

# Our opportunities for meaningful change

To meet the biosecurity risks of today and arm ourselves for the new and increasing risks coming our way, we must continue to evolve our system. This requires us to go beyond scaling our current efforts to enhance how we work together and leverage opportunities for improvement.

## Engaging everyone in the biosecurity system

is a fundamental opportunity to create a stronger system that is action oriented and raises awareness of risks, shared benefits and outcomes. This will rely on fostering a greater understanding and valuing of biosecurity, as well as behavioural change across the entire system to enhance prevention, preparedness, surveillance and reporting activities. The National Biosecurity Statement, developed in 2018, provides a solid starting point for the sharing of ownership across the biosecurity system.

Engaging at a grassroots level by promoting on-farm and on-land biosecurity, utilising citizen science and working more closely with Indigenous Australians, provides an opportunity to improve our system. Additionally, enhancing our engagement with international organisations and trading partners on biosecurity can help us to mitigate risks before they reach our shores. We have a significant opportunity to build upon and complement previous and existing activities (such as the Decade of Biosecurity) to connect, motivate, and empower a broader range of stakeholders, including the community.

**Opportunities exist in the north** to support and enhance existing biosecurity efforts. The north of Australia, home to some of our key primary production and tourism growth areas, faces a high risk of threats entering via natural pathways. The Northern Australia Biosecurity Strategy provides a platform for us to focus our efforts on high priority activities. These activities include expanding our Indigenous Ranger programs and capability, increasing surveillance and diagnostic capacity and capabilities, addressing regional skills needs in key areas and improving data collection.

**A more flexible, improved risk-based regulatory system** is needed to drive more efficient and harmonised processes using targeted and adaptable regulatory frameworks that provide benefits to all stakeholders. We have significant opportunities to facilitate coordinated data sharing and operationalise innovations in technology to support faster, risk-based decision-making and traceability. Co-regulation with industry can also provide material benefits to all stakeholders in managing risk and streamlining processes when they are carefully designed and supported by harmonised compliance frameworks.

**Enhancing environmental biosecurity efforts** will help us to conserve, restore and care for our land, sea and aquatic ecosystems, protect native plants and animals and support our biodiversity. We have the opportunity to improve outcomes through targeted awareness and engagement with environmental groups and the wider community, better coordinated research activities and enhanced risk analysis and biosecurity management for pests, weeds and diseases that impact our environment.

**Funding and investment** is currently sourced from all levels of government, industry and the community through a variety of models, reducing the transparency of system-wide investment. Funding has been under recent strain due to the evolving risk environment and growing demand for resourcing. We have the opportunity to work together across government, industry and the community to assess and reset our funding and investment frameworks to ensure they are fit for purpose, targeted to our priorities, sustainable in the longer term and that all biosecurity participants contribute equitably. Increased funding and investment transparency will help to keep us accountable for achieving our priorities.

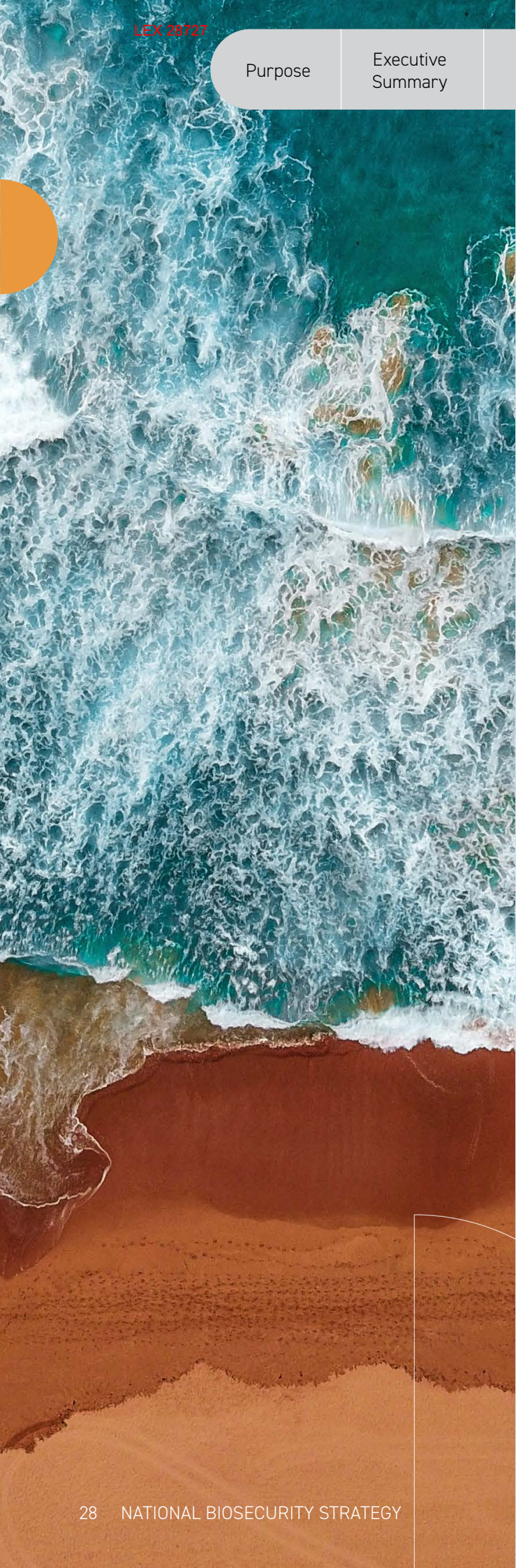
**Closer collaboration at regional and local levels** through on the ground coordination and locally driven solutions could support better biosecurity outcomes. In addition to the potential to improve collaboration amongst the state and territory governments and with the Australian Government, opportunities exist for diverse stakeholder groups to work more closely together at regional and local levels. This includes industry, NRM organisations, landowners and managers, local governments, farmers and Traditional Owners. This collaboration will help to implement biosecurity priorities matched to regional needs, support prevention and preparedness activities, collect data and measure results consistently, coordinate mutually beneficial activities and maintain open and continuous communication.

**Additional skills and infrastructure** are required to support a more responsive biosecurity system as the skills of our people and the infrastructure that supports them are the foundation of our system. We have a skilled workforce with deep and diverse technical expertise, but there are capacity constraints and recruitment and retention challenges, particularly in a range of specialist capabilities and in regional areas across Australia.

Our laboratories, research facilities, national collections and quarantine centres are critical biosecurity assets for our nation. We need to continue to modernise national infrastructure to support emerging technologies and achieve a more adaptive system. We will only realise the benefits of new approaches and innovative technologies, like High-Throughput Sequencing and environmental DNA, if we have the skilled people and the supporting infrastructure necessary to operationalise them. We have an enormous opportunity to plan for the skills and critical infrastructure needed going forward and to create an environment where innovation and new and more efficient ways of working are actively encouraged.

**Understanding the changing risk environment** and enhancing the way we share threat information is critical to maintaining a strong system. Biosecurity risks are constantly evolving and as threats change, our risk profile and the way we need to work together changes. For example, climate risks will be important to consider to improve our decision-making and mitigate risk. Improved outcomes can also be achieved by continuing to leverage the One Health approach, recognising that the health of our people, animals and shared environment are interconnected. This is particularly important for antimicrobial resistance and zoonotic pathways. The early 2022 outbreak of the viral zoonotic disease Japanese encephalitis clearly demonstrates the importance of using a One Health approach to addressing risks.

We have the opportunity to better share risk information and threat assessments with a wider range of biosecurity stakeholders to improve our understanding of the changing environment and support investment, preparedness activities and research prioritisation.



# It's time to evolve how we work together

The only way we can build an even stronger biosecurity system is to evolve how we work together.

Australia's biosecurity is underpinned by the 2019 Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity, which provides a strong foundation to focus our collective efforts and supports wide-ranging partnerships.

However, as the challenges facing us continue to build, we need a renewed focus on enhancing our national biosecurity capacity and capability and fostering an action-focused and inclusive culture.

## WHERE WE'RE GOING

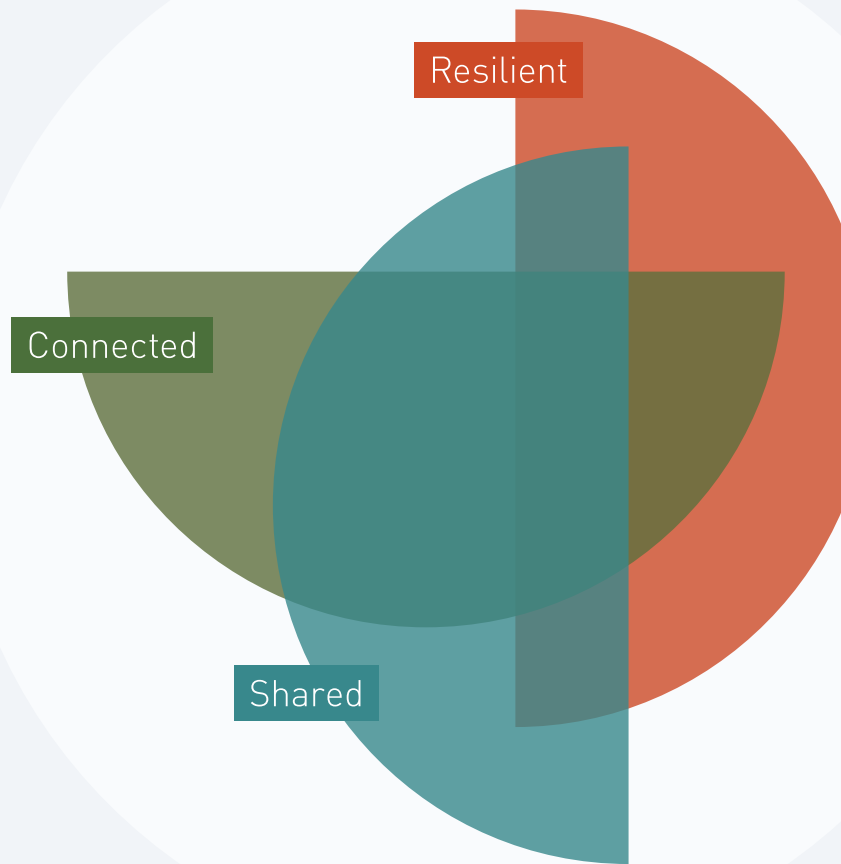
In the future, we will more efficiently and effectively manage biosecurity risks.

Key to our success will be the adaptability and sustainability of our prevention, preparedness, surveillance, response, management and recovery systems, combined with a collaborative culture that encourages action and embeds continuous learning.

Everyone will know why biosecurity is important, care about it, understand their role and how they should play their part to ensure that our biosecurity remains strong.

## HOW WE'LL GET THERE

We will work together to act in 6 priority areas. These priorities will guide our efforts so that we have the biggest impact and remain on track as we move into implementation planning.



### VISION

A biosecurity system that protects Australia and our way of life –

Connected

Resilient

Shared

### SHARED PURPOSE

A risk-based system underpinned by science that protects Australia's people, our environment, economy and lifestyle from the biosecurity threats of today and tomorrow.

# PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS TO REALISE OUR VISION

Enhancing our capability and embedding advancements in technology and research are key enablers of our strategy. However, improving our system will also rely heavily on strengthening our biosecurity culture – the way we think, behave and work together – to promote awareness, drive coordinated action and complement efforts already underway, such as the Decade of Biosecurity.

Initial actions in our 6 priority areas have been collaboratively developed to support our vision and purpose and will be further built upon as part of implementation planning. Our next steps will be to identify initial actions for immediate implementation and to work together to develop a national implementation plan and national action plan that will drive the delivery of our priorities.

## WE WILL TAKE ACTION IN 6 PRIORITY AREAS:



### Shared biosecurity culture

We will ensure all Australians understand what biosecurity is and are empowered to act to support our system. We will create a culture of action in which we all care about, contribute to and are responsible for, our biosecurity. We all enjoy the benefits that effective biosecurity brings, just as we all share the consequences of our system's failures.

#### Initial actions:

- Build on and develop national awareness and education programs – including introducing biosecurity into curricula – to deepen understanding of, and commitment to, Australia's biosecurity and encourage community and industry stewardship in the system.
- Progress innovative approaches to drive positive biosecurity behaviours and incentivise compliance, including through social and behavioural research, leveraging community and other networks and exploring new channels of engagement, such as with culturally and linguistically diverse communities.
- Revitalise and continue to collaborate through national communication, engagement and reporting mechanisms, as well as relevant fora and symposia, to encourage greater knowledge sharing, build trust and increase transparency.
- Determine opportunities to embed biosecurity as a consideration into all levels of government, community, industry and other stakeholders' broader decision-making, risk and business continuity planning.



## Stronger partnerships

We will strengthen and expand partnerships with all stakeholders at local, regional, national and international levels to leverage our different expertise, resources and knowledge for greater impact and to support better biosecurity outcomes. Underpinning these partnerships will be mutual trust, formal recognition, transparency and a clear understanding of the importance of everyone's role.

### Initial actions:

- Enhance partnerships and engagement with Indigenous Australians to ensure Indigenous interests are incorporated and participation is enabled in the design and delivery of biosecurity outcomes and initiatives.
- Collaborate with a diverse range of biosecurity stakeholders to review and refine roles and responsibilities, providing flexibility to adapt as the system evolves.
- Review governance arrangements to ensure that they include relevant stakeholders in the design, development and implementation of national policies, programs and regulatory arrangements.
- Strengthen the involvement of environmental agencies and environmental and community groups to enhance biosecurity outcomes.
- Identify and implement opportunities for greater industry and community involvement in decision-making bodies.
- Deepen international partnerships and capacity building, including in the Indo-Pacific, to increase engagement, harmonisation, skills exchanges and information sharing on national priority pests, weeds and diseases.
- Work together to strengthen the understanding of antimicrobial and pesticide resistance, and zoonotic pathways - including surveillance and monitoring.
- Coordinate our international advocacy efforts to help shape global biosecurity standards, rules and conditions to support strong biosecurity in Australia.



## Highly skilled workforce

We will develop and sustain the pipeline of biosecurity skills needed for the future, within government, industry and the community. We will ensure our people can be deployed when and where they are needed, and that they have the right skills by providing targeted capability and capacity building, education and training.

### Initial actions:

- Investigate national skills to identify current and future needs in key areas, such as science, data, new technologies and regulatory capabilities, considering the findings of existing industry and government workforce strategies.
- Develop a national biosecurity workforce strategy to build, develop, retain and deploy capability across the system, including surge support for responses, taking into account regional needs across Australia.
- Build upon and expand existing cooperative and partnership arrangements to leverage the expertise and capability of biosecurity stakeholders to support system needs where there are mutual benefits.
- Strengthen professional development programs and exchanges between biosecurity stakeholders to facilitate knowledge and information sharing, improve skills and support workforce retention.



## Coordinated preparedness and response

We will enhance our preparedness and response capability through improved coordination, regional planning, increased collaboration and faster information and data sharing to support our system's resilience and adaptability.

### Initial actions:

- Undertake and promote regular national preparedness exercises with biosecurity stakeholders to test and improve our collective readiness and increase public awareness of significant biosecurity threats.
- Advance regionally based planning activities to better align effort, integrate biosecurity practices and facilitate greater education and awareness opportunities.
- Continually review and update risk information, including through regular strategic threat assessments, to inform priorities and share this with stakeholders.
- Actively embed continuous learning supported by enhanced post-incident reviews and evaluation practices to ensure lessons are captured and incorporated.
- Strengthen traceability arrangements to support improved biosecurity outcomes.
- Enhance our national surveillance and early detection arrangements to ensure they are robust given the changing threat environment, drawing on the expertise and capabilities of biosecurity stakeholders.
- Evolve our national information management frameworks to ensure they are fit for purpose, interoperable and promote seamless information exchange.



## Sustainable investment

We will develop long-term sustainable biosecurity funding and investment approaches, including new funding streams and models, that recognise the value of government, industry and the community investing in biosecurity to support the system's growing needs and priorities. We will ensure these approaches are efficient, equitable, adaptable, transparent and are responsive to the changing risk environment.

### Initial actions:

- Work together to identify funding needs and determine priorities, including for critical assets, infrastructure and research.
- Strengthen frameworks to agree and deliver priority investments having regard to the level of risk and benefits from activities and to increase efficiency by reducing duplicative investments and processes.
- Advance co-funding and investment strategies with stakeholders, including models that consider key risk creators and system beneficiaries in an equitable manner.
- Increase the transparency of biosecurity funding to support improved accountability.
- Complete the development and implementation of a system performance and evaluation framework to inform future investment decisions.



## Integration supported by technology, research and data

We will create a more connected and efficient system in which we better leverage existing and new technology, research and data to facilitate more timely, informed and risk-based decisions. We will continue to deliver our biosecurity research priorities, informed by national biosecurity research, development and extension (RD&E) strategies. We will develop, share and embed new technologies in areas such as traceability, surveillance, screening, data analytics, treatments and diagnostics.

### Initial actions:

- Continue to invest in and roll out transformative technologies to digitise and automate processes, and support rapid and accurate detection, identification, traceability and response.
- Increase coordination and engagement with biosecurity stakeholders, including research and development bodies, to prioritise, drive and deliver national research outcomes.
- Actively share data and research to streamline research efforts and facilitate the adoption of outcomes, ensuring that they are accessible, interoperable and reusable where practical.
- Enhance the accessibility and use of surveillance and interception data to support effective and seamless decision-making by all stakeholders.
- Further support innovations to build science and research capacity in areas such as pathway risk assessments, species identification and treatments.
- Encourage the uptake of existing and emerging technologies, systems and processes across the biosecurity system.
- Increase the use of citizen science, Indigenous knowledge and on the ground insights as valued sources of expertise, data and information.
- Encourage greater private sector investment in the development and delivery of innovations that provide for better biosecurity outcomes.



# Our way forward: Driving collaborative action

The strategy sets our future vision and priorities and outlines more than 30 initial actions for implementation. Realising our vision will only be possible through our collective efforts, as biosecurity affects all of us.

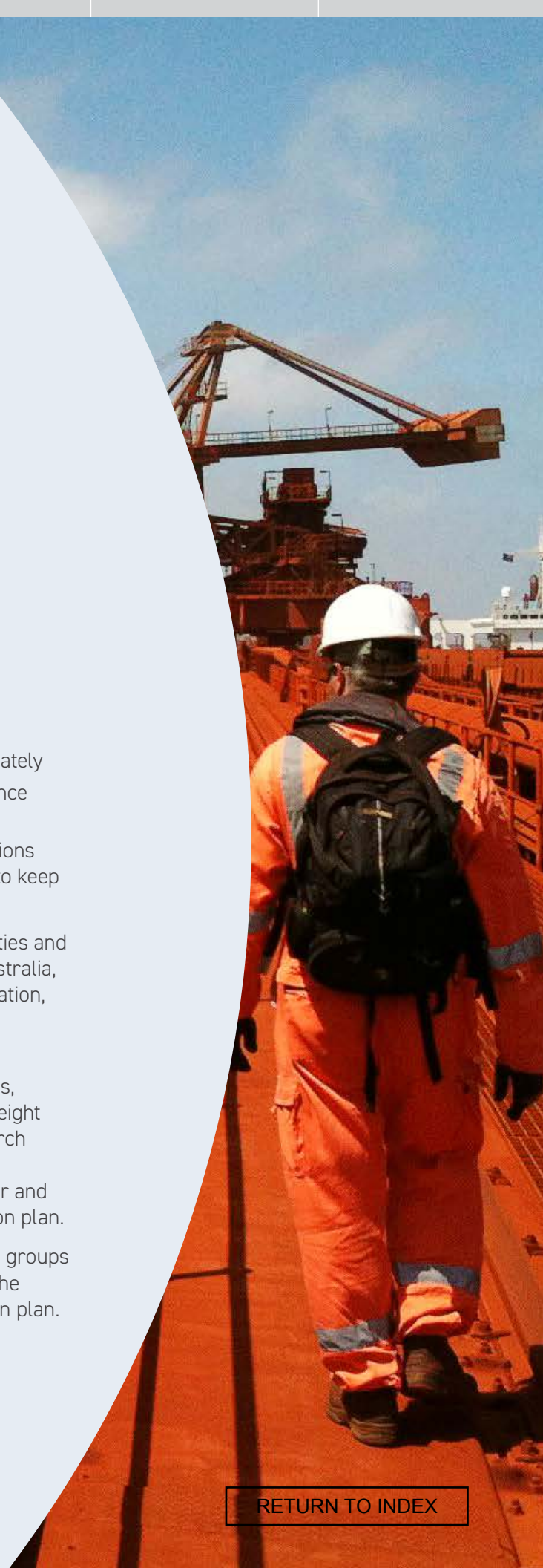
## Our next steps will be to:

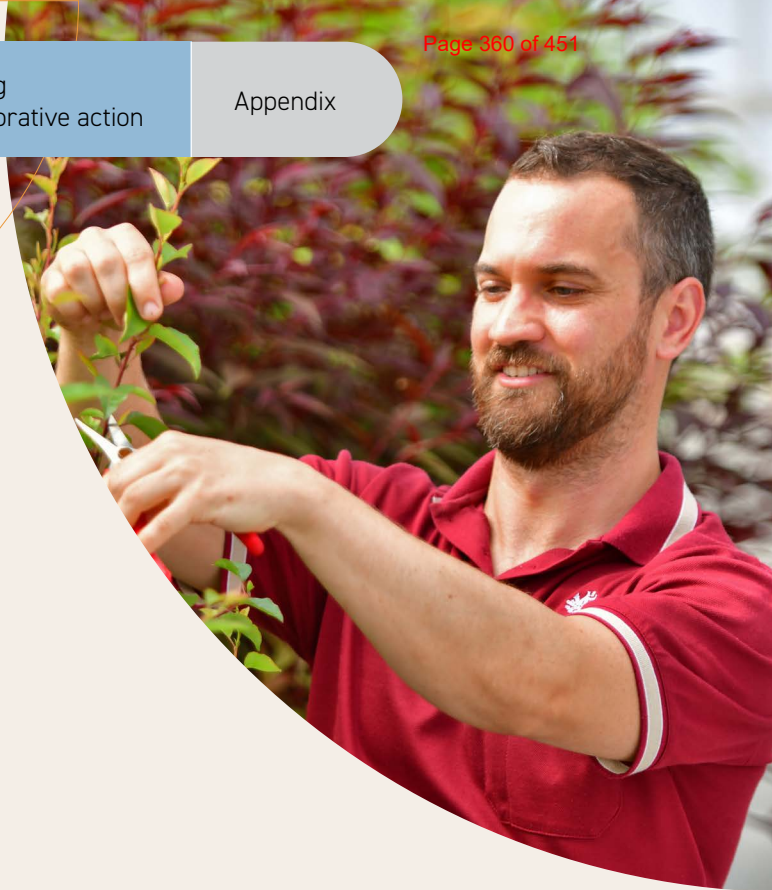
- identify those initial actions that can be implemented immediately
- design a national implementation plan that sets out governance arrangements and guides future planning
- develop a national action plan that builds upon our initial actions and establishes a framework for monitoring and evaluation to keep us accountable.

To support the achievement of the strategy's vision and priorities and to help drive coordinated and collaborative activity across Australia, a diverse range of stakeholders will be involved in implementation, underpinned by an inclusive governance approach.

A National Biosecurity Strategy Implementation Committee (NIC) will be established, consisting of biosecurity stakeholders, including representatives from plant and animal industries, freight and logistics, aquatic industries, environmental groups, research organisations and Indigenous stakeholders. The NIC will work together with the NBC to develop, oversee, implement, monitor and review the national implementation plan and the national action plan.

They will initially be supported by expert stakeholder working groups for each priority area, who will further build upon and refine the initial actions in this strategy for inclusion in the national action plan.





### A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH WILL DRIVE IMPLEMENTATION TO ACHIEVE OUR VISION AND PURPOSE



**NATIONAL BIOSECURITY STRATEGY**



**NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**



**ANNUAL REPORT ON PROGRESS**



**NATIONAL ACTION PLAN**



**OTHER ACTION PLANS (E.G. SECTOR, REGIONAL ETC.)**





## IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

We will work together to develop and implement actions in our priority areas to strengthen our system.

### To be successful, implementation will:

- be an **inclusive process** that includes collaboration with a broad range of stakeholders to develop, implement and monitor action plans
- provide a **range of different opportunities and avenues** for stakeholders to contribute and provide input
- **align with and complement** other relevant strategic agendas and activities where possible, to avoid duplication and siloing of effort
- have clear governance arrangements that embed opportunities for **greater stakeholder involvement in decision-making**, supporting our priority to enhance our shared biosecurity culture
- include mechanisms to ensure we are all **accountable** for implementation and that we **transparently** monitor and evaluate our progress
- focus on tangible actions in each of our priorities to deliver a **more resilient system** that can adapt to changes in our risk environment and is responsive to emerging opportunities and challenges.

## COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION

Implementing the strategy will be underpinned by a national implementation plan and national action plan, complemented by other local, regional or sector-based action plans.

To kick-start the strategy's implementation, we will identify those initial actions that can be implemented immediately and commence their delivery as soon as possible.

To guide our longer-term efforts, a **national implementation plan** will be developed during a 6 to 12 month planning stage. This will outline the governance structure and framework for implementation over the next 10 years.

The implementation plan will support a **national action plan**, which will also be developed during the planning stage. The plan will build upon the initial actions in this strategy and detail the efforts needed to deliver our vision and priorities, ensuring they are specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely. It will include a monitoring and evaluation framework to provide transparency on who is responsible for specific activities and to support ongoing monitoring and reviews.

The national action plan will be complemented by sector based, regional or other action plans developed by stakeholders.

### Monitoring our progress:

- Progress against the national action plan will be monitored regularly to keep us on track and ensure that we adapt where needed, remaining focused on the continual improvement of our system.
- An annual report will be developed to provide an update on the strategy's implementation, emerging issues and stakeholder priorities.
- A formal review of the strategy will be undertaken after 5 years, or sooner if there is significant change to the risks, challenges or opportunities facing us.

**Engaging with our stakeholders** – implementation will be informed by ongoing broader consultation, such as surveys, meetings, workshops and other fora, to ensure it is a collaborative and inclusive process.

## OVERVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS



# Appendix

## OUR BIOSECURITY SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Our system is supported by a mature and dynamic architecture of agreements, arrangements, deeds and statements between governments, plant and animal industries, environmental groups and research organisations. This is complemented by reviews undertaken by the Inspector-General of Biosecurity, CSIRO and other stakeholders.

Australia is also a signatory to a range of international biosecurity, trade, health and environmental agreements, including measures outlined by the World Trade Organization, International Plant Protection Convention, World Organisation for Animal Health and the World Health Organization.

**The Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB)** sets out commitments for governments, outlines agreed national goals and objectives and clarifies roles and responsibilities.

The IGAB also establishes the NBC. The NBC provides advice to the Agriculture Senior Officials Committee (AGSOC) on national biosecurity issues, and progresses the implementation of the IGAB. AGSOC reports to ministers responsible for primary industries.

The NBC is responsible for managing a national, strategic approach to biosecurity risks that could impact agricultural production, the environment, community wellbeing and urban amenity.

The NBC is supported by several sectoral committees – the Animal Health Committee, Environment and Invasives Committee, Marine Pest Sectoral Committee and Plant Health Committee – and the National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network, as well as ongoing expert groups and short-term, task-specific groups.

**Formal emergency preparedness and response agreements** establish arrangements for responding to exotic pests, weeds and diseases that are detected within Australia and have the potential to impact animal, plant or human health, or the environment. These agreements are the:

- Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement (EADRA)
- Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD)
- National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA).

These arrangements are formal agreements between governments and (where relevant) industry signatories, and as appropriate, Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA).

The arrangements cover the management and funding of responses to pest, weed and disease outbreaks, or where a pest, weed or disease primarily impacts the environment and/or social amenity (where the response is for the public good).

AHA and PHA are the custodians of the EADRA and EPPRD respectively and are national coordinators of key government-industry biosecurity partnerships in the areas of animal and plant health, producing and inputting into strategies and plans to guide these efforts. AHA and PHA, as well as other peak bodies such as Wildlife Health Australia (WHA), facilitate a national approach to enhancing Australia's animal and plant biosecurity systems, through awareness, preparedness and emergency response management.

**The National Biosecurity Statement** was finalised in 2018 and outlines national biosecurity goals, roles and responsibilities and principles for managing biosecurity risk. The strategy builds from this strong foundation.

### Government strategies

The Australian, state and territory, and local governments have published a range of strategies, roadmaps and reviews that outline the goals, objectives, priorities and frameworks for the biosecurity system within their jurisdiction.

**Peak research organisations and environmental biosecurity stakeholder publications**

Research organisations and environmental groups are instrumental in the protection and continual enhancement of our biosecurity system. This includes organisations such as the CSIRO, Rural Research and Development Corporations and tertiary institutions. Research organisations develop strategies, research and position papers, and actions that explore and inform initiatives and outline innovative approaches in science, research and collaboration.

Environmental groups, such as regional NRM organisations, play a critical role in environmental biosecurity, regional planning, natural resource management and policy advocacy. A diverse range of Indigenous stakeholders, including Indigenous organisations and land-holding and native title bodies, are involved in biosecurity-related land and water management including surveillance activities. Surveillance activities are also enhanced by on-farm biosecurity and citizen science initiatives which support education, collaboration and capacity building.

**Industry strategies and position papers**

Industry peak bodies who understand and acknowledge the shared benefits of a strong and resilient biosecurity system are consistent advocates for its improvement. Importantly, they publish, in consultation with their members, an array of ambitious and considered strategies and position papers that seek to make a case for reform, action and investment.

System stakeholders work together on a range of holistic plans and strategies, such as PlantPlan 2021 and Animalplan 2022 to 2027. Animalplan was recently developed through collaboration between relevant animal health stakeholders from government, industry, research and other sectors as Australia's first national action plan to strengthen our animal health system, including our preparedness and ability to respond to emergency animal diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease.





## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division

# BSRD02

## REVIEW OF NATIONAL RED IMPORTED FIRE ANT ERADICATION PROGRAM IN SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND

### CURRENT ISSUE

The National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program in south-east Queensland is a \$411.4 million nationally cost shared program managed by Biosecurity Queensland, spanning 10 years to 2027. The program was recently subject to an independent review following the acknowledgement by its steering committee and cost share partners that its outcomes would not be achieved within the agreed timeframe and budget. This was a formal review trigger under the agreed 10-year eradication program. Queensland, in consultation with the program's steering committee (chaired by [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)), is currently finalising a proposal on the future direction of the program for consideration by agriculture ministers in late 2022.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- Red Imported Fire Ants (RIFA) are a highly invasive and damaging global hitchhiker pest. They have the potential to inhabit over 99 per cent of Australia: with serious environment and biodiversity; amenity and health; agriculture and other economic impacts.
  - They spread naturally (queens can fly on average 5km) and assisted by humans through the movement of risk material i.e. dirt, mulch, hay, equipment).
  - In the absence of an eradication program, the potential cost of managing RIFA has been estimated at \$45b over 30 years.
- The Australian Government has supported efforts to eradicate RIFA from south-east Queensland under two successive campaigns since 2001; involving a realised cost of \$294.3m to date.
  - The current program (2017-18 to 2027-28) is delivered by Queensland through a dedicated program delivery team.
  - \$133.2m of the \$212.5m financial commitment made by the government to the current 10-year program (50 per cent of the total estimated budget) has been expended to date.

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SB22-000059



**OFFICIAL**

- Other national eradication programs, at much smaller scale, have been undertaken in response to unrelated RIFA incursions at our ports. Most recent are at the Port of Fremantle (first detected in November 2019) and Port of Brisbane (first detected in March 2021). Both incursions are under control.

***Funding bring forward for 2022-23***

- The program is continuing to adapt in the face of a changing operating environment (i.e. weather, construction patterns, labour availability) and opportunities, including trialling and bringing on board new technologies and science.
- Queensland's agriculture minister, the Hon Mark Furner MP, wrote to all cost-share partners on 23 March 2022 asking them to bring forward their share of \$95 million to sustain the program in 2022-23.
  - The former government agreed in-principle to bring forward \$36m in funding from future year allocations to 2022-23. This would bring the government's contribution to the agreed 2022-23 annual program to approximately \$51m.

**s. 47B(a)**

- This will provide sufficient funding for continued eradication effort through 2022-23, while decisions are taken on the program's future.
- The program has largely managed to keep the incursions from spreading materially, while also clearing areas of the ant.
- The government previously brought forward funding of \$18.4m for the 2021-22 program year. It also brought forward funding of \$18.3m from 2021-27 to reallocate across 2018-21. At the same time, Queensland brought forward all its remaining program funding (also \$18.3m). These bring forwards have not changed the overall government funding commitment.

***Proposed new eradication program following a strategic review***

- Efforts are currently underway to develop and cost a new eradication strategy for submission to agriculture ministers in late 2022.
  - This reflects acceptance by the steering committee and national cost-share partners that the existing 10-year eradication strategy would not be achieved within the current budget and timeframe - which were formal triggers for review.
  - Queensland and the steering committee chair, [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#), presented on this matter to Agriculture Senior Officials Committee on 9 December 2021.
  - The steering committee is currently considering a detailed proposal prepared by Queensland following several months of engagement on specific elements.

## OFFICIAL

- To help guide consideration of next steps for the current program, the steering committee commissioned an independent review in 2021 - chaired by s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (a former government Inspector-General of Biosecurity).
- This review has confirmed eradication remains achievable but the nature and scale of effort needs to be increased to make meaningful inroads.
- It has provided important strategic input into efforts on a new strategy – along with program learnings over the past several years; the likely future operating environment (including costs); and practical implications of emerging science and technology (such as the program’s investment in novel remote sensing surveillance).
- Review findings have been shared with the government, states and territories; with details of the report likely to be released toward the end of the year.
  - This sequencing was a decision of the steering committee to enable the necessary detailed consideration of the options available to deliver the review’s intent.
- The Queensland Government has recently (a) increased its biosecurity control zones for RIFA, and (b) confirmed new funding to support efforts to mobilise self-treatment by businesses, government agencies and community within the highly urbanised eastern part of the current eradication zone.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division

# BSRD03

## INDEPENDENT REVIEWS OF THE BIOSECURITY REGULATORY SYSTEM- PROGRESS AGAINST RECOMMENDATIONS

### CURRENT ISSUE

- The Commonwealth biosecurity system is subject to regular independent reviews by both the Inspector-General of Biosecurity (IGB), under the provisions of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) under the provisions of *Auditor-General Act 1997*. Both agencies perform an important role in ensuring regulation is appropriately administered and remains fit-for-purpose, ensuring transparency for the responsible Minister and the Parliament.
- In addition to the reviews conducted by the IGB and ANAO, the Inter-governmental Agreement on Biosecurity (IGAB) is subject to five yearly review. The most recent review, *“Priorities for Australia’s biosecurity system: an independent review of the capacity of the national biosecurity system and its underpinning intergovernmental agreement”* was presented to all Australian agriculture Ministers in July in 2017. The review made 42 recommendations to improve Australia’s biosecurity system. Agriculture Ministers agreed to 37 recommendations and agreed in principle to the remaining five recommendations.
- The department considers review findings as critical to guiding its reform program, offering independent oversight that necessary changes are being embedded
- *Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030* outlines the Commonwealth’s strategic biosecurity management roadmap for the next decade and seeks to ensure that Australia’s biosecurity system continues to protect our interests and way of life. The roadmap commits the department to reporting annually on IGB and ANAO audit recommendation implementation.
- The department released its first annual plan to support the 2030 strategic roadmap, which includes this annual progress report. This confirms the considerable effort underway to strengthen the biosecurity system consistent with IGB and ANAO recommendations.

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SB22-000060

## KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

### *Progress against recommendations made by independent reviewers*

- Since 16 June 2015 the department has received 246 recommendations across 20 IGB reviews conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. The department has received 11 recommendations from the two biosecurity specific ANAO performance audits conducted in 2021-22.  
**Attachment A.**
- As at 26 September 2022, 109 IGB and 11 ANAO recommendations remain open with ongoing implementation and closure reports continuing, noting that an additional 30 recommendations across three reviews were made by the IGB in July this year.
- Recommendations can require significant change (in policy and/or operational arrangements) as well as consultation with other national and international agencies, industry and/or further decisions by government. This can result in extended periods of time being required to implement agreed recommendations.

### *Recent IGB reviews*

- *Assurance review for arrangements to import live lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV) to CSIRO's Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness.* This review was undertaken at the request for former Minister for Agriculture and was completed in July 2022. The review found that the department is well qualified to assess biosecurity risks associated with import of LSDV into Australia and well equipped to carry out its regulatory responsibilities for the issuing of an import permit for the virus.
- *Effectiveness of preventative biosecurity arrangements to mitigate the risk of entry into Australia of the serious plant pest Xylella fastidiosa.* This review was completed in July 2022. The IGB made 14 recommendations for improving the department's biosecurity arrangements relating to managing the risk posed by *Xylella*. The department agreed to all recommendations and has already commenced work to address them.
- *Efficacy and adequacy of department's X-ray scanning and detector dog screening techniques to prevent the entry of biosecurity risk material into Australia.* This review was completed and published in July 2022. The IGB made 14 recommendations for improvement to the biosecurity system. The department agreed to all recommendations. The department agreed to all recommendations and has already commenced work to address them.

### *IGB Tenure*

- **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** completed his three-year term as IGB on 24 July 2022.
- **s. 22(1)(a)(ii)** commenced his three-year term as IGB on 25 July 2022.

### ***Forthcoming IGB reviews***

- In accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) is required to develop a forward work program of reviews into the biosecurity system that he intends to undertake. It is understood that s. 22(1)(a)(ii) will finalise his review program shortly.

### ***Recent ANAO reviews***

- The ANAO Report 42 of 2020-21, *Responding to Non-Compliance with Biosecurity Requirements* made eight recommendations for improvements to the biosecurity system. The department has made good progress against all recommendations, with four expected to be closed shortly and the remaining four anticipated to be closed by 30 June 2023.
- The ANAO audit, *Human Biosecurity for International Air Travellers during COVID-19* was completed and published in March 2022. The Auditor-General made six recommendations to improve governance arrangements and ensure departmental systems for traveller processing adequately support human health outcomes. The department has a shared responsibility with Department of Health to address two of the recommendations, which is underway with a third recommendation directed solely to the department.

### ***IGAB/Craik review implementation***

- The Craik review report (Priorities for Australia's biosecurity system: an independent review of the capacity of the national biosecurity system and its underpinning intergovernmental agreement) was presented to all Australian agriculture ministers in July 2017. The review made 42 recommendations to improve Australia's biosecurity system.
- Agriculture Ministers agreed to 37 recommendations and agreed in principle to the remaining five recommendations.
  - Of the 42 recommendations made by the Craik review, the Commonwealth is responsible, or has assumed leadership, for 10 recommendations (9, 12, 14, 15, 30, 31, 34, 36, 40, 41). Four of these recommendations are complete or require no further action (9, 31, 36, 40), with implementation of the further 6 ongoing (12, 14, 15, 30, 34, 41).
  - The remaining recommendations are either the responsibility of all governments or are the responsibility of state and territory governments.
- A number of recommendations are multi-jurisdictional and can involve significant change (in policy and/or operational arrangements), require consultation with a range of stakeholders, including industry, and/or further decisions by government. As a result, implementation can occur over an extended period.
- At its meeting in late September 2022, the National Biosecurity Committee committed to undertake a stock-take of the Craik review report recommendations to determine their current status and to align implementation activities with work underway to implement the National Biosecurity Strategy.

## Attachment A

## Status summary of independent reviewer biosecurity recommendations

ANAO audit title	ANAO publish date	Total number	Number closed	Number in progress
Responding to Non-Compliance with Biosecurity Requirements	June 2021	8	0	8
Human Biosecurity for International Air Travellers during COVID-19 (joint performance audit with the Department of Health)	March 2022	3	0	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>

## Status of Inspectors-General review recommendations (reviews conducted under the Biosecurity Act 2015)

Inspector-General review title	IGB Signature date	Total number	Number closed	Number in progress
Efficacy and adequacy of department's X-ray scanning and detector dog screening techniques to prevent entry of biosecurity risk material into Australia	July 2022	14	0	14
Assurance review for arrangements to import live lumpy skin disease virus to CSIRO's Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness. <b>(Both recs for noting only)</b>	July 2022	2	2	0
Effectiveness of preventive biosecurity arrangements to mitigate the risk of entry into Australia of the serious plant pest <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>	June 2022	14	0	14
Robustness of biosecurity measures to prevent entry of khapra beetle into Australia	December 2021	13	0	13
Accountable implementation of Inspectors-General recommendations (2015–2021) and developing a framework for future implementation accountability	November 2021	10	0	10
Confidence testing for at-border delivery of critical human biosecurity functions – Ruby Princess cruise ship incident	April 2021	42	22	20
Adequacy of department's operational model to effectively mitigate biosecurity risks in evolving risk and business environments	February 2021	19	1	18
Biosecurity risk management of international express airfreight pathway for non-commercial consignments	July 2020	25	17	8
Adequacy of preventative border measures to mitigate the risk of African swine fever	March 2020	13	13	0
Effectiveness of Approved Arrangements in managing biosecurity risks in Australia	August 2019	13	9	4
Implementation of Inspector-General of Biosecurity recommendations (2019–20)	July 2019	3	3	0
Pest and disease interceptions and incursions in Australia	May 2019	5	3	2
Effectiveness of biosecurity measures to manage the risks of brown marmorated stink bugs entering Australia	May 2019	14	14	0
Environmental biosecurity risk management in Australia	April 2019	7	7	0

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Inspector-General review title	IGB Signature date	Total number	Number closed	Number in progress
Implementation of Interim Inspector-General of Biosecurity recommendations (2018–19)	September 2018	1	1	0
Horse importation biosecurity risk management	September 2018	4	4	0
Military biosecurity risk management in Australia	July 2018	5	3	2
Hitchhiker pest and contaminant biosecurity risk management in Australia	July 2018	9	8	1
Uncooked prawn imports: effectiveness of biosecurity controls	December 2017	22	19	3
Review of DAWR management of biosecurity risks posed by invasive vector mosquitoes	July 2016	11	11	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>246</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>109</b>

Note: Correct as at 26 September 2022

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Compliance and Enforcement Division

# CED01

## RUBY PRINCESS INVESTIGATION

### CURRENT ISSUE

On 16 April 2020, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry commenced an investigation into Carnival Australia Pty Ltd's (Carnival) compliance with the pre-arrival reporting requirements under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) associated with the arrival of the vessel Ruby Princess.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- To protect the integrity of the investigation and the department's investigative processes, the department does not comment on ongoing investigations.
- Under the Act, the operator of a vessel is required to provide a pre-arrival report. This report must include details of any person on board the vessel who has, or had during the voyage, signs or symptoms of a listed human disease, including COVID-19.
  - In addition, if either the person in charge or the operator of the vessel becomes aware that the information included in the report is incomplete or incorrect, the operator must as soon as practicable give a biosecurity officer the additional or corrected information.
- Contravention of these provisions constitute a criminal offence and a civil penalty may apply.
  - The penalty for the criminal offence is a maximum term of imprisonment for two years, 120 penalty units (\$25,200 at the time of the offence), or both.
  - The civil penalty is 120 penalty units and there is no additional penalty for corporations. The value of one (1) penalty unit, at the time the offence was committed was \$210, whereas a penalty unit is currently \$222.
- The *Biosecurity Amendment (Enhanced Risk Management) Bill 2021* (the Bill) proposes amendments to pratique and human health measures. These include:
  - the definition of 'operator' of a vessel or aircraft to also include 'or person in charge of incoming vessel or aircraft'
  - the making of group human health directions,

Contact Officer: s. 22(1)(a)(ii), Investigations  
Telephone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Last updated: 14 October 2022

SES Lead: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Mobile Number: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
SB22-000061



## OFFICIAL

- changes to pre arrivals reporting must be provided to a Biosecurity Officer and must provide an explanation as to the what the changes are, and
- the penalty increase from 120 penalty units to 1,000 penalty units (\$222,000).
- The Bill amendments are not retrospective.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

# s. 37(1)(a)

- Should the investigation find evidence of a criminal breach, a brief of evidence will be prepared and submitted to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP). If the CDPP accepts the brief, it will then be a matter for the CDPP to decide whether to prosecute in line with its prosecution policy.
- If a civil rather than a criminal breach is found, the department would then consider what action should be taken. Under the Act, this could include seeking the imposition of a civil penalty through the courts of up to \$25,200 or consideration of other actions available under the Act, such as issuance of an infringement notice.
- The NSW Special Commission of Inquiry, conducted by Brett Walker, published comments raising question as to the operation of section 193 of the Act. The

# s. 42(1)

- The department has investigation powers available under the *Regulatory Powers Act 2014*. This includes a raft of compulsory powers such as monitoring and investigation powers via search warrant. The department cannot access or use information such as telephone records as defined under the *Telecommunications Interception and Access Act 1979*.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Compliance and Enforcement Division

# CED02

**ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF LIVE DOGS BY s. 22(1)(a)(ii) AND s. 22(1)(a)(ii)****CURRENT ISSUE**

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry had previously completed an investigation into the importation into Australia of two dogs (s. 22(1)(a)(ii)) owned by Hollywood actor s. 22(1)(a)(ii) and his then wife s. 22(1)(a)(ii).

Information has since come to hand, via a London Libel case, that s. 22(1)(a)(ii) may have provided false testimony to the court in relation to her knowledge of Australia's Biosecurity laws; and that another person in the case falsified a statutory declaration under duress of losing his job.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- To protect the integrity of the investigation and the department's investigative processes, the department does not comment on ongoing investigations. The department treats information obtained through an investigation as confidential. We do not comment on the details of an investigation, including investigation methodology or approach.
- The department is aware of the testimony tendered during the libel case sentence hearing and is investigating whether the revelations have implications for its treatment of the Biosecurity breach
- Committing perjury, in support of a breach of Australia's biosecurity requirements, is seen as a serious breach of Australia's judicial system and processes.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- During the sentencing proceedings of the London libel case, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) legal representative tendered a range of material, including an affidavit of s. 22(1)(a)(ii), dated 17 April 2016, and a statutory declaration of s. 22(1)(a)(ii), dated 14 April 2016.

Contact Officer: s. 22(1)(a)(ii), Investigations  
Telephone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Last updated: 13 October 2022

SES Lead: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Mobile Number: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
SB22-000062

## OFFICIAL

- Australian investigators have no authority to conduct formal investigations in another country. Formal investigations that need to be conducted in a foreign country, to obtain admissible evidence, must be done pursuant to a request from the Australian Government under the Mutual Assistance in *Criminal Matters Act 1987*.<sup>s. 37(1)(a)</sup>
- It is important to note that the biosecurity risks associated with the illegal import of s. 22(1)(a)(ii) dogs were effectively managed at the time of import (in 2015).
- The witness, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) advised the department that following evidence given in the London libel case, he was issued with a subpoena on 14 October 2021 by s. 22(1)(a)(ii) legal team. This subpoena required him to provide all material he holds relating to the importation of the dogs into Australia in 2015, including all correspondence between s. 22(1)(a)(ii) and the department, from the time of the first contact in March 2021, to the proposed date of the libel hearing in the United States of America in April 2022.

# s. 37(1)(a)

- Other than some staffing costs, the cost of conducting the investigation to this point is minimal as the department is primarily utilising the resources of other Commonwealth departments to progress the investigation.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Compliance and Enforcement Division

**CED03****AWASSI INVESTIGATION****CURRENT ISSUE**

In 2018, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry conducted an investigation into whether criminal offences had been committed on board the 'MV Awassi Express' during several livestock export voyages in 2017 after a complaint was filed with the department alleging a breach of Australian Standards for the Export of Livestock.

In January 2019, media reports emerged, alleging cash was received for footage of the alleged animal cruelty on board the 'MV Awassi Express'. A subsequent departmental investigation was conducted into whether money had been offered to obtain and leak footage of animal cruelty on board export vessels. Details of the cash for footage allegation were also shared with the Australian Federal Police, who determined that there was insufficient evidence to sustain charges and declined to investigate the matter.

Both investigations concluded without prosecution.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- To protect the integrity of the investigation and the department's investigative processes, the department does not comment on investigations. The department treats information obtained through an investigation as confidential. We do not comment on the details of an investigation, including investigation methodology or approach.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****s. 42(1)****s. 47E(d)**

Contact Officer: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Telephone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Last updated: 28 September 2022

SES Lead: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Mobile Number: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
SB22-000063

**OFFICIAL**

- A shipboard worker filmed the conditions experienced onboard by livestock during northern summer export voyages from Australia to the Middle East, suggesting the animals on board were suffering.
- The investigation concluded that no breaches of Commonwealth legislation were apparent and that there was no evidence to suggest that, as alleged, the ventilation systems had been turned off during the 2017 voyages of the 'MV Awassi Express'.

**ATTACHMENT**

Attachment A      Extract of Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
Legislation Committee Hansards - CED evidence re Awassi  
Investigation (*Estimates hearings of 4 April 2022, 15 February 2022  
and 26 October 2021*)



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

# Official Committee Hansard

## SENATE

RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT  
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**Senator Duniam:** An inaccurate one.

**CHAIR:** I have a couple of question. Senator Canavan's plan was delayed, so I will ask questions for him. He has been asking questions of the department around the assertion that payments were made by Animals Australia to workers on the *Awassi Express*.

**Mr Metcalfe:** I will just ask the right people to come forward.

**CHAIR:** Senator Canavan has been asking questions at previous estimates about the assertion that payments were made by Animals Australia to workers on the *Awassi Express* to obtain images. He asked for the departments to investigate that.

**Mr Timson:** For the purpose of our investigation as to whether there was cash for footage, we can say that the investigation found no evidence of that. It did not proceed through Commonwealth DPP.

**CHAIR:** As a follow-up to that, is there any agreement in writing or otherwise not to disclose information that they have received from Animals Australia on payments that Animals Australia made to workers on the *Awassi Express*?

**Mr Timson:** There was no agreement. We did ask to withhold information on investigational methodology.

**CHAIR:** So that withholding of information for that purpose of the investigation, that could not be misconstrued as being an agreement to withhold evidence on footage?

**Mr Timson:** Absolutely not.

**CHAIR:** Senator Canavan will be able to look at the *Hansard* and feel assured that you have fully investigated this matter and that there is no evidence of cash for footage?

**Mr Timson:** The purpose of the investigation was to identify if there was cash for footage. The investigation found no evidence in that regard.

**CHAIR:** I will pass that on.

**Mr Metcalfe:** Just to reinforce the professionalism of departmental officers, the officer who has just given that evidence is a former Federal Police officer and a former senior officer in the Department of Home Affairs with an extensive law enforcement background. So I am very satisfied that the work that he is overseeing is in fact quite proper and correct.

**CHAIR:** Thank you, Mr Metcalfe and thank you, Mr Timson. That brings us to the end of outcome 4.

**Mr Metcalfe:** We have a couple of comebacks that we could work in whenever it suits the committee, Chair.

**CHAIR:** Senator McCarthy, we have a couple of responses from the department to deal with, so we'll do that straightaway, and then we'll go to the inspector-general after lunch.

**Mr Metcalfe:** Thanks. I'll ask Mr Hunter, firstly, and then Mrs Blackwell.

**Mr Hunter:** I took a couple of questions on notice earlier in relation to detector dogs. I'd like to confirm that the average cost of us procuring the detector dogs from the Border Force breeding program is approximately \$5,000, and that the animals' health and performance lasts for about eight or nine years.

**Mrs Blackwell:** I took a couple of questions on notice as well. One was in relation to the location of our Indigenous employees across the department and, in particular, how many were within the ACT. We have 54.45 per cent of our Indigenous workforce in the ACT. That's of 332 total Indigenous employees as at 31 January. I also confirm that we have 24 staff in our Indian Ocean territories. Two are on Pulu Keeling Island and 22 are on Christmas Island. The department has 57 rangers, as at 31 January, across the country and some of our islands. There was another question that we received about the change in our staff location profile in the last 12 months. We've had a 9.5 per cent increase in employees in the ACT, a 6.19 per cent increase in major cities outside of Canberra and a slight reduction of seven per cent in remote and regional locations.

**Mr Metcalfe:** Chair and Senator McCarthy, on Indigenous employment, we've recently formed the view that, for Parks Australia, it's important that we have a senior executive service officer based permanently in the Northern Territory, given that our two major terrestrial parks are in the Northern Territory: Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuta. That has been reserved for an Indigenous Australian. That's an affirmative action position, and we are now undertaking a search through a search provider for a suitable candidate. It's something I'm delighted about. Given the extraordinary significance of the joint management of the parks with the traditional owners, to have a senior Indigenous staff member responsible for that relationship is something that we're really looking forward to.

**CHAIR:** That's terrific. Thank you, Mr Metcalfe. Mr Timson, I want to clarify my last question. It wasn't just cash for footage; it was any payments at all.

**Mr Timson:** The purpose of the investigation was to identify if cash was made for footage for the investigation. We didn't look at any other elements of that. So, if that was identified, we didn't go down that path.

**CHAIR:** There is a belief that varies—

**Mr Timson:** It wasn't subject to our investigation because it would not lead to a prosecution, so we didn't look at if anything happened later.

**CHAIR:** There is a belief within the industry that there were payments made by Animals Australia to lead to the disruption of the live export industry. The cash for footage was the obvious element, but I want to make sure that I'm being perfectly clear that we are not allowing any other payments from Animals Australia to employees or to people working on the *Awassi Express* and that we are not missing this element that there could have been any payments made for the disruption of the trade, not necessarily just for footage of animals.

**Mr Timson:** The purpose of our investigation, as I said earlier, was to see if there was that cash paid to provide that footage, and we didn't find any evidence.

**CHAIR:** Alright. No doubt this will continue. Thank you, Mr Timson. Thank you to the department. That brings us to the end of outcome 4.

### Inspector-General of Biosecurity

[13:05]

**CHAIR:** Senator McCarthy, please start your questions.

**Senator McCARTHY:** Thank you, Mr Delane. Since the previous round of estimates, the government has announced the appointment of Dr Lloyd Klumpp as the next Inspector-General of Biosecurity. Are you able to detail for the committee the process the government went through in order to appoint Dr Klumpp?

**Mr Delane:** I think I can do that; I was a member of the selection panel. You would have to check with the department on the specific details of dates et cetera, but I know there was an advertisement placed in January, and there was a subsequent advertisement, I think it was in early February, to attract the best possible field of candidates. There was a selection panel chaired by a senior member of the department, with me and a number of eminent industry people and the Australian Public Sector Commission participating, that worked through all applications and made a recommendation to the minister as is required, and that appointment was subsequently made. I don't know anything—

**Senator McCARTHY:** How many candidates were there?

**Mr Metcalfe:** Can I just jump in? Sorry, Rob—

**Mr Delane:** I'm not at liberty to comment—

**Mr Metcalfe:** I was just going to jump in. Senator, the department was actually responsible for the management of the process. Mr Hazlehurst was the deputy secretary who ran it, so it may well be that questions on that issue are more appropriately handled by the department rather than the current inspector-general, who was part of the process but didn't run the process so to speak.

**CHAIR:** Certainly. Thank you, Mr Metcalfe.

**Senator McCARTHY:** Is he there?

**Mr Metcalfe:** Yes. We can bring him back to the table if you'd like.

**Senator McCARTHY:** A bit later: I'll keep going with Mr Delane while I have him. This morning you would have perhaps heard some of the evidence, Mr Delane, in relation to some of the biosecurity issues like lumpy skin disease and ehrlichiosis, and one of the things that Dr Schipp talked about was the issue around vaccines. I'm wondering whether it's something that you, as inspector-general, have had to work on. I know you've worked on numerous reports. I don't think you've worked on one in regard to lumpy skin disease, so I'm interested to know, in the time frame that you had left, if this is an area that you are looking into.

**Mr Delane:** I haven't looked at those diseases. The inspector-general works through a series of reviews. In my current review program, I've completed six reviews. I've got two currently underway—one into the plant disease xylella, and one into the application of detector dogs and x-rays. I hadn't intended to look at what is really a live issue—a forward-looking rather than a past-looking review. The sorts of issues that I heard Dr Schipp raise are challenging, but decisions were made quite some time ago about what diseases would be allowed to come into Australia for the facility at Geelong.

There are similar issues for plant diseases, and that's a matter I've looked at in relation to xylella, an exotic disease of Australia. Should we have in Australia appropriate samples of that disease for diagnostic purposes et cetera, not research purposes?





COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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has continued. Standards have been improved. We have shown that we are very responsible regulators. So I reject any suggestion that staff have been capricious or negligent. They are trying to do a difficult job. We see different sides of the story. Senator Faruqi has obviously got passionate views as well. But as regulators we have to use the best science and best information. We have to consult. That is exactly what we are doing. You have made some important points, which we certainly will look at carefully.

**Senator CANAVAN:** You raised the *Awassi*. I put some questions on notice at last estimates, and I asked in particular if you had received any correspondence from Lyn White of Animals Australia that indicated a transfer of money to ship workers. You've raised that this was a black mark on the industry, but there are serious questions about exactly how the circumstances of the *Awassi* came about. Just for reference, that was question SQ21002340. In your answer to me—and I may as well read it out in full: 'As its release could reasonably be expected to prejudice the future supply of information to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment associated with the compliance, enforcement and investigations operations, the department is unable to table any communications it may have received from Animals Australia or other parties.' I've had a look closely at the Senate *Practice*. To me, that is not grounds for not producing information to the parliament. Is there any specific law enforcement activity underway against Animals Australia at the moment?

**Mr Metcalfe:** Our key division head who looks after compliance matters is Mr Timson, who I think is online. The reason he's not here personally is that he is being required to isolate for illness reasons.

**Senator CANAVAN:** That's fine.

**Mr Metcalfe:** But Mr Timson will endeavour to assist you.

**Mr Timson:** There are no active investigations underway at the moment with the division. But, yes, we did provide that answer to you.

**Senator CANAVAN:** If that is the case, it almost seems you have zero grounds to refuse that information to the parliament. When you look at the general understanding of not providing information that may be before a court or that may involve law enforcement activities, it's very clear that it has to relate to a specific enforcement action that is occurring. I realise you won't be able to provide this to me now, but could I ask you to take that on notice and specifically this time can I insist that, if you are refusing to provide it to the parliament, you provide an appropriate public interest immunity request.

**Mr Metcalfe:** Yes, we will check on that.

**Mr Timson:** Yes, we will.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Thank you.

**CHAIR:** Senator McMahan.

**Senator McMAHON:** I'll start along the lines of Senator Faruqi and Senator Canavan. With regard to the draft [inaudible] and the [inaudible] changes to the prohibition periods, can I ask you very specifically what studies or what bodies of research were used to come to these recommendations?

**Ms Hutchison:** I'm not sure I heard what you said. Can I just check that you asked: 'What are the range of studies that were taken into account in undertaking the review?'

**Senator McMAHON:** No, sorry. I was very specific. With regard to the absolute prohibition periods, exactly which scientific studies did you use to come to these recommended changes?

**Ms Hutchison:** The actual length of the prohibition? In the proposed review there are absolute prohibition periods. Are you saying: what scientific studies were used specifically to come to that conclusion?

**Senator McMAHON:** Yes. Correct.

**Ms Hutchison:** Okay. We will take that one on notice. There's a range of material, so we'll look closely at your question and make sure we answer that.

**Senator McMAHON:** Okay. Are you not able to provide details of which studies you used? I mean that must have been a major part of it.

**Ms Hutchison:** There's not a particular study that says, 'You must not send sheep to the Middle East at this particular time.' A range of information was looked at to come to that conclusion. There's a range of research material that's been looked at and quoted throughout the review. I can look closely at your question to make sure that we understand it and answer it.

**Mr Hazlehurst:** Senator, as discussed earlier with Senator Faruqi, updated data from the Bureau of Meteorology was very important in those considerations.



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## SENATE

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**Senator FARUQI:** Do you know whether other jurisdictions are providing any cash contributions or just in-kind contributions at the moment?

**Ms Laduzko:** My understanding is that it remains in kind. I'm saying that in the absence of knowledge that they have provided financial contributions and not to say that I know they haven't.

**Senator FARUQI:** Thank you very much. Thanks, Chair.

**CHAIR:** Senator Canavan.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Thank you, Chair. As I mentioned this morning, I have some questions on the *Awassi Express* investigation and issues around that. I believe that in August 2019 the department released a statement suggesting that had not uncovered any evidence that the video evidence was contrived or that fans had been turned off. Is that correct?

**Mr Timson:** That was the advice from the Commonwealth DPP.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Was there a report released with regard to that at the time? Was a report done that informed that statement?

**Mr Timson:** It was the advice provided, I believe, from the Commonwealth DPP when they assessed the evidence that was put before them.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Was there any internal report done on the evidence that was collected?

**Mr Timson:** I'd have to take on notice whether there was a post-investigative review.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Can you also take on notice whether there was something pre the DPP conclusions as well?

**Mr Timson:** Yes.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Has the department ever received any admission from Animals Australia that it provided money to ship workers?

**Mr Timson:** I'd have to go through the case file and take that one on notice.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Okay. Just so we're clear, that's just any monetary payment, not for any particular purpose or anything; just any payment to a ship worker on the *Awassi Express*. Has the department ever received any correspondence from Lyn White of Animals Australia that indicated a transfer of money to ship workers?

**Mr Timson:** I do not have the investigation material before me, so I'd have to take that on notice as well.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Okay. If you do have correspondence, could you provide that to the committee?

**Mr Timson:** Certainly.

**Senator CANAVAN:** If you were to provide money to ship workers in exchange for footage of suffering animals, would that be an incentive to allow the suffering?

**Mr Timson:** That's an opinion.

**Mr Metcalfe:** I think that's a legal opinion, Senator, that we probably should not attempt to answer.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Fair enough. Is the department aware of any evidence that there's an open reward from Animals Australia for footage that meets their threshold for animal cruelty?

**Mr Timson:** I'm not personally aware.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Minister, are you?

**Senator McKenzie:** No, I'm not.

**Senator CANAVAN:** I'm just asking the question, Minister.

**Mr Metcalfe:** As you know, Senator, this happened some time ago now, so we'll need to check.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Just keep in mind that question; it is an open reward. If you could take that on notice, not just with regard to *Awassi Express*.

**Mr Metcalfe:** Yes.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Are you aware of Animals Australia rejecting footage from workers on the basis that it was not good enough and not showing sufficient animal cruelty?

**Mr Tongue:** We're not aware, Senator, but we're happy to take it on notice and search the files.

**Senator CANAVAN:** Okay. Does the department work with Animals Australia in any way? Do you have a relationship with them?

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Environmental Biosecurity Office

# EBO02

**CENTRE FOR INVASIVE SPECIES SOLUTIONS (CISS)****CURRENT ISSUE**

The Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS) is seeking a second five-year funding commitment from the Australian Government. CISS is currently funded through a five-year grant agreement which expires on 30 November 2022. CISS claim losing block government funding will shut down its pipeline of research and innovation and limit Australia's ability to respond to a growing number of threats.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- The government is committed to reducing the impact of invasive pests, weeds and diseases. This is important to Australia's national biosecurity system, agriculture industries and the environment.
- CISS received an government block funding commitment of \$20 million over five years (from 2017-18 to 2021-2022). This was to support the Centre's operations and fund its 2017-22 Research, Development and Extension (RD&E) portfolio. The grant agreement will end on 30 November 2022.
- In addition to the \$20 million grant, the department has contributed to 14 projects valued in the order of nearly \$9 million. This includes projects focused on best practice management of pest animals, national coordination, surveillance and detection technologies such as eDNA and rabbits.
- We have already committed over \$1 million for our membership of CISS for 2022-23 to continue to support the Centre, in advance of any finalised future project proposals, the final report or evaluation of previous work.
- The department expects to receive CISS's final report on its performance under the five-year grant agreement today, 7 November 2022. The final report, and the department's evaluation, will be important in informing decisions around future targeted investment in CISS and further advice to government.
- The department has engaged in strategy and evaluation work with CISS in good faith – including its self-assessment work which has been recently reported in the media. We hope these will be useful additions to the final report and program evaluations.

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SB22-000088

## OFFICIAL

- The department has also requested and is expecting a detailed future funding proposal from CISS in the coming months.
- Throughout the previous funding period, CISS was asked to focus on demonstrating value for money and to transition away from the government block funding model.
  - On 27 August 2021 CISS was formally advised by the department that the government would be continuing its financial support of CISS through membership and future investment on a project-by-project basis. This funding approach is consistent with all other members of CISS.
- CISS has consistently advised they have found the transition from the previous block funding agreement to a project-by-project model difficult.
  - While they have not provided a formal detailed written funding proposal to the department yet or the minister, or the environment portfolio, they have conveyed verbally, in the media and written into their submission to the Senate inquiry on *Adequacy of Australia's biosecurity measures and response preparedness, in particular with respect to foot-and-mouth disease and varroa mite*, that they would like a return to block funding. Their senate submission nominates a figure of \$10 million a year for five years, for a total of \$50 million.

**Funding for invasive species**

- The government is committed to reducing the impact of invasive pests, weeds and diseases. This is important to Australia's national biosecurity system, agriculture industries and the environment.
  - The State of the Environment report highlighted the impact of invasive species on the environment. The 2022-2032 Threatened Species Action Plan includes a range of targets to tackle feral cats and foxes, gamba grass, and to reduce the introduction and establishment of new exotic environmental pests, weeds and diseases. These environment portfolio actions will also have benefits for agriculture and biosecurity.
- We continue to fund invasive species RD&E activities through a range of providers, including CISS.
  - The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is currently administering \$35 million in existing commitments over the next three years for established pest and weed projects. This includes \$24.5 million recently allocated to 37 new projects, which will contribute to on-ground management, national coordination and the development of new control tools.
  - CISS and its previous iterations have been a visible presence in the invasive species field for some time. This field has expanded significantly over recent years and there are now many sources of expertise that drive collaborative research, development and extension in this area, including universities, private companies, industry bodies and community groups.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Exports and Veterinary Services Division

# EVSD02

## ANIMAL WELFARE AT EXPORT ABATTOIRS

### CURRENT ISSUE

On 15 September 2022, 567 redacted animal welfare incident reports (AWIRs) were tabled with the Senate. An additional 64 AWIRs were not tabled as their release was deemed potentially prejudicial to state and territory investigations.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- Through the *Export Control Act*, the department requires export establishments to have a system for managing animal welfare and take immediate action to alleviate the pain or suffering of any animal. It is the abattoir that is responsible for maintaining animal welfare, from unloading the truck to the point of slaughter.
- The Commonwealth's role in animal welfare relates directly to ensuring compliance with export legislation. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry ensures compliance through audits and, where necessary, requires corrective actions to be undertaken. When requirements are not complied with, the department may take, and has taken, action to vary, suspend or revoke the operations of meat export establishments.
- The department also verifies compliance with the requirements through its on-plant veterinarians (OPVs) at export establishments. OPVs conduct daily ante-mortem inspections and monitor compliance with the Australian Meat Standard and may be required to make challenging decisions. The Department provides support to its OPVs through their managers and senior veterinary officers overseeing the red meat export sector.
- The department takes a leadership role in the development of national animal welfare standards and guidelines. It leads, or actively contributes to, several forums and working groups focused on animal welfare concerns and works with all states and territories to review and harmonise animal welfare procedures and actions.
- As a condition of export registration, the department requires export establishments to report any animal welfare issues that are observed, whether they occur prior to arrival, or at the abattoir.

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SB22-000031

**OFFICIAL**

- It is the State and territory laws that cover all aspects of animal handling during production, transportation, and slaughter in the respective jurisdictions within Australia. Therefore, it is the jurisdiction of State and territory governments to investigate alleged breaches and respond appropriately.
- Those reports (AWIRs) are submitted to DAFF and referred to the relevant state or territory authority. This allows for the relevant state or territory jurisdiction to investigate alleged breaches and respond appropriately.
- Between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021, the 631 AWIRs raised involved less than 0.0058% (or less than one in 17,000) of the total number of animals sent for slaughter across Australia's export registered red meat establishments.
- The Australian government has committed to renewing the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy, which will provide an overarching framework to identify and act on national animal welfare priorities.
- Industry, through the Australian Meat Processing Corporation, also undertakes activities to improve animal welfare, and has several that have been completed or are underway.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- A Sydney Morning Herald article on 30 January 2022 mentioned reports filed by Australian government veterinarians about injured and emaciated livestock being transported to abattoirs. It also alleged that departmental vets have privately spoken out that they have been pressured, by industry, to not make animal welfare reports and lacked support from senior officers.
  - The incidents mentioned in the article relate to issues which occurred before the animals arrived at the abattoir and were correctly referred to Agriculture Victoria.
- On 9 February 2022, Senator Faruqi moved a motion for all AWIRs held by the then Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment generated by abattoir management personnel and/or on-plant veterinarians at export registered abattoirs between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2021 to be tabled.
- At the time the response to the motion was prepared in February 2022, 64 AWIRs were identified as being subject to ongoing or pending investigatory or other regulatory considerations of a possible breach of law by state or territory agencies. As release of these AWIRs was viewed by the state or territory agencies as potentially prejudicial to their respective investigation, it would be contrary to the public interest to disclose, and those reports were not tabled.
- On 19 August 2022, an article appeared in the Courier Mail showing mistreatment of pigs at Swickers Bacon Factory in Kingaroy, Queensland. Video footage of the incident which occurred on 8 June 2022 was released publicly by Animal Liberation Queensland. These incidents were actioned by the export establishment. We also understand the issue is also under investigation by Biosecurity Queensland.



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Plant and Live Animal Exports Division

# PLAED01

## NORTHERN HEMISPHERE SUMMER – REVIEW

### CURRENT ISSUE

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has completed a review of live sheep by sea to, or through, the Middle East during the Northern Hemisphere summer (NHS). The review assessed the effectiveness of the regulatory settings implemented in 2020 in protecting exported sheep from the risk of heat stress on voyages to the Middle East during the NHS.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- The review concluded that the regulatory settings introduced in 2020 reduced, but did not eliminate, the risk of heat stress for sheep exported to the Middle East, and improved animal welfare outcomes. The review also concluded that to maintain the welfare of exported sheep, an absolute prohibition period during the hottest, most humid part of the NHS should remain.
- The review made several recommendations to improve or maintain animal welfare. These recommendations will be implemented by the department and include that:
  - sheep should be fed a minimum of 3% of their liveweight daily while on vessels travelling to, or through the Middle East during the non-prohibited periods of the NHS.
  - each vessel exporting sheep must deploy a minimum of one data logger on the bridge to record ambient wet bulb temperature (in addition to the requirement for environmental recording on decks holding sheep under current rules).
- The review makes several date related recommendations to reduce the prohibition period during the NHS to certain destinations where heat stress risks are less than previously understood. These recommendations will not be implemented.
  - The Australian Government has made a commitment to phase out live sheep exports by sea. Not implementing these recommendations is consistent with the live sheep export phase out policy.

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SB22-000041

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- In undertaking the review, the department considered an updated climatology analysis based on 42 years of accumulated data from the Bureau of Meteorology, health and welfare information and mortality data from 15 voyages that occurred during the NHS months from 2019 to 2021, an analysis of data from environmental data loggers placed on sheep decks and stakeholder feedback.
  - Stakeholder feedback included nearly 700 submissions on the draft report released for public consultation from 17 December 2021 to 28 January 2022, and feedback during additional stakeholder engagement undertaken in March 2022.
- Key findings of the review included:
  - no heat stress mortalities were reported by independent observers or accredited veterinarians on the 15 voyages analysed.
  - there was a 77.5% reduction in sheep mortality rates during the NHS after specific regulatory changes to mitigate heat stress and improve animal welfare were introduced over 2018 to 2020.
  - mortality rates for NHS voyages have stabilised within a narrow range, averaging 0.2%.
- Pending finalisation of the review, the Export Control (Animals) Rules 2021 were amended in April 2022 to:
  - introduce a conditional prohibition period for voyages departing Australia from 22 May – 31 May to some Persian Gulf destinations.
  - provide an additional 2 weeks in early June where voyages can depart Australia for destinations in, or reached via, the Red Sea. The prohibition period for Qatar was also aligned with other Persian Gulf destinations (other than Kuwait and Oman).
- The changes were based on updated climatology data, which indicated an increased heat stress risk for voyages to some Persian Gulf destinations in late May and a reduced risk for voyages to, or through the Red Sea in early June.
- The additional conditions to apply during the conditional prohibition period include measures to improve sheep heat tolerance, such as shorter fleece length and maximum sheep weight limits (for example, 56kg for Merinos) and measures to decrease the deck wet bulb temperatures, such as minimum pen air turnover rates and increased pen space allowance.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Plant and Live Animal Exports Division

# PLAED02

**LIVE ANIMAL EXPORT COST RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENT (CRIS)****CURRENT ISSUE**

Despite changes implemented in 2021-22 after a substantial review of the live export cost recovery arrangement, including significant price increases, the arrangement continues to under recover.

The live export industry continue to express concern that cost recovery will negatively impact the viability of the live export sector.

The Live Animal Export arrangement has been under-recovering since 2011–12 and has accumulated a \$30.4 million deficit. The price increases are not designed to recover the deficit, they are intended to ensure the deficit does not increase.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- The Australian Government’s cost recovery policy is that direct beneficiaries of specific government activities should be charged the costs of those activities. It means the costs of government regulation is paid by those that benefit from the service, rather than the general public.
- In 2021, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry published the Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) for live animal exports for 2021–22.
  - Implemented on 1 July 2021, the CRIS detailed stepped increases in prices in 2021-22 and 2022-23 with the arrangement to become fully cost recovered by 2023-24. Changes made to increase prices in 2021-22 were the first increases in six years after years of under recovery.
  - There was a \$5.9 million revenue shortfall in 2021-22:
    - Approximately \$3.3 million due to lower-than-expected export volumes, in part, to a reduction in export volumes due to the rebuilding of the national herd, loss of market access during the COVID-19 pandemic and reduced demand from major markets impacted by significant disease outbreaks.
    - Approximately \$2.6 million resulting from lower-than-expected revenue generated by fee-for-service activity.

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SB22-000042

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- The department is focussed on addressing the forecasting of volumes and fee-for-service activity issues identified with the model along with reviewing the price points for fee-for-service activity and is engaging with the industry through the Live Animal Exports Finance Industry Consultative Committee. The most recent meeting was held on 6 October 2022.
- The second set of legislated price increases came into effect on 1 July 2022 as part of the stepped increase in cost recovery. There was no additional changes made to account for the identified under-recovery in 2021-22.
- In accordance with the Australian Government Charging Framework, the Live Animal Exports (LAE) CRIS will be updated annually. The department's annual CRIS reviews aim to ensure expenses and revenue are aligned, and efficiencies from reforms and government investments can be passed on as quickly as possible.
- The department has held a public consultation process to finalise the cost recovery arrangement for 2022-23. The public consultation period closed on Friday 19 August 2022.
- Feedback from the consultation process is being used to prepare a brief to the Australian Government for their decision. A final 2022-23 LAE CRIS will be released once this decision is made.
- Legislated prices will again increase on 1 July 2023 as modelled in 2021-22. The industry is critical of the increases, especially during an extended period of downturn in trade.

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

Division: Plant and Live Animal Exports Division

**PLAED03****INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF ANIMAL WELFARE IMPLEMENTATION****CURRENT ISSUE**

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will establish an independent Inspector-General of Animal Welfare (IGAW), which was a 2022 Federal Election commitment.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- The government is committed to supporting strong animal welfare standards and strengthening animal welfare.
- Through the October 2022-23 Budget, the government is providing \$4 million over four years from 2022-23 to deliver its election commitment to establish an Inspector-General of Animal Welfare.
- Implementation will be via an expansion to the current office of the Inspector-General of Live Animal Exports (IGLAE) to create the office of the Inspector-General of Animal Welfare and Live Animal Exports (IGAWLAE).
  - Expansion of the current office of the IGLAE minimises potential duplication of functions that would likely exist if there were two separate Inspector-General functions.
- The IGAWLAE will strengthen animal welfare assurance, and increase accountability and transparency for animal welfare in livestock exports.
- Stakeholder consultation will occur prior to finalisation of IGAWLAE design.

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**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- The government made an election commitment to *'provide \$1 million a year to establish the office of the independent Inspector-General of Animal Welfare and increase accountability and transparency for reporting of animal welfare breaches'*.
- The election commitment also stated that *'the Inspector-General of Animal Welfare will strengthen reports to the Parliament on:*
  - *New and emerging live export markets.*
  - *The number of head exported and mortalities.*
  - *Any allegations of breaches of animal welfare standards and investigations undertaken.*
  - *Any sanctions or other action taken for breaches of Australia's animal welfare standards.'*
- The animal welfare scope of the IGAWLAE is export livestock as this primarily falls under Commonwealth jurisdiction.
  - All states and territories have contemporary and comprehensive animal welfare legislation in place, and set and enforce strong animal welfare standards.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Plant and Live Animal Exports Division

# PLAED04

## INDEPENDENT OBSERVERS

### CURRENT ISSUE

Independent Observer (observer) deployments on livestock voyages recommenced in May 2022.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- Observer deployments recommenced on 1 May 2022 (current deployment policy is at **Attachment A**).
  - The program was paused in March 2020 due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.
- 38 of the 85 voyages that departed between 1 May and 30 September 2022 were eligible under the current deployment policy:
  - 5 voyages have been accompanied by an observer
  - Observers were not deployed on the 11 voyages to China due to post arrival COVID-19 related restrictions
  - Observers were not deployed on the remaining 22 voyages as the vessel operator advised there was insufficient cabin space to accommodate an observer.
- The department is working to publish summary reports as soon as possible.
- Finalisation and publication of the summary reports cannot occur until the department's due diligence processes have been completed (i.e. factual correctness and procedural fairness).
- The delay in publication has been attributed to a combination of factors including:
  - the complex nature of issues and non-compliances and resulting regulatory actions taken by the department (in particular relating to the voyage of sheep to the Middle East) and
  - these voyages were the first time the newly developed app has been used as the sole reporting tool by observers, with a number of issues needing to be worked through.

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SB22-000044

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- Publication is the final step in the regulatory process and does not reflect a delay in taking any necessary actions.
- The department aims to publish summary reports from voyages with minimal issues and/or non-compliances within 6 weeks following receipt of observer reporting, and those with numerous or particularly complex issues and/or non compliances within 12 weeks following receipt of observer reporting.
- Observer deployments are expensive and heavily criticised by industry.
- The department is considering possible changes to the observer deployment policy to make it more targeted and risk based.
- Consideration is also being given to industry-led alternative arrangements which can demonstrate comparable outcomes to physical deployment. Trials are currently underway, including exploring the use of body cameras on stockpersons, to provide similar assurance to the deployment of an observer.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment A**      Current Independent Observer deployment policy





15 October 2019

## Export advisory notice 2019/09

# Independent Observer Deployment Policy

Species: **All livestock exported by sea**

Countries: **All**

## Attention

- Australian Government Accredited Veterinarians
- Australian Livestock Exporters' Council
- LiveCorp
- Livestock Exporters
- Meat and Livestock Australia

## Purpose

To inform livestock exporters of the department's policy regarding the deployment of independent observers on livestock export voyages by sea that is now in place.

## Key points

1. Under sections 9D and/or 9E of the *Export Control Act 1982*, the Secretary (or their delegate) can direct an independent observer to accompany livestock export voyages by sea.
2. Exporters should expect an independent observer to accompany livestock export voyages by sea in the following circumstances:
  - a. voyages departing from ports south of latitude 26 degrees south and crossing the equator
  - b. the first voyage undertaken by an exporter or vessel following a reportable mortality
  - c. the first voyage(s) by any new exporter or vessel
  - d. other long-haul voyages with complex arrangements such as those with multiple ports of discharge, carrying buffalo or enacting management plans (e.g. heavy cattle).
3. The department may also direct an independent observer to accompany other voyages.
4. The department will shortly commence consulting stakeholders on its independent observer deployment policy before making any further changes by the end of 2019.

## Instructions

1. The department strongly encourages exporters to factor the requirement of an independent observer on voyages that fit the circumstances described under key point 2. For other voyages,

## Export advisory notice 2019/09

the department will notify exporters when it intends to direct an independent observer to accompany those voyages.

2. For all voyages, where exporters anticipate extenuating circumstances that may prevent an independent observer being accommodated, they should advise the department by email (to [livestockexp@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:livestockexp@agriculture.gov.au), copied to [observers@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:observers@agriculture.gov.au)) at least 10 clear business days prior to the expected date of departure. The email should include a statutory declaration from the exporter and advice from the vessel operator explaining why an independent observer cannot be accommodated.
3. The department will consider, on a case by case basis, each instance of this nature and the circumstances of the voyage before deciding whether to direct an independent observer to accompany a voyage.
4. If an exporter varies a notice of intention to export (NOI) in a way that impacts the application of this policy, this must be done 10 clear business days prior to departure unless otherwise agreed with the department.

## Background

1. Since 1 November 2018, the department has encouraged exporters to factor the requirement of an independent observer on all livestock export voyages by sea (EAN 2018-10 and EAN 2018-14 refer).
2. Based on information gathered by independent observers on more than 100 voyages, the department has a deeper understanding of the types of voyages where the deployment of an independent observer is most beneficial.

## s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

### s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

Director  
Live Animal Export Branch  
Department of Agriculture

### s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Trade Reform Division

# TRD01

## CONGESTION BUSTING FOR AGRICULTURAL EXPORTERS PACKAGE

### CURRENT ISSUE

A number of projects are underway to reform Australia's agricultural export systems. These include digital services, streamlining regulation and improving service delivery for exporters.

- The 2020-21 Budget provided \$328.4 million over 4 years for this work. The fact sheet for this announcement is at **Attachment A**.
- In the 2022-23 March Budget the previous government committed to a further \$127.4 million to continue the Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market program (fact sheet is at **Attachment B**).
- The Australian Government has confirmed this funding in the 2022-23 October Budget (see the note on page 27 of the department's Portfolio Budget Statement at **Attachment C**).

s. 47C(1)

Trading partners determine the requirements that must be met in order to export products to their country. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, as regulator of agricultural exports, has processes and systems to confirm compliance with these requirements which are cost recovered from industry.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- The reforms will ensure Australia maintains its rigorous, effective, and reliable regulatory systems, but in a more contemporary and streamlined manner.
- The reforms are under 4 key initiatives:
  - Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market
  - Building a More Competitive Meat Industry
  - Busting Congestion for Plant Exports
  - Targeted Interventions for Seafood and Live Animal Exporters.
- Activity to date for each initiative is outlined at **Attachment E**.

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SB22-000045

## OFFICIAL

- **s. 47C(1)**
- Total funding breakdown by initiative and financial year is at **Attachment G**.
- Year to date actual and budget comparisons are outlined at **Attachment H**.
- From 2023-24 annual fees and charges will be \$21.4 million lower than otherwise expected without the reforms. By 2030, improvements to streamline and modernise processes will generate at least \$236 million in benefits for industry.
- The department received \$71.1 million in the 2020-21 Budget to maintain export regulatory services as the reforms are implemented. This funding decreases annually until 2022-23 to reflect both the efficiency savings the department will generate from these reforms, as well as stepped increases to cost recovery charges.
  - The department will still maintain its regulatory role to ensure that Australian products continue to meet our trading partners' requirements.
  - New regulatory fees and charges for seven export arrangements took effect on 1 July 2022. The new amounts replace those in the 2021-22 Cost Recovery Implementation Statements (CRISs).
  - Annual CRIS reviews aim to ensure expenses and revenue are aligned, so efficiencies from reforms and government investments can be passed on as quickly as possible.
- Questions about cost recovery or CRISs should be referred to Finance and Investment Division.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Details on other trade reform initiatives underway (outside of the Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters package) is at **Attachment I**.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A 2020-21 Budget announcement fact sheet

Attachment B 2022-23 March Budget announcement fact sheet

Attachment C 2022-23 DAFF PBS

**s. 47C(1)**

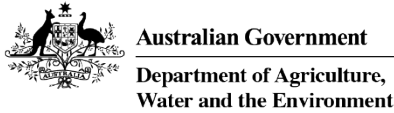
Attachment E Activities to date

**s. 47C(1)**

Attachment G Total funding breakdown by initiative and financial year

Attachment H Year to date actual and budget comparisons

Attachment I Other trade reform initiatives underway



## Budget 2020-21: Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters Fact Sheet

The Australian Government is introducing a package of reforms for the Australian agricultural sector as part of the Economic Recovery Plan to rebuild the economy and recover from the COVID-19 recession. The **Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters** package, worth over \$328.4 million over four years from 2020-21, will slash unnecessary red-tape to get products to export markets faster and support jobs in rural, regional and remote Australia.

The package, will also:

- support Australia's agriculture industry grow towards the goal of \$100 billion production by 2030 (from \$61 billion currently)
- maintain and strengthen existing access to premium overseas markets
- provide an immediate freeze in fees and charges to assist exporters with the impacts of COVID-19, with stepped increases to be spread over 4 years consistent with cost recovery policy.

The package will allow us to open up, compete and build a resilient agriculture sector that supports jobs in rural, regional and remote Australia. We will implement the full package over 3-5 years.

### Why is it important?

This package responds to industry demand and solidifies innovative and flexible approaches introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic and complements them with wide-ranging regulatory and service reforms to build a stronger, more agile agricultural export sector. The package will transform Australia's weak and outdated systems and processes into a cost-effective model to get products to export markets faster and more efficiently. It will establish modern digital services, reduce regulatory cost and administration and improve interactions with export systems. The package is an investment towards the government's major initiative to deliver a Single Trade System.

Keeping fees and charges at current rates provides certainty for industry while we also work with them to cut red tape and streamlines processes.

The **Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters** budget measures will deliver:

#### 1. Modern export systems

The centrepiece of the reform package is the **Digital Services to Take Farmers to Markets** measure, which will modernise Australia's agricultural export systems by slashing red-tape and improving regulation and service delivery for our producers and exporters. This measure will transition our systems online and provide a single portal for transactions between exporters and government, streamlining processes for exporters and helping them experience faster and more cost effective services.

#### 2. Improved regulation

The **Improving Regulation post-COVID-19 including Targeted Interventions for Seafood and Live Animal Exporters** measure will transition the live animal and seafood export sectors toward data and technology supported regulation. It will capitalise on new ways of working that were developed during the COVID response. It will provide dedicated case managers to allow new exporters to meet regulatory standards and get on the front foot to enter markets, and existing exporters to expand and diversify their markets.

### 3. More competitive meat industry

The **Building a More Competitive Meat Industry** measure will modernise the export meat regulatory system to strengthen Australia's reputation as a provider of high-quality safe meat, underpinned, and verified by, a robust regulatory system. The modernisation projects will keep Australia's export systems world leading, reduce the meat processing industry's regulatory burden, introduce new regulatory assurance that targets higher risk export processes and/or exporters and rewards high levels of compliance, and introduces flexible assurance methods, including through the better use of technology, to reduce cost and help meat exporters to better compete internationally.

### 4. Busting congestion for plant exports

The **Harmonised and Streamlined Plant Export Regulation** measure will simplify processes for plant product exports, making it easier, cheaper and quicker for plant exporters to get their produce into overseas markets. It will also harmonise regulation for plant industries and streamline plant export audit intervention, making the rules easier to navigate and more consistent.

### 5. Maintenance of regulatory systems for industry

The **More Efficient and Sustainable Export Regulation** measure invests in the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment to ensure export regulatory systems can be maintained and enhanced. Our agriculture and food exporters and producers will also be assisted through the reform process with a freeze in fees and charges in 2020/21, and stepped increases spread through to 2023/24. Due to the reforms, fees and charges are expected to realise \$21.4 million in efficiencies through to 2023-24. We will continue to engage closely with industry every step of the way.

#### Who will benefit?

The package is expected to generate wider benefits for industry of \$236 million over the decade, with rural, regional and remote Australia reaping the largest benefits. Building a stronger agricultural sector benefits all Australians, especially those in rural and regional areas. Nearly 270,000 people are employed on-farm in Australia, and three in five agricultural jobs are linked to international trade activity. These people, and their communities, will all benefit.

Agricultural exporters will benefit directly from reduced costs of doing business and simpler systems. The Australian agriculture industry is currently worth around \$61 billion per year. Industry is advocating for a \$100 billion industry by 2030, and with increased exports an important component of achieving this growth, this reform package is essential. For example, a new Australian citrus exporter must complete up to 20 forms to export their produce, while in 2017-18 every day 550 paper export certificates were manually handled by government and exporters to send goods overseas. These reforms will tackle these wasteful and outdated practices.

#### What will this cost?

We will implement the full package over 3-5 years. The Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment will also work with industry to ensure future fees and charges reflect the benefits of the reforms. The measures include:

Measure	Amount
Digital Services to Take Farmers to Markets	\$222.2 million
Improving Regulation post-COVID-19 including Targeted Interventions for Seafood and Live Animal Exporters	\$14.3 million
Building a More Competitive Meat Industry	\$10.9 million
Harmonised and Streamlined Plant Export Regulation	\$10 million
More Efficient and Sustainable Export Regulation	\$71.1 million

## DIGITAL SERVICES TO TAKE FARMERS TO MARKET FACT SHEET

The Australian Government continues to make it easier for producers and exporters to get products to export markets faster and access premium export markets.

### What's in this year's budget

The 2022–23 Budget delivers an additional \$127.4 million to continue the transformation of our digital agricultural export systems under the Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market initiative. This started with the \$328.4 million Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters package in the 2020–21 Budget.

### Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market

The commitment will build on the ongoing transformation of our digital agricultural export systems. By mid-2025 the additional funding will enable export businesses to:

- manage their approved arrangements online and show their compliance more easily
- receive export guidance tailored to their needs, characteristics and target markets
- access real-time information on quota usage and easily trade their quota online
- receive notifications on new and emerging markets where they already meet the eligibility criteria
- use their strong compliance history to benefit from streamlined assurance processes, including reduced audits and inspections.

### Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters – progress to date

The Australian Government's investment under Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters package is already reducing red tape to help get products to export markets faster by:

- modernising our digital export systems
- improving regulation for Live Animal Exports and supporting seafood exporters to understand and meet export requirements
- building a more competitive meat export industry
- busting congestion for plant exports.

### Early wins include:

- a single digital export account where exporters can securely verify who they are, save time by reusing their details across export services and find status updates
- more secure access to meat product hygiene dashboards, supporting risk-based auditing and improving market access for establishments
- new cloud infrastructure to accelerate the delivery of digital services, while increasing the robustness, availability, security and performance of our services

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- industry consultation to identify potential opportunities to reduce regulatory costs in the meat, live animal, seafood and plant export industries
- a meat export market access prioritisation framework, driving market expansion and access
- streamlining amendments to Approved Arrangements for meat establishments
- appointing a Seafood Export Facilitator to support exporters.

The new investment will enable us to further modernise our digital agricultural export systems to ensure Australian exporters remain competitive in the global marketplace.

**Why is this important**

Australian agricultural exports are vital to our nation's economic recovery and growth. With over 70 per cent of our food and fibre products exported, modern and flexible digital exports systems will be critical to supporting our primary industries. This new investment will build on the benefits being realised by the Busting Congestion for Agricultural Exporters package through reduced, simplified and automated trade processes. This includes:

- supporting new producers and processors to start exporting
- assisting existing exporters to access new markets
- bolstering compliance and supporting our strong record of meeting trading partner requirements
- supporting industry to use additional data in their business
- enabling the potential reuse of products by other agencies under the Simplified Trade System.

By 2030, when fully implemented this package is expected to deliver:

- between \$236 million and \$1.2 billion of additional benefit, including through reduced administrative costs for export businesses
- improved user experience with agricultural export services.

Transforming Australia's agricultural export systems is key to ensuring access to premium export markets, accelerating trade growth and achieving industry's goal of \$100 billion in agricultural production by 2030.

**How much will this cost**

	2022-2023	2022-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Digital Take Farmers to Market</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>58.6</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>127.4</b>

\* This measure has ongoing funding of \$4.4 million not included in the total.



**Part 1: Measures announced since the March 2022–23 Budget (continued)**

- (a) The measure A Better Plan for Forestry and Forest Products – Support Plantation Establishment has been reframed, the total package is \$86.209 million, with the following departmental impacts: 2022–23 \$0.300 million; 2023–24 \$3.242 million; 2024–25 \$2.778 million; 2025–26 \$2.797 million; 2026–27 \$3.038 million and with the following administered impacts; 2023–24 \$6.949 million; 2024–25 \$22.426 million; 2025–26 \$27.426 million; and 2026–27 \$16.959 million. An additional \$0.294 million is available in funding from the original measure. The measure description appears in *October Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* under the DAFF portfolio.
- (b) This measure was announced on 15 July 2022. Total package is \$14.014 million in 2022–23, with \$4.000 million coming from existing funding within DAFF.
- (c) The measure Bolstering Australia's Biosecurity System – protecting Australia from escalating exotic animal disease risks – National Livestock Traceability Reform to Enhance Agricultural Biosecurity and Exports has been reframed, the total package is \$46.732 million over three years with the following departmental impacts; 2022–23 \$0.080 million, 2024–25 \$0.052 million; and the following administered impact; 2022–23 \$26.600 million. This measure includes \$20.000 million funding to the National Partnership programs within the Department of the Treasury. Details appear in *October Budget Paper No. 3: Federal Financial Relations*.
- (d) The measure Bolstering Australia's Biosecurity System – protecting Australia from escalating exotic animal disease risks has been reframed, the total package is \$61.587 million over two years, with the following departmental impacts: 2022–23 \$21.377 million; 2023–24 \$29.387 million; and the following administered impacts: 2022–23 \$1.213 million; 2023–24 \$6.810 million. This measure includes \$2.800 million funding to the National Partnership programs within the Department of the Treasury. Details appear in *October Budget Paper No. 3: Federal Financial Relations*.
- (e) The measure Government Spending Audit – Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – efficiencies contains a savings measure National Centre for Digital Agriculture Innovation and Adoption Hubs, this belongs to Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts. The total savings is \$30.017 million over four years. The measure description appears in *October Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* under the DAFF portfolio.
- (f) The measure Improving Drought Readiness, Resilience and Preparedness – Future Drought Fund – Extension and Adoption of Drought Resilience Farming Practices – Grants Program has been reframed; the total package is \$14.265 million over two years.
- (g) The measure description appears in *October Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* under the Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio section.
- (h) The measure description appears in *October Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* under the Cross Portfolio section.
- (i) The measure Support for Regional Trade Events has been reframed, the total package is \$12.272 million over three years.
- (j) The measure description appears in *October Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* under the Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio section.

**Note:** The Government has reviewed the remaining measures previously announced in the 2022–23 March Budget and has agreed to implement them as announced. These measures can be found in the March 2022–23 DAWF PBS for Outcome 3 and 4, under Table 1.2, 2.1 and also in National Partnership programs within the Department of the Treasury. Details also appear in *March Budget Paper No. 2: Budget Measures 2022–23* and *Budget Paper No. 3: Federal Financial Relations*.

# S. 47C(1)

**Activity delivered to date****• Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market:**

- The first beta release of a single export account, providing the core foundations for a single view of the client, integrated with the DTA Digital Identity capability.
- Created and deployed a new digital service in seven days to address a \$4.2 billion risk to exports following a major trading partner changing requirements for imported food with effect from 1 January 2022,
- A new online service to enable clients to register establishments and the individuals who maintain them, replacing the Ex26a paper form.
- A new online service for export establishments to add and remove staff has been deployed to export establishments, replacing the EX26b paper form.
- A new online service to enable applications to revoke an export establishment or revoke and add a new occupier, replacing the Ex26c paper form.
- A product hygiene indicator dashboard for meat processors, allowing meat establishment staff to see performance information to assist with identifying, benchmarking, and addressing food safety issues in close to real time. These indicators enable meaningful conversations between the department's on-plant staff and meat establishments, enabling them to proactively address food safety issues, improving compliance.
- A significant uplift in our export services platform onto reliable cloud infrastructure – all designed to enable accelerated delivery of new digital services. This migration to the cloud will increase the robustness, availability, security and performance of our export services.
- Implemented performance monitoring and service management improvements to support the availability of 24/7 export services.
- Procured and deployed a new software-as-a-service audit platform to manage audit activities, generate audit reports, and share audit results with regulated entities.
- Conducted a private beta to allowing exporters to manage Corrective Action Requests arising from registered establishment audits.
- Begun the cyber security uplift to protect our export services from cyber threats by implementing foundational threat detection and response capabilities for our export systems.
- New interactive digital export guides for new exporters launched.

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- Further questions about the Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market program should be referred to Digital Trade Initiatives Division.
- Noting it is a four-year program, activity to date under the other Busting Congestion reform measures include:
  - *Building a More Competitive Meat Industry:*
    - Agreed a reform program of with industry leaders.
    - Delivered a market access prioritisation framework with industry to drive market expansion and access.
    - Transitioned all but one meat export establishment to the Australian Government Authorised Officer (AAO) inspection model, with departmental Food Safety Meat Assessor (FSMAs) performing inspections only where there is a requirement to do so to meet importing country requirements and other limited exceptions. This initiative is estimated to reduce the department's regulatory cost base by \$15.6 million per annum on full implementation of the AAO inspection model.
    - Working with Standards Australia and the states/territories to update the *Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS4696)*. Subject to the agreement of importing countries, this will change the post-mortem inspection and disposition of carcasses, providing an estimated \$30 million per annum in returns to industry.
    - Further questions about meat modernisation reforms should be referred to Exports and Veterinary Services Division.
  - *Busting Congestion for Plant Exports:*
    - The department worked with the citrus industry to assess commercial arrangements between packhouses and growers to understand how these arrangements may meet regulatory requirements. A pilot program was conducted from December 2021 to August 2022 to test the arrangements in place between a citrus packhouse and their grower supply base.
    - The department worked with state and territory representatives to identify opportunities for harmonisation and mutual recognition in the plant export and domestic plant trade pathways. Work has commenced on harmonising treatment methods and to streamline area freedom certification processes.
    - The department worked with Grain Trade Australia and grain industry representatives to develop a draft industry standard for the management of storage assets and operations for grain handling. A pilot to assess the suitability of the proposed Grain Storage, Asset and Management standard has been finalised and will begin in November.
    - A comparison of third-party food safety certification scheme requirements and plant export regulatory requirements was completed. The report identified

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duplication between food safety and quality assurance schemes and plant export regulatory requirements. It recommended that the department recognise the cleanliness, waste management and non-quarantine pest management controls in place with industry participants that are accredited to a Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) benchmarked scheme.

- The department is seeking to recognise emerging technologies that may provide assurance that plant pest risks have been managed. The department is working with technology companies to understand developments being made with these technologies.
- Further questions about plant export regulation reforms should be referred to Plant and Live Animal Exports Division.
- *Targeted Interventions for Seafood and Live Animal Exporters:*
  - Building a modern, reliable, data reporting and analytics capability that promotes timely and efficient regulation of all live animal exports. This included the integration of multiple sources of data and consolidation of reporting in PowerBI. The automation of data collection and reporting processes has reduced time spent on analysis, data cleansing and manipulation as well as administrative time by making the data more accessible to internal stakeholders. The benefits of reduced cost of regulation are realised at \$105,157 up until 30 September 2022 and are forecasted to be \$214,292 by 31 December 2022.
  - Two projects are underway which will provide assistance to the seafood export industry:
    - The Seafood Export Facilitator (SEF) position has been established, providing industry with a single point of contact for matters relating to the export of seafood products.
    - The department has developed a risk framework for our low-risk establishments. The department has also finalised the plan to pilot a risk-based regulatory tool that will reduce burden on industry by changing audit frequencies/treatments for these low-risk establishments.
  - Further questions about seafood reforms should be referred to Exports and Veterinary Services Division, and questions about live animal exports should be referred to Plant and Live Animal Exports Division.

s. 47C(1), s. 47B(a)

**s. 47C(1), s. 47B(a)**

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## ATTACHMENT G

**Total Funding breakdown as allocated in the 2020-21 Budget**

Proposal	Value (\$m)
Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market	\$222.2
Targeted Interventions for Seafood and Live Animal Exports	\$14.3
Building a More Competitive Meat Industry	\$10.9
Busting Congestion for Plant Exports Program	\$9.9
More Efficient and Sustainable Export Regulation	\$71.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$328.4</b>

**Year on Year breakdown of Budget allocations**

Proposal	Funding	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	\$(m)
		\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	
Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market	Dept	11.657	42.900	65.304	30.448	150.309
	Capital*	1.848	30.479	30.000	9.573	71.900
Targeted Interventions for Seafood and LAE	Dept	5.870	5.657	2.751	0	14.278
Building a More Competitive Meat Industry	Dept	3.021	6.436	1.453	0	10.910
Harmonised and Streamlined Plant Export Regulation	Dept	3.204	3.410	2.056	1.295	9.965
More Efficient and Sustainable Export Regulation	Dept	37.331	23.231	10.488	0	71.050
Total	Dept	61.083	81.634	82.052	31.743	256.512
	Capital*	1.848	30.479	30.000	9.573	71.900
	Total	62.931	112.113	112.052	41.316	328.412

\* This includes the \$14.9 million movement of funds request to move \$5.3 million in capital to 2022-23FY and \$9.6 million in capital to 2023-24FY. This was reflected in the 2021-22 Portfolio Additional Estimate Statements.

Also includes the operating loss approval of \$22.1 million in 2020-21FY with a commensurate increase of \$14.0 million in 2022-23FY and \$8.1 million in 2023-24.

**Year on Year breakdown as allocated in the 2022-23 Budget**

Proposal	Funding	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	\$(m)
		\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	
Digital Services to Take Farmers to Market	Dept	34.098	35.788	4.329	74.215
	Capital	30.398	22.753		53.151
	Total	64.496	58.541	4.329	<b>127.366</b>



**2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 YTD Actuals and Budget Comparison**

Proposal	Funding	2020-21 Actuals	2020-21 Budget	2021-22 Actuals	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Sep YTD Actuals	2022-23 YTD Budget*	Life to date Actual	Life to date Budget	Life to date variance
		\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)	\$(m)
Digital services to take farmers to market	Dept	12.47	11.66	47.08	42.90	14.33	16.33	73.87	70.88	-2.99
	Capital	1.85	1.85	26.69	30.48	6.29	7.50	34.83	39.83	5.00
Improving regulation Post-COVID including targeted interventions for seafood and live animal exporters	Dept	2.06	5.87	4.26	5.66	0.75	0.69	7.07	12.21	5.14
Building a more competitive meat industry	Dept	1.59	3.02	3.81	6.44	0.80	0.36	6.20	9.82	3.63
Harmonised and streamlined plant export regulation	Dept	1.76	3.20	2.17	3.41	0.57	0.51	4.50	7.13	2.63
More efficient and sustainable export regulation	Dept	32.31	37.33	22.38	23.23	2.62	2.62	57.31	63.18	5.88
Total	Dept	50.19	61.08	79.70	81.63	19.06	20.51	148.94	163.23	14.29
	Capital	1.85	1.85	26.69	30.48	6.29	7.50	34.83	39.83	5.00
	Total	52.04	62.93	106.39	112.11	25.35	28.01	183.77	203.06	19.28

- \* Budget is pro rata based on full year budget

In 2020-21 the program achieved an overall result of \$52 million, with the delayed budget significantly impacting the department's ability to fully utilise the first year's budget allocation.

The above budget reflects the approved movement of funds request to move the capital \$5.3 million to 2022-23FY and \$9.6 million to 2023-24FY as well as operating loss approval to transfer \$22.1 million in 2020-21FY into \$14.0 million in 2022-23FY and \$8.1 million in 2023-24.

## ATTACHMENT I

***What other Trade Reform initiatives (beyond Busting Congestion) are underway?***

- **Supporting Trade (\$15 million 2021-22 Budget)**, funding to support representation and promotion of Australia's interests in international fora and standard setting bodies.
- **Agri-Business Expansion Initiative (\$72.7 million, 2020-21 MYEFO)**, which includes new one-on-one exporter support services, greater access to market intelligence, and matched grants for government and industry associations to work together on market expansion.
- **Dairy Export Assurance Program (\$14.8 million, 2019-20 MYEFO)** to reduce the regulatory burden and streamline audit arrangements for the dairy sector.
- **Next Export Documentation System (NEXDOC) (part of the \$32.4 million Modernising Agricultural Trade program, 2018-19 MYEFO)**, which will provide the Australian export industry with a modern technical platform that can integrate with supporting systems and new technologies.
- **Manual of Importing Country Requirements (MICOR) update (part of the \$32.4 million Modernising Agricultural Trade program, 2018-19 MYEFO)**, to review and updated importing country requirements in MICOR, include other enhancements such as push notifications and search capability.
- **Export certification modernisation and digitisation (departmental funding)**, which will reduce regulatory burden, improve product integrity, traceability and implementation of market requirements across the supply chain, and increase Australia's capacity to exchange digital certificates with trading partners.
- **Export Legislation Reform (departmental funding)**, which commenced on 28 March 2021. This improved on Australia's agricultural export legislation making the law more relevant, responsive and efficient.
- **Australian Trade System Support – Cultivating Australia's Agricultural Traceability - Promoting and Protecting Premium Agriculture (\$68.4 million, 2021-22 MYEFO)**, working with industry, states and territories to develop a national approach to improve traceability in agricultural supply chains across all products and commodities.
- **Bolstering Australia's Biosecurity System – National Livestock Traceability Reform to enhance Agricultural Biosecurity and Exports (\$46.7 million, 2022-23 October Budget)**, working with jurisdictions and industry to improve Australia's livestock 'contact tracing' system, enhance recovery from any potential disease outbreaks, and protect Australia's export trade.
- **Traceability Grants Program (\$7.0 Million, part of the Modernising Agricultural Trade program, 2018-19 MYEFO)**, to enhance agricultural supply chain traceability systems.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Trade Reform Division

# TRD02

## PHASE OUT OF LIVE SHEEP EXPORTS

### CURRENT ISSUE

The Australian Government committed to phasing out live sheep exports by sea as part of its 2022 election campaign (**Attachment A**). The Prime Minister and Minister Watt have publicly stated the phaseout will not occur during this term of government. In implementing this commitment, the government will consult widely with stakeholders to develop a timeframe and plan.

The phase out will apply to live sheep exports by sea only. The government continues to support the live cattle trade and other live animal exports. All animal welfare standards continue to be in place.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- Despite increased regulation and improvements by industry, the government is committed to phasing out live sheep exports by sea.
  - There are still inherent animal welfare risks associated with this trade that the Australian public is concerned about.
- As identified by Minister Watt, we are preparing to consult with affected stakeholders around the timing and how to phase out live sheep exports by sea to ensure we create a fair and orderly implementation plan.
- Support options for industry and the relevant supply chain participants will also be explored as part of this stakeholder engagement.
- Options, such as onshore processing, will also be examined given the potential to generate more jobs and income for Australians, particularly in the form of extra meat processing opportunities.
- Preparations are currently underway to determine how and when stakeholder engagement will take place and reporting timeframes.
- We will actively reach out to stakeholders, particularly affected parties, as soon as we are able to.

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Last updated: 12 October 2022

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Mobile Number: [s. 22\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)  
SB22-000046

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- The phase out will only apply to live sheep exports by sea due to limited animal welfare concerns from live exports by air. In 2021, only 1 mortality occurred out of the more than 22,000 live sheep exported by air.
- The government also continues to support Australia's live cattle trade.
- Australia's live cattle export trade contributes more than \$1 billion to our national economy each year.
- The welfare of exported cattle remains a top priority and we are continuing to work with the Australian cattle industry and our trading partners to ensure the export process meets the high animal welfare standards the Australian public expects.
- This includes the government's decision to provide \$4 million to establish an Inspector-General for Animal Welfare as part of Budget 2022-23.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Kuwait is Australia's largest importer of live sheep by sea, receiving around 57%, or \$47.5 million worth of all live sheep exported in 2021–22.<sup>1</sup>

s. 33(a)(iii)

s. 47C(1)

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<sup>1</sup> ABS, Information Consultancy Services, 2007, cat. no. 9920.0, Canberra

<sup>2</sup> Dalglish, M & Agar, O 2019, 'Value Analysis of the Australian Live Sheep Export Trade', Mecardo, commissioned by LiveCorp and Meat & Livestock Australia, viewed October 2022.

## Key stats

- In 2021-2022, Australia exported around 488,000 live sheep worth more than \$85 million to countries in the Middle East and Asia (including approximately 22,000 sheep exported by air, largely to Malaysia).<sup>3</sup>
- Australia's live sheep trade accounts for 0.2% of our total agriculture exports. Australia contributes 6.4% of the world's live sheep trade which makes up around 3% of Australia's total sheep and sheep meat exports.<sup>4</sup>
- Live sheep exports have been declining from around 1.9 million sheep exported in 2017–18 to around 488,000 in 2021–22.<sup>5</sup>
  - This is due to factors such as rising transport and compliance costs, which reduce the competitiveness of Australia's live sheep trade to major markets in the Middle East.
- Live sheep export volumes are estimated to represent 30% of Western Australia's lamb and sheep turnoff.<sup>6</sup>
- In 2020–21, around 95% of all live sheep were exported by sea. All sheep exported by sea were exported from the Port of Fremantle (WA).<sup>7</sup>
- Australia was the largest exporter of sheep meat in 2021, with Australia's top 5 sheep meat (lamb and mutton) markets being China, the United States, Malaysia, the United Arab Emirates and South Korea.<sup>8</sup>
- ABARES has forecasted that the value of sheep meat production in Australia will be around \$4.4 billion in 2022–23.<sup>9</sup>
- There are 41 abattoirs in Australia registered to export sheep meat, with 9 located in Western Australia.<sup>10</sup> There is potential to expand processing, noting abattoirs have anecdotally indicated ongoing workforce availability issues.
- In 2017–18 there was estimated 1,800 sheep specialist farmers (more than half income derived from sheep, lams, wool) and 2,400 mixed-cropping sheep farmers in Western Australia.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> ABS, Information Consultancy Services, 2007, cat. no. 9920.0, Canberra

<sup>4</sup> ABARES (*unpublished*) Update to the live sheep trade.

<sup>5</sup> ABS, Information Consultancy Services, 2007, cat. no. 9920.0, Canberra

<sup>6</sup> Dalglish, M & Agar, O (2019), Value analysis of the Australian live sheep export trade, Mecardo report to LiveCorp and Meat & Livestock Australia, accessed October 2022

<sup>7</sup> Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) 2022, All Livestock Exports 2017 to 2022, accessed October 2022

<sup>8</sup> Meat & Livestock Australia (2022), State of the industry report 2022, accessed October 2022

<sup>9</sup> ABARES Outlook Sept 2022

<sup>10</sup> Pers comms from Export and Veterinary Services Division as the regulator of all export registered abattoirs

<sup>11</sup> Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (2020) Live sheep exports to or through the Middle East—Northern Hemisphere summer: Regulation impact statement

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- The live sheep exports trade employs 1,037 people nationally (on-farm direct FTE) and 3,443 workers across the supply chain, with 77% of these 3,443 workers attributed to the WA supply chain.<sup>12</sup>
- A 2021 survey commissioned by LiveCorp found the overall sentiment towards the treatment of animals in the live export industry has improved since its first survey in 2019, with 38.4% in 2019 saying 'it bothers me a lot' to 32.8% in 2021.<sup>13</sup>
- A 2022 survey commissioned by the RSPCA found 67% of respondents want to end live animal exports<sup>14</sup>.

For additional information please see:

PLAED01 Northern Hemisphere Summer Review

PLAED02 Inspector General for Animal Welfare

PLAED03 Independent observers

PLAED04 LAE Cost Recovery Implementation Statement

**ATTACHMENTS**

A: Election commitment

B: Possible Q&As

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<sup>12</sup> Dalgleish, M & Agar, O 2019, 'Value Analysis of the Australian Live Sheep Export Trade', Mecardo, commissioned by LiveCorp and Meat & Livestock Australia, viewed October 2022

<sup>13</sup> Voconiq (2022) 'Live exports and the Australian community 2019-2021', prepared for LiveCorp, accessed October 2022

<sup>14</sup> The Digital Edge (2022) 'Independent poll', prepared for RSPCA, accessed October 2022

# Strengthening Animal Welfare

Labor supports strong animal welfare standards. We believe all animals should be treated humanely and that it is the responsibility of all governments, state and federal, to ensure that this is done.

To ensure the highest standards of animal welfare are maintained, governments and industry must remain vigilant and be guided by the best available science.

An Albanese Labor Government will provide \$1 million a year to establish the office of the independent Inspector-General for Animal Welfare and increase accountability and transparency for reporting of animal welfare breaches. We will work with the State and Territory Governments and allocate \$5 million over four years to renew the Animal Welfare Strategy.

The Inspector-General of Animal Welfare will strengthen reports to the Parliament on:

- New and emerging live export markets.
- The number of head exported and mortalities.
- Any allegations of breaches of animal welfare standards and investigations undertaken.
- Any sanctions or other action taken for breaches of Australia's animal welfare standards.

Currently, only mortalities and actions taken in relation to those mortalities are reported on. We propose to increase transparency and reporting through these measures.

Labor remains committed to the Northern summer live sheep export trade ban based on the scientific evidence included in the draft report by the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

The Morrison Government's draft report has recommended that the Northern Hemisphere Summer ban on live sheep exports ban continue. Labor supports the continuation of the ban based on the evidence contained in the draft report. Despite this, the Morrison Government has flagged its intention to roll back the ban.

Labor acknowledges the live sheep export trade is in decline and will phase out live sheep exports in consultation with the industry and the West Australian Government,

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including consideration of the impacts for the entire value chain of the industry. Labor supports value adding more here in Australia and believes this will create more job opportunities. We do not believe setting a deadline on the industry is appropriate. Labor will not ban cattle exports. The scientific advice does not support a ban on cattle exports as long as strong animal welfare standards are in place.

An Albanese Government is committed to improving animal welfare through the measures outlined above. Increased reporting and transparency and an independent Inspector-General for Animal Welfare are critical to delivering that.



## Attachment B

**Potential Q&As – For Minister Watt****Does the government remain committed to phasing out sheep exports?**

- I have been very clear it is the government's intention to implement this policy.

**Why won't the phase out be implemented in this term of government?**

- This is so we can implement the phase out in a sensible and orderly manner, affording time for our farming sector and rural communities to adjust away from live sheep exports.

**Why are live sheep exports being phased out?**

- I recognise the industry has made improvements following the introduction of tougher regulations.
- There are, however, still inherent risks to this trade that the Australian public is understandably concerned about.
- That is why we are phasing out live sheep exports.

**What is the science or evidence underpinning the government's decision to phase out live sheep exports?**

- The evidence lies in the number of tragedies that have occurred since the 1980s.
  - 67,000 sheep died on the *Uniceb* when it caught fire and sunk in the Indian Ocean in 1996.
  - More than 5,500 sheep died on the *MV Cormo Express* when the shipment was rejected from Saudi Arabia in 2003.
  - 4,000 sheep died on the *Bader 3* when travelling to the Middle East in 2014.
  - Around 2,400 sheep died on the *Awassi Express* when travelling from Australia to the Middle East in 2017.
- I recognise the industry has made improvements following the introduction of tougher regulations.
- There are, however, still inherent risks to this trade that the Australian public is understandably concerned about.
- That is why the government is phasing out live sheep exports.

**How will the government support farmers, particularly in Western Australia, once the live sheep trade is phased out?**

- I acknowledge there are many businesses involved in the preparation, transport and export of sheep.
- I anticipate our consultation process will explore the issues involved in phasing out the trade.

**OFFICIAL****Who will you engage with about the phase out?**

- We will consult widely on this matter, including with industry, farmers, supply chain businesses, trading partners, animal welfare organisations, parliamentarians, and state government counterparts, to develop a transition plan that is fair and orderly.

**How will the government implement the phase out?**

- Extensive consultation will inform how the government will phase out the live sheep exports trade.
- This will include considering consultation results on issues such as the timeframe for implementation, how it will be done and what kind of opportunities might exist in the way of new markets or meat processing.

**Will you commit to passing legislation to shut down the industry in this term of parliament, even if the end date goes beyond this term?**

- The timeline and mechanism for implementing this commitment will be part of our consultation with stakeholders.

**In the 2019 election Labor committed to a five-year timeframe to phase out the trade. When will the export of live sheep from Australia end?**

- The phase out will not occur during this term of government.
- I want to ensure farmers and industry are afforded time to prepare for a move away from live exports.

**Is there anything the industry can say/do that will change the government's mind?**

- I have made it clear to industry that the government is committed to phasing out live sheep exports.
- In doing so, I have also committed to consulting widely on this matter to ensure we develop a transition plan that is fair and orderly.

**How will you address industry losses / compensate farmers and workers?**

- I acknowledged we are dealing with a complex supply chain, with many businesses involved in the preparation, transport and export of sheep.
- There is a lot of evaluation and discussion yet to be had around how the government will implement the phase out.

**Won't this affect Australia's trade relationships?**

- I acknowledge the significance of the live sheep trade to our trading partners and the need to manage our trade relationships well.
- I will consult widely on this matter to ensure that this phase is mindful of our trade relationships.
- I also intend to work closely with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Trade to ensure we manage these relationships.

**OFFICIAL****Will Australia be able to substitute ‘value-added’ sheep meat products in its existing live sheet export markets?**

- We are always looking at opportunities to grow our markets for our sheep meat products.
- We do however understand there may be limitations in some importing countries for frozen and chilled meat to entirely replace live sheep in the short- to medium-term.

**What are you going to do to support the industry to find alternative markets?**

- We will work with industry to identify new markets and meat processing opportunities.
- The phase out won't occur in this term of government.
- This is so our farmers and other across the supply chain have time to prepare for a move away from live sheep exports.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Trade Reform Division

# TRD03

## LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY

### CURRENT ISSUE

Enhancing traceability systems supports Australia's access to existing and new markets; our ability to respond to pest, disease, and food safety incidents; and helps secure premium value by demonstrating how our food and fibre sectors meet changing consumer expectations (such as provenance, animal welfare and sustainability). Public interest in traceability continues.

### KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- In September 2022 Agriculture Ministers reaffirmed their July commitment for government to work collaboratively with industry to advance work on a national approach to Australia's livestock traceability systems.
- Ministers agreed to work towards 1 January 2025 for a harmonised national individual electronic identification (eID) system for sheep and goats, and tasked officials with providing advice on a national implementation plan this year.
- As part of the 2022-23 Budget, the Australian Government is contributing \$46.7m towards Australia's livestock traceability 'contact tracing' system.
  - This funding, delivered as part of the 'Bolstering Australia's biosecurity system' package (**Attachment A** refers), will help maintain and improve Australia's livestock traceability systems, ensure fast recovery from any potential disease outbreaks and protect Australia's export trade.
- The investment includes:
  - \$20.1 million allocated for Special Purpose Payments for co-investment with States and Territories to support industry on-farm and off-farm traceability improvements, including to support transition to a nationally harmonized individual electronic identification (eID) system for sheep and goats.
  - An additional \$26.6 million allocated to support upgrades to the database systems and associated activities to ensure Australia's industry-led national livestock traceability systems remain fit for purpose into the future.

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SB22-000047

## OFFICIAL

- The investment will support ongoing work with industry and jurisdictions on a national approach to improve our livestock traceability, including the individual electronic identification of sheep and goats, and critical upgrades to the database systems to ensure they remain fit for purpose into the future.
- State and Territory governments are the primary regulators of biosecurity and the traceability systems that support biosecurity outcomes underpinning our export trade. The Australian Government is committed to facilitating our multi-billion dollar export trade through nationally consistent and harmonised traceability requirements.
- Two key mechanisms are progressing work to support Agriculture Ministers' decision, and the Commonwealth is playing a key leadership role in both:
  - A government-industry Sheep and Goat Traceability Task Force (SGTTF) to develop a National Implementation Plan and to oversee its implementation, including providing advice on co-funding arrangements. The SGTTF comprises an independent chair and representatives from the Commonwealth, state and territory governments and peak industry bodies (**Attachment B** refers). The SGTTF has met on 16 September, 4 October, [and 3 November] 2022.
  - An industry-government co-design group hosted by the Commonwealth to support the SGTTF. The group is working on practical issues including to identify all policy and process steps, affordability and costing estimates, technology, database and scalability questions, and key messaging and FAQs to support SGTTF members in communications and engagement (**Attachment C**).
- There will be a national conversation on this important reform, which is welcome. The SGTTF is engaging with a broad range of stakeholders and has established a recurring roundtable including leading representatives from State and Territory producers and supply chain participants. [Public webinars have also commenced, with the first on 17 October 2022].

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The use of eID for sheep and goats is presently mandatory in Victoria. The Victorian implementation experience, including lessons from their roll out, are being used to inform the work of the co-design initiative and will be used to inform the development of the National Implementation Plan by the SGTTF.
- The government is also investing \$68.4 million over four years from 2021-22 to provide value-added benefits from Australia's agricultural traceability systems and increase access to premium value overseas markets across all products. Activities include:
  - A National Agricultural Traceability Alliance, to enhance collaboration, engagement and co-design of a national agricultural traceability strategy, and specific reform projects with industry, farmers and other stakeholders. The co-design group working with the SGTTF is supported through the Alliance.

**OFFICIAL**

- A National Traceability Hub, to provide a forum for enhanced engagement between industry groups and government to co-design traceability initiatives.
- An Agricultural Credentials Initiative, to support farmers and industry harness value from Australia's premium and value-added agricultural products through consistent credentials and frameworks backed by data. For example, developing consistent, traceable agricultural credentials for emerging sustainability market access requirements, to support climate action in agriculture, and to empower First Nations Australians.
- The department has undertaken a codesign process with Australian Agricultural Traceability Alliance members to develop a draft National Agricultural Traceability Strategy.
  - The draft strategy's purpose, scope, vision, mission, objectives and priority areas for action were presented at the Australian Agricultural Traceability Alliance Forum on 19 October 2022.
  - Consultation on the draft strategy through the department's Have Your Say platform opened on 19 October 2022. Submissions close on 16 November 2022 (5 pm AEDT).
  - The department has received correspondence about the scope of the strategy in relation to horses and their traceability.
    - : The current consultation process on the draft strategy will consider comments and suggestions, including the scope of the strategy.
- Enhanced traceability systems could increase product value and add up to \$1 billion per year to the bottom line of Australia's farmers and industry. They will also reduce regulatory compliance costs, which could save businesses \$225-325 million a year, by harmonising traceability frameworks and leveraging regulatory technology solutions to reduce paper-based processes.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A	Bolstering Australia's biosecurity system – budget statement
Attachment B	SGTTF membership composition
Attachment C	Livestock Traceability Comms Source



## Bolstering Australia's biosecurity system

Changes in global trade, climate patterns, and increased spread of pests and diseases in our region continue to create new and complex biosecurity risk pathways, increasing pressure on our biosecurity system. Biosecurity is at the heart of how we prevent, respond to and recover from pest and disease outbreaks that threaten plant, animal and human health, our environment and our economy.

In 2022 we have seen both foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and lumpy skin disease (LSD) emerge in our region, putting Australia on heightened alert. We remain FMD and LSD free, thanks to the strongest biosecurity response ever implemented, but we must remain vigilant.

### What's in this year's budget

The Budget includes a substantial down-payment on the Government's commitment to long-term, sustainable funding for biosecurity through new investments worth \$134.1 million.

The biosecurity package includes programs both to boost our frontline capability and support Indonesia to manage FMD and LSD, by fast-tracking \$61.6 million in funding over the next two years. This work is an important part of our efforts to respond to new risks to our biosecurity system and strengthen our defences in Northern Australia.

The Budget has doubled the funding available for traceability reform to protect our livestock industries in the event of a biosecurity incursion. This initiative will support our \$72.9 billion agricultural export trade sector by ensuring our livestock traceability systems are world class and fit for purpose to manage emerging risks.

The Budget also delivers on the Government's election commitment to provide an additional 20 biosecurity detector dogs and handlers, to be deployed in airports and mail centres around Australia.

### What is being delivered

- \$61.6 million over 2 years from 2022-23 to strengthen Australia's frontline biosecurity capability, including in northern Australia, support domestic preparedness and biosecurity outcomes in neighbouring countries
- \$14 million in emergency funding for frontline biosecurity preparedness in Australia, as well as funding to continue to support to Indonesia, Timor Leste and Papua New Guinea to prevent and respond to the spread of FMD and LSD
- \$46.7 million to support continuous improvement in our livestock traceability systems, by maintaining our world-class system and ensuring we can recover quickly from any disease incursions
- \$11.7 million over 4 years from 2022-23 (and \$3.3 million per year ongoing from 2026-27) to expand our detector dog capability at the border, by investing in an additional 20 detector dogs and handlers.

## Why is this important

With the emergence of FMD in Indonesia, we must be vigilant and improve our biosecurity capability to keep Australia FMD free. The impact of FMD establishing in Australia has been estimated at \$80 billion over 10 years and would have a devastating effect on regional, rural and remote Australia and the economy more broadly.

New biosecurity investments in the Budget strengthen our preparedness and response capability. Supporting biosecurity outcomes in neighbouring countries helps our region, while reducing the likelihood of diseases devastating our agriculture sector. Targeted support in Northern Australia will also improve detection and response capability in an increasingly high-risk entry pathway.

Due to an increase in the volume of travellers, mail and cargo, and the changing biosecurity threat environment, there is an urgent need to expand the detector dog fleet. Detector dogs are fast, versatile, mobile, and critical biosecurity infrastructure when it comes to preventing incursions of exotic pests or diseases. By protecting our farmers and agricultural industries from biosecurity threats this expanded network of detector dogs will stand as critical guardians to our rural communities, businesses and their employees.

Traceability is a vital part of responding to a pest or disease incursion, and demonstrating our quality production to the world. The Budget responds to call from the agriculture sector to support on-farm and off-farm transition to an effective national livestock traceability system for sheep and goats, including the individual electronic identification of sheep and farmed goats. This initiative will also support a one-off Commonwealth contribution to a relevant industry body or bodies to establish a national livestock traceability database to ensure a fit for purpose data capture, storage and distribution system for tracking livestock movement into the future.

This measure will support the objectives and implementation of Australia's first National Biosecurity Strategy. The Australian Government will work with state and territory governments, who are the primary regulators for livestock traceability in their respective jurisdictions, to help Australian farmers and regional businesses protect our economic prosperity by preparing for, mitigating against and responding to biosecurity threats.

## How much will this cost

	2022-23 \$m	2023-24 \$m	2024-25 \$m	2025-26 \$m	TOTAL \$m
Biosecurity Dogs and Trainers	1.730	3.811	3.076	3.102	11.719
Emergency funding to manage the risk of foot-and-mouth disease and lumpy skin disease	14.014	-	-	-	14.014
National Livestock Traceability Reform to Enhance Agricultural Biosecurity and Exports	32.680	8.000	6.052	-	46.732
Protecting Australia from escalating exotic animal disease risks	23.490	38.097	-	-	61.587
<b>Subtotal – Bolstering Australia's biosecurity system</b>	<b>71.914</b>	<b>49.908</b>	<b>9.128</b>	<b>3.102</b>	<b>134.052</b>

## More information

For more information, visit [agriculture.gov.au/budget](https://agriculture.gov.au/budget)

For more information about the 2022-23 October Budget visit [budget.gov.au](https://budget.gov.au)





**SGTTF MEMBERSHIP COMPOSITION**

NB. The SGTTF Terms of Reference is at: <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/policy/partnerships/nbc/sheep-and-goat-traceability-task-force>

<b>Department/Organisation</b>
Independent Chair (Mr s. 22(1)(a)(ii))
NSW Department of Primary Industries
Biosecurity Tasmania, Department of Natural Resources and Environment (TAS)
Agriculture Victoria, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (VIC)
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (WA)
Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) (SA)
Biosecurity Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (QLD)
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) - First Assistant Secretary, Trade Reform Division
SAFEMEAT
Sheep Producers Australia
WoolProducers Australia
Goat Industry Council of Australia
Cattle Council of Australia
Australian Dairy Farmers
Australian Meat Industry Council

## Livestock Traceability Comms Source

*NB. Last updated and distributed to SGTTF members: 4/10/2022*

- In September 2022, Agriculture Ministers agreed to work with industry towards mandatory implementation of national individual electronic identification (EIDs) for sheep and goats in each jurisdiction by 1 January 2025
- We must continuously improve our systems to protect our farmers and industry. An outbreak of FMD could have significantly greater and devastating consequences than anything we have had to deal with in the past. ABARES estimates losses would be \$80 billion over 10 years.
- The faster livestock animals are traced accurately, the better we can recover in the event of a disease outbreak. Moving from mob-based to EID traceability for sheep and goats will improve the accuracy and efficiency our systems.
- Adopting a national approach to the individual tracking of sheep and goats will improve our world-leading livestock traceability systems and ensure they remain fit for purpose into the future.
- A new government-industry Sheep and Goat Traceability Taskforce (SGTTF) has been established under the National Biosecurity Committee to jointly design the implementation with industry.
- The success of any changes in Australia's livestock traceability arrangements relies on shared approach between governments (Commonwealth, State and Territory), producers and the livestock industry. The Taskforce has been charged with looking at implementation nationally with a view to enhancing harmonisation of requirements as well
- The SGTTF will focus on:
  1. **Implementation** – Developing a national plan including timeline to guide all jurisdictions working towards 1 January 2025 to 'go live'.
  2. **Harmonisation** – Reviewing and amending relevant rules and systems, including the National Livestock Identification System, to support a nationally harmonised, fit for purpose system
  3. **Affordability** – Clarifying costs and funding or other support to drive rapid and widespread adoption
  4. **Continuous improvement** – provide advice on actions to support improved traceability systems overall, and benefits for other livestock species.
- An industry-government co-design initiative is supporting the SGTTF, including on technical and scalability questions, and key messaging and support for communication and engagement with producers.
- We're working collaboratively to support the implementation of this reform, building on the significant industry and jurisdictional progress already made in livestock traceability efforts over the past decade. Work has commenced with jurisdictions and industry together on key elements of the proposed implementation.
- Working collaboratively will bring real-time feedback as options are discussed, including from those who will need to implement change on the ground towards a national eID system.
- The immediate focus to prepare for this change is on mapping the impacts, changes, improvements and timings to support a smooth, phased national transition.
- We are not starting from scratch. Victoria has tested and troubleshooted these eID systems. We will learn from the Victorian experience as we move to a nationally harmonized system for sheep and goat EID.
- In the coming months, there will be opportunities to hear more details about the implementation approach, including practical information and lessons from Victorian producers, saleyards, agents and more.
- There will be opportunities for producers and industry to provide responses and feedback to the direction.
- For more information, please contact the SGTTF secretariat at [livestock.traceability@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:livestock.traceability@agriculture.gov.au)

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

Division: Agvet Chemicals Fisheries Forestry and Engagement Division

# ACFFED07

**PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW - AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) is the Australian Government agency responsible for the efficient management and sustainable use of Commonwealth fish resources on behalf of the Australian community. AFMA manages and monitors commercial Commonwealth fishing to ensure Australian fish stocks and our fishing industry are viable now and in the future. In doing so, AFMA aims to make sure that healthy and fresh local seafood is available and affordable to all Australians for current and future generations.

Through foreign compliance functions, AFMA works together with other Australian Government agencies and our international counterparts to deter illegal fishing in the Australian Fishing Zone and in international waters where Australia has an interest. In the last two years, Australian surveillance and enforcement assets have responded to increasing incursions by illegal foreign fishers, predominantly from Indonesia, across northern Australia. In addition to on the water enforcement, complementary measures have been implemented to target the issue at its source as part of our multifaceted approach to detecting and deterring illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

**CURRENT ISSUE – Depleted fish stocks**

The latest scientific assessments indicate that a number of commercially-fished stocks in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector, off south-eastern Australia, are continuing to decline or failing to rebuild despite significant and sustained reductions in fishing effort.

The AFMA Commission is implementing further management measures (catch reductions, additional area closures and trip limits) that may be required to address the situation.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- There are several species in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector that are not recovering from historic overfishing, or in some cases, continuing to decline, despite substantial reductions in catch. The main species of concern are Jackass morwong, John dory, Blue warehou, Gemfish (east), School shark and Redfish.

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SB22-000034

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- The AFMA Commission has previously canvassed the root causes of these issues, particularly the impacts of climate change, which may be shifting distribution and altering productivity. A number of research projects are underway that explore alternative assessment and management approaches.
- In addition, the Commission agreed that significant spatial closures would be required in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector (CTS) to ensure that trawling does not occur in areas of higher abundance of at-risk species.
- Over recent months AFMA consulting broadly with industry and other stakeholders on the potential scale of these closures and any other measures required with the AFMA Commission agreeing a final package of closures and approach at their September 2022 meeting. Implementation of the closures will commence from 1 May 2023.

**CURRENT ISSUE – Data Transformation and Electronic Monitoring Program (DTEMP)**

AFMA was provided 20.1 million dollars in the 2021-22 budget to be provided over the forward estimates to expand the electronic monitoring program across Commonwealth fisheries, the Electronic Monitoring program, and to upgrade AFMA's information technology used for the business systems and processes, the Data Transformation program. Collectively the body of work is the Data Transformation and Electronic Monitoring Program (DTEMP).

The Data Transformation project includes a 10 million dollar investment to enhance (or replace) AFMA's Information Technology systems as they relate to business services. This program will see the delivery of AFMA's Data Strategy. This includes:

- continued expansion of AFMA's agency data capture platform (e.g., 100% electronic logbooks (elog), electronic catch disposal records (eCDRs), Electronic observer forms (e-observer));
- implementing a single integrated data architecture rather than stand-alone purpose-driven systems;
- improve links to/from data held by other agencies;
- provide opportunities to provide this data back to industry; and
- ideally to build a system that supports future traceability and provenance requirements.

The Electronic Monitoring project includes a transition to a standards-based service model and a 10 million investment in enhancing and expanding the electronic monitoring (EM) program across Commonwealth fisheries and includes investment in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML). The key aim of expanding the program is to improve AFMA's ability to collect fine scale data collection, implement vessel level management arrangements and incentivise the uptake of best practices by individual fishers to achieve a range of outcomes (e.g., reduce protected species interactions, improve bycatch handling practices etc.).

## OFFICIAL

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- AFMA continues to engage closely with industry on the development of the DTEMP and particularly on the electronic monitoring component of the program where industry has greater direct engagement.
  - A high level program approach has been prepared including an annual plan of expected deliverables has been provided to industry to guide their understanding and engagement in the DTEMP.
  - Industry engagement is regular and ongoing, with recent meetings held on 8 August and 12 October 2022.
- Electronic monitoring
  - A Privacy Impact Statement has been prepared and is currently with industry for review.
  - Equipment and Maintenance Standards have been released for public comment, vendor and industry input.
  - Electronic monitoring trials in the Commonwealth Trawl Sector and Great Australian Bight Fishery will commence as soon as practicable. The Northern Prawn Fishery and Antarctic fisheries will commence in 2023.
- Data transformation
  - The Agency Data Capture stream of the project has progressed with e-logs and e-CDRs available in all Commonwealth fisheries. E-observer is being progressed.
  - An approach to market for an implementation partner has been delayed due to continued staffing constraints in the DTEMP and AFMA's IT area. The implementation partner will progress the replacement of AFMA's data warehouses and support the rest of the project delivery.

**CURRENT ISSUE – Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing**

Illegal foreign activity threatens fish stocks and damages some of Australia's most unique and valuable environments, including highly protected, long standing marine parks. [s. 33\(a\)\(iii\)](#)

The illegal foreign fishing issue has attracted interest from the media, the Australian fishing industry and the general public who have encountered illegal Indonesian fishers in Australia's waters and found evidence of them making landfall. The issue is also a growing biosecurity risk, particularly given the emergence of foot and mouth disease in our region.

## KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- Economic pressures in Indonesia resulting from impacts of COVID-19 and recent natural disasters, coupled with high market value for targeted marine species (sea cucumber) are believed to be driving factors.
- Our immediate priority is to halt the ongoing damage to Australia's marine environment and fisheries resources caused by illegal fishing.
- AFMA works closely with Maritime Border Command (MBC) and other government agencies to implement a multi-faceted approach that recognises the dynamic and diverse nature of IUU fishing. Effective responses to IUU fishing require ongoing effort and collaboration to understand the context and drivers behind it to assist in the development of intervention measures to minimise the threat. AFMA and Australian agencies continue to:
  - conduct enforcement actions at sea, including collaborative patrols with Indonesia, to seize catch, fishing equipment and vessels (within the operational capacity that COVID-19 protocols allow);
  - target illegal fishing at the source through bilateral engagement with Indonesia to deliver in country public information campaigns at key ports such as Kupang and on the island of Roti and distribute educational material, including targeted social media;
  - work with international partners, including Indonesia, to strengthen regional frameworks, exchange information and enhance national capacity to deal with IUU fishing; and
  - support the implementation of international fisheries instruments and improve regional management and governance arrangements.

## ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Foreign Fishing Vessel Apprehension and Legislative Forfeiture Statistics.

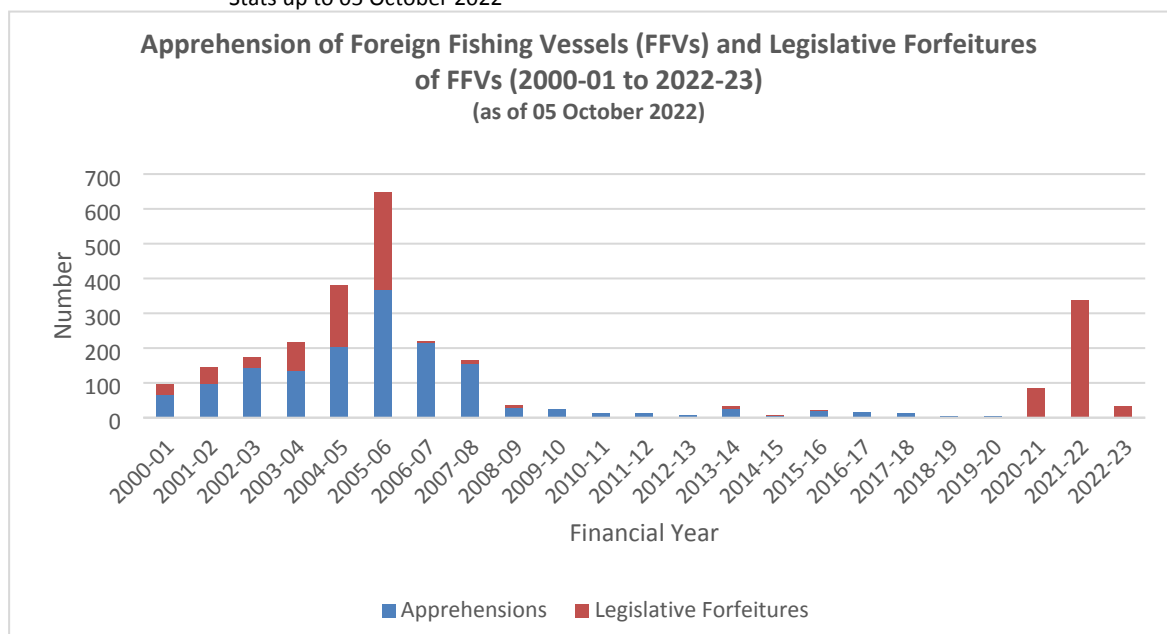
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## ATTACHMENT A

**Apprehensions of Foreign Fishing Vessels (FFVs) and Legislative Forfeitures of catch and equipment  
(2000-01 to 2022-23)**

Year	Apprehensions	Legislative Forfeitures In addition to apprehensions	Total
2000-01	66	30	96
2001-02	98	48	146
2002-03	144	29	173
2003-04	133	83	216
2004-05	203	178	381
2005-06	367	281	648
2006-07	216	5	221
2007-08	156	9	165
2008-09	27	8	35
2009-10	23	0	23
2010-11	14	0	14
2011-12	12	0	12
2012-13	7	0	7
2013-14	26	7	33
2014-15	6	1	7
2015-16	20	2	22
2016-17	15	0	15
2017-18	14	0	14
2018-19	5	0	5
2019-20	4	0	4
2020-21	0	85	85
2021-22	0	337	337
2022-23	0	32*	32*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1556</b>	<b>1135</b>	<b>2691</b>

\*Stats up to 05 October 2022



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RETURN TO INDEX

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

Division: Agvet Chemicals Fisheries Forestry and Engagement Division

# ACFFED08

**PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW - AUSTRALIAN PESTICIDES AND VETERINARY  
MEDICINES AUTHORITY****CURRENT ISSUE**

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is the Australian Government statutory authority responsible for assessing and registering pesticides and veterinary medicines proposed for supply in Australia.

The APVMA also has post market responsibilities, including monitoring the market for compliance related to supply and undertaking reviews and regulatory action on products when required.

**KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES**

- Agency Performance
  - Agency performance has remained steady throughout the pandemic with 97.0% of applications for registration or use under permit finalised within legislated timeframes in the financial year 2021-22.
- Biosecurity
  - The APVMA plays an important role in supporting Australia's response to current or potential pest and disease outbreaks through the timely registration of agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemical products and approvals of agvet chemicals under permits including emergency permit.
- Chemicals in the news:
  - Glyphosate
    - : The APVMA maintains a watching brief on published literature to identify any new or emerging concerns. Under requirement section 161 of the Agvet Code, registrants are required to bring new material that suggests adverse effects to the attention of the APVMA.
    - : The APVMA is aware of legal matters that are presently before the Courts concerning glyphosate, including Kelvin McNickle v Huntsman Chemical Company Australia Pty Ltd & Ors (Federal Court of Australia)

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SB22-000035



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- : The APVMA does not comment on matters presently before the Courts.
- Chlorpyrifos
  - : The APVMA is currently reconsidering the registration of chlorpyrifos, with a final regulatory decision expected in mid-2023.
- Rodenticides
  - : The APVMA is currently reconsidering the registration of anticoagulant rodenticides, with a final regulatory decision expected in mid-2025.
- Lidocaine
  - : The rescheduling of injectable lidocaine into Schedule 5 in strictly controlled situations continues to attract attention, primarily from veterinary associations.
  - : The argument is that the increased access may increase off label use with negative consequences. It is noted that scheduling is controlled under legislation administered by the Department of Health.
- APVMA COVID-19 response
  - The APVMA COVID-19 Safety Plan is regularly updated to align with the latest government and health advice to ensure the continued protection of staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - The APVMA continues to monitor the situation and remains responsive to any emerging risks and government requirements.
- Agvet chemicals legislation reform
  - On 7 December 2021, the *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation (Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority Board and Other Improvements) Act 2021* obtained Royal Assent.
  - The Act strengthens the APVMA's governance and improves the regulatory framework with small efficiency changes being implemented from 7 December 2021 through to 7 December 2022.
  - New regulations were also registered in December 2021, including ones that support the measures from the Act.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION****AGENCY FACTS**

**Chief Executive Officer:** s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

**Enabling legislation and year established:** *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Administration) Act 1992*, established 1993.

## OFFICIAL

**Portfolio Budget Statement Outcome:** Protection of the health and safety of people, animals, the environment, and agricultural and livestock industries through regulation of pesticides and veterinary medicines.

**Description:** The APVMA provides regulatory services for the supply of safe and effective agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals in Australia. Through its regulatory action and decisions, the APVMA ensures the registration of agvet chemical products delivers appropriate protections for human health and safety, animals and the environment, and supports international trade.

**Staffing:** Actual 2021–22 Average Staffing Level (ASL): 176 (2020–21 ASL: 176.8).  
Budgeted 2022-23 Average Staffing Level (ASL): 180

**Board of management:** Yes. Schedule 2 of the Other Improvements Act establishes the APVMA Board. The measure commenced on 4 March 2022.

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Division: Farm Resilience Division

## FRD02

## PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW – REGIONAL INVESTMENT CORPORATION

## CURRENT ISSUE

A recruitment process is currently underway to replace the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) s. 22(1)(a)(ii) who gave notice of his resignation in January 2022.

On 28 June 2022, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) gave his notice of resignation from his position as a RIC Board member, which came into effect on 20 July 2022.

An independent review of the RIC was released on 22 December 2021 and the RIC has progressed many of the key recommendations of the review.

The RIC announced changes to its definition of ‘farm business’, which will increase the number of businesses that may be eligible for a RIC loan from 1 July 2022.

The RIC is currently meeting its performance target for timely processing of loan applications, with 98% of applications received in 2021-22 financial year processed within 65 RIC-processing days (days applications were processed by the RIC).

## KEY FACTS AND RESPONSES

- On 5 January 2022, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) gave his notice of resignation from his position as RIC CEO, which came into effect on 5 July 2022. s. 22(1)(a)(ii), the RIC’s Executive Director of Corporate Services, has been appointed acting CEO until a substantive CEO is appointed.
  - The RIC Board is responsible for appointing RIC’s CEO and is undertaking a recruitment process to fill the position. The s. 22(1)(a)(ii) is being consulted as it is a significant appointment.
- On 28 June 2022, s. 22(1)(a)(ii) gave his notice of resignation from his position as a RIC Board member, which came into effect on 20 July 2022.
  - The RIC Board must consist of a chair and at least 2 Board members to meet the minimum legislative requirement. The current RIC Board comprises a chair and 3 Board members, which comfortably meets this requirement. The Australian Government will consider this board vacancy in due course.

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Telephone: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Last updated: 19 September 2022

SES Lead: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
Mobile Number: s. 22(1)(a)(ii)  
SB22-000033

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- The government commissioned an independent review of the RIC, which was undertaken by s. 22(1)(a)(ii) . The final report was released on 22 December 2021.
  - The review focused on governance arrangements, the funding model, risk management and reporting requirements. The review also considered the suitability and effectiveness of the RIC's loan products.
  - Any questions regarding the RIC's implementation of the independent review's recommendations should be referred to the RIC.
- The RIC undertook a review of the definition of a 'farm business' in its program guidelines in late 2021, which included public consultation.
  - It has announced an expanded list of eligible industries, with the changes to take effect from 1 July 2022.
  - The expanded definition now includes businesses in industries such as thoroughbred breeding, nurseries, and turf farmers.
  - Any questions regarding the impact of 'farm business' definition expansion should be referred to the RIC.
- There was unprecedented demand for RIC loans in response to interest free terms being available for the RIC's Drought Loans in 2020 (these loan terms were available up to 30 September 2020). This demand created a backlog in applications to be processed.
  - The delays in processing times caused by the backlog have been resolved. For new applications received up to the 2021-22 financial year, the RIC is meeting its performance measure target of processing 80% of loans within 65 RIC-processing days (days applications were processed by the RIC).
  - The RIC is implementing initiatives to reduce processing timeframes and continually improve its performance for RIC customers, including implementation of their Transformation Program.
  - Any questions regarding the RIC's service delivery and related improvement initiatives such as the Transformation Program, including application and processing timeframes should be referred to the RIC.

**ATTACHMENT**

**Attachment A:** Overview of the RIC

**Attachment B:** Overview of RIC Loans

## Overview of the RIC

- The RIC is a corporate Commonwealth entity established by the *Regional Investment Corporation Act 2018* (the RIC Act).
  - The RIC opened on 1 July 2018 and is governed by an independent skills-based Board, comprising s. 22(1)(a)(ii) (Chair), s. 22(1)(a)(ii), s. 22(1)(a)(ii), and s. 22(1)(a)(ii).
  - Since its inception, the RIC has approved 2,853 loans worth \$3.1 billion.
  - The responsible Ministers for the RIC are the Agriculture Minister and the Minister who administers the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Minister for Finance).
- The RIC administers the Commonwealth's concessional loans to farm and small businesses to improve their long-term strength, growth, resilience and profitability. It also administers plantation loans to support the forestry industry.
  - The RIC's running costs are intended to be offset by interest payments on loans to farm and small businesses, making it cost neutral over the life of the loans program.

## ATTACHMENT B

## Overview of RIC Loans

- The Australian Government provides up to \$4.075 billion in loans through the RIC, who currently provides 3 loan products to farm businesses:
  - **Farm Investment Loan:** This loan helps farmer business to become stronger, more resilient and profitable.
  - **AgriStarter Loan:** This loan was launched on 1 January 2021 to support farmers to buy their first farm and plan for intergenerational transfer within farming families.
  - **Drought Loan:** This loan helps farm businesses to prepare, manage and recover through drought.
- The RIC currently provides 1 loan product for drought-affected small businesses:
  - **AgBiz Drought Loan:** This loan helps small businesses manage through drought to help ensure their productivity and profitability into the future.
- The *Drought Loan* and *AgBiz Drought Loan* attracted significant demand because of the interest free period (up to 30 September 2020). As a result, the RIC received an extra \$50 million over 4 years from 2020-21 in operational funding to process the significant demand.
- The RIC also currently provides 1 loan product to support plantation development:
  - **Plantation Loan:** This loan was launched on 6 December 2021 to support new plantation development and the replanting of bushfire-damaged plantations.

No.	Backpocket Title	Contact Officer	SES Lead
<b>CORPORATE</b>			
<b>Finance and Investment Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
9	Minister's Media Release		
10	Navigating 2022-23 Portfolio Budget Statements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
11	Agency Resourcing from recent Budget Statements		
12	Financial Statements update - include Annual Analysis	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
13	Agricultural Loan Schemes	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
14	Financial Statements - Contingency	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
15	Departmental Savings Measures	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
16	Cost Recovery - Exports	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
17	Independent Review of the Cost of Food and Plant Export Regulatory Activities		
18	Meat Shift and Overtime Payment Program	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
19	Departmental Capital Reporting 2022-23	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
20	General Procurements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
21	Indigenous Procurement		
22	Small to Medium Enterprises		
23	SDP Partner Model	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
24	Hospitality	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
25	Financial Non-Compliance and Assurance Procedures		
26	Superannuation Review	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
27	Departmental Travel	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
28	FOI Business Class Travel		
29	Credit Cards		
30	Levy Payer Register/Agricultural Levies and Levies Compliance	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Digital Services Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
1	ICT Services Spend		
2	DSD Contractors 2020/2021 FY and YTD		
3	Cyber Security		
4	ICT Significant Contracts	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
5	ICT Significant Projects		
6	ICT Equipment and Telephony		
7	DesktopOne Planning Day and PQON		
8	Austender and Consultancies		
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Digital Trade Initiatives</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
78	Take Farmers To Market (TFTM) Engagement	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
79	People Resources (ECMOD & TFTM)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
80	TFTM Program Finances		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
81	ECMOD Program Finances		
82	TFTM Program Benefits	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
83	TFTM & ECMOD ASL-Consultancies		
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Legal and Governance Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	Minister's Office Expenses	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Ministers' Offices - Departmental staff working in office		
	Internal Audit Function	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	ANAO Performance Audits		
	Open Audit Recommendations		
	QoN tabling/Outstanding	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Outstanding Government Responses		
	Audit of Performance Measures	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	DAWE 2021-22 Annual Report		
	Portfolio Appointment Processes	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Inspector-General - Arrangements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	IGB Recommendations - Departmental Administrative Process		
	Media Monitoring Arrangements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Social Media Arrangements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Marketing and Advertising	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Communications Branch Staffing		
	Organisational Change Management - MoG	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Branding	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

s. 42(1)

<h1 style="color: red;">S. 42(1)</h1>		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>TOTALS</b>		15	7
<b>Pay Related Entitlement Review Taskforce</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
1	s. 47E(c)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>TOTALS</b>		0	0
<b>People, Property and Security Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
4	Enterprise Agreement	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
5-6	Flexibe Workng Arrangements (Including COVID-19)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
7	Voluntary Redundancies	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
8	MoG Arrangements	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
9	Outdoor Work Allowance		
11	Promotion reviews and outcomes	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
12	Conflicts of Interest	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
13	Department Integrity	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
14	Gifts and Benefits	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
15	Personal Security	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
16	Conduct Investigations	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
17	Fraud and Corruption Allegations and Investigations	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
18	Public Interest Disclosure		
19	National Anti Corruption Commission		
20	Sexual Harrassment		
21	National Security Hub and Top Secret Priviged Access		
22	Workforce Profile	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
24	Absence Management		
25	COVID-19 leave		
26	Consulting firms, engagements, labour hire		
27	Corporate Plan and Annual Report	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
28	Principal Directors	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
29	Redeployment and Surge requests	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
30	SES Cap	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
32	People Capability	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
33	Learning and Development		
34	Values and Behaviours		
35	APS Census Results		
36	Workforce and Mobility Strategy	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
37	Recruitment and Entry Level Programs		
38	Biosecurity officer recruitment in response to foot and mouth disease		
40	Redress scheme	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
41	Diversity and Inclusions Indigenous employment initiatives		
42	Diversity and Inclusion Summary		
43	NIAA Closing the Gap		
44	Australian workplace equality index		
46	Respect at work		
47	WHS general		
48	Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
49	Key Property and security matters		
50	Melbourne Office Accommodation Project		
51	Annual report Environmental and sustainability index		
52	New Canberra office	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>TOTALS</b>		17	4
<b>OUTCOME 1</b>			
<b>ABARES</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	ABARES Budget and Staffing	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Strategic external review of ABARES		
	ABARES output and publications (July 2021 – June 2022)		
	ABARES events and Outlook conferences		
	Australian agricultural output and ABARES outlook		
	ABARES Report on findings of NSW Rice Vesting Review		
	Implications of FMD outbreak		
	Agricultural labour supply and demand		
	Farm performance		
	Effects of drought and climate change on Australian farms		
	Fishery status reports		
	ABARES plantation statistics and log availability		
	ABARES advice on draft Swift Parrot Recovery Plan		



		TOTALS	0	1
<b>Agricultural Policy Taskforce</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
23a	Agriculture Policy Taskforce		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
23b	Policy and Program Stream – Agricultural Policy Taskforce		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
23c	Sustainable Biosecurity Funding		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
23d	Biosecurity Budget Measures			s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
23e	History of the Biosecurity Imports Levy		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
		<b>TOTALS</b>	5	3
<b>Agricultural Policy Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
	Agricultural Workforce		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Domestic Food Security and Supply		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Poultry Standards		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Grass Fed Cattle industry Reform		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Funding for Agricultural Shows		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grants Program		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Animal Welfare Strategy		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Regional trade events		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Food labelling		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Food and Beverage Machinery of Government Changes		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Animal welfare standards and guidelines		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Grains industry calls for ACCC inquiry		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Wool industry		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Organics		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Wheat Port Code of Conduct		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Dairy		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Cotton issues		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Horticulture Netting Program		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Fair Farms			
	AgCAREERSTART			
	AgUP grants program		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Modern Workforce Management and Planning Practices			
	Community Perceptions grants program			
	Educating Kids About Agriculture grants program			
	Improving Market Transparency in Perishable Agricultural Goods		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	National Farm Safety Education Fund		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Agricultural Innovation		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	RDCs		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Levy Payer Registers			
	Modernising Levies Legislation		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Rural R&D for Profit		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	APD Consultancies and Contracts		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		<b>TOTALS</b>	10	5
<b>Exports and Veterinary Services Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
MEB 01	Animal Welfare at Exports Abattoirs		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
MEB 02	s. 33(a)(iii)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
MEB 03	Meat Modernisation		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
MEB 04	s. 47G(1)(a)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 01	Trade impacts associated with LSD and FMD		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 02	s. 33(a)(ii) - Market Access		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 03	s. 33(a)(iii) - Market Access		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 04	s. 33(a) - Market Access		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 05	s. 33(a)(iii) - Market Access		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 06	s. 33(a)(iii)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii) and s. 22(1)(a)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
ESB 07	Export Key Facts and Statistics		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
ESB 08	Importing Country Review		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
			and	
			s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
RFB 01	Facts and Figures		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
			and	
			s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
RFB 02	s. 47G(1)(a) Pesticides Media & Fol		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
VEM 01	Budget and Staffing Profile for Division			s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
VEM 02	Recruitment of Food Safety Meat Assessors		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
EVSD 01	EVSD Delivery Partners			s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
		<b>TOTALS</b>	17	6
<b>Farm Resilience Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
BPB 00	Backgorund Breif - Future Drought Fund			
BPB 01	FDG Governance Arrangements		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 02	Communications		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 03	Adoption & Innovation Hubs		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 04	Innovation Grants		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 05	Farm Business Resilience		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	

BPB 06	Regional Drought Resilience Planning	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 07	FDf Communities Program	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 08	NRM Drought Resilience Program - Landscapes Stream	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 09	NRM Drought Resilience Program - Grants Stream			
BPB 10	Drought Resilience Soils and Landscapes	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 11	Climate Services for Agriculture			
BPB 12	Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (DR.SAT)			
BPB 13	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 14	New FDF Programs	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 15	Future Drought Fund Finances	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 16	National Landcare Program	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 17	Drought Policy	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 18	Drought information and Indicators	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
BPB 19	National Drought Agreement	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 20	Resourcing of the drought policy function	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 21	Regional Investment Corporation (RIC) - see below	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB 22	Farm Household Allowance (FHA)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 23	Leadership in Agricultural Industries Fund	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
BPB 24	Farm Management Deposits & Taxation Issues			
BPB 25	Banking and Rural Debt Related Issues			
BPB 26	Concessional Loans (pre-RIC)			
BPB 27	Natural Heritage Trust	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>TOTALS</b>		15	4	
<b>Portfolio Strategy and Climate Policy Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
	Carbon Markets and agriculture	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Climate Change and agriculture			
	Climate policy - stakeholder engagement			
	Global Methane Pledge			
	Data Incident Management			
	National Soil Strategy and Action Plan			
	National Soil Package Measures			
	National Soil Package Placemat			
	National Soils Advocate			
	<b>TOTALS</b>			1
<b>Trade, Market Access and International Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
BPB01	Ministers Engagement with International Counterparts		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB02	Bilateral Engagement			
BPB03	s. 33(a)(iii)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB04	Kangaroo Product exports			
BPB05	s. 33(a)(iii)			
BPB06	s. 33(a)(iii) Bilateral Relationship		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB07	s. 33(a) Bilateral Relationship			
BPB08	Global Agriculture Leadership Initiative		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB09	Agri-Business Expansion Initiative		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB10	Free Trade Agreement Negotiations		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB11	International climate change and agriculture		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB12	s. 33(a)(iii)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
BPB13	s. 33(a)(ii) Agricultural Trade		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
<b>TOTALS</b>		5	4	
<b>OUTCOME 2</b>				
<b>Australian Chief Plant Protection Office</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
1	ACPPPO role	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
2	Banana Freckle	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
3	Bee Biosecurity			
4	Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
5	Diagnostics			
6	Enhancing National Plant Health Survey			
7	Khapra Beetle	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
8	Pacific Engagement	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
9	Polyphagous Shothole Borer	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
10	Critical Pest Incursions and Interceptions			
11	Fruit fly	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
12	Grants	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
13	APLC (Australian Plague Locust Commission)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		
<b>TOTALS</b>		7	2	
<b>Australian Chief Veterinary Office</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
	BSE	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Vet Numbers			
	Structured Expert Judgement			
<b>TOTALS</b>		2	1	
<b>Biosecurity Animal Division</b>				
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>				
	Prawns	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Assurance and Verification Update			
	Permit delays			
	Antimicrobial Resistance	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Pet Food			
		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)		

	Grants	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	E Canis	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Japanese Encephalitis	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Sturgeon imports	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Barramundi imports		
	Australian biofouling management requirements		
	Implementation of ballast water regulations		
	LSD and FMD Regionalisation and import settings		
	Fresh beef imports		
	Livestock & ruminant genetics exports	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	African Swine Fever (ASF)		
	Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)		
	Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	FMD/LSD: International Assistance	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Sentinel herds in Australia		
<b>TOTALS</b>		6	2
<b>Biosecurity Operations Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
4	BOD divisional Budget overview	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
5	Placemat – Staff Headcount – Sept 2021		
6	Placemat – Staff FTE – Sept 2021		
7	PBS Measures 2022-23		
8	PBS Measures 2021-22 (inc Att A)		
9	BOD active consultancies		
10	Foot and Mouth Disease response (includes Attachments A - I)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
11	Cargo – Service Delivery rapid response team	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
12	Animal derived pet food	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
13	Placemat – Detector dogs	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
14	Placemat – Imported Food	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
15	Infringement Notices	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
16	Visa cancellation referrals (inc Att A)		
17	Service Standards	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
18	Tasmania Service Level Agreement		
19	Conveyances inc cruise vessels (inc Att A)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
20	Biosecurity Analytic Centre (BAC) – Key Biosecurity Statistics for Senate Estimates	BAC	
21	Bee detection	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
21.a	Scents dogs trained in	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
22	National Maritime monthly report – Sept 2021		
23	s. 33(a)(iii) vessel arrivals (Sept 2021 to Sept 2022)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
24	QANTAS T3 terminal in Perth (inc Att A - C)		s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
25	Recruitment	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
26	Biosecurity Training Centre	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
27	Decision support	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
28	Regulatory Capability	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
29	Automation	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
30	Biosecurity Portal (inc Att A)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
31	Green Lanes (inc Att A)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
32	CAMS placemat	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
33	Western Sydney Airport	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
34	Innovation initiatives (inc Attachments)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
35	Good news snippets	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>TOTALS</b>		21	6
<b>Biosecurity Plant and Science Services Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	Inspector-General of Biosecurity's review of khapra beetle urgent actions	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Hitchhiker Pest Program		
	Khapra Beetle		
	Xylella - Biosecurity risk management measures and IGB review	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Delays in permit issuance for plant-based animal feed imports	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Imported fresh cut flowers and foliage	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	US Apples	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Plant Exports Market Access Achievements and Issues	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Import priorities and progress	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Limes from s. 33(a)(iii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Northern Australia	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
<b>TOTALS</b>		9	4
<b>Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity innovation	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity Legislation	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Back pocket brief - Penalties under the Biosecurity Act 2015		
	Back pocket brief - Development of an Aquatic Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)
	Back pocket brief - Pest and disease eradication programs		
	Back pocket brief - Emergency preparedness - Biosecurity and Agricultural Incidents		
	Back pocket brief - African Swine Fever Exercise (Exercise Razorback)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Back pocket brief - National Response Deeds - Background Information	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity services in the external territories	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity Futures Group	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Back pocket brief - Status of agreed responses to 2017 Craik review of national biosecurity system (IGAB review)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	
	Back pocket brief - Regulatory Performance and Maturity	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)	s. 22(1)(a)(ii)

<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>		<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Commonwealth Biosecurity 2030	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity Strategy and Reform Division - Budget and FTE	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	Back pocket brief - Immediate Assistance Fund	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Mice Infestations	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - The Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA) program		<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - The Centre of Excellence for Biosecurity Risk Analysis (CEBRA) program - Attachment A CEBRA 2022-23 projects summary	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity Education and Engagement team	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Future border roadmap 2030	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Back pocket brief - Biosecurity levies	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Compliance and Enforcement Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
QTB	Biosecurity Compliance, Enforcement and Investigations (as at 3 November 2022)	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-1	CED People		
BP-2	CED Contractors	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-3	CED Consultancies		
BP-4	Biosecurity Approved Arrangements summary report		
BP-5	Alleged illegal importation of plants		
BP-6	Investigation into illegal timber exports		
BP-7	Live Animal Exports – Investigations	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
BP-8	Portfolio legislation, investigations and prosecutions		
BP-9	Illegal produce from <b>s. 33(a)(iii)</b> investigation		
BP-10	Illegal Logging Compliance Operations		
BP-11	Targeted operations	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-12	CED Travel Expenditure	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-13	Investigation into importation of bovine serum imported from non-approved countries	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-14	Internal Biosecurity Assurance Activities	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-15	Civil Sanctions	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
BP-16	DAFF Partnering Agencies	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Environmental Biosecurity Office</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	Environmental Biosecurity Office Activities		
	Environmental Biosecurity Project Fund (EBPF)	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	Environmental Biosecurity Exotic Priority Pest List (EEPL)		
	Established Pests and Weeds Programs	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Established Pests and Weeds Species		
	National Carp Control Plan (NCCP)	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS)		
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Plant and Live Animal Exports Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
1	Review Of Temperature Stress in Bos taurus Cattle	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
2	Northern Hemisphere Summer Review		
3	Overview of the Live Animal Export Program brief – Key Statistics and Information	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
4	Horses, Donkeys and Greyhounds		
5	Live Animal Export Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS)		
6	Roundtable projects update		
7	Progress on recommendations - Inspector-General of Live Animal Exports (IGLAE) and Moss Reviews	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
8	IGLAE review of licenses and approved arrangements		
9	Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) incidents	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
10	Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) Review		
11	Independent Observer Program		
12	<b>s. 33(a)(iii)</b> listings of livestock export registered establishments	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
13	Certification of cosmetics for export	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
14	Plant Export – Summary of fees, levies & charges	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
15	Changes to Bulk Vessel Inspection processes	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
16	Busting Congestion Projects for plant exports		
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Trade Reform Division</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
	Traceability - past and present work	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	Traceability Grants Program		
	Export Legislation	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Trade Reform Initiatives		
	National Reconstruction Fund	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Strategic Delivery Partner Engagements		
	Horse Traceability	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	ANAO Report Implementation of Export Legislative Framework	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	
	Phase Out of Live Sheep Exports		
	Benefits of Busting Congestion and Export Legislation	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Engagement of the Nous Group		<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	Savings attributable to reforms and/or Busting Congestion		<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>
	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO AGENCY OVERVIEWS</b>			
<b>Farm Resilience Division (RIC)</b>			
<b>Backpocket Briefs</b>			
BPB 21	Regional Investment Corporation (RIC)	<b>s. 22(1)(a)(ii)</b>	

	TOTALS	2	1
		182	69