



Analysis of Submissions on MAF Discussion Paper No: 2011/04

Regulations to Implement the National Animal
Identification and Tracing Act (when passed)
– May 2011

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Introduction

The above discussion paper was released for public consultation in tandem with development of the NAIT Bill with a view to meeting the timeline for implementation of NAIT mandatory requirements. The discussion paper focused on proposed regulations for obligations and exemptions. Proposed regulations in support of infringements, a data access panel and cost recovery processes are to be addressed separately.

Public consultation on the discussion paper was undertaken during May 2011. Thirty-nine submissions were received with at least 18 known to be from farmers, and 17 from industry organisations (of which two were endorsed by 14 and 11 organisations respectively). A table of submitters is provided at the end of this analysis document.

The policy to inform the regulations on obligations and exemptions has now been confirmed by Cabinet. Passage of the regulations on obligations and exemptions will proceed subject to passage of the NAIT Act during early to mid 2012, in order to be ready for the implementation of the NAIT scheme now scheduled from 1 July 2012 for cattle and 1 March 2013 for deer.

Submitters provided the following key themes

- There is a need for better clarification of the roles and definitions of a PICA (person in charge of animals) and a PICA Delegate.
- More detail is required on the role of information providers concerning the use of data and provider obligations.
- There is general support in principle for the proposed 10 kilometre scoping circle radius to define a NAIT location.
- There is general agreement on the proposed one month timeframe to update PICA details.
- Timeframes proposed for registering animals and the time to fit a device need to take account of farming practice.
- Fitting a lost tag if the animal is going direct-to-slaughter is seen by some as unnecessary.
- There is a high level of concern about the dangers and difficulties of fitting tags to older animals.
- Concerns are raised about the biosecurity risks of transit stops.
- The role of transporters in providing information to NAIT needs clarification.
- Clarification is needed on exemptions to time limits during emergencies.

Submissions

The submissions that MAF received are summarised below in the same order and using the same numbering as the regulations proposed in the MAF Discussion Paper No: 2011/04: *Regulations to Implement the National Animal Identification and Tracing Act (when passed)*.

Different submissions are recorded under relevant submission numbers corresponding to the submission numbers in the table of submitters provided at the end of this analysis document. MAF notes that submissions 06 and 18 each have 14 different signatures attached. Duplicate submissions are referred to in the following format: 32/38 and 06/18.

The initial paragraph(s) in italics of each numbered section is a summary of the proposed regulation from the MAF Discussion Paper. For each proposed regulation a summary of submissions on the regulation is followed by a MAF comment that addresses issues raised in the submissions. The MAF comment is followed by a MAF recommendation that, in combination with all the recommendations, formed the basis of MAF's advice to Cabinet on NAIT obligations and exemptions regulations.

2.1 INFORMATION TO REGISTER AS A PICA, OR A PICA DELEGATE

The NAIT Bill requires that a person in charge of NAIT animals must register as a PICA, or be nominated by a PICA to be registered as a PICA Delegate, so they can interact with the NAIT Organisation to enable it to identify and trace live animals from birth to death or live export. NAIT Ltd and MAF support requests from industry to allow information providers to be able to also register people and locations on behalf of a specific PICA or PICA Delegate.

Nine submitters suggested that greater clarity is needed around the roles of the PICA, the PICA Delegate, the farm owner, and the information provider, and the relationships between these. This reflected some confusion as to how the scheme is intended to work, and but also that there is a need for further detail to be provided on areas not covered in the discussion paper.

Specific comments on the role of PICA / PICA Delegate / farm owner:

- The person ‘in day-to-day charge of animals’ may not have reporting obligations under NAIT, i.e. they may not be on the farm. It was noted that those in day-to-day charge may not have the skill sets to meet PICA obligations and this may have employment and cost implications (12, 33).
- Can a PICA Delegate be an information provider (12)?
- Permission of the owner/lessee should be required for a person to register as a PICA (33).
- Ownership details of livestock should be mandatory – these are required for tracking when animals change ownership and for obtaining finance (29).
- It should be enough for a person to declare that they are authorised to register as a PICA Delegate – independent confirmation should not be required.(30)
- Animals are often owned by a legal entity – will NAIT seek information about these as well as PICAs (12)?
- Why does NAIT need the PICA’s date of birth and physical location (12)?
- More information was also sought on the role of information providers.

Other specific comments:

- There is no regulation for registration of accredited providers or PICA for these – standards will need to be developed (20).
- No indication of the costs of using information providers has been given (25).
- The information provider will have a different relationship with NAIT than the PICA / PICA Delegate does – it is not clear which will be NAIT’s main point of contact (12).
- Will NAIT share information with providers for data reconciliation purposes? If so, there may need to be industry standardisation of forms of identification for data matching (12).
- How will the accuracy, consistency of format etc. in the transfer of information from existing industry databases be ensured, and what are the obligations on information providers to meet appropriate standards (25)? What data will NAIT collect? Duplication of Animal Status Declaration (ASD) data should avoided (24).
- As the information provider is a legal entity, not a natural person like a PICA, privacy issues may need to be addressed – it is noted that such issues prevent the Livestock Improvement Corporation (LIC) and the Animal Health Board (AHB) sharing information (12).
- Controls on personal information provided to NAIT need to be explicit, especially where provided by third party information providers (33).

MAF Comment

Roles of PICAs/PICA Delegates/information providers

The roles of PICAs, PICA Delegates and information providers are set out in Part 3 of the NAIT Bill. A person in day-to-day charge of NAIT animals must be registered as a PICA.

Only a natural person is eligible to be registered with the NAIT Organisation as a PICA. If the owner of NAIT animals is the person in charge of the animals, then the owner must be registered as the PICA for the animals. However, the person in charge of animals who must be registered as the PICA will not necessarily be the owner of the animals (e.g. this could be a farm manager managing the animals under an employee arrangement or contract to the owner of the animals), and in such cases the owner of the animals will not be registered with the NAIT Organisation.

Once registered, a PICA may choose to nominate a natural person as a PICA Delegate to be registered to undertake specified procedures and obligations on behalf of the PICA. A PICA will be the key contact for the NAIT Organisation for all matters relating to obligations and regulatory requirements.

The aim of the role of PICA Delegate is to ensure continuity in the absence of the PICA for any reason, and/or to support the on-farm management practices. If the PICA is indisposed or away from their registered location and is unable to meet some or all of their NAIT obligations, they can require their PICA Delegate to undertake specified procedures and obligations until the PICA is able to resume their NAIT responsibilities. A PICA remains responsible for compliance with the provisions of the NAIT Bill in respect of the specified procedures and obligations undertaken by a PICA Delegate on behalf of the PICA.

Information providers

An information provider is an entity (i.e. a natural person or body corporate) that is accredited by the NAIT Organisation to provide information to the NAIT Organisation on behalf of a PICA/PICA Delegate to meet requirements under NAIT legislation.

The criteria for NAIT accreditation as an information provider will be issued by the NAIT Organisation as a standard under NAIT legislation, following consultation with the parties that will be affected by accreditation.

An information provider will not necessarily have direct links to the day-to-day management of a PICA's NAIT animals. An example of an information provider could be a company that is already in the business of providing contracted animal information services to farmers, many of whom will be PICAs. The role of an information provider also allows for the growth of the provision of commercially-driven services by individuals or organisations that see this as a market to be filled.

Some information providers may choose to offer their clients additional services (e.g. by offering NAIT device reading and/or NAIT device fitting services) that are separate from the service of information provision to the NAIT Organisation that will be required to be delivered under the terms of NAIT accreditation.

Subject to the requirements for accreditation as an information provider, it may be possible for a PICA or a PICA Delegate to achieve accreditation as an information provider and put their information provision skills and resources to work servicing the needs of other PICAs/PICA Delegates.

Rules for secure access to, use, and disclosure of personal or commercially-sensitive information held on the NAIT information system

The rules for access to, use, and disclosure of personal or commercially-sensitive information held on the NAIT information system will be communicated to, and made readily accessible for, all persons with NAIT-authorized secure access to the NAIT information system. This will include the rules being displayed on the NAIT website, and communicated by the NAIT Contact Centre and via NAIT Organisation publications. A person registering with the NAIT Organisation as a PICA or PICA Delegate must confirm that she or he will comply with the rules. Likewise, personnel of the NAIT Organisation, MAF, and information providers who have been granted NAIT-authorized secure access to the NAIT information system must confirm that they will comply with the rules. The rules will also apply to data reconciliation processes between the NAIT information system and PICAs, PICA Delegates, and information providers.

Part 3 of the NAIT Bill sets out the key obligations of PICAs, and Part 7 of Schedule 1A sets out offences and associated penalties that apply to breaches of the obligations. Penalties will apply to persons convicted of knowingly accessing, using, or disclosing information held on the NAIT information system that is personal information or commercially sensitive information, in contravention of the provisions of the NAIT Act (when passed) and rules of the NAIT information system for secure access to, use, and disclosure of personal information or commercially sensitive information.

If a PICA or PICA Delegate contracts an information provider to register the PICA or PICA Delegate with the NAIT Organisation, the NAIT compliance and enforcement procedures will require the contract to be retained for at least three years after its termination and made available to MAF or the NAIT Organisation on request.

Confirming the identity of a PICA or PICA Delegate

A PICA or PICA Delegate must provide their date of birth to complete their registration with the NAIT Organisation. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that any NAIT compliance and enforcement matters are applied to the correct person. A birth date is commonly used on other similar systems for the purpose of verification, based on the high unlikelihood that two people with the same legal name will also share the same birth date.

MAF Recommendation

NAIT regulation 2.1 will require every person seeking authorisation from the NAIT Organisation for secure access to the NAIT information system (including PICAs, PICA Delegates, and personnel of the NAIT Organisation, MAF, and information providers) to confirm, when they first establish secure access to the NAIT information system, that they:

- a) understand and agree to comply with all their statutory NAIT obligations and regulatory requirements; and
- b) understand and agree to comply with the rules for access to, use and disclosure of information held on the NAIT information system that is personal information (within the meaning of the Privacy Act 1993) or commercially sensitive information (within the meaning of the Official Information Act 1982).

A person can register as a PICA or PICA Delegate by either logging-on to the secure interface of the NAIT website or by phoning the NAIT Contact Centre, subject to the relevant security protocols. Alternatively, a PICA or PICA Delegate can contract an information provider to

register them on their behalf, subject to additional requirements the information provider must incorporate in their contractual agreement with the PICA or PICA Delegate regarding permission to pass on the personal information required for registration and the retention of records.

The following personal information and confirmations must be provided by a person applying to register with the NAIT Organisation as a PICA or PICA Delegate:

Personal Information:

- Full legal name;
- date of birth;
- personal address details (the PICA's or PICA Delegate's physical address, and postal address if different from their physical address, plus current email address if applicable); and
- preferred method of being contacted - must be current email address if applicable, plus one or more of the following contact details if applicable: home/business phone number, mobile phone number, or fax number).

Confirmations:

1. Confirmation that he or she is authorised¹ to register as the PICA or PICA Delegate for one or more NAIT locations; and
2. Confirmation that, once registered as the PICA or PICA Delegate, he or she:
 - understands and agrees to comply with all his or her statutory NAIT obligations and regulatory requirements; and
 - understands and agrees to comply with the NAIT information system specified rules for access to, use and disclosure of information that is personal information (within the meaning of the Privacy Act 1993) or commercially sensitive information (within the meaning of the Official Information Act 1982).

Registration of a PICA under regulation 2.1 cannot be completed until, during the same registration session, a NAIT location has also been registered for the PICA under regulation 2.2.

Once a PICA is registered, the NAIT Organisation will allocate the PICA a **NAIT number** generated by the NAIT information system that links the PICA to the location they have been registered as the PICA for. From then on, the PICA will be able to use their **NAIT number** for all their interactions with the NAIT information system.

Likewise, once a PICA Delegate is registered for the PICA, the NAIT Organisation will allocate the PICA Delegate a **NAIT number** generated by the NAIT information system that links the PICA Delegate to the PICA and to the PICA's location. From then on, the PICA Delegate will be able to use their **NAIT number** for all their interactions with the NAIT information system.

If a PICA or PICA Delegate has not been allocated their **NAIT number** at the completion of their registration session, then they, or an information provider on their behalf, can request their **NAIT number** by accessing the NAIT information system or by phoning the NAIT Contact Centre, subject to the relevant security protocols.

¹ Confirmation of authorisation means that the person registering as the PICA, other than as a PICA for an accredited entity, must confirm that they are the owner/lessee of the animals or, if not, must confirm that they have the permission of the owner/lessee of the animals to be the PICA. A PICA for an accredited entity must confirm that they have the permission of the entity's management to be the PICA.

2.2 INFORMATION TO REGISTER A NAIT LOCATION

Properties will need to be registered and assigned a unique NAIT identifier for use when they interact with the NAIT Organisation. The MAF FarmsOnLine property register will be used to obtain a property identifier. Persons with obligations under NAIT to register properties will log onto a web-based NAIT information system, verify data on the NAIT register, add some new information relevant to NAIT, and obtain their property identification number.

The NAIT Bill (clause 29(3)(b)) also requires the organiser of an event involving NAIT animals (e.g. an agricultural show or rodeo, although some exceptions are set out under regulation 3.5) and the owner of a transit stop to register the location of the event/transit stop as a NAIT location.

Two submitters indicated agreement, while five proposed that the required information to register a NAIT location is too broad.

Specific comments:

- There may be a need to allow for NAIT locations to have more than one PICA (e.g. for deer and cattle in the same location). This also applies to accredited entities dealing with NAIT animals (20, 22).
- Game estates and safari parks should not have to register as a NAIT location as they have separate status under AHB legislation, killed game is treated and exported like feral game not slaughtered farmed game, ear tags are not desirable for game animals, and most animals are disposed of by hunting or being shot (32/38).
- *Type of NAIT location* should include category for home-kill processors who transport animals to specific sites for slaughter – this movement must be registered (22).
- *Type of production* should not be included, as productivity information is not related to animal ID and tracing, i.e. it was submitted that the purposes of the Bill are too broad (33).
- Only the first three *categories of location* are required (NAIT location address, FOL property number and AHB herd number) – this would be consistent with AHB legal requirements for registering cattle/deer locations (25).
- LIC/CRV Ambreed codes and dairy supply numbers apply only to a subset of cattle herds and are primarily associated with a person not a place – they are also voluntary industry systems mostly used by dairy (25).
- Location should be either NAIT location address (a road as a minimum) or FOL property ID number – the other categories do not always link with a property (12).
- Information should be required on ‘at least one of’ (not ‘one of’) the five categories of location, to encourage provision of as much optional information as possible for data verification purposes (20).

MAF Comment

Relationship between PICAs and NAIT locations

A PICA can be registered for more than one NAIT location, and a PICA Delegate can be nominated by, and be registered for, more than one PICA. Generally, a single PICA will be registered for each NAIT location. However there will be exceptions, for example:

- entities dealing with NAIT animals², such as livestock companies operating at saleyards and meat processors, may have more than one PICA;
- at each NAIT location (with the exception of NAIT locations for events such as agricultural shows and rodeos, and transit stop NAIT locations owned by transport operators) there must be a PICA registered for each species or sub-group of species of NAIT animals at the location (although a person can register as the PICA for more than one species or sub-group of species of NAIT animals); and
- under the definition of a NAIT location in Part 1 clause 5 of the NAIT Bill, a single rating unit, referred to as a land block for the purposes of the NAIT scheme, is the smallest unit of land that can comprise a NAIT location. However, some intensively farmed land may enable two or more PICAs to be registered for the same location comprised of a single land block, provided that their NAIT animals are kept separate (for example two or more sharemilkers' herds kept separate on a land block partitioned for the purposes of the sharemilking operations).

Information to register a NAIT location

If a PICA is able to provide more than one category of NAIT location information when registering the location, in order to complete their PICA registration, this may make it easier to identify the location on the NAIT information system (i.e. a single category of location information may be insufficient to identify the location). The provision of more than one category of location information may avoid or reduce the costs of information reconciliation necessary to identify the location conclusively.

A PICA must provide the type of land-use production when registering a location. This dataset requirement derives from Part 4 of the Bill that enables the NAIT information system to hold core data for purposes beyond that required to comply with NAIT obligations, thereby providing NAIT scheme with flexibility to meet New Zealand's changing needs for information. The 'production-type' dataset was specifically requested by the NAIT industry parties in developing this policy.

Zoos, safari parks, and game estates

All locations where NAIT animals are kept or held must be registered with the NAIT Organisation as NAIT locations, unless exempted. In order for a person to complete registration as a PICA for NAIT animals kept at a zoo, safari park, or game estate, they must also register the zoo, safari park, or game estate as a NAIT location. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure that, in the event of a biosecurity response, all locations where NAIT animals are kept in a particular area or region can be identified and included in the response action as necessary. MAF considers that the requirement for PICAs to be registered for zoos, safari parks does not impose an unnecessary compliance cost.

² For the purposes of the NAIT scheme, an entity dealing with NAIT animals is defined as an individual or organisation that trades or processes NAIT animals.

MAF Recommendation

- Registration of a PICA under regulation 2.1 cannot be completed until, during the same registration session, a NAIT location has also been registered for the PICA under regulation 2.2.
- When registering a NAIT location, an amendment to the requirements under regulation 2.2 is that a PICA must provide at least one and preferably all of the following four categories of location information:
 - NAIT location address, that as a minimum must specify a road;
 - FarmsOnLine³ property identification number;
 - Animal Health Board herd number or Livestock Improvement Association/ CRV AmBreed participant code; and
 - dairy supply number (if applicable).

A PICA can be registered for more than one NAIT location, and a PICA Delegate can be nominated by, and be registered for, more than one PICA. Generally, a single PICA will be registered for each NAIT location. However there will be exceptions, for example:

- entities dealing with NAIT animals, such as livestock companies operating at saleyards and meat processors, may have more than one PICA;
- at each NAIT location (with the exception of event NAIT locations for agricultural shows and rodeos, and transit stop NAIT locations owned by transport operators) there must be a PICA registered for each species or sub-group of species of NAIT animals at the location - however a person can register as the PICA for more than one species or sub-group of species of NAIT animals (as per Schedule 1 of the NAIT Bill) at a NAIT location; and
- some intensively farmed land may enable two or more PICAs to be registered for the same location that is comprised of a single rating unit, provided that their NAIT animals are kept separate (for example two or more sharemilkers' herds).

³ FarmsOnLine is a government-owned database that brings together existing information about the ownership and management of all rural properties, land use, stock and crops. It will provide a hub for rural information that is vital in a disease outbreak like foot-and-mouth disease or rural emergencies like floods. Improving the response times in such events will significantly reduce losses to farmers and the New Zealand economy.

2.3 DEFINING A NAIT LOCATION

This regulation proposes that in defining a NAIT location where blocks of land are not contiguous, a scoping circle of a fixed 10 kilometre radius (i.e. 20 kilometre diameter) be used to define blocks of land that fall within a single NAIT location.

There was overall support for the proposed 10km radius / 20km diameter scoping circle from the eight submitters who commented on this regulation, with some qualifications.

While no submitters opposed the regulation, some noted that a larger circle may be needed in particular geographical locations. One proposed a 25 km radius exemption for West Coast farms where run-offs⁴ are further away as farms are generally down long drawn out river valleys (27). Another pointed out that there is a trend for upland country deer farms to become the breeding units with separate smaller finishing blocks under common management, and that a 20 km radius might give greater autonomy (32/38).

The AHB (25) pointed out that the radius should not cross the boundary of any declared bovine tuberculosis (Tb) Movement Control Area, and preferably should not cross the boundary of any disease management area.

MAF Comment

Size of scoping circle for determining a NAIT location

Overall support for the 10 km-radius scoping circle definition of a NAIT location shows that the regulation has been pitched at a generally acceptable level, balancing biosecurity risk-management needs with livestock management practicalities. The main purpose for a scoping circle definition of a NAIT location is to accommodate situations where the land blocks (i.e. rating units) being farmed by a PICA are not all adjoining⁵ (e.g. such as where a nearby ‘run-off’ is owned or leased by the PICA). When two or more non-adjoining land blocks being farmed by a PICA fit within, or straddle, a scoping circle of radius 10 km, then those blocks will be registered as the PICA’s location and the PICA will not have to declare to the NAIT Organisation any movements of NAIT animals between those blocks.

When all the land blocks being farmed by a PICA are adjoining then the only constraint on the total area of connected land blocks that a PICA can register as a single NAIT location will be the area over which the PICA has the capacity to be in day-to-day charge of NAIT animals. For some large farming operations with NAIT animals, adjoining land blocks or a very large single land block may, for practical farm management purposes, be segmented into two or more NAIT locations each with respective PICAs.

Despite a wide range of geographical variations in the configuration of land blocks making up NAIT locations (e.g. NAIT locations in long drawn-out river valleys), by far the majority of locations with cattle and deer will be accommodated by the NAIT location definition under regulation 2.3. Even if the configuration of two or more land blocks where a PICA’s animals are kept means that the blocks cannot be registered as a single NAIT location, the number of additional animal movement declarations this would involve would be expected to be manageable.

⁴ A run-off is a block(s) of land used for the temporary grazing of animals that is often leased and is generally not adjoining to the primary block of the NAIT location.

⁵ Another term for adjoining is contiguous, and another term for non-adjoining is non-contiguous.

Relationship between NAIT locations and AHB Movement Control Areas

NAIT legislative and regulatory requirements do not override rules set out around animal movements in other legislation such as the Biosecurity Act 1993. A single NAIT location may cross the boundary of a Movement Control Area declared by the AHB. In such a situation, a PICA moving animals from within the Movement Control Area to another part of the same NAIT location outside the Movement Control Area will only need to report the movement to the AHB. The NAIT Organisation does not need to be informed of such a movement if the animals stay within the same NAIT location. However, animals moving from within a Movement Control Area to a different NAIT location outside the Movement Control Area will be subject to the animal movement declaration requirements of NAIT regulation 2.5, in addition to needing to report the movement to the AHB.

MAF Recommendation

Regulation 2.3 to remain unchanged.

2.4 INFORMATION TO REGISTER NAIT ANIMALS

The information required to register a NAIT animal will include the information on the NAIT device fitted to the animal (i.e. RFID number) and other identifying details, and the animal must be registered within the time required under regulation 2.9.

A PICA importing NAIT animals must: arrange to have a NAIT device fitted to the animal prior to its departure from the overseas country it is to be imported from, register the animal within the time required under regulation 2.9, plus specify that overseas country and if the animal was not born in that country, then specify the country of birth of the animal.

A large number of comments were made on the information proposed to register a NAIT animal (ten industry organisations and two farmers). It was submitted that some of the required information may not be known, may be unnecessary or irrelevant, or needs to be qualified. A couple of suggestions were made about the need for additional requirements for information provision e.g. for hormonal growth promotant (HGP) information.

PICAs importing NAIT animals must arrange to have a NAIT device fitted to an animal prior to its departure from the overseas country it is to be imported from, register the animal within the time required (2.9) and provide additional information about the country the animal was exported from and the country of birth of the animal.

Specific comments:

- Much of the required data will not be known early in the scheme (20, 22, 28).
- The animal's location of birth may be unknown at registration (20, 22, 31). This could be addressed by replacing 'NAIT location of animal's birth' with 'NAIT location of animal' - which will be the 'birth' location for animals that are registered for the first time (20 22).
- Farm/location of birth versus NAIT location is confusing and needs to be defined (12).
- The month of birth may not be known, e.g. for older animals, or if the tag has been lost, and is not currently recorded for deer (12, 20). One submitter suggested that the month of birth was unnecessary (37). Another suggested the requirement be amended to 'animal's month and year of birth (if these can be verified)' (20).
- Animals are unlikely to have both AHB and LIC/CRV scheme numbers – only one should be required (12, 31).
- Beef cattle may not belong to LIC/CRV schemes – the requirement for PICAs to provide these scheme numbers could be amended by adding 'if applicable' (20).
- The AHB number may not be known (22). If registering because tag is lost etc. PICAs need to be able to identify that AHB herd number is not AHB birth number (20).
- The key requirement should be to link visual tags (AHB/LIC/CRV) with NAIT tag (12).
- An additional requirement is suggested to provide 'any information that can be validated that can link the animal to previous NAIT identifiers/PICAs' locations (20).
- The dairy supply number has no relevance to recording animals (12).
- Animal type and NAIT number should be the only mandatory data (28).
- AHB herd number, as sole herd identifier, should be the only number used (25).
- HGP, Tb status, and/or animals that have restricted market access (e.g. involved in research trials) should also be recorded at registration (06/18, 20, 22), as the purpose of the Bill is to support market assurances (20).
- It is impractical to register imported animals before arrival – the requirement should be to uniquely identify the animal (with NAIT tag, if possible) or at least tag and register at the MAF quarantine facility on arrival in New Zealand (28).

- Clarity is needed on the ‘specified time period’ for fitting tags - this should not be restrictive as farmers may want to stockpile tags (30, 23).
- The costs/difficulties of complying with animal registration requirements have been underestimated, especially for farmers with stock from multiple sources (25).
- Further explanation should be provided on the benefits of tagging and registering animals before moving off the farm – this is a key difference from Australian NLIS scheme, and additional costs borne by producers (26).
- A voluntary annual reconciliation for deer on safari parks/game estates is proposed owing to factors unique to these locations (noted in 2.2).

MAF Comment

Registering animals with the NAIT Organisation

NAIT animal registration requirements, when coupled with animal movement declaration requirements under regulation 2.5, are important for biosecurity incursion response purposes by providing a capability for:

- forward/future traceability for fast-moving animal diseases (e.g. foot-and-mouth disease); and
- backward/historical traceability for slow-incubation animal diseases (e.g. bovine spongiform encephalopathy - BSE).

The NAIT device for cattle and deer is a low-frequency radio frequency identification (RFID) ear tag that the tag manufacturer/supplier must ensure complies with a standard issued by the NAIT Organisation. A PICA can register a NAIT animal they have fitted a NAIT device to by logging-on to the secure interface of the NAIT website or by phoning the NAIT Contact Centre, subject to the relevant security protocols. Alternatively, a PICA can contract an information provider to register a NAIT animal on the PICA’s behalf.

Information already provided by a person registering as a PICA under regulation 2.1 will not need to be duplicated when the PICA registers a NAIT animal under regulation 2.4. This is because the NAIT information system generates a **NAIT number** at the time of PICA registration that uniquely identifies the PICA with respect to their registered location. When a PICA registers a NAIT animal, the NAIT information system links the animal’s details to the PICA’s **NAIT number**.

Once a NAIT animal at a NAIT location has been fitted with a NAIT device under regulation 2.10, the animal must be registered with the NAIT Organisation within the maximum time allowed under regulation 2.9 (i.e. within one week following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to the animal, or before the animal is moved from the location, whichever is sooner). For a live NAIT animal born on or after the date that the fitting of NAIT devices in under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory, the animal’s NAIT location of birth will be the registered location of the PICA for the animal, and the month and year of birth will be known to the PICA. Otherwise, for a live NAIT animal born before the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory, the animal’s NAIT location of birth will only be required to be provided by the PICA if it is known.

Imported animals

Regulation 2.4 requires that when an animal that is to be imported into New Zealand the importing PICA must arrange to have a NAIT device fitted to the animal prior to its departure from the overseas country it is to be imported from. After having a NAIT device fitted to the animal, the importing PICA must register the animal with the NAIT Organisation within the maximum time allowed under regulation 2.9 (i.e. in the context of an imported animal that

time will be: within one week following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to the animal, or before the animal is moved from the overseas country it is to be imported from). Note that the importing PICA must also comply with other related regulations made under other Acts, such as the Biosecurity Act and the Animal Products Act 1999.

Exemption for animals impractical to tag

A PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation, under regulation 3.2, for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an authorisation in writing that the PICA **not** be required to fit a NAIT device to a NAIT animal when the PICA considers that it would be impractical to do so (e.g. an animal may be considered to be too dangerous).

MAF Recommendation

- When a PICA has fitted a NAIT device to a NAIT animal, she or he must register the animal with the NAIT Organisation within the time specified under regulation 2.9 by providing or confirming the following information:
 - a) **either**:
 - provide the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device;
 - or**
 - confirm the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device by locating the information held in the NAIT information system about the device and the person who ordered it (i.e. this information must be provided to the NAIT Organisation by the manufacturer/supplier/importer of the device);
 - b) provide the animal species or sub-group of species that the animal is a member of (as per Schedule 1 of the NAIT Bill);
 - c) provide the year and month of birth for an animal that was born at the PICA's location on or after the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory; and
 - d) provide the year and month of birth (if known) for an animal already present at the location on the day that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory.

Once a NAIT animal has been fitted with a NAIT device under regulation 2.10, the animal must be registered with the NAIT Organisation within the maximum time allowed under regulation 2.9 (i.e. within one week following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to the animal, or before the animal is moved from the location, whichever is sooner).

2.5 INFORMATION TO DECLARE AN ANIMAL MOVEMENT

Both the sending PICA and the receiving PICA must declare the movement of the animal to the NAIT Organisation, so that the movement can be verified through data reconciliation. The minimum information requirements will be: the sending/receiving PICA's NAIT number, the RFID identifier of each animal being moved, and the start date (when sending) or end date (when receiving) of the movement.

Nine submitters made suggestions (two of whom were farmers). Greater clarity was needed about the process proposed for animal movements.

Specific comments:

- The second bullet point under b) makes it sound as though details are optional, e.g. it does not provide confirmation of where the animal came from (09/18, 20,12 22) – especially if the PICA is registered for two NAIT locations (20).
- It is suggested that an accurate PICA and NAIT location identifier should be specifically required and that there should be a requirement for the sending party to provide the receiving party with an accurate NAIT location identifier (26).
- The sending PICA should provide the same information to the receiving PICA that they provide to NAIT (26).
- It was suggested that the ASD and regulation requirements should be aligned (20) - the meat processor should not need to interrogate the NAIT information system for information to complete animal movements if the system already has the information (20). NAIT and PICA details are needed by the ASD to support confirmation on arrival at the plant (22).
- It was queried whether information would be provided electronically and whether this was reasonable (25).
- It was noted that it can be common practice for farmers to sell stock to a third party (who on-sells them), with the destination farm unknown to the farmer who sold them - under NAIT many farmers risk being exposed to non-compliance/penalty provisions (33).

MAF Comment

Electronic information systems

A key design principal of the NAIT scheme is for it to be paperless in terms of data provision requirements for participants, as electronic information systems are faster and more efficient with reduced data error rates and increased data reliability. Therefore a process with paper-based requirements should only be considered a transitional or validation supporting process under the NAIT scheme, unless there is a very good reason for the ongoing use of such a process.

Accredited entities dealing with NAIT animals

The criteria for NAIT accreditation of an entity dealing with NAIT animals will be issued by the NAIT Organisation as a standard under NAIT legislation, following consultation with the parties that will be affected by accreditation. The two main types of accredited entities dealing with NAIT animals will be livestock companies operating at saleyards and meat processors.

Declaring an animal movement

Under regulation 3.3, a PICA who sends an animal to a PICA for an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals (e.g. a NAIT-accredited meat processor or a livestock company operating

at a saleyard) will be exempt from having to declare that movement to the NAIT Organisation. However, the exemption under regulation 3.3 will not apply when a PICA for an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals sends an animal to another accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals.

For an animal movement between two PICAs who are not PICAs for accredited entities dealing with NAIT animals, then both the sending and receiving PICAs must each provide an animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation, with the allowance that the receiving PICA's animal movement declaration may, as a minimum simply confirm the sending PICA's animal movement declaration.

Requirements for on-sold NAIT animals when destination unknown to original seller

A gap in end-to-end animal traceability has been identified in the NAIT regulatory design, in terms of the current practice for some PICAs who sell stock to a third-party livestock trader who then on-sells the animals, with the result that the final destination of the animals is unknown to the PICA who sold them to the livestock trader.

The activity of a livestock trader buying NAIT animals at the 'farm gate' and on-selling them poses a potential biosecurity risk, as the animals are moved by the livestock trader between different NAIT locations. However, if a PICA who sells a NAIT animal to a livestock trader at the 'farm gate' does not know the final destination the animal is moved to, the PICA cannot fully comply with the requirements under regulations 2.5 and 2.9 to provide an animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation.

MAF explored the option of creating a special status of a mobile livestock trader being able to register as a PICA without having a registered NAIT location. However, implementing this option could lead to an increase in the activity of buying and on-selling NAIT animals without improving animal traceability. To remedy this gap in traceability, a livestock trader who engages in buying NAIT animals at the 'farm gate' and on-selling them must:

- be a PICA for a NAIT location that is not a saleyard; and
- be an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals whereby the livestock-trader PICA must provide an animal movement declaration for an animal he or she buys at the 'farm gate', and a PICA for an animal sold in this way at the 'farm gate' will be exempt, under regulation 3.3, from making an animal movement declaration.

MAF Recommendation

- **A sending PICA** for a NAIT animal must make an animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation by providing the following information during an interaction session with the NAIT information system or the NAIT Contact Centre:
 - (a) the date of commencing the movement of the animal;
 - (b) the sending PICA's own **NAIT number**⁶;
 - (c) the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device fitted to the animal;
 - (d) the **NAIT number** of the receiving PICA (if known), or at least one and preferably all of the following four categories of location information specific to the receiving PICA, to enable to NAIT information system to identify the receiving PICA's **NAIT number**:
 - NAIT location address, that as a minimum must specify a road;
 - FarmsOnLine property identification number;

⁶ A PICA's own **NAIT number** can be accessed by a PICA, or by an information provider on the PICA's behalf, by accessing the NAIT information system or by phoning the NAIT Contact Centre, subject to the relevant security protocols.

- Animal Health Board herd number or Livestock Improvement Association/ CRV AmBreed participant code;
- dairy supply number (if applicable).

If, during the interaction session, the NAIT information system or the NAIT Contact Centre is unable to identify and provide to the sending PICA the receiving PICA's **NAIT number**, or if the receiving PICA has not yet been registered, then the sending PICA must complete the animal movement declaration with at least one and preferably all of the above four categories of location information specific to the receiving PICA.

- **A receiving PICA** for a NAIT animal (other than a PICA for an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals) must make an animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation by providing the following information during an interaction session with the NAIT information system or the NAIT Contact Centre, that **either**:

- as a minimum requirement takes the form of a confirmation of the sending PICA's animal movement declaration combined with the information specified in (a) and (b) below;

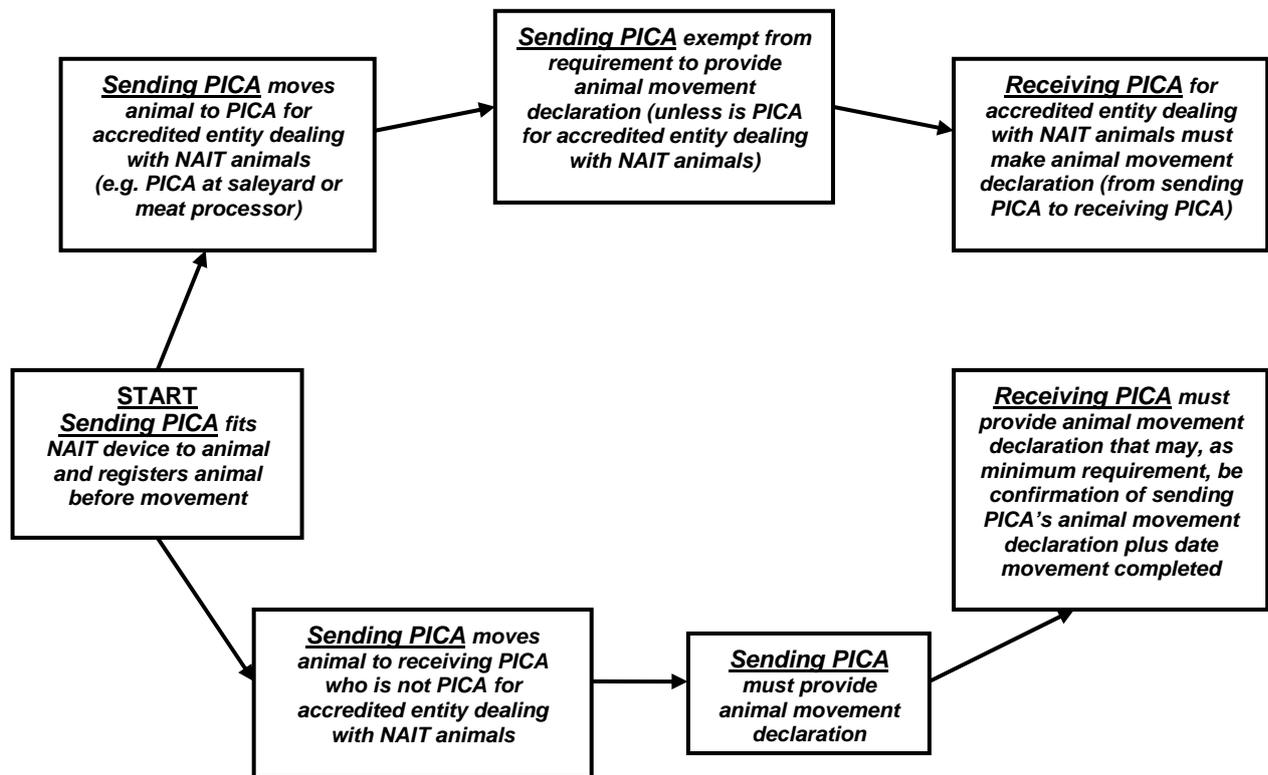
or

- provides the information specified in (a), (b), (c) and (d) below:

- (a) the receiving PICA's own **NAIT number**;
- (b) the date of completing the movement of the animal;
- (c) the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device fitted to the animal;
- (d) the **NAIT number** (if known) of the sending PICA, or at least one and preferably all of the following four categories of location information specific to the sending PICA, to enable to NAIT information system to correctly identify the sending PICA's **NAIT number**:
 - NAIT location address, that as a minimum must specify a road;
 - FarmsOnLine property identification number;
 - Animal Health Board herd number or Livestock Improvement Association/ CRV AmBreed participant code;
 - dairy supply number (if applicable).

If, during the interaction session, the NAIT information system or the NAIT Contact Centre is unable to identify and provide to the receiving PICA the sending PICA's **NAIT number**, then the receiving PICA must complete the animal movement declaration with at least one and preferably all of the above four categories of location information specific to the sending PICA.

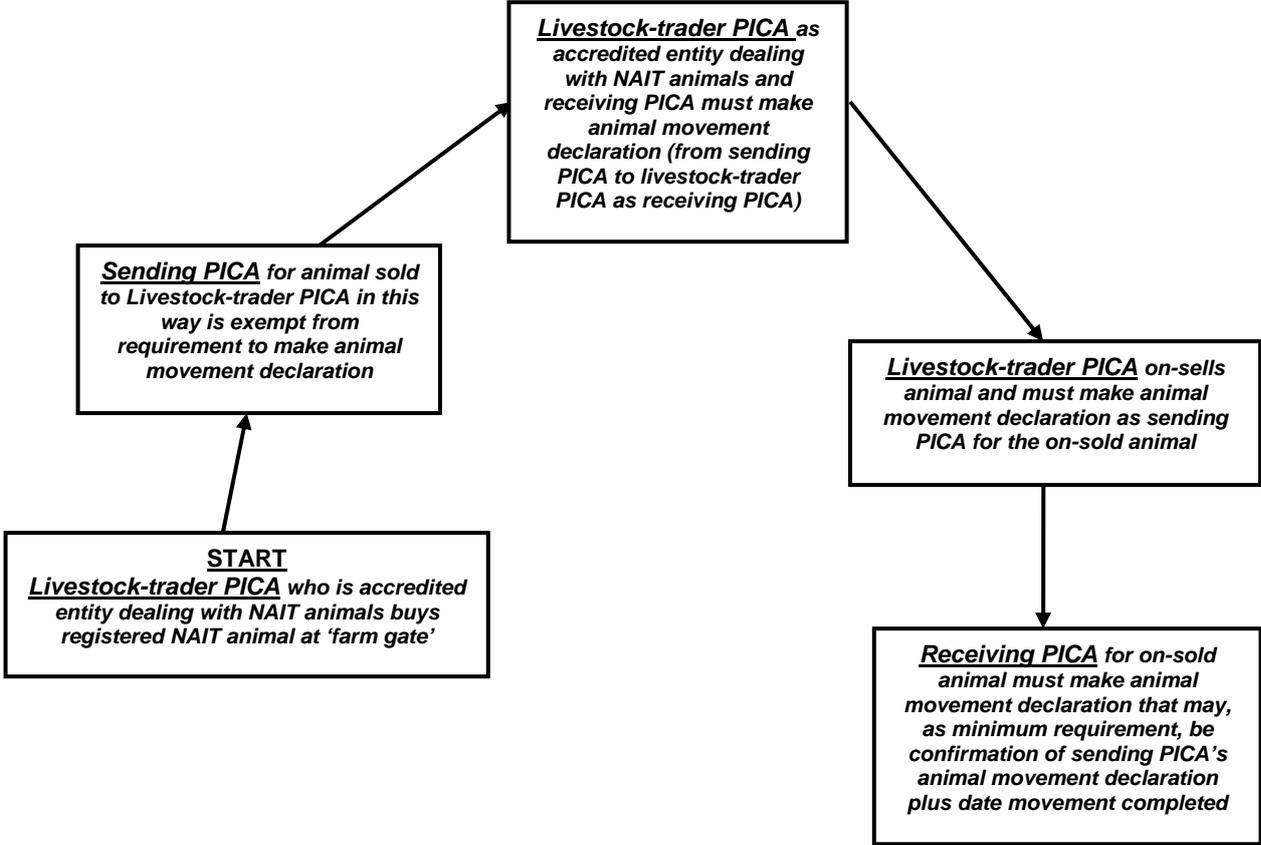
Flow-diagram showing PICA requirements for animal movement declarations



- A livestock trader who engages in buying and on-selling NAIT animals at the ‘farm gate’ must:
 - be a PICA for a NAIT location that is not a saleyard; and in that capacity
 - be an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals whereby the livestock-trader PICA must make an animal movement declaration for an animal he or she buys at the ‘farm gate’ so that the PICA for the NAIT location the animal is bought from in this way will be exempt, under regulation 3.3, from making an animal movement declaration.

Once the livestock-trader PICA has on-sold a NAIT animal bought in this way and has moved it to the NAIT location of a receiving PICA, the livestock-trader PICA and the receiving PICA must each make an animal movement declaration.

Flow-diagram showing PICA requirements for animal movement declarations when NAIT animals are purchased at the 'farm gate'



2.6 INFORMATION TO DECLARE WHEN AN ANIMAL HAS DIED, BECOME LOST OR IS EXPORTED LIVE

PICAs will be required to declare as soon as practicable to the NAIT Organisation if an animal dies, is lost, or is exported live from New Zealand. PICAs will be required to select the relevant category of fate of an animal (slaughter, died, missing, or exported live) and subcategory (e.g. meat processor, home kill, etc.) when making a declaration to the NAIT Organisation.

There was a concern that compliance will be difficult for PICAs with large herds on difficult or extensive terrain (25, 32/38).

It was suggested that taking an inventory of missing animals at mustering would require farmers to contract a RFID reading service, hold readers on site, or manually read the details, and that this would be contrary to the intention for how PICAs could meet requirements under regulation 3.3 for 'one-legged'⁷ animal movement declarations (32/38).

A number of additional fate categories or amendments to proposed categories were suggested as follows:

- Replace 'meat processor – *for pet food*' with '*for animal consumption*' consistent with NZSFA regulations (20).
- Replace 'meat processor – *for pet food*' with '*not for human consumption*' and add category '*meat processor – not for human or animal consumption*' for products not for consumption at all (28).
- Change '*disposed*' to '*died*' as the animal may be disposed of elsewhere (28).
- Information should include a kill date and identifying information about the animal (28).
- The regulation needs to clarify the requirement in the Bill to declare if an animal dies is lost or is exported live '*as soon as practicable*' (33).
- Add a category '*Home Kill – for personal consumption*' – it is suggested that even if the practice is illegal the end destination needs to be stated (22).
- Add a category for animals slaughtered as a result of biosecurity incursion (28).
- Add a category: '*relocated to NAIT location - safari or game park export from NAIT registered deer farm for trophy shooting/hunting*' (32/38).
- There needs to be provision for lost or unreadable tags in this regulation (37).

⁷ 'One-legged' is a term used to describe a movement of a NAIT animal to an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals. In this context, an animal movement declaration is only required to be provided by the receiving PICA for the entity, and the sending PICA will be exempt, under regulation 3.3, from making an animal movement declaration.

MAF Comment

Amendments to the wording of particular fate categories will provide greater clarity so that:

Category: Meat processor – for pet food

becomes:

- Meat processor – not for human consumption

Category: Home kill

becomes:

- Home kill – for personal consumption only

The time-frame ‘as soon as practicable’ will be clarified by aligning it with the time-frames required under regulation 2.9 as follows:

- Maximum time allowed for a PICA to comply with regulation 2.6:
Within 48 hours following midnight on:
 - the day the animal was exported live, slaughtered, or first known to have died; or
 - the day the animal was first known to be missing (note that an animal may not have become known to be missing until a periodic mustering of animals under conventional farm management practices).

The PICA for a slaughtered/dead NAIT animal must provide the NAIT Organisation with the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device fitted to the animal, unless the device was missing from the animal at the time of slaughter/death and the information about the missing device cannot be traced.

The NAIT device information may be captured by using an RFID reader if one is available.

If a NAIT device is removed from a slaughtered/dead animal, the device **must not** be re-fitted to a live NAIT animal.

MAF Recommendation

- Information required to be declared about an animal's fate will be as follows:

	Fate category (specify one)	Date fate category known	NAIT Device Details
Slaughter	Meat processor – for human consumption ⁸		
	Meat processor – not for human consumption		
	Home kill - for personal consumption only ⁹		
	Animal carcass to animal rendering facility		
	Animal carcass disposed at NAIT location		
Died (non-slaughter)	Animal carcass to animal rendering facility		
	Animal carcass disposed at NAIT location		
Missing	Missing		
Exported live	Animal exit declaration at transitional facility		

- Maximum time allowed for a PICA to comply with regulation 2.6:

Within 48 hours following midnight on:

- the day the animal was exported live, slaughtered, or first known to have died; or
- the day the animal was first known to be missing (note that an animal may not have become known to be missing until a periodic mustering of animals under conventional farm management practices).

The PICA must provide the NAIT Organisation with the birth-ID number or RFID number of the NAIT device fitted to the slaughtered/dead animal, unless the device was missing from the animal at the time of slaughter/death.

⁸ A licensed professional hunter at a game estate may select this option.

⁹ A recreational hunter at a game estate may select this option.

2.7 INFORMATION FROM ADMINISTRATORS OF OTHER ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION SCHEMES

The NAIT Bill allows administrators of other animal identification schemes approved by the NAIT scheme to link their data to the NAIT scheme if they so choose.

The NAIT Organisation must approve these schemes to make sure the identification devices used by other schemes do not cause confusion with the NAIT scheme.

This regulation requires an administrator of an animal identification scheme approved by the NAIT Organisation to ensure that any data collected by that scheme that is relevant to the NAIT scheme must be provided to the NAIT Organisation (e.g. information that provides a direct link between the NAIT device fitted to the animal and another official identification device fitted to the animal).

There were only a few comments on this proposal.

It is suggested that the obligations on administrators of other identification (ID) schemes need to be more specific (25). It is proposed that approved scheme providers should only share NAIT and lifetime IDs, and approved ID tags should be separated from management tags (12). One submitter suggested that third party organisations should be charged to access NAIT data (11).

A query was made about the future of other animal ID schemes and it was suggested that there should be a single animal ID scheme (e.g. NAIT), at least for NAIT animals, as multiple systems lead to confusion and unnecessary cost. It was noted that other animal ID schemes do not currently apply to deer farming (32/38).

MAF Comment

Currently, there are no plans for the NAIT scheme to become the only identification scheme for livestock other than cattle or deer.

Comprehensive requirements for the protection of, and access to, NAIT data held in the NAIT information system are provided for in Part 4 of the NAIT Bill.

MAF Recommendation

The administrator of an animal information system approved by the NAIT Organisation must provide to the NAIT Organisation:

- information that provides a direct link between an animal's NAIT device and another official identification device fitted to the animal; and
- information relevant to the data collected by the NAIT Organisation as may be specified by the NAIT Organisation.

2.8 THE MAXIMUM TIME FOR A PICA OR PICA DELEGATE TO UPDATE THEIR DETAILS

It is proposed that any changes in a PICA's or a PICA Delegate's registration details (for example, personal contact details) must be provided to the NAIT Organisation by the PICA or PICA Delegate within one calendar month of the change coming into effect.

The proposed one month timeframe was generally considered reasonable (11, 28, 33, 32/38) although one submission (32/38) suggests that there needs to be provision for inadvertent omissions, e.g. by adding 'without reasonable cause' to the requirement.

One submitter was concerned that the proposed regulation may mean that a location could have no registered PICA for up to a month before the new PICA is required to update their details (12).

Two submitters (12, 31) suggested the deadline for updating PICA details could be aligned with the timeframe for registration and declaration of an animal movement (the timeframe proposed in 2.9 is 48 hours).

MAF Comment

Regulation 2.8 applies to a PICA or PICA Delegate who has not changed their current registered location(s), but some other information they provided when registering has changed in some way. If a PICA or PICA Delegate has changed their current registered location(s) then they must re-register as a PICA or PICA Delegate at the new location(s) subject to the requirements prescribed by regulations 2.1 and 2.2 and within the time-frame prescribed by regulation 2.9.

A breach of regulation 2.8 will be an infringement offence.

MAF Recommendation

- A PICA, or a PICA Delegate of the PICA, who has not changed their current registered location(s) but whose personal information and confirmations that they provided when they registered with the NAIT Organisation under regulation 2.1 have since changed in some way, must supply the changed detail(s) to the NAIT Organisation within one calendar month of the change(s) coming into effect.

2.9 THE MAXIMUM TIME ALLOWED TO REGISTER AS A PICA; OR REGISTER A NAIT ANIMAL; OR DECLARE AN ANIMAL MOVEMENT

The proposed regulation will require the provision of information to the NAIT Organisation:

- *within 48 hours following midnight on the day of a person being or becoming a PICA;*
- *within 48 hours following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to a NAIT animal;*
- *within 48 hours following midnight on the day of commencing a movement of a NAIT animal from a NAIT location.*

Comments focused on the requirements for registration and movement of animals.

There was a general consensus that the 48 hour timeframe was too short and would create compliance issues (07, 11, 12, 23, 25, 28, 33, 32/38), and that NAIT obligations needed to be balanced against the realities of farming practice.

It was noted that a 48 hour timeframe would require NAIT to operate a contact centre over weekends and public holidays (33, 26). A suggestion was made that all the timeframes needed to be the same, as different reporting timeframes for different requirements could create confusion (26).

There was a range of views on what the timeframes should be:

- Three submissions considered that 72 hours was practical and reasonable (26, 31, 32 /38). It was pointed out that a longer timeframe could send the wrong signals and result in forgetfulness and inaccuracy of data (26). A couple of submitters proposed that non-compliance with a 72 hour timeframe should be an infringement offence (26, 31).
- It was suggested that 92 hours would be needed (or an exemption for isolated properties) as drafting/drenching up to 300 cattle takes at least three days and farmers may not have immediate access to a computer (11).
- One submitter considered that a week is needed to register an animal or declare a movement (07). Another submitter proposed that the timeframe for tagging calves, born on or after the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory, should be seven days if the calves are not being moved from the farm, as farmers will be tagging daily during calving; also registration of the calves within seven days following the device being fitted or before a movement (whichever is sooner) would be preferable (28).
- An exemption of three months was requested for registering newborn animals, unless they leave the PICA's control – with growing DNA techniques farmers are not herd-recording animals and it takes around ten weeks to ascertain parentage (12).
- An exemption from registration is requested for NAIT transition animals¹⁰, which are likely to be mustered and tagged and immediately loaded for transport by the sending PICA, provided that the animals could be nominally registered by the receiving PICA with further details provided to NAIT by the sending PICA) (28).
- There appeared to be a need for clarification of the relationship between the requirements for registration and tagging. One submitter suggested that there should be a time limit for the tagging of animals, as there will be a delay in the processing of information by NAIT if registration is left until the tag is fitted (22). Another believed the regulation would be unenforceable, as NAIT does not know when an animal had been fitted with a tag (25). A

¹⁰ If a NAIT animal is born before the species or sub-group to which it belongs becomes subject to the regulation 2.10 requirement to fit a NAIT device, then the animal will fit the definition of a "transition animal" under Part 1 clause 4 of the NAIT Bill.

suggestion was made that there should be provision for registration before movement, mirroring the tagging requirement (25, 28).

MAF Comment

Although there was a general consensus among submitters that the maximum time allowed to comply under regulation 2.9 would be too short, a longer maximum time would not be compatible with the degree of efficient NAIT information system functionality. Giving effect to the requirements of the NAIT scheme in terms of efficient and effective animal traceability must provide for the balancing of scheme workability with the quality of the information required to be provided (in terms of completeness, accuracy and timeliness) and the overall level of PICA compliance.

A shorter maximum time allowed to comply under regulation 2.9 may not necessarily increase system efficiency. This is because there is a trade-off between enhancing system efficiency and prescribing a maximum time allowed for obligated information provision to the NAIT Organisation that would be realistic for PICAs, PICA Delegates and information providers under conventional farm management practices.

A longer maximum time allowed to comply under regulation 2.9 would decrease system efficiency by lengthening the time that the NAIT information system would require to reconcile any disparities in the information and validate and store the information. However, if an animal has just had a NAIT device fitted but the animal is not about to be moved from a location, a pragmatic compromise for a longer maximum time is proposed for the following specific context, given that it would not unduly compromise system efficiency:

Maximum time for declaring a movement of a NAIT animal:

Within 48 hours following midnight on the day of commencing/completing a movement of a NAIT animal from/to a NAIT location.

Under conventional farm management practices, particularly at a time of high labour input (e.g. during a calving period), a PICA's or PICA Delegate's available time to provide information to the NAIT Organisation may be more constrained. Therefore the maximum time allowed to register a NAIT animal after fitting a NAIT device to the animal will be extended to one week following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to the animal, or before the animal is moved from the location, whichever is sooner.

MAF Recommendation

Regulation 2.9 to be amended by;

- Amending the timeframes for registering a NAIT animal:

Maximum time for registering a NAIT animal:

Within one week following midnight on the day of fitting a NAIT device to the animal, or before the animal is moved from the location, whichever is sooner.

- Adding the word completing to the part of the regulation that applies to declaring a movement of a NAIT animal, as follows:

Maximum time for declaring a movement of a NAIT animal:

Within 48 hours following midnight on the day of commencing/completing a movement of a NAIT animal from/to a NAIT location.

2.10 THE MAXIMUM TIME TO FIT A NAIT DEVICE

This regulation requires a NAIT device to be fitted to each live animal born at a NAIT location either within 180 days of birth or before it is moved to another location, whichever is sooner (bobby calves are exempt under proposed regulations below).

A number of submissions from farmers held that identification of an animal should not be required until the animal is moved from the farm of birth (33, 39). Animal welfare concerns were also cited as a reason for only tagging when absolutely necessary (39).

A submitter suggested that all calves younger than 30 days leaving farms should be exempt from the tagging requirement, as they tend to lose tags (23). The same submitter suggested that direct-to-slaughter animals already have AHB tags and so do not need a NAIT tag.

MAF Comment

Regulation 2.10 is a companion regulation to regulations 2.4 and 2.9 that specify requirements for registering NAIT animals. Regulations 2.10, 2.4 and 2.9 will enable the NAIT information system to become a biosecurity information resource on the overall number and locations of NAIT animals. This information will enable MAF to plan for, and respond more rapidly and effectively to, an animal disease incursion or an animal product contamination event.

Fitting NAIT devices to animals within 180 days of birth will ensure that devices are fitted to animals while they are still young and can be handled safely while keeping animals' stress and discomfort to a minimum.

If a NAIT animal, that was fitted with a NAIT device at its location of birth and has not moved from its location of birth, is later found to not still have the device attached, then the animal must have a new device fitted to replace the previous (i.e. missing) device. The new NAIT device must be fitted and registered before the animal is moved to another location. When registering a new NAIT device under regulations 2.4 and 2.9 the PICA must provide the NAIT Organisation with information to enable the RFID numbers of the previous and new devices to be linked so that lifetime traceability can be restored for the animal.

MAF Recommendation

- If a NAIT animal that was fitted with a NAIT device at its location of birth and has not moved from its location of birth, is later found to not still have the device attached, then the animal must have a new device fitted and registered before the animal is moved to another location.

2.11 REQUIREMENTS FOR MANAGING AN ANIMAL ARRIVING WITH NO NAIT DEVICE

The regulation requires that when a PICA receives a NAIT animal without a device, they inform the NAIT Organisation, and ask the sending PICA to come and fit a new NAIT device or arrange the animal's return to the sending PICA to have a new NAIT device fitted. If the sending PICA does not fit a new NAIT device, the receiving PICA fits one and registers the animal. In either case, if previous registration details for the animal are not able to be confirmed then lifetime traceability will be lost.

If the sending PICA fits the new device they bear the cost of the doing so. If the receiving PICA has to fit the device, they will bear the cost but will have grounds for recovering this cost from the sending PICA.

There were fourteen submissions on this regulation. A number of submitters considered that it was impracticable either for animals to be returned to the sending PICA, or for the receiving PICA (e.g. at a saleyard) to wait for the sending PICA to come and fit a new device (06/18, 12, 13). Others proposed amendments to the regulation or the inclusion of more detailed requirements.

A concern was expressed that the sending of animals without tags should not be incentivised (25, 06/18). Clear and robust processes need to be developed for post-movement tagging (32/38, 28) and these should address health and safety issues (33). Time-frames are required for the refitting of tags by the sending PICA (33).

Proposals were made for fitting new devices under different scenarios, e.g. fitted at a saleyard, meat processor, or receiving farm (28). Clarity is needed around situations when a tag is lost in transit or at the receiving PICA location, or when a NAIT animal is sent untagged (28).

There was an assumption that the receiving PICA would cover the costs of retagging (33, 06/18), and a few noted that the receiving PICA should be able to recover costs (28, 06/18).

It was submitted that there is no point in fitting a new device to an animal going straight to slaughter (20, 23) and that an exemption should be included in the Bill to address this.

An additional regulation was also proposed to deal with situations where an animal arrives with a faulty or unreadable tag. It was noted that this may require an exemption to the requirement in the Bill that tags may only be removed from a live animal by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person (28).

Other comments:

- A query was raised as to whether saleyards are the best place to fit tags.
- It was suggested that saleyards should be able to fit a new tag at a cost of \$25 to the sending PICA, as a means of discouraging PICAs from sending untagged animals and providing the basis for infringement action (06/18).
- It was proposed that the process set out in the discussion document be simplified - i.e. if the sending PICA re-registers the untagged animal there is no need for the receiving PICA to inform NAIT, as re-registration by the sending PICA is sufficient to achieve this. Similarly there is no need for the receiving PICA to request the sending PICA to confirm previous registration. These steps could therefore be removed (20, 22).

MAF Comment

Animals arriving without NAIT devices

Regulation 2.11 is designed to avoid any potential to incentivise non-compliance with regulation 2.10 which specifies the maximum time to fit a NAIT device to an animal, and with regulations 2.4 and 2.9 which specify requirements for registering an animal once it has been fitted with a device.

If a NAIT animal is moved from a sending PICA's location without a NAIT device fitted under regulation 2.10, and/or if the animal is not registered under regulations 2.4 and 2.9, the sending PICA may be charged with an offence(s) under NAIT legislation, unless an exemption applies.

There are potential practical difficulties associated with two of the options proposed in the discussion paper for a receiving PICA when a NAIT animal arrives at the PICA's location without a NAIT device fitted. The option of arranging for the sending PICA to take responsibility for having a NAIT device fitted to the animal at the receiving PICA's location, or the option of arranging to have the animal returned to the sending PICA, may not be compatible with the business operations of the receiving PICA.

The problem created by the arrival of an animal without a NAIT device fitted is not the fault of the receiving PICA. Giving the receiving PICA a choice of response options is therefore considered to be a fair basis for NAIT regulation in this context.

If an animal arrives at a NAIT location without a device fitted and details of a previous, but now missing, NAIT device for the animal can be confirmed by the receiving PICA (e.g. if details of the animal's still-attached secondary device have been linked in the NAIT information system to details of the animal's missing NAIT device, or if the missing device has been recovered), then it may be assumed that the animal's previous NAIT device went missing during the movement to the receiving PICA's location. In this situation, lifetime traceability may be re-established for the animal and penalties for not fitting a NAIT device and/or not registering the animal may not apply in regard to the sending PICA, unless evidence is found that the sending PICA had moved the animal without a device fitted.

If a NAIT animal arrives at a NAIT location (other than a meat processor) without a NAIT device fitted, the receiving PICA for the location may consider that it would be impractical to fit a new device to the animal (on the basis of a risk of injury to the animal and/or the person attempting to fit the device, or that once fitted to the animal the device has a high likelihood of becoming detached). In this situation, the PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation, under regulation 3.2, for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an authorisation in writing that the PICA **not** be required to fit a NAIT device to the animal.

If a NAIT animal arrives at a meat processor's NAIT location without a NAIT device fitted, there is no justification for requiring a new NAIT device to be fitted to the animal prior to its impending slaughter. In this situation, the receiving PICA will be exempt from fitting a new NAIT device and registering the animal. The details of the sending PICA for the animal must be provided to the NAIT Organisation by the receiving PICA for the meat processor to enable follow-up enforcement actions to be undertaken when considered necessary by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person.

Faulty NAIT devices

There is a possibility that the PICA for a location may find that a NAIT device fitted to a live animal is faulty in that it cannot be read by an RFID reader. Although there is no regulatory requirement to remove a faulty NAIT device from an animal, the following requirements will apply to a PICA who wants to have a faulty device removed from an animal so that a new NAIT device can be fitted. In such situations, a PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to remove a faulty NAIT device, or provide an authorisation in writing for the PICA to remove the device. The PICA must immediately replace each removed NAIT device with a new NAIT device.

When registering a new NAIT device under regulations 2.4 and 2.9, the PICA must provide the NAIT Organisation with information to enable the RFID numbers of the previous and new devices to be linked so that lifetime traceability can be restored for the animal.

The replacement of faulty NAIT devices is not expected to be a common occurrence. However, it may be a relatively more common occurrence for a PICA employed by an entity dealing with NAIT animals at a saleyard where timely and reliable RFID information on each animal being traded will be particularly relevant to business operations. In such saleyard situations, a PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an ongoing authorisation in writing to remove faulty NAIT devices from animals and replace them with new NAIT devices, unless the authorisation is revoked.

If a NAIT device is removed from a live NAIT animal, the device **must not** be re-applied to another live NAIT animal.

MAF Recommendation

A receiving PICA must notify the NAIT Organisation each and every time a NAIT animal is received at the PICA's NAIT location without a NAIT device fitted.

If a NAIT animal is received at a PICA's location without a NAIT device fitted, the receiving PICA must choose one of the following two options:

- **Either:** The receiving PICA must fit a NAIT device to the animal within 48 hours following midnight of the day the animal's arrival, or **before** it is moved from to another location, whichever is sooner, and register the animal under regulations 2.4 and 2.9.

Note that the receiving PICA will then have grounds for recovering the cost of providing and fitting a NAIT device to the animal from the sending PICA.

- **Or:** The receiving PICA must arrange with the original sending PICA to have the animal returned to the original sending PICA's location, subject to an exemption from the requirement for a NAIT device to be fitted to the animal that will apply solely for the animal's return movement.

Following the animal's arrival back at the original sending PICA's location, that PICA must fit a NAIT device to the animal within 48 hours following midnight on the day the animal arrived back, and register the animal under regulations 2.4 and 2.9.

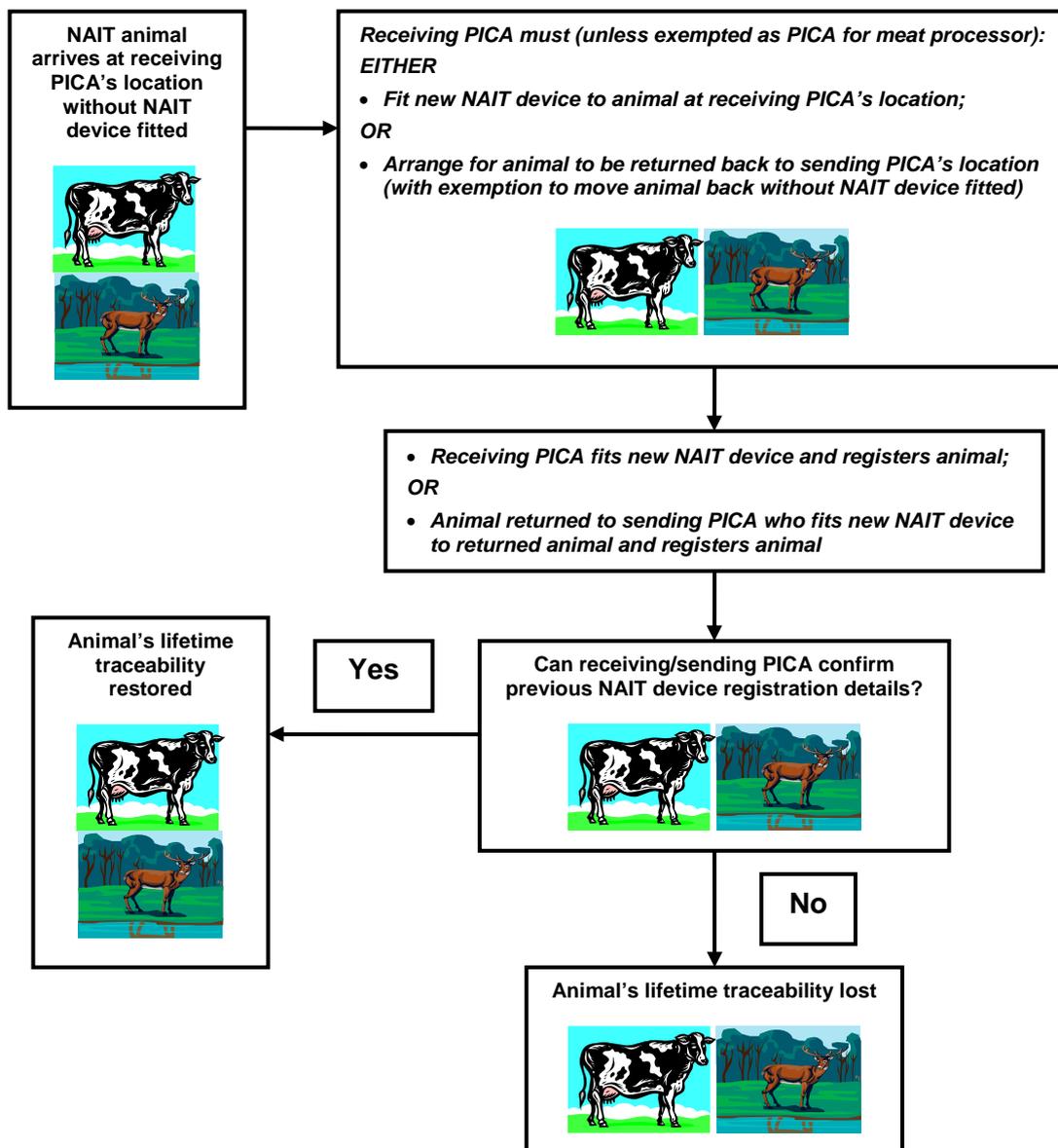
If a NAIT animal arrives at a meat processor's NAIT location without a NAIT device fitted, the receiving PICA for the meat processor will be exempt from fitting a new NAIT device and registering the animal.

If a NAIT animal arrives at a NAIT location (other than a meat processor) without a NAIT device fitted, the PICA at the location may consider that it would be impractical to fit a new NAIT device to the animal. In this situation, the PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation, under regulation 3.2, for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an authorisation in writing that the PICA **not** be required to fit a new NAIT device to the animal.

If a NAIT device fitted to a live animal is found to be faulty in that it cannot be read by an RFID reader, there is no regulatory requirement to replace the device. However, the PICA may choose to apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to remove the faulty device from the animal or provide an authorisation in writing for the PICA to remove the device. If an authorisation is provided and the faulty device removed, the PICA must immediately replace the removed device with a new device. When registering the new replacement device under regulations 2.4 and 2.9, the PICA must also link the visual information on the faulty device to the RFID number of the new replacement device so that lifetime traceability can be restored for the animal.

A PICA employed by an entity dealing with NAIT animals at a saleyard may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an ongoing authorisation in writing to remove faulty NAIT devices from animals and replace them with new NAIT devices, unless the authorisation is revoked.

Flow-diagram showing links between the requirements for regulation 2.11



2.12 REQUIREMENTS FOR BOBBY CALVES SENT TO SLAUGHTER BUT REDIRECTED ELSEWHERE

It is proposed that bobby calves be exempt from the requirement to have a NAIT device fitted and be registered with the NAIT Organisation. A bobby calf is defined in these regulations as a calf less than 30 days old that moves directly from its NAIT location of birth to a meat processor to be slaughtered for human consumption or pet food. If, instead of slaughtering a bobby calf, a meat processor has allowed it to be redirected to another location, the processor will be required to fit the calf with a NAIT device and register the calf.

There was general agreement with this proposal.

It was noted that the exemption may not be needed if a low cost robust NAIT tag is developed (e.g. if the sheep industry joins the NAIT scheme) on the basis that if the fitting of NAIT tags to bobby calves were to become a cost-effective and viable option. This would make regulation 2.12 redundant (32/38) in that bobby calves sent to slaughter but are redirected elsewhere (i.e. ‘skimmed’ to be moved to other NAIT locations as ‘rearer calves’) would already be NAIT identified.

One submitter maintained that *all* calves under 30 days should be exempt from tagging due to their high tag loss rate (23).

MAF Comment

Under regulation 2.10, if a calf under 30 days old has not gone directly to slaughter as a bobby calf but is to be moved to another NAIT location (i.e. to be raised as a ‘rearer calf’) then it must be fitted with a NAIT device prior to being moved. This is to ensure that, from the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory, lifetime traceability can be established for each NAIT animal from its NAIT location of birth, unless an exemption applies.

Under the provisions of the NAIT Bill, a PICA for a processor of bobby calves can be required to provide information requested by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person about the movements of bobby calves sent to slaughter but redirected elsewhere (i.e. ‘skimmed’ to be moved to other NAIT locations as ‘rearer calves’) under regulation 2.12.

MAF Recommendation

- The exemption under regulation 2.11 may be partially or wholly revoked if PICAs for the processors of bobby calves do not provide sufficient information about the movements of bobby calves sent to slaughter but redirected elsewhere, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.1 TRANSITIONAL EXEMPTION FROM IDENTIFYING AND REGISTERING NAIT ANIMALS

This regulation provides for PICAs to be exempt from identifying and registering their NAIT animals for three years from commencement of the mandatory requirement. PICAs who use this exemption must provide the NAIT Organisation with an annual inventory of the number and types of NAIT animal covered until the exemption expires. Animals must still be fitted with a device and be registered before they leave the NAIT location.

The large number of submissions on the proposed exemption (17 in total) reflect concerns, from farmers in particular, about the difficulties and risk of injury involved in tagging older or larger animals that leave the farm within the three-year exemption period – or that remain on the farm when the exemption expires.

The general theme is that the three-year exemption does not go far enough and further transitional exemptions need to be made. A number of alternative timeframes for the transitional exemption are proposed. Amendments to the requirements for an annual inventory during the transition period are also proposed.

Specific comments:

- Only animals born after the start of the scheme should need to be tagged (08, 35) - AHB tags should provide sufficient identification for NAIT transition animals¹¹ (01, 08, 35).
- The exemption should apply to all direct-to-slaughter animals as they have existing identification, e.g. AHB tags, and a NAIT tag will do nothing to enhance the traceability of these animals (01, 04, 05, 17, 35, 37).
- The three-year exemption should start on the date that *tagging* (vs. registration) becomes necessary, as tagging triggers registration (28).
- There should be an exemption for older (15 months plus) animals to exit farm with AHB requirements met (01).
- A two-year transition period is proposed so animals with AHB tags don't need retagging (14).
- A five-year exemption is proposed (23). It is noted that there was a five-year phase in for AHB tags (35).
- AHB tags should be sufficient (05). The submitter notes that the cost of tagging 500 head of cattle is estimated at \$2,436.50 for already tagged cattle going direct-to-slaughter - a waste of money.
- There are Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) implications in tagging up to 2.5 million fully grown cattle destined for slaughter in 4-5 months time – a temporary exemption should apply for all animals moving from resident farm to slaughter from 1 November 2011-1 November 2012 (26).

One submission (23/38) notes that the costs of tagging existing stock will not be as insignificant as indicated, once mustering, tagging, purchasing tags and interacting with the NAIT Organisation are taken into account.

Some submitters suggest that the proposed annual inventory of NAIT transition animals will be unnecessarily onerous given the variation in numbers on any farm over a year and should be replaced with an 'estimate' of numbers (33) or an annual 'declaration' of numbers (32/38)

¹¹ If a NAIT animal is born before the species or sub-group to which it belongs becomes subject to the regulation 2.10 requirement to fit a NAIT device, then the animal will fit the definition of a "transition animal" under Part 1 clause 4 of the NAIT Bill.

that will meet biosecurity requirements. Others suggest it could be dispensed with altogether as being time-consuming or of no benefit, i.e. declaring the presence or absence of NAIT animals to the NAIT Organisation should be sufficient information for biosecurity purposes (23, 25).

NAIT Ltd (28) proposes that the regulation be drafted to allow PICAs to provide inventory information when requested to do so by the NAIT Organisation rather than at set times, as the NAIT Organisation will need the flexibility to manage and allocate resources to the annual inventory that will fall on the anniversary of the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory.

MAF Comment

NAIT transition animals

A live NAIT animal born before the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory will fit the definition of a transition animal under Part 1 clause 4 of the NAIT Bill.

From the date that regulations 2.10 and 3.1 become mandatory, a PICA for a transition animal will be exempt from having to fit a NAIT device to the animal for up to three years, unless the animal is about to be moved to another NAIT location.

From the date registration of a NAIT animal becomes mandatory under regulations 2.4 and 2.9, a transition animal that has been fitted with a NAIT device must be registered with the NAIT Organisation before being moved to another NAIT location.

Rationale for not exempting transition animals already fitted with AHB tags from the requirement to be fitted with NAIT tags prior to being moved

If AHB-tagged transition animals were to be exempted from NAIT tagging requirements then the animals would need to be required to be moved direct-to-slaughter. This is because if an AHB-tagged transition animal was moved to a NAIT location other than that of a meat processor, the receiving PICA would then need an exemption from NAIT tagging requirements for the animal's next move.

Another undesirable consequence if AHB-tagged transition animals were to be exempted from NAIT tagging requirements is that non-transition animals may be able to be passed off as transition animals further into the three-year transition period if PICAs have stock-piled sufficient AHB tags.

Annual inventory of transition animals

To support biosecurity preparedness and incursion response capability, a PICA for a NAIT location where transition animals are present will be required to provide the NAIT Organisation with an annual inventory of the number of transition animals that the exemption applies to. The PICA will not be expected to undertake a special muster of the NAIT animals they are in charge of in order to comply with the requirement for an annual inventory. This is because the information to meet this requirement will be a subset of the total livestock numbers at the location collated for annual bookkeeping and accounting purposes under normal management practices.

MAF Recommendation

- If a NAIT animal is born before the date that the species or sub-group of species to which it belongs is required to be fitted with a NAIT device under regulation 2.10, then the animal will fit the definition of a transition animal under Part 1 clause 4 of the NAIT Bill.

3.2 EXEMPTION FROM IDENTIFYING AND REGISTERING ANIMALS WHERE IT IS IMPRACTICAL

For the exemption to apply, the PICA must be able to specify the animal to the NAIT Organisation (e.g. species, age, gender, breed, markings) and obtain an authorisation in writing for the specified animal from a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person. NAIT will have the discretion to conduct an on-site inspection to verify that it can be reasonably expected that it is an animal for which it is impractical to fit a device. When moving the animal, both the sending and receiving PICAs must provide the information on the animal's authorisation to the NAIT Organisation (which will maintain lifetime traceability).

There is a general acknowledgement by submitters that the NAIT Organisation needs to be notified in some way about animals that are impractical to tag - whether this is achieved by registration, authorisation or simple identification of an animal without having to specify age/general/markings (12, 20, 22, 33).

One submitter points out that the process needs to be made easy for PICAs to comply with the regulation (11). Others propose that:

- The exemption should apply only to animals going direct-to-slaughter, although animals could still be required to have an AHB tag, and be accompanied by the NAIT tag and the ASD form (25, 28).
- The receiving PICA could be given the reference number of the NAIT authorisation, which would do away with the need for a paper to accompany the animal (20).
- Extending the transition period for the NAIT scheme would minimise requirements for exemptions and make for a smooth transition (01, 23) i.e. there will be fewer older animals remaining that it would be impractical to fit NAIT devices to.
- A full exemption from the regulation should be made for fallow and Pere David's deer, owing to their unique characteristics that result in poor tag retention rates. It is pointed out that the need to exempt certain species of deer will not decline over time once the NAIT scheme is fully established, and that Occupational Safety and Health considerations will remain relevant for movement of trophy deer to game estates. There also needs to be provision for the removal of tags before trophy animals enter game estates (32/38).

One submitter (33) suggests that more detail is needed on the proposed authorisations, specifically:

- Should these apply for an animal's lifetime or be re-issued when the animal is moved?
- Can they be provided by email?
- What is the lead-time for issuing authorisations and what are the dispute resolution provisions if time-frames are not met?
- What is NAIT's liability if an authorisation is not issued, and the implications if there is a subsequent injury while attempting to tag an animal?
- Will NAIT cover the cost of farm visits?

MAF Comment

A PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide a written authorisation¹² that the PICA **not** be required to fit a NAIT device to one or more specified NAIT animals when the PICA considers that it would be impractical to do

¹² Forms of written authorisation include letters, emails and faxes.

so (on the basis of a risk of injury to the animal and/or the person attempting to fit the device, or that once fitted to the animal the device has a high likelihood of becoming detached¹³).

If a PICA's application for an authorisation is approved, it will be provided to the PICA subject to the condition that the animal(s) must be moved direct-to-slaughter. The NAIT Organisation may charge the PICA a fee for the provision of an authorisation, and if the authorisation is approved to cover more than one animal then the fee may take into account the number of animals covered by the authorisation. When applying to the NAIT Organisation for an authorisation, a PICA can request that the application be processed within a specified timeframe. However, a delay may occur given that a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person will have the discretion to conduct an on-site visit to verify that the animal meets the reasonable expectation of what constitutes an animal for which it is impractical to fit a NAIT device.

A live NAIT animal born on, or after, the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory must be fitted with a NAIT device within 180 days of birth or before the animal is moved to another location. This means that after the three-year transitional exemption expires, the number of NAIT animals that do not have a NAIT device fitted will be a greatly reduced proportion of the national cattle and deer herds, compared to the proportion on the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory.

However, some NAIT animals that have been fitted with NAIT devices before 180 days of age may later lose their devices (e.g. when pushing their heads through fences or jostling against railings in yards). If such an animal has grown much larger and/or has been handled infrequently, the PICA for the animal may consider that it would be impractical to fit a replacement NAIT device to the animal.

Experience from the previous AHB phase-in of ear tags indicated that extending the transition period provided a counter-productive incentive for people to delay tagging animals and this increased the proportion of animals likely to become difficult to tag.

MAF Recommendation

- A PICA must provide the following information to the NAIT Organisation when applying for an authorisation in writing that they **not** be required to fit a NAIT device to one or more specified NAIT animals when they consider that it would be impractical to do so:
 - a) the PICA's own **NAIT number**;
 - b) the animal species or sub-group of species that the animal(s) is a member of (as per Schedule 1 of the NAIT Bill);
 - c) information sufficient to identify the animal(s) (e.g. age, gender, breed, colour, characteristic markings/physical features), and visual information on any non-NAIT identification devices currently fitted to the animals; and
 - d) the details of the meat processing entity the PICA will move the animal(s) directly to and the **approximate date** of the movement, subject to approval of the application for an authorisation.
- A NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person who approves an authorisation for a PICA must:

¹³ Some deer have been found to be relatively highly prone to ear-tag loss as a result of their ear tags being chewed and/or pulled at by other deer.

- provide the PICA with the written authorisation and unique authorisation number, and may additionally provide that information by phone; and
 - record the PICA’s written authorisation and unique authorisation number against the PICA’s **NAIT number** in the NAIT information system.
- A sending PICA who has been provided with a written authorisation and unique authorisation number must:
 - A. provide the NAIT Organisation with the following information **on the day of** commencing the movement of the animal(s) direct-to-slaughter:
 - the sending PICA’s own **NAIT number**;
 - the unique authorisation number;
 - the date of commencing the movement of the animal(s) at a single time; and
 - the details of the meat processing entity they are sending the animal(s) to;

and the sending PICA must also:

 - B. provide the meat processing entity they are sending the animal(s) to with the following information **on the day of** commencing the movement of the animal(s):
 - the sending PICA’s own **NAIT number**; and
 - the unique authorisation number.
 - The receiving PICA for the meat processing entity must provide the NAIT Organisation with the following information within 48 hours following midnight on the day the animal(s) are received:
 - the receiving PICA’s own **NAIT number**;
 - confirmation that the written authorisation and unique authorisation number recorded in the NAIT system against the sending PICA’s **NAIT number** correctly specifies the animal(s) that is received; and
 - the date of completing the movement of the animal(s).

3.3 EXEMPTION FROM DECLARING AN ANIMAL MOVEMENT TO AN ACCREDITED ENTITY DEALING WITH NAIT ANIMALS

This regulation proposes that a PICA who sends an animal to an accredited entity (e.g. a meat processor or sale yard) will be exempt from having to declare that movement to the NAIT Organisation. The exemption will not apply where the PICA for an accredited entity is sending an animal to another accredited entity. Accredited entities are expected to provide information on animals they receive that is high quality, reliable, and timely under the criteria for accreditation.

All submitters who commented on this regulation (five in total) gave general support to the regulation.

One submitter stated that requiring a two-legged transaction when the animal movement is reported by an accredited entity is onerous for very little gain, and proposed the regulation be altered so that “a PICA who is sending an animal to *or receiving an animal from* an accredited entity is exempt from declaring an animal movement, and instead the PICA for the NAIT accredited entity declares the movement” (06/08).

Another submitter proposed that the exemption be extended to cover movements from one accredited meat processor's location to another, in the event of a plant breakdown, without registering the location of the meat processor that had the plant breakdown (which could be treated as a ‘transit stop’) (20).

MAF Comment

Under regulation 2.5 requirements, when a PICA, other than a PICA for an accredited entity, receives a NAIT animal from another PICA, the receiving PICA must make an animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation that may, as a minimum requirement, take the form of a confirmation of the sending PICA's animal movement declaration combined with the receiving PICA's **NAIT number** and the date the movement was completed.

MAF Recommendation

- Regulation 3.3 to remain unchanged.

3.4 EXEMPTION FROM DECLARING SEPARATE ANIMAL MOVEMENTS WHEN THE PICA IS THE SAME PERSON

This exemption proposes that when the sending and receiving PICA are the same person (e.g. when a PICA is responsible for two locations, or when an animal is moved to an event and back to its original location after the event), the movement can be declared in a single animal movement declaration.

The five submitters who commented on this regulation found it generally acceptable.

One suggested the regulation be broadened to include situations where animals are sent/received back to the same *location* (33).

Another pointed out that the biosecurity implications are greater where an animal is moved to and from an event than between other locations owned by the same PICA and this should be taken into account (26).

MAF Comment

Regulation 3.4 requirements apply to situations when the sending and receiving PICA is the same person, including situations when a PICA for a NAIT location moves a NAIT animal to an event NAIT location such as an agricultural show or rodeo, and after the event moves the animal back to the location he or she is the PICA for.

The basis for regulation 3.4 requirements, in terms of biosecurity preparedness and biosecurity incursion response capability, is consistency with the end-to-end animal movement declaration requirements of regulation 2.5.

MAF Recommendation

Regulation 3.4 to remain unchanged.

3.5 EXEMPTIONS FROM SCHOOL PET DAYS

This regulation allows a school holding a pet day to be exempt from obligations to register a PICA for the school, or to register the school as a NAIT location, i.e. the school will have no obligations under the Act. The PICA who moves the animal to/from a school pet day will also be exempt from declaring an animal movement. Under the Bill, a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person may request information from the school about the pet day, or may require information from PICAs who send animals to the pet day.

The four submitters who commented on this regulation found it generally acceptable.

Two submitters maintained that some records of school pet days should be kept, e.g. in the event that NAIT requested information from the school/event organiser under this regulation (26, 33). It was proposed that schools could simply inform NAIT that a pet day was being held and provide the date and location. It was noted that school pet days are not currently exempt from requirements under the National Pest Management Strategy for bovine Tb under the Animal Products Act 1999. (26)

MAF Comment

Under the provisions of the NAIT Bill, the organiser of a school pet day can be required to provide information requested by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person about the movement of NAIT animals to and from the school pet day.

MAF Recommendation

- The PICA for an animal being prepared to be moved to a school pet day is required to have fitted a NAIT device to the animal under regulation 2.10 **before** the animal is moved to the school pet day. The PICA must also register the animal under regulations 2.4 and 2.9 **before** the animal is moved to the school pet day. Later the same day, each animal must be moved back to the location of its PICA.
- The exemption under regulation 3.5 may be partially or wholly revoked if organisers of school pet days do not provide sufficient information about school pet days they have organised and run, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.6 EXEMPTION FOR ORGANISERS OF EVENTS

This regulation exempts the organiser of an event that will hold NAIT animals from registering as a PICA for the event. The location will have to be registered as a NAIT location, and the NAIT Organisation notified of the event date(s). Under the Bill, a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person may request the organiser or any PICA who sends an animal to the event to provide any further information it requires.

Five submitters on this regulation found the proposal generally acceptable. However, one opposed the exemption on the grounds of biosecurity risk, noting that at an event such as an agricultural show animals are in close contact with each other for a considerable period of time (32).

It was suggested that clarification is needed on whether movements to and from an event need to be registered on NAIT - this could be incorporated under regulation 3.4 (20, 06/18).

One submitter pointed out that a register of animals moving to and from an event might be required e.g. if NAIT requested more information (32/38).

MAF Comment

When the sending and receiving PICA is the same person (e.g. when an animal is moved to an event such as an agricultural show or rodeo and returns back to its original location after the event) then as specified in regulation 3.4, the PICA will be exempt from the requirement for both the sending and receiving PICAs to each declare an animal movement, and instead the PICA can declare the movement in a single movement declaration.

Under the provisions of the NAIT Bill, the organiser of an event such as an agricultural show or rodeo can be required to provide information requested by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person about the movement of NAIT animals to and from the event.

MAF Recommendation

- The exemption under regulation 3.6 may be partially or wholly revoked if organisers of events do not provide sufficient information about events they have organised and run, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.7 EXEMPTION FOR TRANSIT STOPS

This regulation proposes that a PICA for a location (such as a saleyard) used by transporters/drover of NAIT animals as a transit stop be exempt from declaring the movement of the animals to/from the transit stop.

Nine submitters (mostly industry organisations) commented on this regulation.

A number expressed concern that transit stops are an area where the integrity of the NAIT scheme could be compromised under this exemption, owing to the level of biosecurity risk. It was pointed out that animals are often in contact with other transit animals in a saleyard environment used by multiple trucking companies (06/18). Lairage space is not always contained in trucks and animals are unloaded with a high chance of animal-to-animal contact (32/38). One submitter commented that the risk posed by several lines of stock with potential for cross-contamination may require the use of transit stops to be a registered movement (22). Another was concerned that the regulation had the potential to compromise the integrity of the NAIT scheme (33).

A number of submitters identified a need for further work on aspects of this regulation:

- Clarification is needed as to the maximum time animals can be held at a transit stop or saleyards, e.g. 30 minutes, and this must be stated in the regulation or in the definition of 'transit stop' (20, 06/18).
- How would animals 'in and out' be registered, what is a 'short time' in terms of biosecurity risk, and could ASD forms be used by the NAIT scheme (32/38)?
- What level of information could be requested by NAIT (e.g. from transport operators), how frequently and why (36, 32/38)?
- Cleaning/sanitation requirements between lots of animals could reduce the biosecurity risk (33).

MAF Comment

For the purposes of the NAIT scheme, a transit stop means a NAIT location where NAIT animals are temporarily held during transport or droving between two NAIT locations.

Under the provisions of the NAIT Bill, a transport operators or drover can be required to provide information requested by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person about the movement of NAIT animals managed by the transport operator or drover to and from a transit stop NAIT location.

MAF Recommendation

Transit stops are:

- locations owned by transport operators or drovers (these transit stops must be registered as NAIT locations by the respective location owners, however PICAs are **not** required to be registered for these locations); and
- saleyard NAIT locations (not owned by transport operators or drovers) for which transport operators or drovers have made arrangements with the respective saleyard owners to use livestock pen at the saleyards from time-to-time.

A PICA at a saleyard NAIT location will **not** be a PICA for NAIT animals that a transport operator or drover temporarily holds in a livestock pen(s) at the saleyard for the purpose of a transit stop for the animals.

NAIT animals temporarily held at a transit stop NAIT location by a transport operator or drover **must not** be held in a stock pen that adjoins a stock pen where other NAIT animals are also being held at the transit stop, nor allowed to mix with other NAIT animals also being held at the transit stop. A transport operator or drover who is not able to comply with this requirement (e.g. because of animal welfare requirements) must personally inform the NAIT Organisation of the circumstances within 12 hours of bringing animals to a transit stop NAIT location.

- NAIT officers and NAIT authorised persons may, at any time, monitor the activities of transport operators and drivers managing the movement of NAIT animals to and from transit stop NAIT locations.
- The exemption under regulation 3.7 may be partially or wholly revoked if transport operators and/or drovers do not provide sufficient information about the movements of NAIT animals they have managed to and from transit stops, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.8 EXEMPTIONS FOR TRANSPORTERS AND DROVERS

The regulation exempts a transporter/drover of NAIT animals from registering as a PICA for the purpose of moving NAIT animals between NAIT locations. Under the Bill, a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person may require information from the transport operator/drover about the movement of NAIT animals and/or any transport stops made.

There was a mixed response to this regulation.

Two submitters (including the Road Transport Forum) believe that primary responsibility for identifying stock, registering with NAIT, and recording movements should remain with the sending and receiving farmers (26, 36).

Other submitters believe there is a need to involve transporters in the reporting process in some way, as they can provide information on the original NAIT location and the transit stops/drop locations within the movement (22). There was a concern that the exemption would compromise the integrity of NAIT and there needed to be some record of what is happening in transit (32/38). It was noted by one submitter that the transporter/drover is still the 'person in charge' for the purposes of other legislation e.g. the Animal Products Amendment Notice, ASD specification and the Animal Welfare Act (20).

Two submitters suggested adding a regulation requiring transporters to refrain from knowingly moving unidentified stock and to only move stock that is accompanied by the necessary NAIT declaration and documentation (26, 20). It was also suggested that a regulation may be needed that makes the illegal movement of unidentified animals an offence for all parties involved (26, 20).

MAF Comment

Under the provisions of the NAIT Bill, a transport operator or drover can be required to provide information requested by a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person about the movement of NAIT animals managed by the transport operator or drover, including the movement of NAIT animals to and from a transit stop NAIT location.

MAF Recommendation

- NAIT officers and NAIT authorised persons may, at any time, monitor the activities of transport operators and drovers managing the movement of NAIT animals, including the movement of NAIT animals to and from transit stop NAIT locations.
- The exemption under regulation 3.8 may be partially or wholly revoked if transport operators and/or drovers do not provide sufficient information about the movements of NAIT animals they have managed, including the movement of NAIT animals to and from transit stop NAIT locations, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.9 EXEMPTION FOR BOBBY CALVES TO SLAUGHTER

This regulation proposes that a PICA sending a bobby calf direct-to-slaughter will be exempt from the requirement to fit a NAIT device and register the calf with the NAIT Organisation. A bobby calf is defined for the purposes of the regulations as a calf less than 30 days old that moves directly from its NAIT location to a meat processor to be slaughtered.

The four submitters who commented on this regulation found it generally acceptable.

One suggested that all calves under 30 days old should be exempt – but if other calves must be tagged, bobby calves should be too (23). Another noted that use of a low-cost direct-to-slaughter tag may remove the need for the exemption, and that young deer being sent to slaughter pose minimal biosecurity risk but must still be tagged at considerable marginal cost (32/38).

MAF Comment

The exemption under regulation 3.9 may be partially or wholly revoked if lifetime traceability is not found to be consistently maintained for bobby calves sent to slaughter but redirected elsewhere under regulation 2.12.

Over time, market competition amongst NAIT device manufacturers, importers and suppliers may exert a downward pressure on device prices that may be significant enough for NAIT identification to be considered a viable option for bobby calves.

MAF Recommendation

- The exemption under regulation 3.9 may be partially or wholly revoked if PICAs for the processors of bobby calves do not provide sufficient information about the movements of bobby calves sent to slaughter but redirected elsewhere, when directed to provide such information by NAIT officers or authorised persons.

3.10 EXEMPTIONS FOR ZOOS, SAFARI PARKS, AND GAME ESTATES

It is proposed that the PICA for a NAIT animal born at a zoo, safari park, or game estate will be exempt from identifying and registering the animal unless the animal is moved to another location. However, the PICA must provide the NAIT Organisation with an annual inventory of the number and species of NAIT animals at the zoo, safari park, or game estate. The PICA may also apply to a NAIT officer or authorised person for authorisation to remove a NAIT device from a specific NAIT animal that has been moved, or is intended to be moved, to the zoo, safari park, or game estate.

There was general agreement with this regulation (five submitters) though one submitter stated there should be no exemptions (23).

NAIT Ltd (28) proposes that a regulation be drafted to give the organisation the flexibility to manage the annual inventory process, i.e. a requirement for the PICA concerned to provide inventory information when requested by NAIT. This may be an appropriate approach, for example in relation to animals on safari parks that may be difficult to muster for inventory purposes and are a low biosecurity risk as they are unlikely to move from their NAIT location.

Another submission pointed out that while the movement of trophy deer stags to safari parks or game estates will need to be declared to the NAIT Organisation, permission will need to be sought from the NAIT Organisation for the removal of a NAIT device from a trophy stag prior to a movement, to ensure animal and operator safety. This is because it is unsafe and impractical to remove a NAIT device in a vehicle, and there are no handling facilities at safari parks/game estates – this is a significant issue for deer farmers and safari parks/game estates (32/38).

MAF Comment

A PICA for a NAIT location that is a zoo, safari park, or game estate will be required to provide the NAIT Organisation with an annual inventory of the number and species or sub-group of NAIT animals at the location that the exemption applies to. The PICA will not be expected to undertake a special muster of the NAIT animals he or she is in charge of in order to comply with the requirement for an annual inventory. This is because the information to meet this requirement will be a subset of the total animal numbers at the location collated for annual bookkeeping and accounting purposes under normal management practices.

A PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to remove, or provide an authorisation in writing to remove, a NAIT device from a specified NAIT animal that has been moved, or is intended to be moved, to a receiving PICA at a zoo, safari park, or game estate.

MAF Recommendation

- A sending PICA for a specified NAIT animal that is about to be moved to a NAIT location that is a zoo, safari park, or game estate may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to remove, or provide an authorisation in writing to remove, a NAIT device from the animal. If an authorisation is provided, the movement will be subject to an exemption from requiring a NAIT device to be fitted to the animal that will apply solely to that animal's movement to the zoo, safari park, or game estate.

- A receiving PICA for a NAIT location that is a zoo, safari park, or game estate may apply to the NAIT Organisation for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to remove, or provide an authorisation in writing to remove, a NAIT device from a specified NAIT animal that has been moved to the location.

3.11 EXEMPTION TO TIME LIMITS DURING ADVERSE EVENTS AND EMERGENCIES

This regulation proposes a temporary exemption for declaring the movement of animals for:

- *A declared biosecurity emergency in accordance with section 144 of the Biosecurity Act, or*
- *An adverse event declared by MAF or another party such as a Regional Council or Police (e.g. sever flood or snow storm), and/or*
- *A state of emergency declared under the Civil Emergency Management Act 2002.*

The NAIT Organisation must declare publicly the specific details of a temporary exemption and the reason for it, including the start and end dates of the exemption.

Three of the four responses indicate that there is general support for the exemption but that the following considerations need to be taken into account:

- The regulation should only apply to adverse events, i.e. PICAs should not be exempt from declaring the movement of animals in a biosecurity emergency, and the title of the regulation should reflect this, i.e. insert “(during) non-biosecurity or incursion control” events (32/38).
- There needs to be provision for PICAs’ personal emergencies, e.g. accidents, bereavements, etc. (12).
- There is a need to define what is meant by a ‘temporary’ exemption (33). It was pointed out that during adverse events, e.g. droughts, a massive number of livestock may be moved long distances, and adverse events may last months.
- The exemption would need to apply retrospectively, as action is often taken prior to an official emergency being declared (32/38).
- Consideration needs to be given to what happens if a local emergency requires stock to be moved but an adverse event is not declared, with a possible provision for discretionary power to waive the rules regarding notification of movement (32/38, 37, 33).

MAF Comment

A test of ‘reasonableness’ would apply to situations when actions are taken by PICAs in response to emergency situations, whether taken before an adverse event or emergency declaration is made by a relevant agency, or as a result of a localised emergency/adverse event. This means that a PICA would be temporarily exempt from NAIT requirements under regulations 2.5 and 2.9 for any unavoidable lapses in movement recording by a PICA as a consequence of reasonable actions taken because of an emergency/adverse event.

If a PICA becomes indisposed due to a personal emergency, the PICA may, if he or she has not already done so, nominate a PICA Delegate to be registered with the NAIT Organisation to undertake specified procedures and obligations on behalf of the PICA, under Part 3 of the NAIT Bill. The purpose of the PICA Delegate is to ensure continuity in the absence of the PICA for any reason, and/or to support the on-farm management practices. The PICA remains responsible for compliance with the provisions of the NAIT Bill in respect of the specified procedures and obligations undertaken by a PICA Delegate on behalf of the PICA.

Regulation 3.11 will clarify that during a biosecurity response a PICA will not be exempt from NAIT animal movement reporting requirements under regulations 2.5 and 2.9. In the

event of a biosecurity response the requirements under the Biosecurity Act will apply in addition to the NAIT animal movement reporting requirements under regulations 2.5 and 2.9. A biosecurity incursion response may be managed under Part 6 of the Biosecurity Act or via a declared biosecurity emergency in accordance with section 144 of the Biosecurity Act.

MAF Recommendation

- In the following situations and subject to consultation with relevant agencies, the NAIT Organisation may notify one or more PICAs that they will be temporarily exempt from NAIT requirements for providing animal movement declarations under regulations 2.5 and 2.9:
 - an adverse event declared by MAF or a local or regional adverse event or emergency declared by another party such as a Regional Council or Police (for example a severe flood or snow storm);
 - a state of emergency declared under the Civil Emergency Management Act 2002; or
 - a localised emergency/adverse event, whether or not it results in an adverse event or emergency declaration being made by a relevant agency.
- The NAIT Organisation will require retrospective declarations of animal movements made during the temporary exemption to be provided within a specified timeframe that is reasonable for the PICA(s) concerned to comply with.
- In the event of a biosecurity response the requirements under the Biosecurity Act will apply in addition to the NAIT movement reporting requirements under regulations 2.5 and 2.9.

REGULATION FOR PERSONS IN CHARGE OF NAIT ANIMALS ON THE CHATHAM ISLANDS OR NAIT ANIMALS MOVED FROM THE CHATHAM ISLANDS TO MAINLAND NEW ZEALAND

MAF Comment

This regulation was not proposed in the MAF Discussion Paper. The reason for including this regulation is to enable PICAs on the Chatham Islands to become NAIT compliant despite constraints they face relative to PICAs on mainland New Zealand. This regulation has been developed in discussion with stakeholders involved with the regular shipments of cattle from the Chatham Islands to mainland New Zealand.

This regulation recognises that locations on the Chatham Islands may be hard to define due to the absence of fencing in some areas, and the presence of feral cattle some of which may periodically be on-sold for mainland processing or sale. It also recognises potential difficulties, due to distance and remoteness, of interacting with the NAIT information system via secure log-on to the NAIT website or by phone to the NAIT Contact Centre.

If a biosecurity incursion event involving livestock occurred on the Chatham Islands it would likely mean that animal movement controls would need to be put in place across the whole of the Chatham Islands under the Biosecurity Act.

MAF Recommendation

A person registering as a PICA on the Chatham Islands would register the entire Chatham Islands as their NAIT location. Of particular relevance to the Chatham Islands situation, where internet access is not always an option, is the provision in the NAIT Bill that an information provider may be contracted by a person for the purpose of registering that person as a PICA or PICA Delegate with the NAIT Organisation.

A Chatham Islands PICA must fit a NAIT device to a live NAIT animal they are in charge of that is born on the Chatham Islands on or after the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory. The device must be fitted to the animal either within 180 days of birth, or **before** the animal is moved to mainland New Zealand, whichever is sooner. The PICA will also be exempt from the requirement to register the animal under regulations 2.4 and 2.9 and because of this, and because the Chatham Islands will be a single NAIT location, the PICA may move the animal anywhere within the Chatham Islands without declaring the movement.

A Chatham Islands PICA for a NAIT animal that is already present on the Chatham Islands on the date that the fitting of NAIT devices under regulation 2.10 becomes mandatory (i.e. a NAIT transition animal) will be exempt, under regulation 3.1, from having to fit a NAIT device to the animal, unless the animal is about to be moved to mainland New Zealand in which case the PICA will also be exempt from the requirement to register the animal under regulations 2.4 and 2.9.

The receiving PICA for a NAIT animal arriving at a port on mainland New Zealand from the Chatham Islands must:

- be registered as a PICA for the port as a NAIT location; and in that capacity
- be, or be employed by, an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals at the port NAIT location.

These requirements mean that the sending PICA in the Chatham Islands will be exempt, under regulation 3.3, from having to declare the movement of the animal to mainland New Zealand. Instead, the receiving PICA who is, or is employed by, an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals at the port NAIT location will be required, upon the animal's arrival from the Chatham Islands, to:

- register the animal on behalf of the sending PICA in the Chatham Islands; and
- submit a 'one-legged'¹⁴ animal movement declaration to the NAIT Organisation for the animal's movement from the sending PICA in the Chatham Islands to the receiving PICA at the port NAIT location on mainland New Zealand.

The PICA for the accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals at the port NAIT location must then provide another movement declaration for the animal's subsequent movement **either** to a receiving PICA at a meat processor, **or** to a receiving PICA at another NAIT location, usually a temporary-grazing NAIT location (to be rested and prepared for being moved generally a few weeks later).

The exemptions for Chatham Islands PICAs from needing to register NAIT animals they have fitted NAIT devices to, and from needing to make animal movement declarations, will provide cost savings for the PICAs.

A Chatham Islands PICA may apply to the NAIT Organisation, under regulation 3.2, for a NAIT officer or NAIT authorised person to provide an authorisation in writing that the PICA **not** be required to fit a NAIT device to a NAIT animal when the PICA considers that it would be impractical to do so (e.g. an animal may be considered to be too dangerous).

¹⁴ 'One-legged' is a term used to describe a movement of a NAIT animal to an accredited entity dealing with NAIT animals. In this context, an animal movement declaration is only required to be provided by the receiving PICA for the entity, and the sending PICA will be exempt, under regulation 3.3, from making an animal movement declaration.

Other Comments

A number of additional comments were made that fell outside the specific questions in the discussion document. These are listed here for the sake of completeness.

It was suggested that:

- The intent of NAIT is fully supported and a mandatory scheme is necessary, as education and communication need to be supported by the threat of real and practical sanctions. A voluntary system would support two-tier trade in NAIT and non-NAIT products.
- Existing systems (e.g. AHB) are sufficient - NAIT is overly complex and would impose unnecessary costs, and will not stop biosecurity threats such as foot and mouth or diseases being introduced by travellers or food imports (e.g. pork) - RFID readers may not work, and a mandatory system would promote backyard butchery and sales.
- Obstacles to the scheme were cited as the level of computer literacy or access to effective internet amongst farmers, the potential for RFID tags to cause infections in calves or to be ripped out by deer, and the inappropriateness of tagging lambs going to slaughter.
- It was suggested that the scope of the regulations should be broadened to better align with the purpose of the NAIT Bill, e.g. the exemptions are based on biosecurity risk only and not based on other purposes in the Bill.
- Some submitters pointed out that not enough information had been provided on costs to be able to comment, and that the costs of the NAIT scheme may have been underestimated, e.g. the marginal cost for deer tags may be closer to \$3.50 than \$2, and one-off costs borne by saleyards should be included. It was suggested that telecommunications costs are likely to be significant. There was a concern that accredited providers would pass on costs to farmers.
- It was claimed that tags would not identify animals in the case of theft. A suggestion was made that there is a need for ultra-high-frequency tags that can be read at a distance. A query was raised about the need for a species-differential tag levy. A concern was expressed about the need for dual reading of tags and how long this is expected to continue (mandating the tagging of HGP cattle with NAIT tag at time for HGP implant was proposed). Submitters pointed out that rules around colour coding and placement of tags need to be worked through.
- The delay in progressing the NAIT Bill provides an opportunity for the details of the scheme to be further worked through, and for farmers to be given more information about the scheme. There is a need for certainty around introduction of the NAIT scheme for tagging purposes, and the mandatory start date for deer needs to be clarified.

Table of Submitters

Submission No.	Submitters	Occupation/Organisation (where known)
NAIT2011 - 01	James Gibson and Ruth Lyons	
NAIT2011 - 02	David Mackie	Farmer (beef, sheep, deer)
NAIT2011 - 03	Douglas Barry Lineham	Farmer
NAIT2011 - 04	Richard Barnett	Farmer (dry cattle)
NAIT2011 - 05	I A Blair	Farmer (cattle trading/finishing)
NAIT2011 - 06 ¹⁵	Doug Cartridge	PGG Wrightson Limited
NAIT2011 - 07	Jane Field	Farmer (cattle/deer)
NAIT2011 - 08	Luke and Sue Lunjevich	Farmer
NAIT2011 - 09	Rob Chrystall	
NAIT2011 - 10	Lisa Crosbie	Farmer (cattle)
NAIT2011 - 11	David and Harry Richards	Farmers (beef cattle)
NAIT2011 - 12	Selwyn Tisch	Livestock Improvement Corporation
NAIT2011 - 13	Raewyn and Steve Manson	Farmers (deer, also cattle and sheep)
NAIT2011 - 14	Graham Halstead	Farmer (cattle)
NAIT2011 - 15	Bruce Worsnop	Farmer
NAIT2011 - 16	Alan Stuart	
NAIT2011 - 17	Reginald Shorten	Farmer (cattle)
NAIT2011 - 18 ¹⁶	S I Atkins	New Zealand Stock and Station Agents Association
NAIT2011 - 19	Name withheld by request	Farmer (cattle/deer)
NAIT2011 - 20	Kevin Cresswell	Meat Industry Association
NAIT2011 - 21	T J Cairns	South Stock Ltd
NAIT2011 - 22	Lyndon Everton	Abattoir Association of New Zealand
NAIT2011 - 23	RA and HM Robertson	Farmers (cattle + dairy grazing)
NAIT2011 - 24	Peter Walsh	Peter Walsh and Associates Ltd
NAIT2011 - 25	Nick Hancox	Animal Health Board
NAIT2011 - 26	Chris Houston	Beef+Lamb New Zealand
NAIT2011 - 27	Katie Milne	Farmer (dairy)
NAIT2011 - 28	Chris Wellington	NAIT Ltd
NAIT2011 - 29	Leanne Maitland	PGG Wrightson Finance
NAIT2011 - 30	Fiona Hutchinson	DairyNZ
NAIT2011 - 31	Tim Hale	AgResearch Ltd
NAIT2011 - 32	Tony Pearse	Deer Industry New Zealand
NAIT2011 - 33	David Burt	Federated Farmers
NAIT2011 - 34	Brian McNeill	Farmer
NAIT2011 - 35	Jean Martin	Farmer
NAIT2011 - 36	Mark Ngatuere	Road Transport Forum NZ
NAIT2011 - 37	Name withheld by request	
NAIT2011 - 38	Garry Ottmann	New Zealand Association of Game Estates
NAIT2011 - 39	B F Campbell	Farmer (cattle/deer)

¹⁵ Endorsed by: Invercargill Saleyards Co Ltd, Central Saleyards Ltd, Balclutha Saleyards Co-operative Ltd, Hakataramea Saleyards, Omarama Saleyards Co Ltd, Palmerston Saleyards Ltd, Cromwell Saleyards Co Ltd, Waipiata Saleyards, Mt Benger Saleyards, Omakau Cattle Saleyards Ltd, Temuka Co-operative Saleyards Ltd, Oamaru Farmers Saleyards Company Ltd, West Otago Saleyards Co Ltd and Te Pari Products Ltd)

¹⁶ Endorsed by Allied Farmers Limited, PGG Wrightson Limited, South Stock Ltd, Elders Ltd, Hazlett Rural Ltd, L I Redshaw Ltd, CRT Livestock Ltd, Peter Walsh & Associates Ltd, Central Livestock Ltd, Rural Livestock Ltd, Provincial Livestock Ltd, Richard May Livestock Ltd, Gisborne East Coast Farmers Ltd and Otago Livestock Ltd)