

Introduction to the WOAHA TAHC Chapter 7.7 on dog population management

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World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

(Funded as OIE)

Created in 1924 as the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) to provide international cooperation and coordination against the spread of animal diseases

WOAH is the global authority for setting international standards for animal health and welfare and veterinary public health, based on scientific evidences and consolidated expertise

The WOA^H and animal welfare: a strategic engagement

Identified as a strategic priority since 2001,
under the mandate granted by all Members.

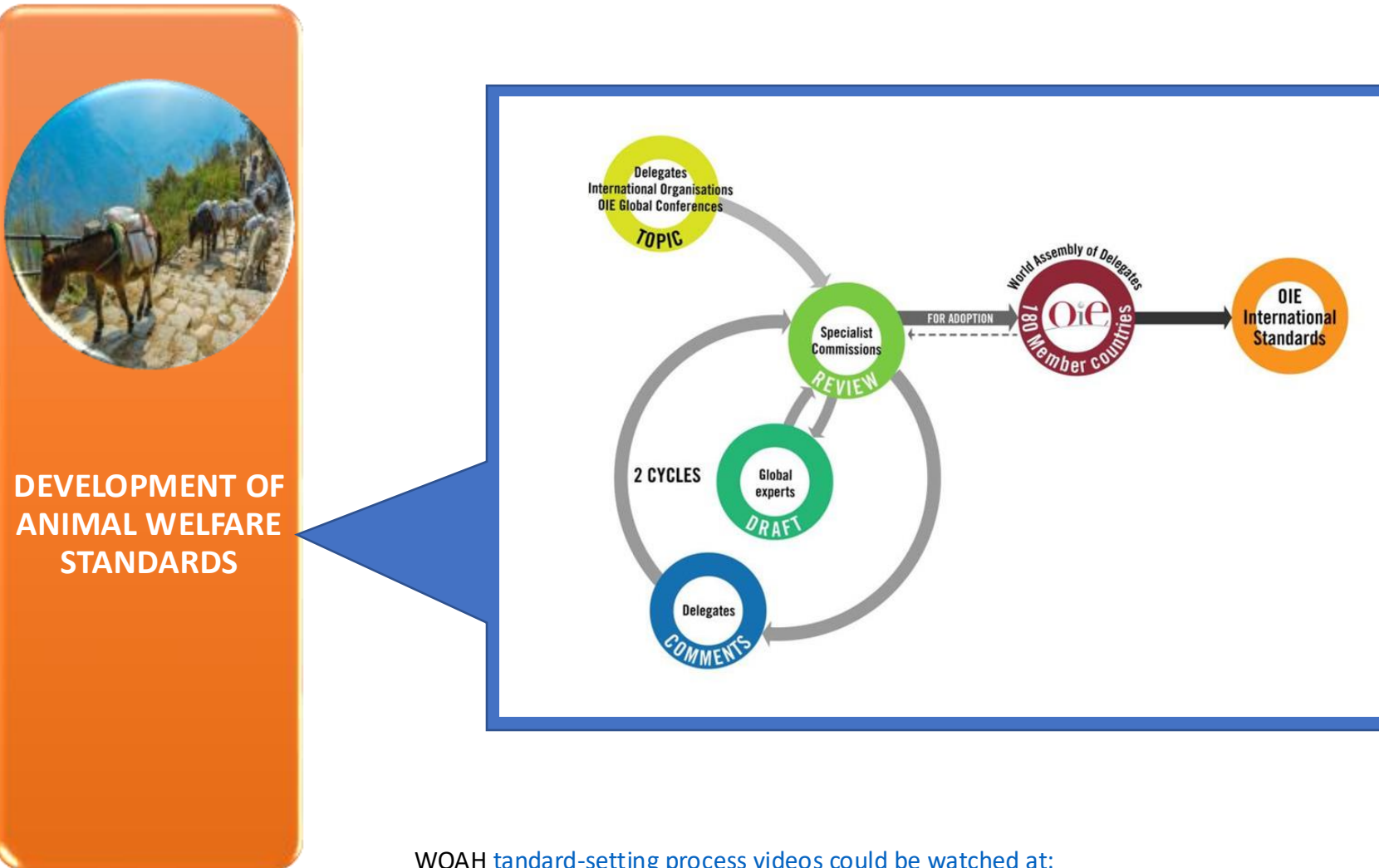


*“A world where the **welfare of animals is respected, promoted and advanced**, in ways that complement the pursuit of **animal health, human well-being, socio-economic development and environmental sustainability**”*



Developed by involving the WOAHA's network of technical experts, including Reference Centres in order to:

- ✓ be adaptable and applicable to all 185 WOAHA in the various socio-economic, agroecological, cultural and religious contexts
- ✓ support the establishment of animal health systems
- ✓ promote safe trade
- ✓ inform decision-making processes
- ✓ strengthen trust and collaboration among WOAHA Members, partners and stakeholders



WOAH [tandard-setting process videos could be watched at:](http://www.oie.int/en/standard-setting/overview/)

<http://www.oie.int/en/standard-setting/overview/>

WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH *Protecting animals, preserving our future*



**DEVELOPMENT OF
ANIMAL WELFARE
STANDARDS**



**CAPACITY BUILDING AND
EDUCATION**



**IMPLEMENTATION OF
ANIMAL WELFARE
STANDARDS**



**COMMUNICATION
(Governments,
organizations and
citizens)**



The revised CHAP 7.7 on dog population management

Adopted at the 89th General Session (May, 2022)

- The scope was redefined to **focus on the welfare of dogs when implementing** Dog Population management (DPM) programmes aiming at **improving human health and safety, animal health** and animal welfare and minimizing their potential negative socio-economic and environmental impacts
- The **terminology was harmonised** to be consistent with other Chapters
- **New articles** were either added or reorganised to address the **wider scope** (i.e., roles and responsibilities) and to ensure **most up-to-date guidance**



Original: English
February 2022

REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OIE TERRESTRIAL ANIMAL HEALTH STANDARDS COMMISSION Paris, 1–11 February 2022

PART A – Texts to be proposed for adoption in May 2022

The OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (the Code Commission) held its meeting electronically from 1 to 11 February 2022. The list of participants is attached as [Annex 1](#).

Considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the 89th Annual General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates will be held in a semi-hybrid format from Monday 23 to Friday 27 May 2022. During the 89th General Session new and revised chapters of the OIE International Standards (the *Aquatic Animal Health Code*, the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals* and the *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals*) will be proposed for adoption.

To facilitate this process, the **February 2022 meeting report of the Code Commission will be distributed in two parts: Part A** (herewith) provides information about the new and revised texts for the *Terrestrial Code* that will be proposed for adoption at the 89th General Session; and **Part B** (to be published in April 2022) will provide information about other topics discussed at the Commission's February 2022 meeting including texts circulated for comments and information.

In preparation for the 89th General Session, the OIE will once again organise information webinars to ensure that Members are aware of the background and key aspects of the standards being presented for adoption. Attendance to these webinars will be by invitation only. Please note that Delegates will soon receive detailed information about the 89th General Session, and in particular the process for the adoption of standards.

The Code Commission thanked the following Members for providing comments: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China (People's Republic of), Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Japan, Mexico, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom (UK), the United States of America (USA), Zimbabwe, the Member States of the European Union (EU), the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) on behalf of African Members of the OIE. The Commission also thanked the following organisations for providing comments: the Global Alliance of Pet Food Associations (GAPFA), the International Meat Secretariat (IMS), the World Renderers Organization (WRO), as well as various experts of the OIE scientific network.

The Code Commission reviewed all comments that were submitted prior to the deadline and supported by a rationale. The Commission made amendments to draft texts, where relevant, in the usual manner by 'double underline' and 'strikethrough'. In relevant annexes, amendments proposed at this meeting are highlighted with a coloured background to distinguish them from those made previously. Due to the large number of comments, the Commission was not able to provide a detailed explanation on the reasons for accepting or not each of the comments considered, and focused its explanations on significant issues. Where amendments were of an editorial nature, no explanatory text has been provided. The Commission wished to note that not all texts proposed by Members to improve clarity were accepted; in these cases, it considered the text clear as currently written.

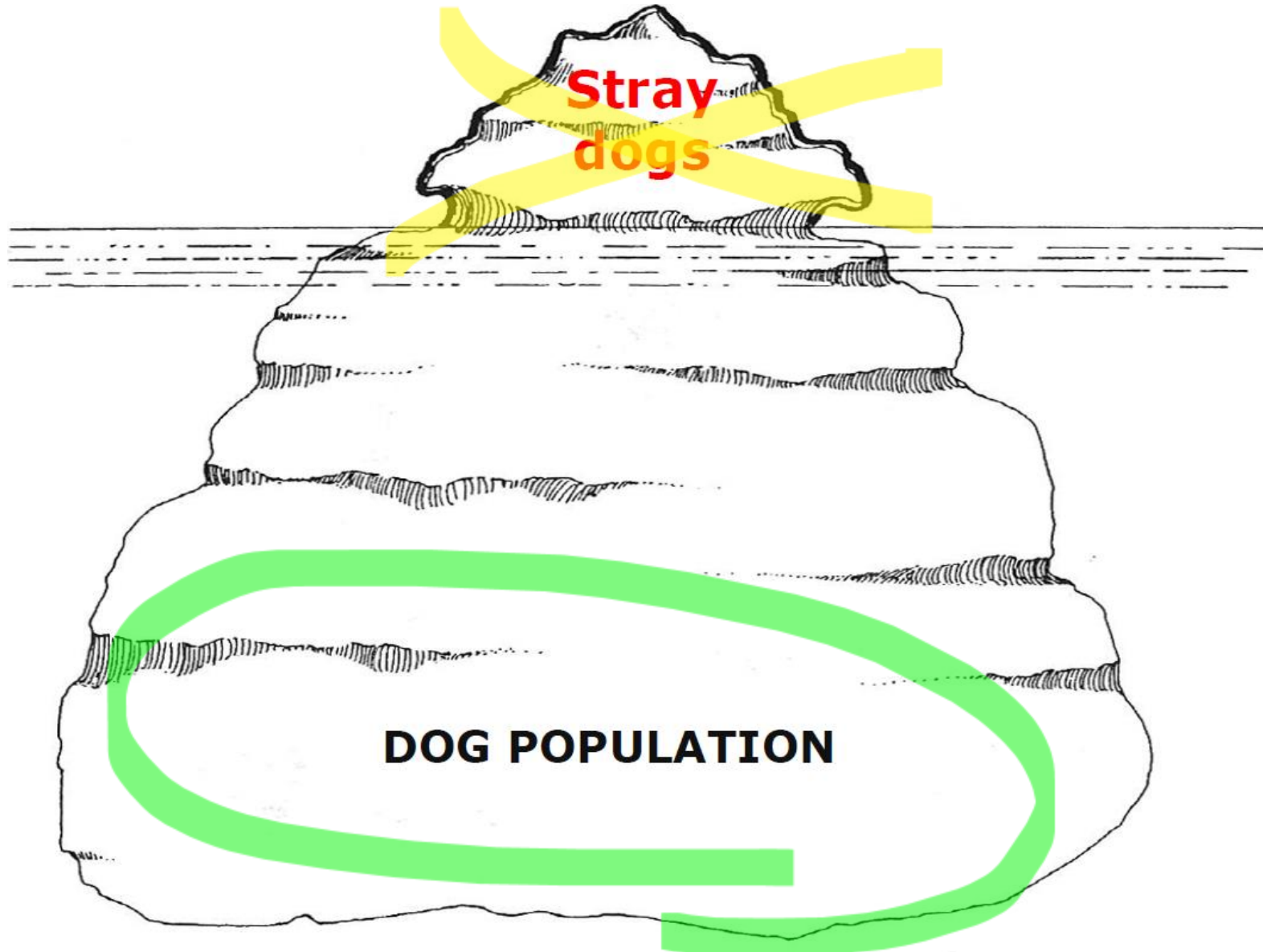
The Code Commission encourages Members to refer to previous reports considering longstanding issues. The Commission also draws the attention of Members to those instances where the Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (the Scientific Commission), the Biological Standards Commission (the Laboratories Commission), a Working Group or an *ad hoc* Group have addressed specific comments or questions and proposed answers or amendments. In such cases the rationale is described in the reports of the Scientific Commission, the Laboratories Commission, Working Group or *ad hoc* Groups, and Members are encouraged to review these reports together with the report of the Code Commission. These reports are readily available on the [OIE website](#).



The term ‘**stray dog**’ has been replaced with ‘**free-roaming dog**’ also in the Glossary.

*"any **owned dog or unowned dog** that is without direct human supervision or control,
including feral dogs"*

Based on the behaviour of a dog which is roaming without restriction but **does not imply any ownership status.**



The TAHC Chapter 7.7 on dog population management

Article 7.7.1. Introduction

Article 7.7.2. Definitions

Article 7.7.3. Scope

Article 7.7.4. Guiding principles

Article 7.7.5. Dog Population Management objectives

Article 7.7.6. Roles and responsibilities

Article 7.7.7. Competent Authority for Dog Population Management (DPM)

Article 7.7.8. Other organizations and actors involved in DPM

Article 7.7.9. Regulatory framework

Article 7.7.10. Evidence-based programme development

Article 7.7.11. DPM programme assessment and planning

Article 7.7.12. Monitoring and evaluation

Article 7.7.13. Recommendations for DPM measures

Article 7.7.14. Registration and identification of dogs

Article 7.7.15. Regulation of commercial dog breeding and sale

Article 7.7.16. Control of national and international (export or import) dog movements

Article 7.7.17. Promoting responsible dog ownership

Article 7.7.18. Reproductive control

Article 7.7.19. Catch, neuter, vaccination and return

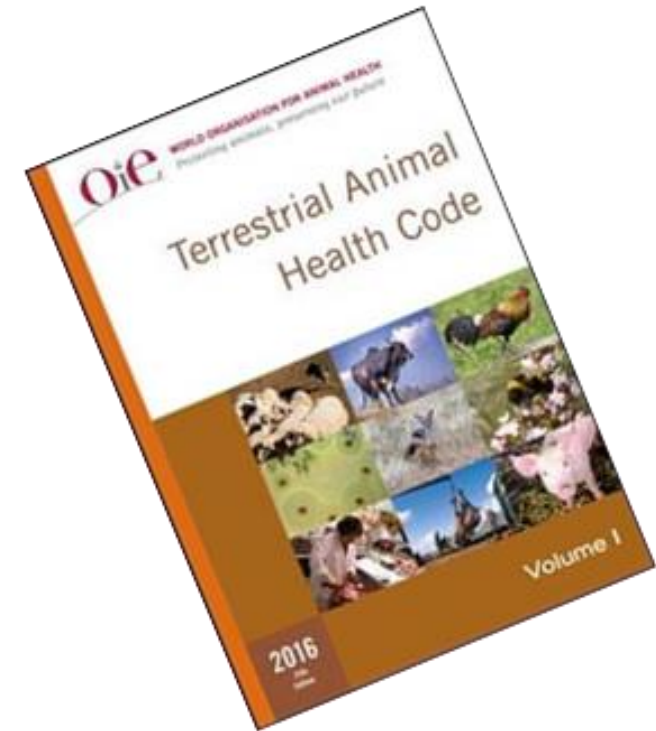
Article 7.7.20. Reuniting and adoption

Article 7.7.21. Access to veterinary care

Article 7.7.22. Environmental controls

Article 7.7.23. Educating in safe dog-human interaction

Article 7.7.24. Specific considerations for DPM (capture and handling, housing, euthanasia)





Article 7.7.1. Introduction

Dog Population Management (DPM) refers to the holistic approach that aims to improve the welfare of dogs, reduce problems they may present and create harmonious co-existence with people and their environment.

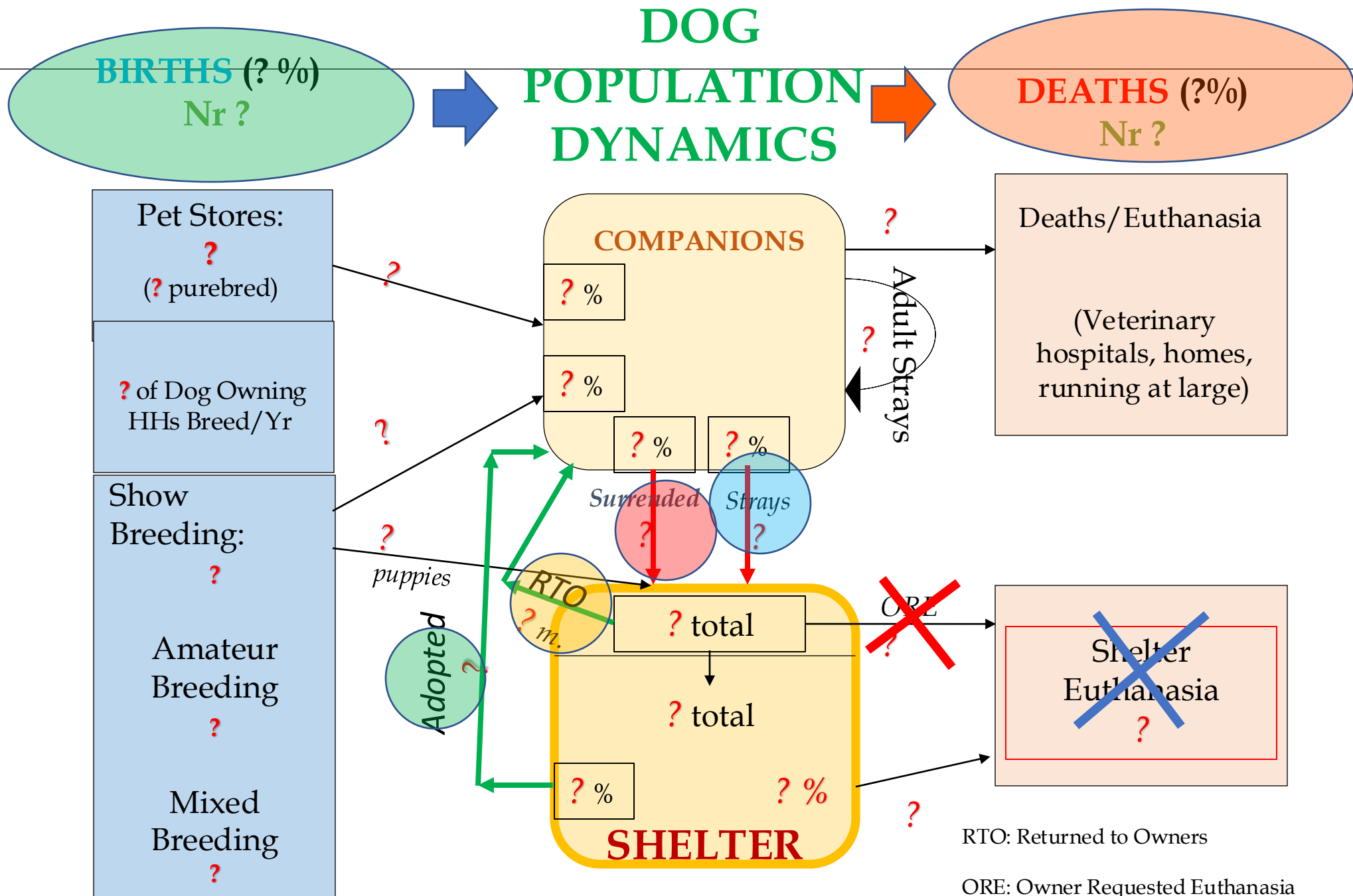
Dogs are valued for the range of roles they fulfil, but they might present public health and safety, and animal health and animal welfare issues, especially when free to roam.

DPM supports effective and sustainable rabies control programmes and the control of other zoonoses.

Recognising that mass culling of dogs is ineffective and may be counterproductive, **reducing dog population size is not an effective means of reducing rabies prevalence.**

Reproduction control reduces breeding behaviours which may increase the *risk* of rabies transmission due to increased contact rates between dogs.

Promotion of *responsible dog ownership* as part of DPM strengthens owner motivation, knowledge and therefore behaviour in caring for their dogs, including timely rabies *vaccination* of *owned dogs* to maintain immunity.



Anthrozoos, 1995 (Patronek & Rowan)



The actors



Thank you

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