Rescue Strap Applications

Uses: Assist animal up incline, drag forward, backward, sideways, lift animal up out of posterior entrapment.

Materials & Equipment:

- 2"- 4" x 16' – 30' webbing or fire hose strap with loops sewn in ends
- 1" webbing: guide to pull strap into place, equalize strap for even pull, safety cut away strap
- Pike pole, J hook, cane hook or boat hook to assist moving strap around animal
- Cat Graspers to lift animal's feet or legs, to grab strap

Personnel:

- 1 animal handler to control head
- 2+ riggers

SAFETY: always rig from dorsal side of animal and have animal handler manage head throughout!

Forward Assist – Basket configuration, assist forward movement or lift vertically (caution, webbing may slip off elbow under load) does not constrict animal during pull.

- Run strap over withers and between front legs. To stop straps from slipping, tie together under chest with webbing or rope.
- Attach 1" webbing to loop ends to even length for pull or attach rope for haul

Forward Assist – Lark's foot configuration, assist ambulatory animal to negotiate incline or obstacle. Drag recumbent animal. Strap will constrict under load but does not need tension to stay in place.

- Run strap over withers and between front legs feeding one end through loop of other end and snugging up against animal

Assist recumbent animal to stand with Lark's foot configuration

- Lark's foot the rescue strap on off side of withers at pull point. Strap must fold back on self to hold.
- Assistants on dorsal side to push and at head and tail to stabilize
- Horses raise and lower front end first, cattle raise and lower hind end first

Wideman configuration, most secure method to lift straight up out of hole or well.

- Place center mark of webbing against chest and run ends around neck crossing over withers then coming down sides and between front legs. Push ends up through chest loop and take out slack.
- Under load strap will constrict and can be difficult to remove

Backward Drag - to move recumbent animal in or out of a trailer, to safer location, to better footing.
Not to be used on standing animals.

- Run strap over hips and between hind legs
- 1" webbing can be attached to loops to even length or to assist with pull or to attach rope for haul assist
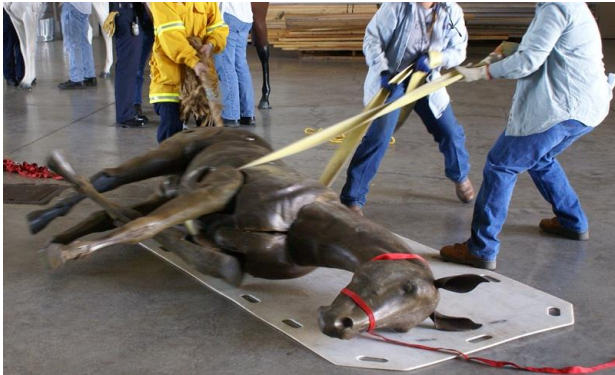
Sideways Drag - Hampshire slip configuration, drag sideways in muddy conditions or on level ground (cautions, can flip animal over on incline).
- Run straps under animal and around lower front and rear leg. Pull evenly.
- Animal handler on head to stabilize

Sideways Drag – Single or double strap for short hauls.
- Run strap around girth and pull backwards
- If using two straps of different width, place wider strap towards posterior
- Assistants on head and tail to stabilize

Flossing straps into place, slide strap back and forth rhythmically to position on animal, pull gently to avoid friction burns.

Strope guide, a thin flat metal band bent in an arc with a handle on one end and a loop on the other to attach to webbing, straps, or rope. Slide the guide under recumbent animal, attach material and pull back under animal.

Tail Tie, quick release wrap to support and stabilize animal.
- Not to be used as an anchor point
- Fold tail over rope or webbing
- Wrap 3 times, push end under loop and pull tight

SAFETY Reminder:
- **Always assign a safety officer to oversee operations**
- **Work from dorsal (back) side of animal**
- **Any animal can strike out with legs and head at any time, even when sedated**