Impact on PICA

Now	If proposals become law
May voluntarily declare non-NAIT species	Must declare non-NAIT species once a year
Tags sold and assigned to PICAs for use at any location	Tags sold for and assigned to a specific NAIT location, and cannot be used elsewhere
PICA declare "impracticable" to tag animals 48 hours before sending to the meatworks	PICA must declare an "unsafe" to tag animal at any time before sending to the meatworks
PICA (unless at meatworks) can tag or return untagged animals	PICA (unless at meatworks) must segregate untagged animals before tagging or returning them
PICA can be fined for not tagging animals	Anyone transporting untagged animals without an exemption, including PICA, can be fined
'PICA' is an individual in charge of animals	'PICA' covers corporate bodies as well as individuals
Register as a PICA	No change
Register a NAIT location	No change
Tag and register animals	No change
Register a NAIT location and record movements on and off farm	No change

Making submissions

The Ministry for Primary Industries is seeking feedback on issues and proposed amendments to the National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) Act 2012 (the Act) and associated regulations.

Having your say

Online

Submissions can be made using the online submission template
www.mpi.govt.nz/naitconsultation

Email

Please email your feedback to: NAITsubs18@mpi.govt.nz

Post

While we prefer email or online submissions, you can send your response by post to:

Consultation on NAIT regulatory change proposals
Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

All written submissions, whether by email or in hard copy, must be received by MPI no later than **5:00pm on 19 December 2018.**

Please make sure you include the following information in your submission:

- the title of the consultation document
- your name and title
- your organisation's name (if you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, and whether your submission represents the whole organisation or a section of it)
- your contact details (such as phone number, address, and email).

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

Summary

Proposed Act and regulation changes to improve NAIT

(National Animal Identification and Tracing scheme)

Summary

The National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) scheme is New Zealand's system for identifying and tracing cattle and deer, and is a vital part of our national biosecurity system. The scheme helps us to respond to and manage animal diseases by providing information on where NAIT animals are located and their movements to other places.

The 2017 *Mycoplasma bovis* disease outbreak proved to be NAIT's biggest test to date. Unfortunately, the national response exposed a number of areas where the scheme is not working as well as it should.

Between 2016 and 2018, OSPRI oversaw a review of NAIT, led by an independent Chair. The Review made recommendations to improve the scheme's operation. Findings from both this Review and the *Mycoplasma bovis* response underpin the proposals set out in the consultation document.

The Review identified that improving NAIT requires action across a number of fronts:

- **On the ground:** NAIT participants must meet their obligations to ensure each and every animal can be identified and traced

- **The NAIT system and standards:** NAIT Limited is working on the operational changes needed

- **Compliance and enforcement:** Both MPI and NAIT Limited have stepped up their compliance activity

- **Act and regulations:** The NAIT Act and regulations must support all necessary operational changes.

The consultation document contains proposals that would require changes to the NAIT Act and regulations. They aim to improve how we manage biosecurity risk and enhance traceability of animals; improve compliance with NAIT obligations; and support related legislation. Any changes must be practical and, as far as possible, farmer-friendly.

The proposals fall into two categories: those arising from the NAIT Review, and those generated in the aftermath of the *Mycoplasma bovis* response.

A discussion on wider policy changes likely to enhance the scheme in the medium to long term is also included. Among the policy questions discussed are the future roles – if any – for transporters and stock agents, and the issue of potentially bringing other animal species into NAIT.

We welcome your feedback on these proposals and on the other questions posed in the consultation document.

A. Implementing the NAIT Review recommendations

1 Require PICAs to report annually the presence and estimated numbers of non-NAIT animal species (such as goats, pigs or sheep) at a NAIT location, to provide better information about co-mingling of animals in the event of a disease outbreak.

2 Require that a PICA only uses NAIT tags at the NAIT location for which they were issued when tagging an animal for the first time, to ensure that animals can be traced effectively back to their origin.

3 Amend the definition of PICA to clarify that the responsibilities apply to all persons in charge of animals, to ensure that organisations as well as individuals are clear on their obligations.

4 Change the timeframe for when a PICA must declare the movement of impracticable to tag animals from '48 hours prior' to 'before sending', and make failure to declare an infringement offence. This will be a more practical timeframe for farmers, and also signal the seriousness of non-compliance.

5 Allow public sector organisations to request access to NAIT core data as long as the Act's purposes of holding this data are met, to ensure most effective use of data.

6 Amend the Act's purposes of holding core data to include responding to stock theft and wandering stock, to streamline the processes for accessing NAIT data for people that need it.

7 Make previous NAIT location history for an animal available to a PICA (as a potential seller), to enable PICA to manage potential biosecurity risks when buying and selling animals.

B. Making NAIT fit for the future – proposals arising from the *Mycoplasma bovis* response

8 Align penalty limits with those in the Biosecurity and Animal Products Acts, to give the courts more ability to match the penalty to the seriousness of the offence.

9 Align infringement fees with those under the Biosecurity and Animal Products Acts, to better reflect the seriousness of non-compliance with NAIT.

10 Rename "impracticable" to tag to "unsafe" to tag, to better reflect its purpose.

11 Prohibit and make it an offence to transport untagged animals without an exemption, to ensure animals are tagged and to improve traceability.

12 Require untagged animals arriving at a NAIT location to be separated from other animals, to more effectively manage the biosecurity risk.

13 Improve access to NAIT information by MPI and other authorities, to ensure data access is as efficient as possible.

Other areas discussed

Role of animal transporters

Issues around stock agents

Potentially bringing other species into NAIT