

**COMBINED ACTION to RETAIN ROUTES for  
TRAVELLING STOCK  
( C A R R T S )**

P O BOX 2112, DUBBO NSW 2830, AUSTRALIA  
EMAIL : [carrtsnsw@gmail.com](mailto:carrtsnsw@gmail.com) TEL : (61) 0427 542 833

---

President :	Hamish Thompson	Vice President:	Ray Penfold
Secretary :	Ruth Penfold	Treasurer :	John Curley

---

28<sup>th</sup> August 2016

General Purpose Standing Committee No.6  
NSW Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Follow-up information after appearing at the NSW Parliament Crown Land inquiry**

The Combined Action to Retain Routes for Travelling Stock Incorporated (CARRTS) appeared at the Crown Land Inquiry on Tuesday 2/Aug/2016 at 1:30pm at the Dubbo RSL Club. During our testimony we mentioned an incident that had occurred within the past few months where cattle had perished as a result of poor knowledge and direction by an LLS Ranger giving explicit instructions to a young and inexperienced drover. Mr David Shoebridge from the Committee asked us if we could provide details of this incident on notice. The specifics of what happened are detailed on the next page of this letter. And a marked-up "uncorrected proof" transcript of the hearing is attached correcting some recorded points and statements that either have errors or are attributed to the wrong person.

Also The Hon. Catherine Cusack asked us if we could provide a copy of a Travelling Stock Reserve (TSR) permit application form. There generally isn't one "form" that covers the request for a permit but a whole series of papers, declarations, insurances and processes that must followed and a series of requirements that must be met before a permit will be issued. They vary between the different LLS regions but to take the Riverina LLS as an example, the following is needed:

1. Proof of public liability insurance for \$10 million (separate policies to be held by the grazier and the drover).
2. Completed cattle NVD (National Vendor Declaration).
3. Completed cattle health statement.
4. The NLIS (National Livestock Identification System) transfers completed.

We've attached the National Cattle Health Statement form and the Riverina TSR Permit Issuing Requirements document to the email this letter was conveyed to you on.

These items plus a verbal request to the relevant LLS Ranger for transit through a specific reserve or a series of reserves making up a Travelling Stock Route, facilitates the permit application.

# NATIONAL CATTLE HEALTH STATEMENT

VERSION 1  
August 2012

Consignment PIC Number (must be completed):

Attached to accompanying NVD / Waybill No:

## SECTION 1 – Consignment Information

(must comply with the information provided on an NVD, if attached)

Owner of cattle: .....

Phone number: .....

Address of origin of stock: .....

Destination Property Identification Code (PIC) (if known): .....

Description of cattle (e.g. breed, sex & type): .....

Were all the cattle vendor-bred on the above property: Yes  No

## SECTION 2 – Johne’s Disease Beef Cattle (see explanatory notes for further information)

The cattle originate from the following BJD Zone/Area:

Protected Zone  Free Zone  Beef Protected Area  Management Area

The cattle originate from a herd with a status of:

Infected  Suspect  Non-Assessed  Check Tested  Beef Only

Tested to MAP Standard  Tested 4yo  MN1  MN2  MN3

Beef Protected Area beef cattle (non-assessed) eligible for the Protected Zone

## SECTION 3 – Johne’s Disease Dairy Cattle (see explanatory notes for further information)

The consignment has a Dairy Assurance Score of:

Part A (herd base score)..... Part B (calf credits)..... Part C (total Dairy Score).....

## SECTION 4 – Enzootic Bovine Leucosis (EBL) (see explanatory notes for further information)

EBL test result for animals being moved: .....

Date of test: ..... / ..... / .....

Are the cattle from an EBL accredited or certified free herd: Yes  No

## SECTION 5a – Treatments (see explanatory notes for further information)

Treatments	Product	Date of treatment within last 6 months
Lice treatment		
Drench		
Liver fluke treatment		
Other treatments (type)		
Comments (optional)		

## SECTION 5b – Current Vaccinations (see explanatory notes for further information)

Clostridial vaccination (e.g. 5 in 1): Yes  Clostridial vaccination (Botulism): Yes

Pestivirus vaccination: Yes  Bovine ephemeral fever vaccination: Yes

Leptospira vaccination: Yes  Vibrio vaccination: Yes

Other Vaccinations (specify): .....

## SECTION 5c – Pestivirus Testing (see explanatory notes for further information)

Have these cattle been tested for the presence of pestivirus antigen (in blood, skin or hair)? Yes  No

If tested, were any cattle positive for pestivirus antigen? Yes  No

If tested, were the cattle found to be persistently infected? Yes  No

Other (specify): .....

## SECTION 6 – Declaration (see explanatory notes for further information)

As the owner/person (please circle) responsible for the husbandry of the cattle in this consignment, I declare that the above information in this statement is true and correct.

Signed: ..... Name: .....

Date: ..... / ..... / ..... Phone no: ..... Address: .....

Persons making false statements may be liable under fair trading and other relevant State legislation.

## SECTION 7 – Cattle Tick (see explanatory notes for further information)

I .....  
(full name of inspector or authorised person)

Declare that the stock described above are from a non restricted property in a cattle tick free area OR

Declare that the stock described above comply with the cattle tick entry requirements for..... OR  
(states)

Where treatment and/or inspection was required the following inspection and/or treatment

was undertaken: Type of inspection: .....  
(clean inspection and/or supervised)

Treatment: ..... Method of treatment: .....  
(chemical) (plunge dip – spray – pour on – injection)

Signature: ..... Designation: .....

Date: ..... / ..... / ..... Phone no: ..... Location: .....

## SECTION 8 – Certification by an Authorised Person (to be completed for intrastate or interstate movements only where required) (see explanatory notes for further information)

According to the information provided above, and after due investigation of jurisdictional records by me, I certify that the health status of the consignment of cattle described above complies with the jurisdictional requirements pertaining to.....  
(destination State/Territory)

Signed: ..... Name: .....

Date: ..... / ..... / ..... Phone no: ..... Location: .....

# CATTLE HEALTH STATEMENT EXPLANATORY NOTES

VERSION 1  
August 2012

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is law in all States/Territories for all cattle to be identified with NLIS devices before being moved. It is the owner/receiver of the cattle at the destination (unless purchased at a saleyard) who is required to send the necessary NLIS information to the NLIS database.

This is a voluntary form however, those owners planning to move cattle interstate should check that state's requirements and contact the local animal health officer to obtain any additional paperwork.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Consignor - complete all relevant sections and SIGN at section 6

Authorised Person - complete all relevant sections and SIGN at section 7 & 8

- Beef cattle sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
- Dairy cattle (all cattle born on a dairy farm) sections 1, 3, 5

## SECTION 2 – Johne's Disease Beef cattle

### BJD Zones/Areas

The accompanying map shows the BJD zones in Australia. For more information, go to [www.bjdaware.com.au](http://www.bjdaware.com.au)

### Beef Only Herds

Beef cattle are all cattle except those born on a dairy farm. For a herd to be eligible as Beef Only, it must meet ALL the following criteria:

- The cattle are from a beef herd that has not grazed with dairy cattle, or first generation dairy-cross cattle, at any time during the past five (5) years, unless those cattle were from a herd enrolled in the CattleMAP.
- The cattle are from a beef herd that has not, **at any time in the past**, grazed on land that had been grazed by adult dairy cattle (two years or older) during the 12 months before the arrival of the beef herd, unless those dairy cattle were part of a CattleMAP herd.
- If introduced into the herd or onto the property(s) in the past five (5) years, the cattle are from herds of the same *Beef Only* or higher status. This must be supported by a completed National Cattle Health Statement or a signed BJD Vendor Declaration. Without these declarations, you **cannot** claim *Beef Only* status for any cattle sold from the herd.
- The cattle do not include animals that have been part of a herd classified as Infected (IN), Suspect (SU) or Restricted (RD), according to the National Johne's Disease Standard Definitions and Rules and Guidelines (SDR&Gs) for Johne's Disease in Cattle.

### Tested to MAP Standard (TMS)

A herd Tested to MAP Standard (TMS) is one that does not have an assessed status but which has undergone testing on the herd equivalent to a Sample Test under a MAP program in the last 24 months with negative results.

### Tested Four Years Old and over (T4YO)

A herd Tested Four Years Old and over (T4YO) is one in which cattle aged four years old and over have been tested in accord with sample sizes in the Testing strategies section of the CattleMAP program.

### Beef Protected Area beef cattle (non-assessed) eligible for the Protected Zone

A beef herd in the Beef Protected Area that, in the past five years, has not introduced dairy cattle or dairy-cross cattle, or grazed on land used by dairy cattle, unless the dairy cattle concerned had a CattleMAP status of MN1 or better.

*Note: Cattle from the Management Area are only eligible for the Protected Zone if they have an MNI status or above in the CattleMAP, or are Beef Only.*

## SECTION 3 – Johne's Disease Dairy Cattle

Johne's disease herd status information about Dairy Assurance Score calculation is available at [www.dairyaustralia.com.au/bjd](http://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/bjd)



## SECTION 4 – Enzootic Bovine Leucosis (EBL)

All cattle entering Tasmania must meet at least **ONE** of the following criteria:

- Cattle have been tested for Enzootic Bovine Leucosis with the ELISA test within 42 days before shipment with negative results and evidence supplied via an attached laboratory report. If samples were pooled, no more than 10 sera or 30 milk samples were combined in each pool. Unweaned calves less than 12-weeks-of-age transported with their dam do not require testing for EBL; *OR*
- Dairy cattle from a registered dairy herd must be accredited as Monitored Negative (MN) or better, according to the national guidelines for Enzootic Bovine Leucosis Control; *OR*
- Beef or beef-cross breeds must come from herds in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia (*excluding the cattle tick infested area*), New South Wales (*excluding North Coast Livestock Health and Pest Authority District*), or Queensland (*excluding the cattle tick infested area*). The herd of origin must have been in existence for at least three (3) years with no evidence of Enzootic Bovine Leucosis infection in the last three (3) years.

## SECTION 5A, 5B AND 5C – Treatments, Current Vaccinations and Testing

### Treatments

- Provide details on any cattle treatments, vaccinations and management procedures within the last six (6) months. Some manufacturers include more than one of the categories listed below in the same vaccine, known as a *combination vaccine*. If you use a *combination vaccine*, each agent(s), as appropriate, should be detailed.
- For vaccinations to be current, you must have followed the manufacturer's recommendation for vaccination. Typically, young animals or first time vaccinated animals need two (2) doses, followed by annual boosters. As variations to this general rule do occur, you must use the manufacturer's recommendations.
- At the date the declaration is made, the animals must be considered protected from the diseases listed.

### Current Vaccinations

- A Clostridial 5-in-1 vaccine provides protection against tetanus, blackleg, black disease, pulpy kidney (enterotoxaemia) and malignant oedema.

### Testing

- Persistently infected animals can be detected by conducting a pestivirus antigen test. This test only needs to be conducted once in an animal's life. Cattle that test positive in most cases are persistently infected animals. Contact your veterinarian for assistance in understanding the test results or go to [www.bvdvaustralia.com.au](http://www.bvdvaustralia.com.au).

## SECTION 6 – Declaration

- This section must only be completed by the owner or person responsible for the husbandry of the cattle in the consignment.
- The original is to be attached to the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) form accompanying the cattle. The duplicate remains with the vendor.

## SECTION 7 – Cattle Tick

Parts of Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia are declared under the relevant state legislation as Cattle Tick Infested Zones. All other parts of Australia are Cattle Tick Free Zones. Section 7 is mandatory for cattle moving:

- From an Infested Zone unless to another Infested Zone
- From a property in the Free Zone with cattle tick infestation
- Between some states (please check with the local animal health officer).

## SECTION 8 – Certification by an Authorised Person

- This section must be signed by an authorised person if required for intrastate and interstate movements (please check with your local agriculture department or on departmental websites for this information).
- Some states require testing or certification additional to that outlined in this document. Please check the entry requirements for any interstate movements at [www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/johnes-disease/disease-movement-requirements-for-stock/](http://www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/programs/johnes-disease/disease-movement-requirements-for-stock/)

**NOTE: The Cattle Health Statement is a legal document- Please read carefully before signing.**

## RIVERINA TSR OPERATION POLICY –GENERAL PERMIT CONDITION ASSESSMENT

	Public Liability insurance (\$10,000,000 min) – Certificate of Currency provided and filed
	Owner and drover details provided and recorded on file for each permit issued
	Fee structure has been provided to the permit requester Does the permit requester have any outstanding debts with the Riverina LLS (FARMS)
	Mob size is suitable to requested grazing area (W Newell – 100 head cattle / 5000 sheep; E Newell – 800 head cattle / 2000 sheep)
	Are the stock proposed to travel pregnant or due to lamb/calve while on the route? No lamming ewes are permitted due to inability to meet travel requirements Calving cows only allowed after due consideration to number, facilities, welfare, feed suitability and location
	Are any of the stock proposed to travel coloured or of medullated fibre breeds (eg. Dorper, Damara, Awassi, coloured Merino / cross sheep). These are not permitted
	Are any of the stock proposed intact males? Rams – must be Ovine Brucellosis tested Negative within 30 days or from Accredited free flock Bulls – only allowed on conditional approval of the TSR ranger with due consideration to the impact bulls may have on the requested grazing area (fighting, straying etc)
	Do all cattle meet a minimum Johnes Disease status of Beef Only or >8 points on a Dairy Assurance Score if proposed stock are adult dairy cattle, or are exempt dairy steers <2 years of age at the time they LEAVE the route. The National Cattle Health Statement has been completed correctly and filed with permit records. If adult Dairy cattle are proposed – a completed Dairy Assurance Score must be received in addition to the NCHS and filed with the permit records
	A copy of the National Vendor Declaration (NVD) has been received for the proposed stock movement onto the TSR including numbers of head, property of loading
	Have all sheep been physically inspected for signs of lice / virulent footrot / suitability to travel (welfare) if proposing to walk >1 week on a route Has inspection information been entered onto LHMS as a Diagnostic event and noted in the permit holders file. Has a completed and accurate Sheep Health Statement been received for the proposed mob. NB: Sheep travelling into the Riverina Regional Biosecurity Area must meet the minimum standards for entry – from another RBA or been tested for OJD or in the MAP for OJD
	Has the producer agreed to perform the NLIS transfer and provide the upload ID number as proof Cattle – need to be individually scanned and transferred as individuals Sheep – need to have a mob-based movement
	Has the permit requester been advised that TSRs are NOT LPA, EU or Grazfed accredited due to the inability to meet these specific assurance requirements on large open TSRs Has the permit requester been advised that NO NVD will be provided when they leave the route – they must be transferred back to a property with a PIC as a condition of the permit
	Are the stock proposing to graze areas in the Anthrax endemic areas? Have owners been advised of the potential risk of anthrax exposure and the option to vaccinate stock against Anthrax prior to grazing (at their own cost)
	Has the permit requester been provided with a written copy of the general permit conditions as stated in the Riverina TSR Operational Policy

## **Permit Conditions - General**

### 1. Insurance

Public Liability Insurance to the value of \$10,000,000 is required to be held by both the owner of the stock and the drover on all travelling stock reserves.

A copy of the Certificate of Currency must be provided to the Ranger with the application at the time a permit is requested and kept on file.

### 2. Communication

The primary contact between Riverina LLS and travelling stock is with the owner(s) of the stock. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that any permit conditions, instructions by TSR staff or requests are adhered to. The owner(s) must provide contact details and be contactable at all times and be made aware of this protocol at the time a permit is issued.

### 3. Mob size

West of the Newell Highway - Maximum of 1000 head of cattle or 5000 sheep  
East of the Newell Highway – Maximum of 800 head of cattle or 2000 sheep

The maximum mob size may be decreased by the issuing Ranger depending on the location and conditions on the route. With wet stock the maximum is halved.

4. Due to the inability of lambing ewes to mother and maintain the required rate of travel and meet other permit requirements e.g. inability to yard at night there will be no lambing ewes on walking stock permits issued by the Riverina LLS.
5. Calving on the TSRs is not permitted without prior approval of the issuing Ranger. In considering whether calving is allowed the Ranger shall consider size and location of the TSR, seasonal conditions, infrastructure available, animal welfare, public safety and proven ability of the person in charge of the stock. The maximum mob size of cows with calves is 500 cows.
6. Changes to fees will be advised to the owner and drover prior to any permits being issued and the rates noted on the permit.

### 7. Rams

That any rams allowed on TSR's on slow travel or grazing permits be either directly from an ovine Brucellosis tested for ovine Brucellosis accredited free flock or a flock that has been tested negative for ovine Brucellosis within the previous 30 days.

### 8. Bulls

Bulls will be permitted to travel as part of a mob with prior notification to and conditional approval of the issuing Ranger. The reasons for the refusal of bulls may include their inability to walk the required daily distance, fighting amongst the mob and biosecurity issues with neighboring properties.

### 9. TSR Cattle Health requirement

For purposes of BJD Zoning integrity A *Beef Only* declaration is to be provided by the owner or person in charge of cattle to be walked on a permit prior to a permit being issued.

### 10. Dark or medullated fibre sheep

Breeds of sheep with coloured or medullated fibre are not permitted to travel on the districts travelling stock reserves. Local movements between holdings are exempted from this policy.

#### 11. Horses

No horses to be agisted on reserves without the permission of the Ranger, or unless they are part of a mob of travelling stock. The maximum number of horses permitted with plant on the TSR's and Reserves is four per stockman to a maximum of ten. Horses must be working horses.

#### 12. Permits for Board Members and Staff

Staff or Board Members of the Riverina LLS must declare their intention to obtain a permit in writing to the General Manager / Board. The intention must be consistent with the intent of the Local Land Services Conflict of Interest policy.

#### 13. Bridge Crossings

Stockowners and/or drovers wishing to cross a major bridge are to advise the relevant Ranger 48 hours prior to the nominated date and time to allow necessary traffic and safety management actions to be initiated.

#### 14. NLIS on TSRs

Riverina LLS has specific NLIS requirements about registering travelling stock on the NLIS database (as do all producers). Stock are required to be transferred onto and off the TSRs as they move through to enable full traceability (cattle require individual scanning, sheep are moved on a mob based transfer). Scanning of cattle using the travelling stock reserves may be carried out at the discretion of the Riverina LLS subject to the procedure being beneficial to the Riverina LLS. A fee will be charged for this service unless it is at the instigation of the Riverina LLS.

The following conditions must be included in writing with each stock permit issued under the Local Land Services Act 2013 for the use of a TSR:

- All cattle must have NLIS devices before being moved onto the TSR.
- The owner or person in charge of the cattle is responsible for transferring the cattle on the NLIS database from any property to the TSR, and from the TSR to any property, within 7 days of the movement. This includes any cattle that are added to or removed from a mob.
- The stock permit identifier must be uploaded to the NLIS database instead of the NVD/Waybill number.
- The purchaser of cattle at a saleyard who intends moving the stock directly onto a TSR must advise the saleyard operator to transfer the cattle to the TSR PIC and using the stock permit identifier as the NVD/Waybill number.
- Stock owners and drovers should be verbally advised of these conditions when being issued a stock permit and that compliance can readily be monitored from the NLIS database.

Movements between TSRs must be recorded by Riverina LLS as producers are not able to transfer cattle between PICs when neither PIC is registered in their name.

If the cattle are moving between LLS regions, the LLS for the district of origin must transfer the cattle as they are more readily able to obtain and transfer the list of devices from the NLIS database. To assist with this process, the destination LLS must be contacted in order to advise of the new stock permit identifier and approximate date of movement.

#### 15. Debts – Refusal of Permit

That no person be issued with any permit if they owe any debt to the Authority over 60 days from the date of invoice.

In exceptional circumstances the General Manager may authorise a Ranger to issue a permit where a debt is owed over 60 days.

#### 16. Animal health & welfare

There exists the potential for animal health issues on the TSRs. In the western Riverina, there is potential for anthrax cases in the anthrax belt.

Riverina LLS has a responsibility to maintain certain animal welfare standards with stock on routes. Mobs will need to be monitored closely both before they are allowed onto the routes (too light stock may not be fit for the road) as well as monitoring the level of feed on the routes and sending them home when/if feed / water runs out.

For cattle it is proposed to keep the routes "Beef Only" status for Johnes disease - that means no dairy cattle can graze the route unless they are Dairy score 8 or above or are exempt dairy steers LESS than 2 years of age. All cattle drovers must provide a copy of the National Johnes Disease Beef Health Statement and a current NVD before being allowed onto the TSR.

For sheep, it is proposed to inspect all potential mobs for sheep lice and virulent footrot or any other signs of ill thrift that may indicate disease issues or unsuitability to be on the stock route. Owners of sheep mobs must provide the Sheep Animal Health Statement and an NVD prior to being accepted on the route.

Many plants are toxic to stock given the right conditions. Pesticides or Agricultural Chemicals used in the district could well find their way onto travelling stock reserves and roads. There is also the risk of persons dumping hazardous material including chemical, chemical containers and lead batteries on such lands. These are matters over which the Riverina Local Lands Services has no control. With that there exists the potential for animal health issues, and stock issued with a permit will not be provided with a Livestock Production Assurance accredited National Vendor Declaration or any other vendor declaration. Also note that travelling stock reserves do not meet the requirements for the European Union Accreditation system and any cattle in the EU Scheme may lose their status if they graze on travelling stock reserves. Any person wishing to use the Riverina Local Lands Services travelling stock reserves and roads must satisfy themselves as to the risk and if they wish to proceed. A condition of the issue of this permit is that no claim shall be made against the Riverina Local Lands Services for any loss or injury resulting from pesticides, chemical or plant poisoning on any land on which stock travel or graze under this permit.

17. All mobs must have a genuine home base capable of supporting the mob in the event of an emergency situation which requires the immediate closure of a particular TSR or route.