



Definitions and Standards for Animal Evaluation

Creating a Process to Accurately Report
Pet Overpopulation, Adoptions and Euthanasia
for the SPCA of Texas

INTRODUCTION

Using the Asilomar Accords evaluation process allows animal care agencies to present an accurate position to the public about pet overpopulation and the relationship between resources and live release rate. By establishing common definitions and benchmarks, animal care agencies will be equipped with neutral and consistent language to use when educating the public about pet overpopulation and the resulting need for euthanasia.

This document presents definitions, disposition criteria and data reporting methods utilized by the SPCA of Texas. The SPCA of Texas will continue to use its own internal procedures for evaluating animals for adoption. The SPCA of Texas is committed to respecting the perimeters of the document and keeping a high standard of statistic integrity.

This document will be reviewed annually to reflect changes in practices.

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions were created in November 2007.

Abandoned	The intentional and/or negligent act of an owner/guardian that creates a homeless situation for a canine or feline.
Adopted	The transfer of a canine or feline from a shelter to a new owner/guardian or service animal organization.
Animals in care	A physical count at the beginning or end of a reporting period of animals that are in the care of a shelter, rescue organization, or foster home.
Euthanasia	Humanely terminate a canine or feline's life.
Euthanasia Request	Canine or feline euthanasia performed at the specific request of the owner/guardian.
Feral	A domestic feline that comes in with eyes dilated; crouched in the furthest area of the kennel, trap or carrier; frozen during the day, destructive at night; enters the shelter in a trap; intact or ear-tipped; resistant to human contact; no identification; explosive activity only when touch is attempted or when cat is loose; little or no vocalization. While a non-feral cat may enter a shelter displaying some of these points, a feral cat will generally display most of these conditions.
Foster	Temporary off-site care without the transfer of ownership/guardianship.
Healthy	Means and includes all dogs and cats eight weeks of age or older that, at or subsequent to the time the animal is taken into possession, have manifested no sign of a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that could pose a health or safety risk or otherwise make the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and have manifested no sign of disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal or that is likely to adversely affect the animal's health in the future.
Kitten	A feline six months of age or younger.

Limited Admission Shelter	An agency that accepts animals on a space-available basis; admission may be subject to health and/or temperament criteria, or limited by the agency's mission.
Live Release Rate	The percentage of dogs and cats that are successfully released from an organization.
Open Admission Shelter	An agency that accepts animals regardless of health, temperament, or space.
Owner/Guardian	Any individual or agency that owns, possesses, keeps, exercises control over, maintains, harbors, transports, or sells a canine or feline.
Puppy	A canine six months of age or younger.
Relinquish	Surrender of ownership/guardianship of canine or feline to shelter or rescue organization.
Re-qualified	The canine or feline was initially deemed healthy or treatable but later exhibited behavioral or medical conditions that required re-categorization to unhealthy/untreatable.
Rescue	Any person or group that accepts pet animals for the purpose of finding permanent adoptive homes for animals and does not maintain a central facility for keeping animals, but rather uses a system of fostering in private homes, boarding or keeping in licensed pet animal facilities.
RTO	Return to Owner – Canine or feline reunited or reclaimed by owner/guardian.
SAFER Grade	A grade (A-F) assigned to an animal that has been evaluated using the SAFER test.
Shelter	An organization that accepts pet animals for the purpose of finding permanent adoptive homes for animals and maintains a central facility for housing and keeping animals.
Stray	A lost canine or feline in the custody of a shelter.

TNR	Trap, Neuter, Release / Return- a program to reduce feral cat populations by trapping, sterilizing, and releasing cats so they cannot reproduce.
Transfer In	The acceptance of responsibility for the well being of a canine or feline from one shelter or rescue organization to another.
Transfer Out	The release and assignment of responsibility for the well being of a canine or feline from one shelter or rescue organization to another.
Treatable	Means and includes all dogs and cats who are “rehabilitatable” and all dogs and cats who are “manageable.”
Treatable Manageable	Means and includes all dogs and cats who are not “healthy” and who are not likely to become “healthy,” regardless of the care provided; but who would likely maintain a satisfactory quality of life, if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care, including long-term care, equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; provided, however, that the term “manageable” does not include any dog or cat who is determined to pose a significant risk to human health or safety or to the health or safety of other animals.
Treatable Rehabilitatable	Means and includes all dogs and cats who are not “healthy,” but who are likely to become “healthy,” if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.
TTVARM	A management program to trap, test, vaccinate, alter, return, and manage (TTVARM) feral cats, with the goal of stabilizing and eventually eliminating the colony through attrition.

Unhealthy and Untreatable

Means and includes dogs and cats who, at or subsequent to the time they are taken into possession, (1) have a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that poses a health or safety risk or otherwise makes the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or (2) are suffering from a disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the animal’s health or is likely to adversely affect the animal’s health in the future, and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or (3) are under the age of eight weeks and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable,” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.

Wildlife Release

Wildlife released from an organization, back into the wild.

Wildlife Transfer

The acceptance of responsibility for the well being of a wild animal from a shelter to a licensed sanctuary or rehabilitation center.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each canine or feline will be assigned a category following intake evaluation, and will be categorized as H (healthy), T/R (treatable/rehabilitatable), T/M (treatable/manageable), or U/U (unhealthy/untreatable) based on the following evaluation criteria. **Once assigned a category, the animal stays in that category unless re-qualified to unhealthy/untreatable.** Requalification only occurs if the newly identified condition would have been defined as unhealthy/untreatable had it been discovered upon intake, For example, a dog found to have dysplasia after being categorized as healthy does not become requalified because dysplasia is considered treatable/manageable. Animals whose conditions result in the assignment of multiple evaluation categories will be assigned the lowest category, as that will be the condition that would require the highest amount of resources to rehabilitate and/or manage.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
AGGRESSION	The animal has displayed biting, attacking or behavior that threatens or endangers animals or people.	U/U	Animals that are aggressive toward humans, dogs, cats and other species, place the staff and community at risk. Animals with overt aggression are automatically categorized as unhealthy/untreatable. SAFER D (stare) SAFER F (stare, sensitivity, tag, pinch, dog to dog)
AGGRESSION-HISTORY	The animal has a history of biting or attacking and endangering people and/or animals	U/U	The animal has a history of biting, threatening, or attacking a human. Animal has severely injured or killed another animal.
AGGRESSION - POSSESSION	The animal has displayed aggression over possessions or food.	T/M	Dogs are evaluated on level of severity through history or observation. SAFER D (food, toy) SAFER F (food, toy)
ALLERGY	The animal exhibits skin problems or other symptoms of severe allergies.	T/M	Severe allergies can cause hair loss, red itchy skin and self-mutilation. Diagnosis and treatment of allergic skin disease is difficult and life long. Animals with skin irritation from allergies could be adopted depending on the severity, however patrons must sign a medical disclosure that they are aware of the extensive diagnostic and

			treatment needs of the animal.
AUTO IMMUNE DISEASE	A veterinarian has determined that the animal has a serious autoimmune disease.	U/U	An autoimmune disease is one where the animal produces antibodies against its own tissue. Depending on the tissue involved and the severity of the symptoms, these diseases can be very severe. Many animals with autoimmune disease have severe and life long medical problems which can require euthanasia.
CANCER-TERMINAL	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with terminal cancer.	U/U	When cancer is terminal.
CANCER-TREATABLE	Treatable cancer.	T/M	Some cancers may be treatable.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
DECEASED	An animal is DOA or dies while at the SPCA.	U/U	Deceased animals still must be assigned an Asilomar status.
DISTEMPER (CANINE)	A veterinarian has diagnosed the dog with canine distemper	U/U	Although it can be treated, it is highly contagious to other dogs, can be fatal, and has long-term health effects. Euthanasia may be considered due to a lack of available resources or the severity of the outbreak.
DISTEMPER (FELINE)	A veterinarian has diagnosed a cat with feline panleukopenia.	U/U	A disease that is difficult to treat, highly contagious to other cats, can be fatal, and has long-term health effects. Euthanasia may be considered due to a lack of available resources or the severity of the outbreak.
DYSPLASIA	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with dysplasia.	T/M	The progressive nature of this disease requires extraordinary expense. The animal may be adopted out under special conditions to a home what is willing to put forth the expense for treatment. A medical disclosure should be provided when aware of the situation.
ESCAPE	The animal has displayed extreme escaping behaviors.	T/M	The animal may have history of a strong pattern of escaping behavior or the history does not indicate escaping behaviors but such behavior is observed. SAFER D (tag)
EXOTIC	Exotic animals are not appropriate as pets.	U/U	These animals are usually transferred to rescue groups who specialize in their care and treatment.
EXTERNAL PARASITES	External parasites are seen or diagnosed as being on the animal's body (fleas, ticks, ear mites).	T/R	Most animals can be successfully rehabilitated with medications or external parasite treatments.
FEARFUL	The animal has displayed extremely fearful behavior.	T/M	Animal has no history or the history does not indicate fearful, but behavior is observed.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
FEARFUL-HISTORY	The animal's history of fearful behavior includes extreme reaction in a diversity of circumstances.	T/M	While some animals may have a very specific fear that can be avoided through restricted adoption circumstances, it is not always safe or realistic. (NOTE: An animal with a history of fearful behavior may or may not display fear in the kennel environment).
FeLV	The animal has been diagnosed as feline leukemia positive	U/U	This condition is contagious and eventually fatal.
FERAL ADULT (WITH EAR NOTCH)	The animal (older than 4 months) is feral and a danger to staff because it cannot be safely handled but it has an ear notch.	T/M	Feral adults with an ear notch are typically part of a managed colony. These animals will be referred to a feral cat organization. Under definitions, see feral.
FERAL ADULT (NO EAR NOTCH)	The animal (older than 4 months) is feral and a danger to staff because it cannot be safely handled.	U/U	Feral adults are observed during the evaluation period to ensure they are truly feral and not simply upset domestic cats.
FERAL JUVENILE (0-12 weeks)	Kitten less than 12 weeks	T/R	Kittens can be socialized to become adoptable animals if they receive socialization early in life.
FERAL JUVENILE (12 weeks +)	Kitten over 12 weeks	U/U	There is great difficulty in properly socializing feral kittens over 12 weeks old.
FIP	A veterinarian diagnosed the animal with feline infectious peritonitis.	U/U	This condition is fatal.
FIV	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with Feline Immunodeficiency Virus.	U/U	FIV is a contagious disease that causes suppression of the immune system. Most cats with FIV will have a shortened life & die of illnesses related to their deficient immune system.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
FLUTD	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease.	T/M	The animal has a history of urinary tract infections and blockages. This is a painful condition and can be a chronic one. Cats that have a urinary infection may be treated and adopted with a medical disclosure.
FLUTD (CHRONIC)	Chronic FLUTD	U/U	Cats with chronic problems are euthanized.
GERIATRIC 13+	A veterinarian or staff member has determined that the animal is 13+ years old.	U/U	Older animals may have health-related issues and may be more prone to stress in a shelter environment, further compromising their health.
GERIATRIC 7-12	A veterinarian or staff member has determined that the animal is between 7 and 12 years old.	T/M	Older animals can successfully be placed into new homes if they are healthy and pass the behavior evaluation.
HEALTHY	Animal has no noted medical or behavioral issues.	H	Upon health and behavior evaluations, the animal appears healthy.
HEART-WORM	The animal has tested positive for heartworm.	T/R	This is a treatable disease that requires substantial resources to identify and treat. The animal may be adopted out under special conditions to a home that is willing to put forth the expense for treatment. Staff will provide medical disclosure.
HIGH AROUSAL	The dog exhibits high arousal levels, combining behaviors of frantic mouthing, incessant tugging on leash in a tug-of-war manner, jumping on a person and doesn't stop when there is a lack of interaction, animal may vocalize during event.	U/U	Behavior is observed. There are a number of training videos available to help staff recognize high arousal behaviors. SAFER C (stare, sensitivity, tag)

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
HOUSE SOILING & ELIMINATION-HISTORY	The animal has a history of house soiling.	T/M	Many house soiling problems can be resolved in a different household environment and/or training method. However, many long-term/chronic problems can be difficult, if not impossible, to resolve (chronic CAT house soiling can be especially challenging). The stress of transition to/from the shelter environment may make the situation less likely to be resolvable in a new home. To consider: duration & complexity of problem, possible medical cause, and previous efforts for resolution.
HYBRID	A dog or cat that is a cross between wild and domestic animals.	U/U	Canine and feline hybrids can be dangerous. Consideration can be given to transferring animals to a licensed, qualified sanctuary or rescue.
INFANT SMALL MAMMAL	New born small mammal.	U/U	Newborns that are hairless, with eyes closed are euthanized because of stress-induced infanticide, high morbidity and mortality, difficulty to sex, pre-pubetal and prolific reproduction and the inability to terminate pregnancy.
INJURED	The animal has a treatable injury such as a broken leg or eye injury.	T/R	These animals have injuries that could be treated. Considerations include the magnitude of the injury, and the medical resources to recover. Some animals may require euthanasia and should be categorized as Medical- Emergency or Severe.
INTESTINAL PARASITES	The animal is diagnosed with an intestinal parasite (roundworms, hookworms, coccidian, tapeworms, giardia).	T/R	Most animals can be successfully treated with a course of de-worming medication or antibiotics.
KENNEL COUGH (CANINE)	The animal exhibits symptoms of kennel cough.	T/R	The dog has an upper respiratory infection that is treatable, and the animal should recover from the disease.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
MALNOURISHED	A veterinarian has diagnosed an animal as being malnourished.	T/R	Depending on the severity, an animal can turn around with proper diet and nutrition. If organ damage occurs, euthanasia may be recommended.
MANGE (DEMODECTIC)	The animal has demodectic mange.	T/R	Some forms of mange are zoonotic or contagious to other animals.
MANGE (SARCOPTIC)	The animal has sarcoptic mange.	T/R	Some forms of mange are zoonotic or contagious to other animals.
MEDICAL - EMERGENCY (LIFE THREATENING)	A veterinarian or supervisor makes the determination that an animal is so injured or so ill that it is euthanized.	U/U	The animal has no chance of recovery and/or is in extreme pain that cannot be humanely managed.
MEDICAL - MODERATE	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with a moderate medical condition.	T/M	Condition would shorten or limit the quality of life but could possibly be medically managed, such as eye/ear conditions, anorexia, obesity and dental disease.
MEDICAL - SEVERE	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with a severe medical condition.	U/U	Condition is life-long, has a high rate of fatality or high level of contagion, such as anal/vaginal conditions, organ failure, diabetes and neurological conditions.
MURMUR	A veterinarian has diagnosed an animal with heart murmur.	T/M	If the murmur is not of a severe nature, the animal may go up for adoption with a medical release.
MURMUR (GRADE 5 +)	A veterinarian has diagnosed an animal with heart murmur	U/U	If the murmur is a grade 5 out of 6 the animal will be euthanized
PARVO (CANINE)	A veterinarian has diagnosed the dog with canine parvovirus.	U/U	Although it can be treated, the disease is highly contagious and is often fatal. Dogs that survive treatment can be afflicted with long-term health problems.
PHYSICAL DISABILITY- SEVERE	The animal has one or more severe physical disabilities.	U/U	Animals with severe physical disabilities cause the pet to endure constant pain and/or stress. It can place the animal at life threatening risk in the environment.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
PHYSICALLY IMPAIRED	Animal may be blind, deaf or missing a limb, but otherwise healthy.	T/M	Animals can overcome the loss of a sense or limb, if they are otherwise healthy. An example may be cerebellum hypoplasia.
PREGNANT	The animal is pregnant.	T/R	Pregnancies may be terminated and females spayed.
RINGWORM	The animal has ringworm.	T/R	Ringworm is treatable; however the animal must be isolated for an extended period of time during treatment. Ringworm is highly contagious to people and animals.
SEIZURES	A veterinarian has determined that the animal has seizures or the animal has come in with a history of seizures.	T/M	Some forms of seizures, like epilepsy, may be treatable with lifetime medications.
SEPARATION ANXIETY-HISTORY	The animal has a history of severe destructive behavior like eating through walls, doors, and fences or extreme escaping activity. May exhibit self-destructive behavior or classic separation anxiety elimination behavior.	U/U	Animals may be placed in restrictive adoption circumstances.
THYROID	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with a hypothyroid condition or a hyperthyroid condition.	T/M	The animal could live a quality life with daily medication. The animal could be adopted with a full medical release, however, patron should be fully aware that the animal could develop additional medical problems due to its condition. Additionally, treatment of thyroid conditions can be substantial, depending on the type and severity.
TIME/SPACE	The animal qualified as healthy and was euthanized to make space in adoptions.	H	Due to limited resources and pet over-population, the risk for healthy animals to be euthanized is always present.

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
TOO YOUNG	The cat or dog is under eight weeks and weighs less than two pounds.	T/R	Animals less than two pounds and two months of age need additional time/care before being placed up for adoption. These animals can be placed in foster care, when possible.
UNSOCIALIZED	The animal has not been socialized and is therefore very defensive and/or fearful in common circumstances.	T/M	Many very young unsocialized animals can be successfully rehabilitated. (ALSO SEE "FERAL")
URI (FELINE)	The animal is exhibiting symptoms of upper respiratory infection.	T/R	Occasionally URI can become a chronic health problem, but is usually still treatable with a medical disclosure.
WILDLIFE	The animal is non-domestic (songbirds, raptors, squirrels, wolves, fox etc.).	U/U	Although we may sometimes euthanize ill, injured, or dangerous wild animals, these animals are usually released or referred to a licensed rehabilitator.

Requalification Criteria

Condition	Description	Category	Explanation
RQ/ AGGRESSIVE	The animal has displayed biting, attacking, endangering animals or people after being kenneled for adoption.	RQ	Animals displaying aggressive behavior will be reassessed for adoptability. Aggressive animals are euthanized.
RQ/ FAILURE TO THRIVE	The animal is failing to thrive (not gaining or losing weight, refusing to eat, not growing).	RQ	Sometimes animals, for no apparent reason or because of prolonged illness fail to thrive. They fail to gain weight; lose weight; forced feeding and/or fluids do not bring a discernable improvement in condition.
RQ/ MEDICAL SEVERE	A veterinarian has diagnosed the animal with a severe medical condition.	RQ	Veterinary diagnosis was determined after original categorization was made.
RQ/ HIGH AROUSAL	A dog exhibits high arousal levels such as frantic mouthing, incessant tugging on leash, jumping up on a person and doesn't stop when there is a lack of interaction; animal may vocalize during event.	RQ	Behavior is observed.

LIVE RELEASE RATE

The **LIVE RELEASE RATE** of canines and felines was adopted in January 2008. This formula will be used to determine the percentage of dogs and cats that are successfully released from an organization. **All agencies will report their LIVE RELEASE RATE using the following method of calculation.**

		Dog	Cat	Total
A	BEGINNING SHELTER COUNT (date)			
	INTAKE (Live Dogs & Cats Only)			
B	From the Public			
C	Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition			
D	Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Community/Coalition			
E	From Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia			
F	Total Intake [B + C + D + E]			
G	Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only)			
H	ADJUSTED TOTAL INTAKE [F minus G]			
I	ADOPTIONS			
J	OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Organizations within Community/Coalition			
K	OUTGOING TRANSFERS to Organizations outside Community/Coalition			
L	RETURN TO OWNER/GUARDIAN			
	DOGS & CATS EUTHANIZED			
M	Healthy (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)			
N	Treatable – Rehabilitatable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)			
O	Treatable – Manageable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)			
P	Unhealthy & Untreatable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia)			
Q	Total Euthanasia [M + N + O + P]			
R	Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only)			
S	ADJUSTED TOTAL EUTHANASIA [Q minus R]			
T	SUBTOTAL OUTCOMES [I + J + K + L + S] Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only)			
U	DIED OR LOST IN SHELTER/CARE			
V	TOTAL OUTCOMES [T + U] Excludes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only)			
W	ENDING SHELTER COUNT (date)			

Calculation for an individual agency:

Adoptions + All Outgoing Transfers + Return to Owner/Guardian *divided by* Total Outcomes excluding owner/guardian requested euthanasia (unhealthy and untreatable), and dogs and cats that died or were lost in the shelter/care.

Annual Live Release Rate = $(I + J + K + L) / (T) * 100 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\%$

When reporting the Annual Live Release Rate for an individual agency, you should include the following statement: *The Annual Live Release Rate does not include _____ owner/guardian requested euthanasia which were unhealthy & untreatable [see Line R] and _____ dogs and cats that died or were lost in the shelter/care [see Line U].*

Calculation for community or coalition:

Adoptions + Return to Owner/Guardian *divided by* Total Outcomes excluding all outgoing transfers, owner/guardian requested euthanasia (unhealthy and untreatable), and dogs and cats that died or were lost in the shelter/care.

Annual Live Release Rate = $(I + K + L) / (T - J) * 100 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}\%$

When reporting the Annual Live Release Rate for the community or a coalition, you should include the following statement: *The Annual Live Release Rate does not include _____ owner/guardian requested euthanasia which were unhealthy & untreatable [see Line R] and _____ dogs and cats that died or were lost in the shelter/care [see Line U].*

Glossary of Terms for Live Release Rate

A) Beginning Shelter Count (date): The number of dogs and cats in your shelter or in your care including fosters at the beginning of the reporting period. The reporting period is annual – either a calendar year or a fiscal year. (date) refers to the first day of the reporting period written in the following format: month/day/year.

Intake (Live Dogs & Cats Only): This table only deals with live dogs and cats for which your shelter or animal group assumed responsibility. Dogs and cats categorized as “dead on arrival” or DOA are not included in these statistics. For intake animals, status is determined at the time paperwork is initiated.

B) From the Public: The number of live dogs and cats your shelter or animal group received from the public. This includes dogs and cats turned in or surrendered by their owners/guardians; stray dogs and cats turned in by the public; stray dogs and cats picked up in the field; and dogs and cats impounded for cruelty investigation, custody care, and statutory/ordinance impoundment.

C) Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group received from other animal organizations participating in your collaborative group. (This only applies if the reporting organization is working collaboratively with other shelters/groups in their area.) NOTE: On the community or coalition level, C (*Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition*) should equal J (*Outgoing Transfers to Organizations within Community/Coalition*).

- D) Incoming Transfers from Organizations outside Community/Coalition: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group received from animal organizations that are not participating in your collaborative group. NOTE: If you are not part of a collaboration that is compiling statistics, then all your incoming transfers would be listed here.
- E) From Owners/Guardians Requesting Euthanasia: The number of dogs and cats turned in or surrendered to your shelter or animal group by their owners/guardians for the purpose of euthanasia. This includes all categories of dogs and cats (healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable). [See M, N, O, P for definitions of healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable.]
- F) Total Intake: The sum of lines B through E. This includes all live dogs and cats for which your shelter or animal group assumed responsibility.
- G) Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only): The number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians and the number of dogs and cats ordered to be euthanized by legislative, judicial or administrative action. Do not include any dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians and who were considered to be healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable or treatable-manageable at the time of death. [See M, N, O, P for definitions of healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable.]
- H) Adjusted Total Intake: Lines F minus G. Total Intake minus the number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians. [See P for definition of unhealthy & untreatable category.]
- I) Adoptions: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group placed with members of the public. Do not include dogs and cats in foster homes or dogs and cats transferred to other animal welfare organizations.
- J) Outgoing Transfers to Organizations within Community/Coalition: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group turned over to other animal organizations within your collaborative group. (This only applies if the reporting organization is working collaboratively with other shelters/groups in their area.) NOTE: On the community or coalition level, J (*Outgoing Transfers to Organizations within Community/Coalition*) should be equal to C (*Incoming Transfers from Organizations within Community/Coalition*).
- K) Outgoing Transfers to Organizations outside Community/Coalition: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group turned over to animal organizations that are not part of your collaborative group. NOTE: If you are not part of a collaboration which is compiling statistics, then all your outgoing transfers would be listed here.
- L) Return to Owner/Guardian: The number of stray dogs and cats your shelter or animal group reunited with their owners/guardians and the number of dogs and cats reclaimed by their owners/guardians.

Dogs & Cats Euthanized: The number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized, broken down into the following categories: healthy; treatable-rehabilitatable; treatable-manageable; and unhealthy & untreatable. [See M, N, O, P for definitions of healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable.]

- M) Healthy (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia): The number of healthy dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized including the number of healthy dogs and

cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians. The term “healthy” means and includes *all dogs and cats eight weeks of age or older that, at or subsequent to the time the animal is taken into possession, have manifested no sign of a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that could pose a health or safety risk or otherwise make the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and have manifested no sign of disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the health of the animal or that is likely to adversely affect the animal’s health in the future.*

- N) Treatable – Rehabilitatable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia): The number of treatable – rehabilitatable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized including the number of treatable – rehabilitatable dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians. (These conditions are generally considered to be curable.) The term “treatable” means and includes *all dogs and cats who are “rehabilitatable” and all dogs and cats who are “manageable.”* The term “rehabilitatable” means and includes *all dogs and cats who are not “healthy,” but who are likely to become “healthy,” if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.*
- O) Treatable – Manageable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia): The number of treatable – manageable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized including the number of treatable – manageable dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians. (These conditions are generally considered to be chronic.) The term “treatable” means and includes *all dogs and cats who are “rehabilitatable” and all dogs and cats who are “manageable.”* The term “manageable” means and includes *all dogs and cats who are not “healthy” and who are not likely to become “healthy,” regardless of the care provided; but who would likely maintain a satisfactory quality of life, if given medical, foster, behavioral, or other care, including long-term care, equivalent to the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; provided, however, that the term “manageable” does not include any dog or cat who is determined to pose a significant risk to human health or safety or to the health or safety of other animals.*
- P) Unhealthy & Untreatable (Includes Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia): The number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized including the number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians and the number of dogs and cats ordered to be euthanized by legislative, judicial or administrative action.
The term “Unhealthy and Untreatable” means and includes dogs and cats who, at or subsequent to the time they are taken into possession, (1) have a behavioral or temperamental characteristic that poses a health or safety risk or otherwise makes the animal unsuitable for placement as a pet, and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or (2) are suffering from a disease, injury, or congenital or hereditary condition that adversely affects the animal’s health or is likely to adversely affect the animal’s health in the future, and are not likely to become “healthy” or “treatable” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community; or (3) are under the age of eight weeks and are not

likely to become “healthy” or “treatable,” even if provided the care typically provided to pets by reasonable and caring pet owners/guardians in the community.

- Q) Total Euthanasia: Sum of lines M through P. This includes all dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized (Healthy, Treatable – Rehabilitatable, Treatable – Manageable, and Unhealthy & Untreatable). [See M, N, O, P for definitions of healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable.]
- R) Owner/Guardian Requested Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only): The number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians and the number of dogs and cats ordered to be euthanized by legislative, judicial or administrative action. Do not include any dogs and cats your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians and who were considered to be healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable or treatable-manageable at the time of death. [See M, N, O, P for definitions of healthy, treatable-rehabilitatable, treatable-manageable, unhealthy & untreatable.]
- S) Adjusted Total Euthanasia: Total Euthanasia minus Owner/Guardian Request Euthanasia (Unhealthy & Untreatable Only). [See P for definition of unhealthy & untreatable category.]
- T) Subtotal Outcomes: Sum of lines I through L plus S. This includes the number of dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group adopted, transferred, returned to owner/guardian. Do not include the number of dogs and cats who died or were lost while in your shelter or in your care or the number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians or the number of dogs and cats ordered to be euthanized by legislative, judicial or administrative action. [See P for definition of unhealthy & untreatable category.]
- U) Died or Lost in Shelter/Care: The number of dogs and cats for which your shelter or animal group assumed responsibility and who died or could not be accounted for. This includes the number of dogs and cats who died of medical complications (and were not euthanized), died in foster care or in transit, or were lost or stolen from the shelter.
- V) Total Outcomes: Sum of lines T and U. This is the total number of dog and cat outcomes which includes the number of dogs and cats your shelter or animal group adopted, transferred, returned to owner/guardian plus the number of dogs and cats for which your shelter or animal group assumed responsibility and who died of medical complications (and were not euthanized) or were lost or stolen (from the shelter or foster care). Total outcomes do not include the number of unhealthy & untreatable dogs and cats that your shelter or animal group euthanized at the request of their owners/guardians or the number of dogs and cats ordered to be euthanized by legislative, judicial or administrative action. [See P for definition of unhealthy & untreatable category.]
- W) Ending Shelter Count (date): The number of dogs and cats in your shelter or in your care including fosters at the end of the reporting period. The reporting period is annual – either a calendar year or a fiscal year. (date) refers to the last day of the reporting period written in the following format: month/day/year.

Special Note: To calculate the Annual Live Release Rate for your community or coalition, each participating shelter or animal group will need to fill out the Annual Animal Statistics Table for their individual organization. The reporting organization for the community/coalition will then compile this information for all the groups in one table and follow the instructions for calculating the community/coalition rate.

Feral Cat Live Release Rate

-used to calculate for feral cats only as defined in definition section

-to be computed annually as opposed to quarterly

-purpose is to help identify progress made by groups that TNR, thereby helping to control the stray reproduction, having an impact on intake numbers in community

Beginning Date - Cats in Care	
+Intake Total	

-Outgoing transfers	
-Dead on arrival	
-Missing/Died in Care	
-End Date - Cats in Care	

Total Live Animals (A)	
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Adopted (B)	
Trap/Neuter/Return C	
Euthanized	

Live Release Rate (B+C)/A	
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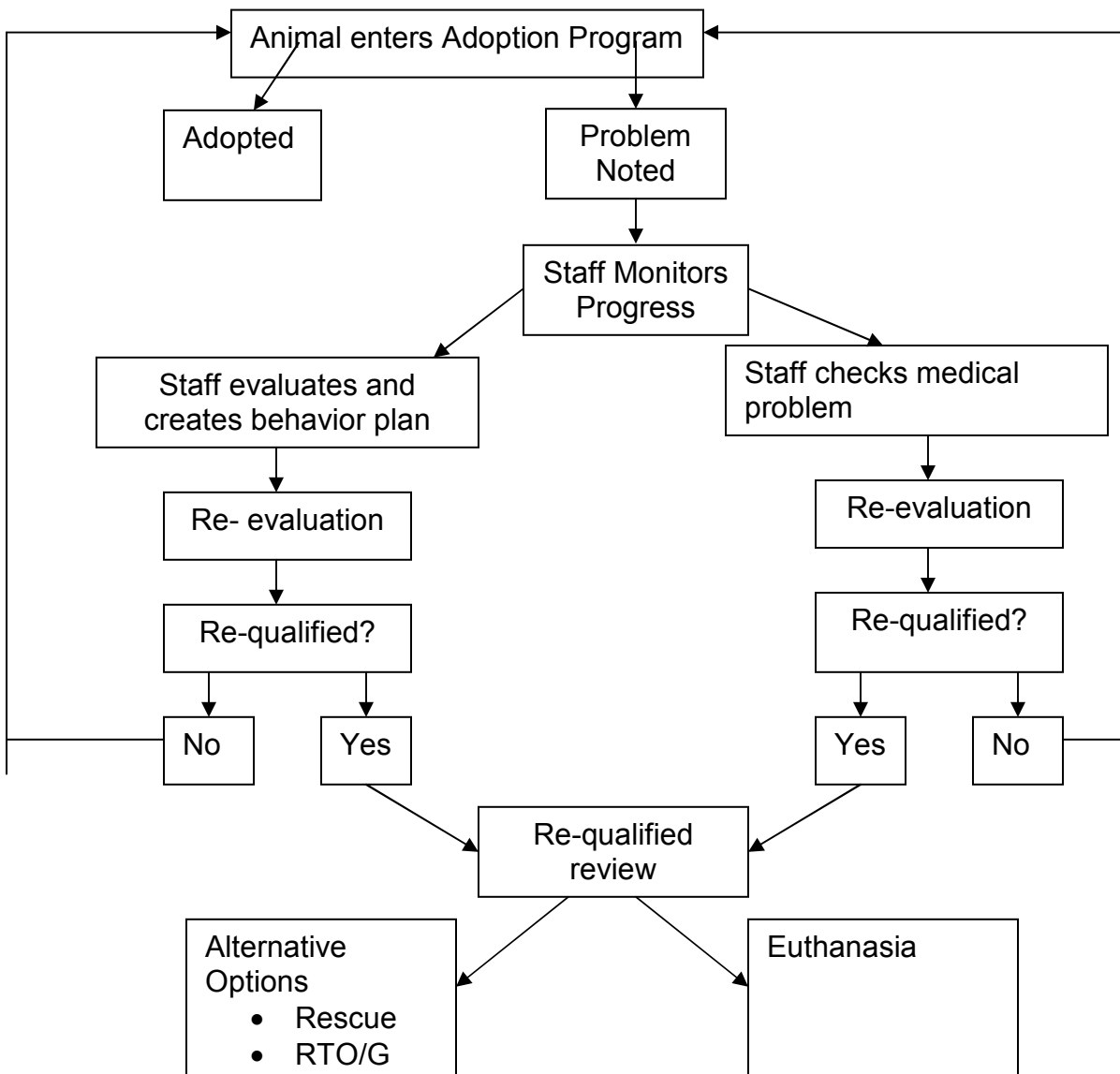
Summary

The SPCA of Texas is confident that a collaboration of animal care agencies is capable of designing solutions acceptable to a broad range of animal service providers and the community.

These solutions have the potential for significantly influencing public policy.

This is not an end product. It is an ongoing process that informs all participants and enhances communication. We continue to expand our network and strive to increase and encourage cooperation among groups.

Re-qualification Process



Recommended Evaluation Process

