

NFPA®

150

Fire and Life Safety
in Animal Housing
Facilities Code

2022



NFPA® 150

Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities Code

2022 Edition



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NFPA® 150

Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities Code

2022 Edition

This edition of NFPA 150, *Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities Code*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Animal Housing Facilities. It was issued by the Standards Council on March 18, 2021, with an effective date of April 8, 2021, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 150 was approved as an American National Standard on April 8, 2021.

Origin and Development of NFPA 150

After a series of disastrous fires in racetrack stables in 1975, NFPA established the Committee on Firesafety in Racetrack Stables. This committee began its work in 1976 with the establishment of three working subcommittees covering construction, occupancy requirements, and fire protection. NFPA 150, *Standard on Firesafety in Racetrack Stables*, was first published in 1979. In the 1985 edition, minor changes were made to the standard that included the printing of Table 3 from NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, in Appendix A. Changes to both the 1991 and 1995 editions consisted of editorial improvements and clarifications of the existing text.

The 2000 edition added a section on equivalency and revised other portions of the text to reflect the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents* for use of mandatory language.

In 2004, the scope of NFPA 150 expanded to include life and safety requirements for both humans and animals in all types of animal housing facilities. In July 2004, the Standards Council approved the expansion and changed the name of the document to *Standard on Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities*. The expanded NFPA 150 provided better guidance to authorities having jurisdiction by addressing all types of animal housing facilities and made possible the consistent treatment of such facilities from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

The 2009 edition included several updates to referenced codes and standards and to some of the extracted text. A new provision allowing the use of the room-corner test from NFPA 286, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*, was introduced to allow an alternative test protocol to evaluate interior finish materials. These refinements continued and a new chapter on performance-based design approaches was added for the 2013 edition. Other changes for that edition included supplemental provisions for the built-in fire protection systems that are mandated by the standard.

Changes for the 2016 edition included several clarifications and additions, including scoping criteria with regard to how the standard should be applied to existing buildings, classification of all agricultural animals in the Category B scheme for protection purposes, and a provision that extends automatic sprinkler and smoke control systems into all facilities that board or house horses.

For the 2019 edition, the entire document was rewritten and changed from a standard to a code, the format reflecting the layout of NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code®*, with core and occupancy chapters. Also included were seven new animal categories, some of which were broken down into subcategories, each with specific requirements tailored to the facilities' specific hazards and safety needs. In addition, a new annex was developed that featured a table summarizing fire protection requirements for each animal category.

The 2022 edition includes new requirements for risk management in research facilities. New options for emergency forces notification and requirements for annual inspections have been added to the agricultural chapter. Updates also have been made to the references and extracted text.

Technical Committee on Animal Housing Facilities

Ajay Gulati, *Chair*
Self Employed, MD [SE]

Melanie Adams, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, FL [E]
Clay P. Aler, Koffel Associates, Inc., MD [SE]
Nandeep Bahra, Smithsonian Institution, DC [U]
Michael J. Biel, Sprinkler Fitters Local Union 183, WI [L]
 Rep. United Assn. of Journeymen & Apprentices of the
 Plumbing & Pipe Fitting Industry
Art Black, Carmel Fire Protection Associates, CA [E]
John P. Boucher, Harvard School of Public Health, MA [U]
Hal Cohen, HCC & Associates, Inc., PA [SE]
Richard L. Day, Michigan State Fire Marshal's Office, MI [E]
Christopher W. Dorko, Berkley Life Sciences, LLC, NJ [I]
Michelle Dvorscak, Lake County Sheriff's Department, IN [E]
Paul M. Haas, All Fire Solutions Inc., FL [SE]
Shelena Hoberg, Weeki Wachee, FL [SE]
Rebecca M. Husted, Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue,
 Inc., GA [SE]
Dena Jones, Animal Welfare Institute, DC [C]

Michael J. Keenan, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., NE [I]
Scott Learned, Design Learned Inc., CT [SE]
James Lewis, American Fire Sprinkler Corporation, KS [IM]
 Rep. National Fire Sprinkler Association
Jeffery P. McBride, EBL Engineers, LLC, MD [SE]
Gary Meerschaert, City of Greenfield, WI [E]
Brian Morrison, Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District,
 MA [E]
Kameron Raisi, KCI Technologies, TX [SE]
Brian L. Rieck, Automated Production Systems, IL [U]
 Rep. National Pork Producers Council
Mark S. Rosenberger, Los Alamos National Laboratories, NM [U]
Amy Q. Ryan, Chubb Limited, NJ [I]
Joe Scibetta, BuildingReports, GA [U]
Matthew G. Spencer, US Poultry And Egg Association, GA [U]
Thomas Steven Wright, Wright Fire Consulting, Inc., NC [SE]
Peter Wynnyczuk, Xtralis, NV [M]

Alternates

Michael C. Formica, National Pork Producers Council, DC [U]
 (Alt. Brian L. Rieck)
Donii Fox, Berkley Life Sciences, NM [I]
 (Alt. Christopher W. Dorko)
Dennis Richard Geiser, University Of Tennessee, TN [SE]
 (Alt. Shelena Hoberg)

Mark Krieger, Chubb, MO [I]
 (Alt. Amy Q. Ryan)
Rita L. Neiderheiser, UA Sprinkler Fitters LU 669, CO [L]
 (Alt. to Michael J. Biel)
Peter T. Schwab, Wayne Automatic Fire Sprinklers, Inc., FL [IM]
 (Alt. to James Lewis)

Tracy L. Vecchiarelli, NFPA Staff Liaison

This list represents the membership at the time the Committee was balloted on the final text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred. A key to classifications is found at the back of the document.

NOTE: Membership on a committee shall not in and of itself constitute an endorsement of the Association or any document developed by the committee on which the member serves.

Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the loss of animal and human life and property from fire in animal housing facilities, including, but not limited to the following: barns; stables; kennels; animal shelters; animal hospitals; veterinary facilities; zoos, special amusement parks; agricultural facilities; laboratories; and racetrack stable and kennel areas including those stable and kennel areas, barns, and associated buildings at state, county, and local fairgrounds. This Committee does not cover building code or life safety code requirements that are handled by other committees.

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Fire and Life Safety in Animal Housing Facilities Code

2022 Edition

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NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

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Information on referenced and extracted publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex D.

Chapter 1 Administration

1.1 Scope.

1.1.1* This Code shall provide the minimum requirements for the design, construction, fire protection, and classification of animal housing facilities.

1.1.2* Animal housing facilities shall be designed, constructed, and maintained in accordance with the adopted building, fire, and life safety codes and the requirements herein.

1.1.3 Where requirements of this Code differ from the adopted fire prevention, life safety, and building codes, the requirements of this Code shall govern the protection of the animal occupants and animal handlers.

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this Code shall be to prevent the loss of animal life, human life, and property from fire or other emergencies by providing the minimum requirements for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities where animals are housed, including, but not limited to, rest, feed, work, exercise, and production areas.

1.3 Application.

1.3.1* This Code shall apply to animal housing facilities that are subject to local, state, or federal licensing or permitting requirements, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Animal hospitals and veterinary facilities
- (2) Barns and stables
- (3) Laboratories
- (4) Animal shelters and adoption centers
- (5) Zoos, special amusement parks, and traveling exhibitions
- (6) General board and care facilities
- (7) Agricultural facilities
- (8) Emergency facilities

1.3.2 This Code shall apply to new animal housing facilities.

1.3.3* This Code shall also apply to existing facilities where any one of the following conditions applies:

- (1) A change of use or occupancy classification occurs where animals are introduced.
- (2) A change is made in the category of the animals housed.
- (3) A facility undergoes rehabilitation that is classified by Chapter 43 of NFPA 101 as a modification, reconstruction, addition, or change of use or occupancy classification.
- (4) A building or structure with an animal housing facility is relocated.
- (5) A building with an animal housing facility is considered damaged, unsafe, or a fire hazard.
- (6) A property line that affects compliance with any provision of this Code is created or relocated.

1.3.4* This Code shall apply to temporary structures housing animals solely for the purposes of developing a disaster/emergency management program in accordance with 4.3.4.

1.4 Retroactivity. The provisions of this Code provide an acceptable degree of protection from the hazards addressed in this Code at the time the Code was issued.

1.4.1 Unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this Code shall not apply to facilities, equipment, structures, or installations that existed or were approved for construction or installation prior to the effective date of the Code. Where specified, the provisions of this Code shall be retroactive.

1.4.2 This Code shall apply to existing installations that are determined by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) to constitute imminent danger to animal occupant or animal handler safety.

1.4.3 The retroactive requirements of this Code shall be permitted to be modified if their application would be impractical in the judgment of the AHJ and only where it is evident that a reasonable degree of safety is provided.

1.5 Equivalency. Nothing in this Code is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety over those prescribed by this Code.

1.5.1 Technical documentation shall be submitted to the AHJ to demonstrate equivalency.

1.5.2 The system, method, or device shall be approved for the intended purpose by the AHJ.

1.5.3 Alternative systems, methods, or devices approved as equivalent by the AHJ shall be recognized as being in compliance with this *Code*.

1.6 Units.

1.6.1 SI Units. Metric units in this *Code* are in accordance with the modernized metric system known as the International System of Units (SI).

1.6.2 Primary and Equivalent Values. If a value for a measurement as given in this *Code* is followed by an equivalent value in other units, the first stated value shall be regarded as the requirement. A given equivalent value might be approximate.

1.7 Enforcement. This *Code* shall be administered and enforced by the AHJ designated by the governing authority. (See *Annex B* for sample wording for enabling legislation.)

Chapter 2 Referenced Publications

2.1 General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this code and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

NFPA 1, *Fire Code*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 10, *Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 13D, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One- and Two-Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 13R, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Low-Rise Residential Occupancies*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*, 2020 edition.

NFPA 31, *Standard for the Installation of Oil-Burning Equipment*, 2020 edition.

NFPA 54/ANSI Z223.1, *National Fuel Gas Code*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 58, *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code*, 2020 edition.

NFPA 70®, *National Electrical Code®*, 2020 edition.

NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code®*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 80, *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 90A, *Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 90B, *Standard for the Installation of Warm Air Heating and Air-Conditioning Systems*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 99, *Health Care Facilities Code*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code®*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 105, *Standard for Smoke Door Assemblies and Other Opening Protectives*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 204, *Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 211, *Standard for Chimneys, Fireplaces, Vents, and Solid Fuel-Burning Appliances*, 2019 edition.

NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 221, *Standard for High Challenge Fire Walls, Fire Walls, and Fire Barrier Walls*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 252, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Door Assemblies*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 257, *Standard on Fire Test for Window and Glass Block Assemblies*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 286, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests for Evaluating Contribution of Wall and Ceiling Interior Finish to Room Fire Growth*, 2019 edition.

NFPA 288, *Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Horizontal Fire Door Assemblies Installed in Horizontal Fire Resistance-Rated Assemblies*, 2017 edition.

NFPA 780, *Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems*, 2020 edition.

NFPA 1144, *Standard for Reducing Structure Ignition Hazards from Wildland Fire*, 2018 edition.

NFPA 1600®, *Standard on Continuity, Emergency, and Crisis Management*, 2019 edition.

NFPA 5000®, *Building Construction and Safety Code®*, 2021 edition.

2.3 Other Publications.

2.3.1 ANSI Publications. American National Standards Institute, Inc., 25 West 43rd Street, 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036.

ICC/ANSI A117.1, *American National Standard for Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities*, 2017.

2.3.2 ASCE Publications. American Society of Civil Engineers, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Reston, VA 20191-4400.

ASCE/SEI 7, *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures*, 2016 edition.

2.3.3 ASTM Publications. ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM D396, *Standard Specification for Fuel Oils*, 2019a.

ASTM D3699, *Standard Specification for Kerosene*, 2019.

ASTM D6448, *Industrial Burner Fuels from Used Lube Oils*, 2016.

ASTM D6751, *Standard Specification for Biodiesel Fuel Blend Stock (B100) for Middle Distillate Fuel*, 2019.

ASTM D6823, *Standard Specification for Commercial Boiler Fuels with Used Lubricating Oils*, 2008, reapproved 2013.

ASTM D7666, *Standard Specification for Triglyceride Burner Fuel*, 2012, reapproved 2019.

ASTM E84, *Standard Test Method of Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*, 2020.

ASTM E119, *Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*, 2019.

ASTM E814, *Standard Test Method for Fire Tests of Penetration Fire Stop Systems*, 2013a, reapproved 2017.

ASTM E1354, *Standard Test Method for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter*, 2017.

ASTM E1591, *Standard Guide for Obtaining Data for Fire Growth Models*, 2013.

ASTM E1966, *Standard Test Method for Fire-Resistive Joint Systems*, 2015, reapproved 2019.

ASTM E2307, *Standard Test Method for Determining Fire Resistance of Perimeter Fire Barriers Using Intermediate-Scale, Multi-Story Apparatus*, 2019.

▲ **2.3.4 UL Publications.** Underwriters Laboratories Inc., 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-2096.

UL 9, *Fire Tests of Window Assemblies*, 2015.

UL 10B, *Fire Tests of Door Assemblies*, 2008, revised 2015.

UL 10C, *Positive Pressure Fire Tests of Door Assemblies*, 2016.

UL 217, *Smoke Alarms*, 8th edition, 2015, revised 2016.

UL 263, *Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials*, 2019.

UL 268, *Smoke Detectors for Smoke Alarm Systems*, 7th edition, 2016.

UL 296A, *Waste Oil-Burning Air-Heating Appliances*, 2018.

UL 555, *Fire Dampers*, 2006, revised 2016.

UL 555S, *Smoke Dampers*, 1999, revised 2016.

UL 647, *Unvented Kerosene-Fired Room Heaters and Portable Heaters*, 1993, revised 2010.

UL 723, *Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials*, 2018.

UL 1037, *Antitheft Alarms and Devices*, 2017.

UL 1479, *Fire Tests of Penetration Firestops*, 2015.

UL 2079, *Tests for Fire Resistance of Building Joint Systems*, 2015.

2.3.5 Other Publications.

ASME A17.1/CSA B44, *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators*, 2016.

ASME A17.3, *Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators*, 2017.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, Merriam-Webster, Inc., Springfield, MA, 2003.

2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections.

NFPA 1, *Fire Code*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*®, 2022 edition.

NFPA 80, *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*, 2022 edition.

NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation and Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, 2021 edition.

NFPA 101®, *Life Safety Code*®, 2021 edition.

NFPA 5000®, *Building Construction and Safety Code*®, 2021 edition.

Chapter 3 Definitions

3.1 General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this code. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.3* Code. A standard that is an extensive compilation of provisions covering broad subject matter or that is suitable for adoption into law independently of other codes and standards.

3.2.4 Labeled. Equipment or materials to which has been attached a label, symbol, or other identifying mark of an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of labeled equipment or materials, and by whose labeling the manufacturer indicates compliance with appropriate standards or performance in a specified manner.

3.2.5* Listed. Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with evaluation of products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

3.2.6 Shall. Indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.2.7 Should. Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

3.3 General Definitions.

3.3.1 Addition. An increase in the building area, aggregate floor area, building height, or number of stories of a structure. [5000, 2021]

3.3.2 Animal. For the purposes of this Code, an air-breathing vertebrate.

3.3.2.1* Confined Animals. Animals housed such that human intervention is required for their release and evacuation in case of emergency.

3.3.3* Animal Handler. A person responsible for the handling, grooming, and care of confined animals, or reasonably expected to assist in their handling and evacuation in case of emergency.

3.3.4* Animal Housing Facility. Area of a building or structure, including interior and adjacent exterior spaces, where animals are fed, rested, worked, exercised, treated, exhibited, or used for production.

3.3.5 Animal Housing Facility Categories.

3.3.5.1 Category 1 — Animal Health Care. Animal housing facilities used for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention of animals.

3.3.5.2 Category 1 Class A. Facilities where animals are observed overnight, not constantly attended, for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention.

3.3.5.3 Category 1 Class B. Facilities where animals are housed temporarily and constantly attended for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention.

3.3.5.4 Category 2 — Horse Facilities. Facilities used for temporary or permanent housing for horses.

3.3.5.5 Category 2 Class A. Facilities where horses are housed for general board and care in a commercial or professional facility greater than 5000 ft² (465 m²).

3.3.5.6 Category 2 Class B. Facilities where horses are housed for general board and care in a small commercial or professional facility less than 5000 ft² (465 m²).

3.3.5.7 Category 2 Class C. Facilities where horses are housed in small family stables.

3.3.5.8 Category 3 — Research. Facilities used for experimentation, education, or scientific experimentation or production research on animals in a controlled environment.

3.3.5.9 Category 5 — Exhibition/Public Viewing. Facilities that allow public access for the purpose of exhibition or public viewing of animals.

3.3.5.10 Category 5 Class A. Facilities where public attraction animals are permanently housed.

3.3.5.11 Category 5 Class B. Facilities where public attraction animals are temporarily housed.

3.3.5.12 Category 6 — General Board and Care. Facilities used for temporary or permanent housing of animals used for providing a service or participating in a sport or for the purposes of providing general board and care.

3.3.5.13 Category 6 Class A. Facilities where animals are housed without constant supervision.

3.3.5.14 Category 6 Class B. Facilities where animals are housed with constant supervision.

3.3.5.15 Category 7 — Agriculture. Animal housing facilities used for housing agricultural animals used for food or commodity production.

3.3.5.16 Category 7 Class A. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed for commercial use.

3.3.5.17 Category 7 Class B. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed in private residential-type animal housing.

3.3.5.18 Category 7 Class C. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed outdoors.

3.3.5.19 Category 8 — Emergency. Facilities used for the shelter or care of animals during an emergency event that are either temporary or not typically used for animal occupancy.

3.3.6 Building Height. The vertical distance from the grade plane to the average elevation of the highest roof surface. [5000, 2021]

3.3.7 Cage. A box or enclosure from which an animal or animals cannot normally escape without human intervention.

3.3.8 Confined Animals. See 3.3.2.1.

3.3.9 Feed Room. See 3.3.20.

3.3.10 Fire Resistance Rating. The time, in minutes or hours, that materials or assemblies have withstood a fire exposure as determined by the tests, or methods based on tests, prescribed by this *Code*. [5000, 2021]

3.3.11 General Public. People who do not have an intimate knowledge of the layout of the building or structure, or the general behavior of the animals at the facility, and are not intended personnel.

3.3.12 Intended Personnel. People working in the animal housing facility with an intimate knowledge of the layout of the building or structure and the general behavior of the animals at the facility, such as employees or students, who are not considered the general public.

3.3.13 Mechanical Utility Room. A room that primarily contains mechanical, electrical, plumbing, ventilation, or other utility equipment.

3.3.14 Modification. The reconfiguration of any space, the addition or elimination of any door or window, the addition or elimination of load-bearing elements, the reconfiguration or extension of any system, or the installation of any additional equipment. [5000, 2021]

3.3.15 Occupancy. The purpose for which a building or other structure, or part thereof, is used or intended to be used. [ASCE/SEI 7:1.2]

3.3.16* Protection. A device, material, or system that provides a specified level of safety to achieve a desired outcome.

N 3.3.17 Qualified. A competent and capable person who has met the requirements and training for a given field acceptable to the AHJ. [96, 2021]

3.3.18 Reconstruction. The reconfiguration of a space that affects an exit, or a corridor shared by more than a single tenant; or reconfiguration of space such that the rehabilitation work area is not permitted to be occupied because existing means of egress and fire protection systems, or their equivalent, are not in place or continuously maintained. [5000, 2021]

3.3.19 Renovation. The replacement in kind, strengthening, or upgrading of building elements, materials, equipment, or fixtures that does not result in a reconfiguration of the building or spaces within. [5000, 2021]

3.3.20 Stall. A room or compartment that normally houses one or more animals.

3.3.21 Tack. Stable gear; also harnesses, bridles, saddles, and other accessories used in riding or driving horses.

Chapter 4 General Requirements

4.1* Goals and Objectives.

4.1.1* Goals. The primary goals of this *Code* shall be safety and facility usability for both human and animal occupants, including property protection as it relates to the primary goals.

4.1.2* Objectives. To achieve the goals stated in 4.1.1, the goals and objectives of 4.1.3 and 4.1.4 shall be satisfied.

4.1.3 Safety. The intent of the safety goal of this *Code* shall be to reduce the probability of injury or death to both animal and

human occupants from fire, similar emergencies, and facility use.

▲ 4.1.3.1 Safety from Fire.

4.1.3.1.1* Safety-from-Fire Goals. The fire safety goals of this *Code* shall be as follows:

- (1) To provide a safe environment for human occupants inside an animal housing facility
- (2) To provide a safe environment for animal occupants inside or adjacent to a structure
- (3) To provide a level of safety for fire fighters and emergency responders during search-and-rescue operations for animal and human occupants
- (4) To minimize loss of property and interruption of facility operations from fire and similar emergencies to a level that is as low as reasonably practical

4.1.3.1.2 Safety-from-Fire Objectives.

4.1.3.1.2.1 Facilities shall be designed and constructed to protect human and animal occupants not intimate with the initial fire development for the time needed to evacuate, relocate, or defend in place.

4.1.3.1.2.2* Facilities shall be designed and constructed to allow fire fighters and emergency responders the ability to conduct search-and-rescue operations for animal and human occupants without sustaining permanent disabilities if conducted.

4.1.3.1.2.3 Facilities shall be designed and constructed to provide access to the structure for emergency responders.

4.1.3.2 Safety During Facility Use.

4.1.3.2.1* Safety-During-Facility-Use Goal. The safety-during-facility-use goal of this *Code* shall be to provide an environment for both the human and animal occupants of the facility that minimizes hazards and provides an approved means of egress at all times.

4.1.3.2.2 Safety-During-Facility-Use Objectives.

4.1.3.2.2.1 Facilities shall be designed and constructed to allow occupants to evacuate or defend in place during emergency or nonemergency operations without sustaining a permanent disability.

4.1.3.2.2.2 Facilities shall be designed and constructed to allow occupants to recognize the development of an unwanted fire at its incipient stage.

4.1.3.2.2.3* Facilities shall be designed and constructed to allow human occupants to evacuate animal occupants or provide defend-in-place measures depending on the animal category.

4.1.4 Usability Goal. The intent of the usability goal of this *Code* shall be to ensure that the facility is capable of functioning at the level for which it was designed.

4.1.4.1 Function.

4.1.4.1.1* Function Goal. The intent of the function goal of this *Code* shall be to ensure that a facility and its systems, features, and construction, throughout its life, provide capability of operation to satisfy the other goals of this *Code*.

4.1.4.1.2* Function Objective. Facilities shall be designed and constructed to provide assurance that its systems, features, and

construction are capable of performing their intended use to satisfy the objectives of this *Code*.

4.2 Fundamental Fire and Life Safety Requirements.

4.2.1 Multiple Safeguards.

4.2.1.1 The design of every facility intended for animal and human occupancy shall be such that reliance for property protection and safety to life does not depend solely on any single safeguard.

4.2.1.2 Additional safeguard(s) shall be provided for property protection and life safety in case any single safeguard is ineffective due to inappropriate animal or human actions, building failure, or system failure.

4.2.2 Appropriateness of Safeguards. Every facility shall be provided with means of egress and other fire and life safety safeguards of the kinds, numbers, locations, and capacities appropriate to the individual facility, with due regard to the following:

- (1) Character of the occupancy, including fire load
- (2) Characteristics and capabilities of both human and animal occupants and their responses to fire protection safeguards
- (3) Number of animals and persons exposed
- (4) Fire protection available
- (5) Height, size, and type of construction of the facility
- (6) Other factors necessary to provide animal and human occupants with a reasonable degree of safety
- (7) Other factors necessary to protect the facility and contents from unacceptable damage

4.2.3 Means of Egress. The minimum number of means of egress for human and animal occupants shall be in accordance with Chapter 8.

4.2.4* Occupant Notification. In every facility of such size, arrangement, or occupancy that a fire itself might not provide adequate occupant warning, fire alarm systems shall be provided where required to warn human occupants of the existence of fire.

4.2.5 System Design and Installation. Any fire protection system, building service equipment, feature of protection, or safeguard provided for fire and life safety shall be designed, installed, and approved in accordance with applicable NFPA codes and standards.

4.2.6 Limiting Fire Spread.

4.2.6.1 The interior surfaces of the facility shall not contribute to an unacceptable rate and magnitude of fire spread and generation of heat and smoke.

4.2.6.2 Where required by other chapters of this *Code*, every building shall be divided into compartments to limit the spread of fire and restrict the movement of smoke.

4.2.7 Structural Integrity. The facility's structural members and assemblies shall be provided with the required degree of fire resistance to limit structural damage, damage to the building and its contents, and damage to adjacent buildings and property.

4.3 General Requirements.

4.3.1 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ).

4.3.1.1 The AHJ shall determine whether the provisions of this *Code* are met.

4.3.1.2 Where it is evident that a reasonable degree of safety is provided, any requirement shall be permitted to be modified if, in the judgment of the AHJ, its application would be hazardous under normal occupancy conditions.

4.3.1.3* Any requirements that are essential for the safety of building occupants and that are not specifically provided for by this *Code* shall be determined by the AHJ.

4.3.2 Provisions in Excess of Code Requirements. Nothing in this *Code* shall be construed to prohibit a superior type of building construction, an additional means of egress, or an otherwise safer condition than that specified by the minimum requirements of this *Code*.

4.3.3 Maintenance and Testing.

4.3.3.1 Whenever or wherever any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, fire-resistive construction, or any other feature is required for compliance with the provisions of this *Code*, such device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, fire-resistive construction, or other feature shall thereafter be continuously maintained.

4.3.3.2 Maintenance shall be provided in accordance with applicable NFPA requirements or requirements developed as part of a performance-based design, or as directed by the AHJ.

4.3.3.3 No existing life safety feature shall be removed or reduced where such feature is a requirement in this *Code*.

4.3.3.4 Existing life safety features obvious to the public, if not required by the code, shall be either maintained or removed.

4.3.3.5 Any device, equipment, system, condition, arrangement, level of protection, fire-resistive construction, or any other feature requiring periodic testing, inspection, or operation to ensure its maintenance shall be tested, inspected, or operated as specified elsewhere in this *Code* or as directed by the AHJ.

4.3.3.6 Maintenance, inspection, and testing shall be performed under the supervision of a responsible person who shall ensure that testing, inspection, and maintenance are made at specified intervals in accordance with applicable NFPA standards or as directed by the AHJ.

4.3.4 Disaster/Emergency Management Program.

4.3.4.1* General. Disaster/emergency management programs shall be required in all animal housing facilities to protect and ensure the safety of the animal and human occupants during fire or other similar emergencies.

4.3.4.2 Program Requirements.

4.3.4.2.1* Disaster/emergency management programs shall be developed in accordance with *NFPA 1600* and shall include the procedures for reporting emergencies; the occupant and staff response to emergencies; the design and conduct of disaster/emergency drills; the type and coverage of building fire protection systems; a hazard assessment identifying hazards to

human and animal life; plans to monitor and reduce known hazards; and other items required by the AHJ.

4.3.4.2.2 Required disaster/emergency management programs shall be submitted to the AHJ for review and approval if required.

4.3.4.2.3 Disaster/emergency management programs shall be reviewed and updated annually.

4.3.4.2.4 Revised plans shall be submitted for review and updates shall be provided whenever changes are made in the occupancy or physical arrangement of the building or fire protection systems or features.

4.3.4.2.5 Floor plans shall be provided to the AHJ, if required.

4.3.4.2.6 In accordance with the disaster/emergency management program, equipment designated as necessary for the evacuation or relocation of animals shall be accessible at all times.

4.3.4.2.7 Information regarding the disaster/emergency management program shall be posted for reference.

4.3.4.2.8 Where animals pose a danger to first responder health or safety, the disaster/emergency management program shall be shared with the AHJ and instructional signage indicating hazards and special procedures shall be posted.

4.3.5* Disaster/Emergency Drills.

4.3.5.1 General. Disaster/emergency drills conforming to the provisions of this *Code* shall be conducted in cooperation with the local authorities and as specified by this *Code* or by the AHJ.

4.3.5.2 Drill Frequency.

4.3.5.2.1 Where required by this *Code* or the AHJ, disaster/emergency drills shall be held to familiarize occupants with the drill procedure and to establish conduct of the drill as a matter of routine.

4.3.5.2.2* Disaster/emergency drills shall include procedures to ensure that all persons subject to the drill participate.

Chapter 5 Reserved

Chapter 6 Animal Housing Categories

6.1 General.

6.1.1* Occupancy Classification.

6.1.1.1 The general occupancy classification of a facility housing animals shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 6 of *NFPA 5000* or Chapter 6 of *NFPA 101*.

6.1.1.2 Animal housing facility categories shall be subject to the ruling of the AHJ where there is a question of classification.

6.1.2 Occupancy Separations. The separations required between different occupancies shall be in accordance with Chapter 6 of *NFPA 5000* or Chapter 6 of *NFPA 101*.

6.2 Animal Housing Facility Categories. The occupancy of a facility housing animals shall be subclassified in accordance with this section.

6.2.1 Category 1 — Animal Health Care.

6.2.1.1 Definition. Animal housing facilities used for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention of animals.

6.2.1.2* Category 1 Class A. Facilities where animals are observed overnight, not constantly attended for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention.

6.2.1.3* Category 1 Class B. Facilities where animals are housed temporarily and constantly attended for short-term care, maintenance, or medical attention.

6.2.2 Category 2 — Horse Facilities.

6.2.2.1* Definition. Facilities used for temporary or permanent housing for horses.

6.2.2.2* Category 2 Class A. Facilities where horses are housed for general board and care in a commercial or professional facility greater than 5000 ft² (465 m²).

6.2.2.3* Category 2 Class B. Facilities where horses are housed for general board and care in a small commercial or professional facility less than 5000 ft² (465 m²).

6.2.2.4* Category 2 Class C. Facilities where horses are housed in small family stables.

6.2.3 Category 3 — Research.

6.2.3.1* Definition. Facilities used for experimentation, education, or scientific experimentation or production research on animals in a controlled environment.

6.2.4 Category 4. (Reserved)

6.2.5 Category 5 — Exhibition/Public Viewing.

6.2.5.1 Definition. Facilities that allow public access for the purpose of exhibition or public viewing of animals.

6.2.5.2* Category 5 Class A. Facilities where public attraction animals are permanently housed.

6.2.5.3* Category 5 Class B. Facilities where public attraction animals are temporarily housed.

6.2.6 Category 6 — General Board and Care.

6.2.6.1* Definition. Facilities used for temporary or permanent housing of animals used for providing a service, participating in a sport, or the purposes of providing general board and care.

6.2.6.2* Category 6 Class A. Facilities where animals are housed without constant supervision.

6.2.6.3* Category 6 Class B. Facilities where animals are housed with constant supervision.

6.2.7 Category 7 — Agriculture.

6.2.7.1 Definition. Animal housing facilities used for housing agricultural animals used for food or commodity production animals.

6.2.7.2* Category 7 Class A. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed for commercial use.

6.2.7.3* Category 7 Class B. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed in private residential-type animal housing.

6.2.7.4* Category 7 Class C. Facilities where agricultural animals are housed outdoors.

6.2.8 Category 8 — Emergency.

6.2.8.1* Definition. Facilities used for the shelter or care of animals during an emergency event that are either temporary or not typically used for animal occupancy.

6.3 Multiple Categories.

6.3.1* Multiple categories shall comply with the requirements of one of the following:

- (1) Mixed categories (*see 6.3.3*)
- (2) Separated categories (*see 6.3.4*)

6.3.2 Definitions.

6.3.2.1 Mixed Categories. A facility in which multiple categories are intermingled.

6.3.2.2 Multiple Categories. A facility in which two or more categories of animal housing facilities exist.

6.3.2.3 Separated Categories. A facility in which multiple categories are separated by fire-resistance-rated assemblies.

6.3.3 Mixed Categories.

6.3.3.1 Each portion of the facility shall be categorized as to its use in accordance with Section 6.2.

6.3.3.2 The building shall comply with the most restrictive requirements of the categories involved, unless separate safeguards are approved.

6.3.3.3* Where incidental to another occupancy, mercantile, business, industrial, or storage usage shall be subject to the predominant occupancy.

6.3.4 Separated Categories.

6.3.4.1 Where separated categories are provided, each part of the structure comprising a distinct category, as described in this chapter, shall be completely separated from other categories by fire-resistive assemblies in accordance with NFPA 101 or NFPA 5000, as specified in 6.3.4 and Table 6.3.4.1, unless separation is provided by approved existing separations.

6.3.4.2 Category separations shall be classified as 1-hour fire-resistance-rated and shall meet the requirements of Chapter 8 of NFPA 5000 or Chapter 8 of NFPA 101.

6.3.4.3 Category separations shall be vertical, horizontal, or both, or, where necessary, of such other form as required to provide complete separation between category divisions in the structure.

6.3.4.4 Where the category separation is horizontal, structural members supporting the separation shall be protected by an equivalent fire-resistive construction.

6.3.5 Change in Category. If there is a change in category, the facility shall meet the requirements for the new category.

Table 6.3.4.1 Category Separation Fire Rating (hr)

	1A	1B	2A	2B	2C	3	4	5A	5B	6A	6B	7A	7B	7C	8
1A	X	1	1	NR	NR	1	–	NR	1	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
1B	1	X	1	1	1	1	–	1	1	1	1	1	1	NR	NR
2A	1	1	X	1	NR	1	–	1	1	1	1	1	1	NR	NR
2B	NR	1	1	X	1	1	–	1	1	NR	1	1	1	NR	NR
2C	NR	1	NR	1	X	1	–	1	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR
3	1	1	1	1	1	X	–	1	1	1	1	1	1	NR	NR
4	–	–	–	–	–	–	X	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5A	1	1	1	1	1	1	–	X	NR	1	NR	1	1	NR	NR
5B	1	1	1	1	1	1	–	NR	X	NR	1	NR	NR	NR	NR
6A	NR	1	1	1	NR	1	–	1	1	X	1	NR	NR	NR	NR
6B	NR	1	NR	1	NR	1	–	NR	1	1	X	NR	NR	NR	NR
7A	NR	1	1	1	NR	1	–	1	NR	NR	NR	X	NR	NR	NR
7B	NR	1	1	1	NR	1	–	1	NR	NR	NR	NR	X	NR	NR
7C	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	–	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	X	NR
8	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	–	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	X

NR: Not required.

6.4 Hazard of Contents.

6.4.1 General.

6.4.1.1 For the purpose of this *Code*, the hazard of contents shall be the relative danger of the start and spread of fire, the danger of smoke or gases generated, and the danger of explosion or other occurrence potentially endangering the lives and safety of the occupants of the building or structure.

6.4.1.2 Hazard of contents shall be classified by the registered design professional (RDP) or owner and submitted to the AHJ for review and approval on the basis of the character of the contents and the processes or operations conducted in the building or structure.

6.4.1.3 For the purpose of the code, where different degrees of hazard of contents exist in different parts of a building or structure, the most hazardous shall govern the classification, unless hazardous areas are separated or protected.

6.4.2 Classification of Hazard of Contents.

6.4.2.1 General. The hazard of contents of any building or structure shall be classified as low, ordinary, or high in accordance with 6.4.2.2, 6.4.2.3, and 6.4.2.4.

6.4.2.2 Low Hazard Contents. Low hazard contents shall be classified as those of such low combustibility that no self-propagating fire therein can occur.

6.4.2.3 Ordinary Hazard Contents. Ordinary hazard contents shall be classified as those that are likely to burn with moderate rapidity or to give off a considerable volume of smoke.

6.4.2.4 High Hazard Contents. High hazard contents shall be classified as those that are likely to burn with extreme rapidity or from which explosions are likely.

Chapter 7 Construction and Separation Requirements

7.1* Types of Construction. The types of construction for animal housing facilities shall be in accordance with NFPA 220 or Section 7.2 of *NFPA 5000*.

7.2 Height and Area Requirements.

7.2.1 General. The height and area requirements for the category of the animal housing facility shall be in accordance with Section 7.4 of *NFPA 5000*.

7.2.1.1 Exterior areas such as corrals, paddocks, or other fenced holding areas attached to animal housing facilities shall not be included in the calculated allowable area per story.

7.2.1.2 If such exterior areas are partially or totally covered by extended roof structures integral with the building, the line of primary structure supporting such roofed areas shall be considered exterior wall lines when determining location on property.

7.2.2* Additional Requirements. In addition to the requirements of 7.2.1, the allowable number of stories above grade where the animal housing facilities are permitted and the allowable area per story of animal housing facilities shall not exceed the limits set forth in Table 7.2.2. The values in Table 7.2.2 for sprinklered facilities shall apply to facilities protected throughout with an approved, electrically supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 9.2.

7.2.2.1 In Table 7.2.2, a one-story building of Type II construction for Categories 3, 5, 7, and 8 shall not be limited in area where the building is surrounded and adjoined by public ways or yards not less than 60 ft (18 m) in width.

7.2.3 Maximum Facility Area. The maximum area of the animal housing facilities within a building or structure shall be determined by multiplying the allowable area per story, as determined by Table 7.2.2, by the facility's number of stories up to a maximum of three stories.

7.2.4 Multiple Categories. Where an animal housing facility is occupied by animals of two or more categories, the animal housing facility shall comply with 7.2.4.

7.2.4.1 Mixed Categories. Animal housing facilities with mixed categories complying with 6.3.3 shall have their required type of construction determined by applying the most restrictive type of construction to the entire animal housing facility.

Table 7.2.2 Allowable Area Factor in ft² per Story

Occupancy Classification	See Footnotes	Type of Construction								
		Type I		Type II*		Type III		Type IV	Type V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	A	A	B
Category 1-A	NS	UL	UL	15,000	11,000	12,000	NP	12,000	9,500	NP
	S1	UL	UL	60,000	44,000	48,000	NP	48,000	38,000	NP
	SM	UL	UL	45,000	33,000	36,000	NP	36,000	28,500	NP
Category 1-B	NS	UL	55,000	19,000	10,000	16,500	10,000	18,000	10,500	4,500
	S1	UL	220,000	76,000	40,000	66,000	40,000	72,000	42,000	18,000
	SM	UL	165,000	57,000	30,000	49,500	30,000	54,000	31,500	13,500
Category 2-A	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000
Category 2-B	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000
Category 2-C	NS	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	S1	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	SM	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Category 3	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000
Category 4		(Reserved)								
Category 5-A R-2 (A-3)	NS	UL	UL	24,400 (15,000)	16,000 (9,500)	24,000 (14,000)	16,000 (9,500)	20,500 (15,000)	12,000 (11,500)	7,000 (6,000)
	S1	UL	UL	96,000 (62,000)	64,000 (38,000)	96,000 (56,000)	64,000 (38,000)	82,000 (60,000)	48,000 (46,000)	28,000 (24,000)
	SM	UL	UL	72,000 (46,500)	48,000 (28,500)	72,000 (42,000)	48,000 (28,500)	61,500 (45,000)	36,000 (34,500)	21,000 (18,000)
Category 5-B	NS	UL	UL	24,400 (15,000)	16,000 (9,500)	24,000 (14,000)	16,000 (9,500)	20,500 (15,000)	12,000 (11,500)	7,000 (6,000)
	S1	UL	UL	96,000 (62,000)	64,000 (38,000)	96,000 (56,000)	64,000 (38,000)	82,000 (60,000)	48,000 (46,000)	28,000 (24,000)
	SM	UL	UL	72,000 (46,500)	48,000 (28,500)	72,000 (42,000)	48,000 (28,500)	61,500 (45,000)	36,000 (34,500)	21,000 (18,000)
Category 6-A	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000
Category 6-B	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000
Category 7-A	NS	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	S1	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	SM	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL

(continues)

Shaded text = Revisions.  = Text deletions and figure/table revisions. • = Section deletions.  = New material



Table 7.2.2 *Continued*

Occupancy Classification	See Footnotes	Type of Construction								
		Type I		Type II*		Type III		Type IV	Type V	
		A	B	A	B	A	B	A	A	B
Category 7-B	NS	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	S1	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	SM	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
Category 7-C	NS	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	S1	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL	UL
	SM	UL								
Category 8	NS	UL	UL	24,400	16,000	24,000	16,000	20,500	12,000	7,000
	S1	UL	UL	96,000	64,000	96,000	64,000	82,000	48,000	28,000
	SM	UL	UL	72,000	48,000	72,000	48,000	61,500	36,000	21,000

For SI units, 1 ft = 0.3048 m, 1 ft² = 0.093 m².

UL: Unlimited. NP: Not permitted.

S1: Sprinklered one-story. Allowable facility height in feet and allowable number of stories above grade in facilities protected with an automatic sprinkler system as specified in 7.2.2.

SM: Sprinklered multistory. Allowable facility height in feet and allowable number of stories above grade in facilities protected with an automatic sprinkler system as specified in 7.2.2.

NS: Nonsprinklered. Allowable facility height in feet and allowable number of stories above grade in facilities not protected with an automatic sprinkler system as specified in 7.2.2.

Note: Within each category, "Stories" refers to the allowable number of stories above grade where the animal housing facilities are permitted to be located; "Area" refers to the allowable area per story.

*See 7.2.2.1.

7.2.4.2 Separated Categories. Animal housing facilities with separated occupancies complying with 6.2.4 shall have their required type of construction determined in accordance with 7.2.4.2.1 and 7.2.4.2.2.

7.2.4.2.1 The location of each separated category in the animal housing facility shall comply with the story requirements of 7.2.2.

7.2.4.2.2 For each story in the animal housing facility, the sum of the ratios of the per story area of each separated category divided by the allowable area per story as determined by Table 7.2.2 shall not exceed 1.0.

7.3 Stall, Cage, and Enclosure Requirements.

7.3.1 Stalls, cages, and enclosure requirements shall be based on established standards for the specific animal and facility type.

7.3.2* Animal enclosures shall not interfere with egress or extrication from the enclosure.

7.3.3* Modifications to 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 shall be permitted for temporary holding areas with the approval of the AHJ.

7.4 Exposure Protection. Adjacent buildings shall be separated in accordance with Chapter 7 of *NFPA 5000*.

7.5 Structural Design.

7.5.1 Structural design shall be subject to the requirements of Chapter 35 of *NFPA 5000* and this section.

7.5.2* Structural design criteria for walls and fence assemblies providing animal containment shall be designed to withstand the horizontal forces exerted by the animal occupants.

7.6 Fire-Rated Separations Between Animal Housing Facilities and Hazardous Areas.

7.6.1 Where required by the occupancy chapters, animal housing facilities shall be separated with a 2-hour fire-resistance-rated enclosure from hazardous areas, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Feed rooms over 100 ft² (9.3 m²)
- (2) Tack rooms over 100 ft² (9.3 m²)
- (3) Vehicle or equipment storage rooms over 100 ft² (9.3 m²)
- (4) Blacksmith shops using open flames
- (5) Kitchens with commercial cooking equipment
- (6) Mechanical equipment rooms with fuel-fired equipment
- (7) Laundry rooms
- (8) Hot water power washer rooms
- (9) Electrical rooms
- (10) Generator rooms
- (11) Similar areas

7.6.2 In buildings protected throughout with an approved, supervised automatic sprinkler system in accordance with NFPA 13, animal housing facilities shall be permitted to be separated with a 1-hour fire-resistance-rated enclosure from the hazardous areas identified in 7.6.1.

7.7 Wildland/Urban Interface or Wildland/Urban Intermix. Animal housing facilities located in a wildland/urban interface