partially a result of Hurricane Dora (Cat 4) which is passing to the south of the archipelago. Two fires on the Big Island (Hawaii), the Kohala Ranch Fire and the Mauna Kea Beach Fire start
- Wednesday August 9, 2023, three separate fires on Maui start: Lahaina, Upcountry, and Pulehu fires resulting in mandatory evacuation of more than 8,000 people
- 36 reported fatalities with more possible
- An unknown number of animals have also perished
- Lahaina, Maui was once the political and economic center of the Hawaiian Kingdom with structures that date back to the 1700s
- AVMA Trust is contacting insureds to identify any needs for claims
- Hawaiian Veterinary Medical Association (HVMA) has shared AVMF Disaster Grant information with their members

## **Hawaii Red Flag and High Wind Warnings** High Wind Warning Effective: Tue Aug 8, 2023 7:18 AM MDT 3H WIND WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM HS Hurricane Dora passing to the south WEDNESDAY Red Flag Warning Effective: Tue Aug 8, 2023 7:17 AM MDT of Hawaii created critical fire RED FLAG WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 AM HST WEDNESDAY FOR STRONG WINDS AND LOW HUMIDITY weather conditions Fire Weather and High Wind Watches issued early Sunday AM • Red Flag and High Wind Warnings Issued by early Monday AM through Wednesday AM Strong winds and lower relative humidity started Monday • Widespread winds gusts 40-50+ mph and critical fire weather continued 48+ hours, including overnight





## **Veterinary Response**

- AVMA has unconfirmed reports from multiple sources that two separate veterinary facilities may have been destroyed by the fires
- The HVMA is recommending that donations go to the Maui Humane Society
- Greater Good Charities is moving food, vaccines, and topical parasiticides to Maui
- HVMA is sending member veterinarians to Maui to assess the situation and see how they can assist the Maui Humane Society

AVMA provides disaster preparedness, response, and recovery information at <a href="https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/disaster-preparedness">https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/disaster-preparedness</a> including information on grants available from AVMF for veterinarians who are either directly impacted by a disaster or who provide care to animals impacted by disasters.

Please contact Dr. Warren J. Hess at whess@avma.org with corrections or updates.