**Management of Non-Ambulatory Cattle**

A non-ambulatory animal (commonly referred to as a “downer”) is unable to stand up or walk, even if assisted. All procedures conducted at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ feedyard will be designed to prevent cattle from becoming non-ambulatory; however in the event an animal becomes non-ambulatory it will be managed and cared for in a humane manner.

DO NOT DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AT ANY TIME TO A NON-AMBULATORY ANIMAL!

* NEVER use an electric prod to stimulate an injured or disabled animal to get up unless essential to prevent further injury or death.
* NEVER use chains, rope, or cables to lift, suspend, or move the animal unless necessary to prevent further injury or death, if allowed by state law.
* NEVER let a non-ambulatory animal go without feed, water and proper shelter.
* NEVER let a non-ambulatory animal remain in any area where they may get walked on or trampled.
* NEVER ship a non-ambulatory animal.

**Protocol for Handling of Non-ambulatory Cattle**

Assess whether the animal is in a safe place or needs to be moved. If moving is required move it to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Only trained employees are authorized to move non-ambulatory cattle.

If the animal is in its home pen, it should be moved to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Movement will be facilitated via use of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The animal will be gently rolled into the bucket, being careful to not get kicked while rolling the animal into the bucket. Do not scoop, force against a fence/gate, or drag the animal into the bucket.

Move the non-ambulatory animal to and gently roll the animal out of the bucket. If weather conditions are adverse (snow, very cold or wet), place the animal on a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or other bedding.

Every effort will be made to provide feed, water and proper footing for traction to the animal. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for monitoring feed and water availability\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ time(s) daily.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_will evaluate the animal daily and provide proper treatment. Herd health plan treatment protocol is recommended. Consult the feedyard veterinarian for additional guidance.

If improvement is noted, continue to follow treatment \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and be sure feed and water is being supplied. When treatment is attempted, cattle unable to sit up unaided (i.e. lie flat on their side) and which refuse to eat or drink should be humanely euthanized following the Humane Euthanasia Protocol within 24-36 hours of initial onset.