

Rapid Response Program

2012 "Ninth" Annual Pacific
NorthWest Cross Border
Workshop - May 17, 2012

RRT Project Essentials

- Funded by an FDA “Cooperative Agreement”
- Funding runs Sep 2009 – Sep 2012
- \$500k per year
- WA is one of 9 states that have been funded

Project Goals and Strategies

Goals

1. Increase food emergency response efficacy →
2. Improve food safety program infrastructure →
3. Enhance communication and coordination with partner food agencies →

Strategies

1. Create WSDA/FDA RRT
2. Implement MFRPS Standards
3. Create a statewide Food Emergency Response Plan (FERP)

Project Partners



Rapid Response Team

Scope of work: physically respond to all traditional agriculture-type food/feed emergencies, all hazards

Kinds of events:

- Food/feed processing
- Fresh produce
- Disaster
- Intentional contamination
- Etc.

Kinds of activities:

- Environmental sampling
- Finished product sampling
- Root cause analysis
- Traceback/traceforward
- Recall
- Etc.

Rapid Response Team

- Joint FDA District Office (SEA-DO)/WSDA
- About 9 field team members from each agency
- Joint response: Unified Command
- Goal: joint final report

RRT Progress



RRT Activations (to date, all were food pathogen events)

- Sally Jackson cheese
- Sprouters Northwest
- Snokist applesauce
- soft cheese Central W

RRT Next Steps

- Written SOPs
- Equipment purchase and maintenance
- Field exercise in the fall?