

Operational Period Planning Cycle

Phase 2: Establish Incident Objectives



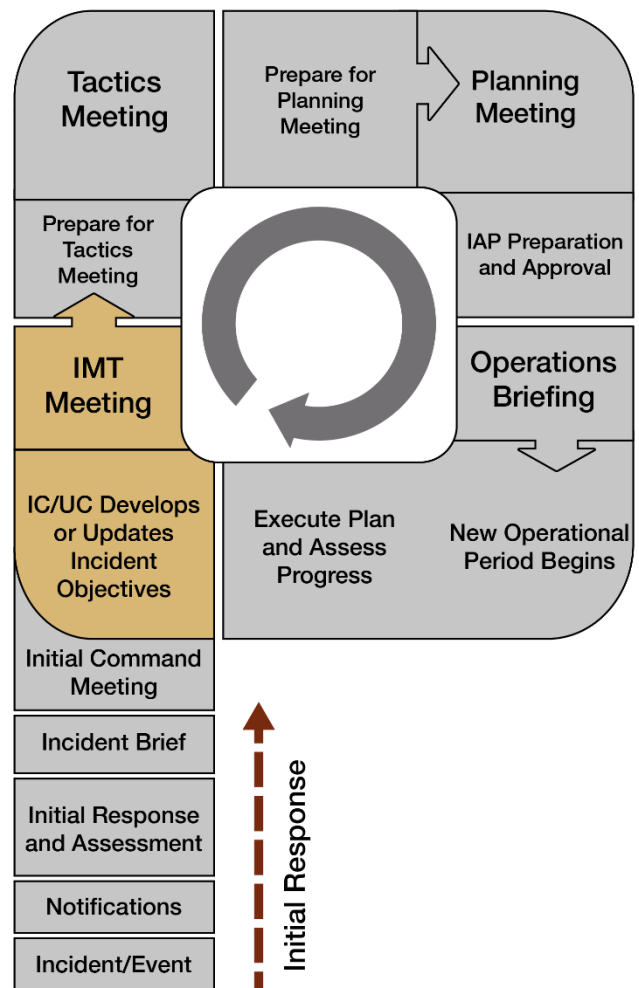
Incident planning is a critical component for an effective animal health emergency response. Phase 2 of the Operational Planning Cycle establishes incident objectives. This Just-In-Time (JIT) handout outlines the actions and ICS forms to be completed during Phase 2 of the Planning P.

The Planning P

All animal disease emergency responses function through an **Operational Planning Cycle** to outline, plan, and communicate response strategies and tactics to all stakeholders and responders. **The Planning P** outlines actions needed during each phase of the cycle to develop the **Incident Action Plan (IAP)** for the operational period.

IC/UC Develops or Updates Incident Objectives

- Once a preliminary assessment of the situation has occurred in Phase 1, the **Incident Commander (IC) or Unified Command (UC) representatives** have the responsibility to determine the overall objectives for the response.
- The incident objectives should describe what must be accomplished, and will guide the determination of strategies and tactics necessary to achieve the goal.
 - Objectives should be concise and realistic, reflecting what can be accomplished with the available resources.
 - Each objective should begin with an action verb. Ideally, objectives should be listed in order of priority.
 - Examples of incident objectives might be:
 - protect unaffected livestock or poultry populations,
 - contain disease spread,
 - begin an epidemiological investigation,
 - determine response zones (e.g., infected and buffer zones),
 - identify resource needs, or
 - provide for the health and safety of responders.
- As the response continues, and the Planning P is repeated each operational period, the IC/UC will continue to review the incident objectives and may modify them, or develop new objectives based on the progress or challenges of response activities.



Command and General Staff (IMT) Meeting

- **Attendees: Incident Management Team (IMT) - Incident Commander, Command Staff, General Staff, other leadership as needed**
- After incident objectives have been developed (or revised), the IC/UC will meet with the Command and General Staff, and other leadership as needed, to discuss the incident objectives and provide guidance for implementation. The meeting should follow a standardized agenda.
- **ICS Form 202: Incident Objectives** should be used to develop and record incident objectives, priorities, and safety considerations for the operational period.
 - The form is completed by the Planning Section following each Command and General Staff meeting.
 - Once completed, it is approved and signed by the IC.
 - The completed original is given to the Documentation Unit of the Planning Section.

Find information describing the other planning phases on the Just-In-Time training website.

[A library of ICS forms is available on the FEMA website.](#) These downloadable documents help to guide response leadership during the various phases of the Operational Planning Period.

This document serves as a supplement or review and is not meant to replace the extensive training provided through FEMA's ICS 300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents course. It is recommended that you review the ICS JIT factsheets to understand the terms used in this handout.



Additional [Just-In-Time training resources](#) can be found on the CFSPH website.

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