

# ADVANCING ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY ROAD MAP FOR WASHINGTON STATE

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**A Three-Year Plan**

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## **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Animal identification is an integral part of animal disease surveillance, control and eradication programs in Washington State. Traceability is the key to protecting economic viability of animal agriculture during an adverse animal health event and protect our regional food supply. In order to respond quickly, whether it is a single incident or a full-scale outbreak, animal health officials need to know which animals are involved, where they are located, and what other animals might have been exposed. The sooner reliable data is available, impacted animals can be located, appropriate response measures can be taken, and disease spread can be halted.

The ability to find infected and exposed livestock in a rapid manner will:

- Increase our state's disease response capabilities;
- Limit the spread of animal diseases;
- Minimize animal losses and economic impact on the agriculture industry;
- Protect producers' livelihoods;
- Provide sustained market access and confidence for our trading partners;
- Protect or reduce public exposure to zoonotic diseases; and
- Improve animal welfare by reducing morbidity and mortality events.

In 2013, USDA established rules to support an interstate traceability program that focuses on identifying certain classes of cattle when they are moved across state lines. In recent years, USDA and States have focused on building on to that system to create a full traceability system from birth to slaughter, or a "bookend system". The bookend system includes the ability to apply and record official identification at the birth premises or at the first point at commingling and the ability to retire that official identification at harvest.

The key objective is to promote the use of an official, electronic identification standard that would interface with specific disease eradication programs, interstate commerce, breed registries, or age and source verification programs. Moving away from paper towards electronic reporting gains efficiencies in our ability to trace animals, reduce transcription errors and speed commerce.

### **History of ADT in Washington State 2006 to present**

#### **2006**

Washington Legislative House Bill 3033 created a cattle advisory committee consisting of twenty members across the cattle industry to evaluate animal traceability efforts in the state.

#### **2007**

The cattle advisory committee worked to establish a separate state database to collect animal identification for animal disease traceability. This database would use existing animal health and livestock inspection information received by the state veterinarian. Funding would be a

combination of General Fund State and transaction based private funds. The legislature provided initial funding for the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) to begin development of a Unified Divisional Information System (UDIS). UDIS was a multi-divisional database reaching across nine program areas.

### **2008-2012**

The Animal Health portion of UDIS accepted data entry of livestock movement and testing information i.e. Interstate Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (ICVI), federal vaccination and test information, and import (entry) permits, along with the scanned images of the original documents as well as inter/intrastate livestock inspection records. This Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) information is shared with other state veterinarians, tribes, territories, and the USDA to limit the negative economic impact from an animal health event.

### **2013**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) implemented a traceability rule that shifted the burden of livestock traceability to the states. With USDA's published emphasis on traceability for livestock moving interstate, increased awareness on Foreign Animal Diseases (FAD), USDA's future performance-based traceability standards for states, and aging UDIS database technology Washington's cattle industry stressed the importance of incorporating electronic technology to gather traceability information.

Our cattle industry submitted legislation, to develop an in-house ADT system for Washington State that encompasses two parts: the database called Animal Tracks and the electronic Livestock Inspection system called eLID. Animal Tracks is the central repository for animal health information, change of ownership information, brand recordings, and movement information. The eLID system allows livestock inspectors to conduct market sale and field inspections electronically and allows inspection information to be synchronized into Animal Tracks. The ADT system also supports web-based movement reporting. Currently three reporting options are available: the ability for licensed dairy producers and cattlemen to report sales of branded or unbranded cattle with an official 840 RFID tag.

The agency-conducted rulemaking to establish a private-based fee of \$0.23 cents per head on all Washington cattle sold, slaughtered, or that were moved out-of-state and \$0.05 cents per head on all out-of-state cattle destined directly to slaughter to support ADT in Washington.

### **2017-2018**

In 2017, WSDA initiated a state funded demonstration project at Everson Auction Market (EAM) with the goals to:

- Promote "passive" and "active" capture of RFID tags in cattle at public markets in Washington State;

- Promote the use of RFID 840 tags in cattle by increasing use by market veterinarians when cattle are Brucellosis vaccinated, Trichomoniasis tested, or return to a premises; and
- Develop a vet module interface within the existing market software to pair RFID and backtag information on cattle moving through markets that do not go directly to slaughter.

## **2019 - 2020**

### **Animal Tracks**

WSDA is continually making investments in software and module enhancements/upgrades to Animal Tracks to keep up-to-date on traceability advancements and is able to accommodate data generated electronically in other state and commercial animal health record platforms for traceability. This browser-based application houses animal health records such as ICVI's, federal brucellosis vaccination and test records, tuberculosis test records, trichomoniasis test records, import permits, quarantine/hold orders, slaughter facility RFID tag numbers and livestock inspection information.

Animal Tracks is able to accommodate data generated electronically in the Oregon Veterinary Information System (OVIS) and other state and commercial animal health record platforms (VSPS, GVL, etc.) that can be imported and stored for ADT.

Animal tracks also houses laboratory reports, animal identification and location information, as well as owner and reporting veterinarian information are captured and can be used for traceability efforts.

### **Veterinarian Electronic Regulatory Record Modernization**

WSDA transitioned from the states PDF fillable eCVI to OVIS. OVIS is web-based and allows accredited veterinarians to access a free electronic platform to generate CVIs, TB test records and brucellosis test/vaccination records which is automatically transmitted to the state veterinarian's office when digitally signed. There are currently over 330 WA veterinarians and 55 authorized users registered for the system. Note, authorized users are assigned by the veterinarian, can complete records but cannot submit because they do not have digital signature authority.

WSDA started charging for the paper CVIs to discourage their use because they require reentering, scanning and slow down our ability to trace animals. In the last 3 years, electronic CVI use by accredited veterinarians has increased from 3% to 75%.

### **Markets**

WSDA worked closely with software programmers to enhance the current market management system for capturing official electronic individual identification at public livestock markets. All six of the livestock markets in WA State that sell cattle use the same market system called "Saletime" (Everson, Enumclaw, Central Washington, Chehalis, Stockland, and Toppenish) where we have created an enhancement called the Saletime Veterinary Module. The enhancements allow the sale yard veterinarian to capture electronic ID with a wand reader and

pair the number with animal health information to generate an electronic CVI, Brucellosis test record and brucellosis vaccination record in the market system. All ADT market data is electronically sent to Animal Tracks, WSDA's ADT database, real time at the close of each sale. Our seventh livestock market does not sell cattle so ADT efforts were focused on the other six markets.

### **USDA Inspected Harvest Facilities**

As of February 2019, five slaughter facilities in Washington are capturing and sharing official individual identification RFID information at harvest. Currently, WSDA's Animal Tracks can capture 98 percent of all animals with electronic official individual identification RFID tags harvested in our state. WSDA is the first state to implement a tag retirement system in the country and share this data with USDA.

### **Supporting Veterinarians, Producers and Markets**

WSDA has used local and USDA Cooperative Agreement funds to purchase tags and hand held readers to promote the use of RFID tags by accredited veterinarians. Seventy-eight hand held readers have been distributed free to veterinarians that perform more than 300 brucellosis vaccinations a year. In return, the veterinarian must submit records in an electronic platform. WSDA collaborated with Oregon Department of Agriculture this year to utilize their OVIS System that allows free access to electronic CVIs, brucellosis vaccination and TB test records.

### **Official Animal Identification Devices**

All regulatory individual animal devices (except USDA AIN "840" devices that can be ordered by a producer from an authorized AIN vendor) are shipped from the state veterinarian's office. USDA 840 RFID (OCV & White tags), Brucellosis vaccination eartags, national uniform eartagging system (brite tags), state issued AIN brucellosis EID tags, and other state/official individual identification regulatory devices are distributed and correlated to a person and physical address they were shipped to. WSDA defaulted to provide official RFID tags to accredited veterinarians; metal tags are available by request only.

USDA begin supporting states with allotments of official RFID tags to support heifer replacements. Washington's allocation is 118,000 tags. WSDA will continue to provide official RFID tags to accredited veterinarians to support all cattle regulatory work for vaccinations, testing, and inter/intra state movements as funding permits.

### **RFID Technology**

WSDA has chosen to remain technology neutral. Currently in WA, the dairy industry represents almost all of the tag use as they adopted this technology for herd management in the last decade. We know that 80% of dairy cattle in WA are identified with Low Frequency tags. We have already built the infrastructure and will embrace UHF readers when USDA sets the official standard for UHF and producers are ready to take the step of purchasing the UHF tag and putting

them into their cattle. Official, electronic LF 840 RFID is used for regulatory use at markets. We have no funding dedicated to UHF but we are prepared to add the UHF readers to existing infrastructure when standards are defined and producer use warrant their use.

### Dairy Calf Demonstration Project

WSDA started a calf demonstration project to promote ADT in WA. Approximately 30,000 dairy calves from WA are exported for age and source verified programs. The project intends to pair electronic official RFID tags with backtag that is applied at farm of origin. Calves that leave the state for age and source verified programs can then be scanned for CVIs, brand inspection/ ECTR and animal health records can be sent electronically to the state of destination.

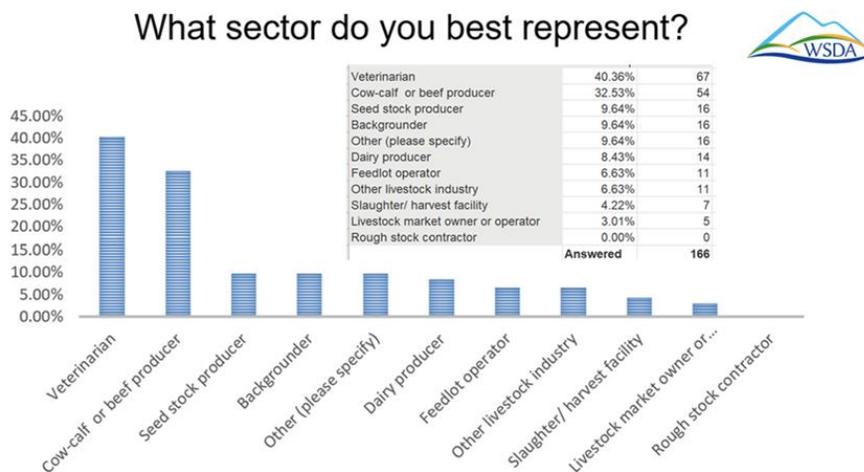
### Interoperability of Traceability Systems

Traceability data elements are shared between Animal Tracks and USDAs Animal Health Events Repository (AHER). AHER enables animal health officials to identify which State, Federal, and third party databases hold animal identification number records in a disease event. Traceability elements shared is individual identification associated with ICVIs, Federal Vaccination, and Federal Test Records.

### ADT Program Survey Results

In November 2020, the WSDA Animal Disease Traceability Program closed a brief survey seeking industry comments on the program’s impacts and future direction in the State.

A total of 166 respondents representing all industry sectors contributed feedback.



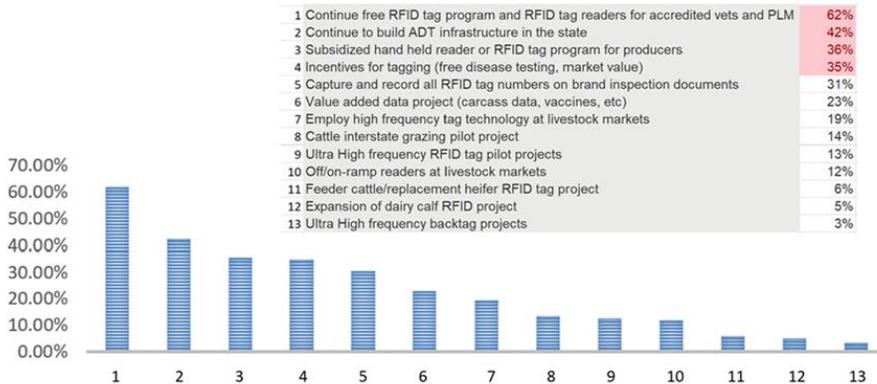
Eighty-six participants benefited from the ADT program by acquiring free 840 RFID tags distributed to veterinarians for regulatory work, to ECTR program users at enrollment and to public livestock markets. Twenty-two veterinarians reported that they benefited from receiving a free hand held RFID reader.

## From what projects have you benefited?



The top five choices for what projects the program should consider for the next three years included: 1. Continue Free RFID program and RFID tag reader program for accredited veterinarians and markets, 2. Continue to build ADT infrastructure in the state, 3. Start a Subsidized hand held reader or RFID tag program for producers, 4. Incentives for tagging (free testing, market value) and 5. Capture and record all RFID tag numbers on brand inspection documents.

## What Projects should ADT program consider?



Other ideas for ADT projects (in no order) included 1. Distribution of free handheld readers to county level industry associations (Cattlemen's, Dairy, Feeders Associations), 2. Access to free chute side readers for loading and unloading trucks 3. Expanding Free 840 RFID tags to include ECTR renewal 4. Incentivize tagging through a Voluntary 840 RFID "certified herd" program for pasture to pasture movement and value added programs 5. Improved Outreach and education efforts at interstate markets and industry/ veterinary groups.

2021 – 2024

WSDA will work with stakeholders to identify projects to close traceability gaps in the state and to support USDA's four goals to advance animal disease traceability. The priority will be given to segments of the cattle industry with the highest risk to spread disease, specially where animals are commingled or at change ownership. Auction markets, buying stations, exhibition/sale events, and private treaty sale processes will be the focus. In addition to increasing the use of low frequency 840 RFID, enhancements to market systems to assimilate high frequency technology as it becomes available to keep up with commerce and accommodate producers that embrace independent technologies for management.

## **II. CURRENT TRACEABILITY SITUATION**

### **2.1 Who are we?**

Animal disease traceability in Washington State is housed under the Washington State Department of Agriculture Animal Services Division, within the Animal Health Program and is under the direct supervision of the Assistant State Veterinarian who reports to the State Veterinarian. All regulatory interstate and intrastate livestock movement, cattle and horse change of ownership, livestock test records, and federal and state regulatory animal identification numbers are collected and managed by the division. This information is used for animal disease traceability.

Washington's accredited veterinarians and the livestock industry are our constituents that include cattle (beef and dairy), feeders, packers, slaughter facilities and livestock markets. In addition to these partners, WSDA does not have one specific ADT advisory group but have found greater efficiencies in communicating with different industry groups, livestock committees, and producers to gain feedback and direction for ADT.

### **2.2 Where are we now?**

Please see above in the executive summary under History of ADT in Washington State 2006 to present.

### **2.3 Strengths and Obstacles**

The strengths of WSDA's ADT program include an administration that supports the program, accredited veterinarian's foresight that supports their clients and electronic platforms and use of technology to track animal movements. Our cattle industry supported our effort to establish local funding that allows the department to collect \$0.23 per head to advance ADT in WA. This fund provides us with support for ongoing technology advancements for traceability, unlike most other states.

Obstacles to traceability in Washington State are federal exemption for classes of cattle. All beef cattle <18 months of age are exempt from interstate traceability requirements. Licensed cattle dealers are not regulated under animal health, which creates challenges for traceability compliance and federal cooperative funding for resources to advance animal disease traceability. This funding is appropriated annually and does not provide long-term stability to support and promote advancing animal disease work efforts that exceed one year.

### **III. VISION AND MISSION CONTEXT FOR ADVANCING TRACEABILITY**

#### **3.1 Vision Statement**

The Animal Health Program is a trusted partner of animal agriculture providing science-based information through education, outreach, and communication with our stakeholders.

#### **3.2 Mission Statement**

The Animal Health Program is dedicated to supporting the productivity, economic viability, and sustainability of animal agriculture by protecting animal and public health through the promotion of disease prevention, surveillance, traceability, control, and eradication through excellent customer service.

### **IV. TRACEABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

#### **4.1 Strategic Goal**

Develop and implement a statewide, bookend animal disease traceability system based on state and federal standards that optimizes acquisition of animal health, ownership, and movement information to ensure consumer, domestic and international market confidence.

#### **4.2 Programmatic Goals (Objectives)**

Washington supports the four overarching goals set forth by USDA for advancing animal disease traceability. To achieve this, Washington has the following specific tasks planned to meet the specific USDA goals/objectives.

#### **FY 2021**

**Goal 1:** *Increase the use of individual 840 RFID identification for animals that move interstate and for all accredited veterinarian regulatory work (i.e. Brucellosis vaccination, Brucellosis/TB/Trichomoniasis testing.);*

#### **Tasks:**

- Encourage USDA continuation of special funding to expand RFID infrastructure to expand distribution of RFID readers to accredited veterinarians to make data transmission more efficient.
- Provide 840 RFID tags for all accredited veterinarian regulatory work including free tags for public livestock market veterinarians. Expand hand held reader access to veterinarians vaccinating <300 head per year.
- Work with Oregon to develop a Brucellosis test record in OVIS to expand availability of electronic records for accredited veterinarians.

**Goal 2:** *Enhance electronic sharing of animal disease traceability data for traceability;*

**Tasks:**

- Meet traceability performance standards by documenting and recording National Priority Traces in EMRS2.
- Enhance electronic sharing of tag retirement data from harvest facilities between animal health officials and the Federal Animal Health Events Repository (AHER).
- Support livestock markets/staff to expand full adoption of the Saletime Veterinary Module to increase the use of electronic health records.
- Continue electronic traceability information sharing from state traceability database (Animal Tracks) to USDAs Animal Health Events Repository (AHER). Sharing of minimal data elements will allow animal health officials to quickly locate information sources in the event of a trace.
- Support WSDA Livestock Inspection (LID) program to capture and collect individual 840 RFID identification at change of ownership inspections:
  - Provide equipment or software upgrades to allow electronic sharing of ADT data to track intrastate movement for private treaty sales.
  - Provide 840 RFID tags to producers registering or renewing accounts in Electronic Cattle Transaction Reporting (ECTR) system to promote use and electronic record use for ADT.
- Explore opportunities to support upgrades of Saletime System LID module to meet needs of inspectors to capture RFID tags and pair with backtags. (Funding may be federal, state, or a combination of both).
  - Support travel of program manager and key supervisors to Saletime markets to benchmark observed inspections for efficiencies.

**Goal 3:** *Enhance the ability to track animals from birth to slaughter;*

**Tasks:**

- Promote the use, distribution, capture and recording of official RFID identification at birth premises, points of commingling/ movement and at slaughter to make electronic information more readily available.
- Explore other cattle segments to expand RFID infrastructure development and tags use where cattle comingle:
  - Team with Washington State University (WSU) extension to expand use of 840 RFID on show/exhibition animals (swine, cattle) with emphasis on 4H, FFA, and county fairs where their livestock is shown.
  - Partner with cattle associations to officially identify all cattle moving interstate through pasture to pasture permitting.
  - Extend the work to additional calf buying stations to provide RFID tags and equipment to obtain full traceability from farm of origin to out of state destination on dairy calves.
  - Provide hand held readers to county level cattlemen’s associations upon request. Associations would then manage a check out/ loaner system for reading equipment to producers when working cattle.
  - Support industry with establishing a “value added” RFID certified program. WSDA would provide tags and infrastructure, but lead by marketing associations (beef commission, cattle/dairy associations, etc.) to promote a local or WA grown product.
- Support public livestock markets to maintain /upgrade /replace /address additional equipment needs including computers, RFID readers, internet connection, cameras, etc. to enhance market traceability.
  - Develop a plan with Saletime to integrate UHF technology into existing LF RFID infrastructure at PLMs.
- Continue to build/upgrade infrastructure to read RFID tags for tag retirement at USDA inspected slaughter facilities.
  - Refine upload of RFID tag data into animal tracks.

**Goal 4:** *Increase the use of electronic health certificates with cattle identified with individual official 840 RFID identification*

**Tasks:**

- Continue to work with calf dealers and their veterinarians to utilize electronic CVI systems to provide traceability from farm of origin to out of state destination on dairy calves.
- Work with accredited veterinarian to add 840 RFID tag numbers to electronic ICVIs for **exempted** cattle per 9 CFR Part 86.

- Continue to perform outreach, education and support to veterinarians using electronic CVI systems, especially OVIS.

### **FY 2022 and FY2023**

WSDA will continue to build on the four overarching traceability goals listed in FY 2021. Due to changing level of traceability adoption across different agricultural sectors, WSDA will develop the annual ADT work plan to address traceability advancement in the different sectors. The ADT 3-Year Road map will be updates as needed to reflect updates to our goals.

#### **4.3 Animal Disease Traceability Performance Measures**

WSDA ADT has a proven track record and will continue completing USDA's National Priority Traces (NPTs) to record Washington's tracing capabilities. The NPTs will reflect tracing capabilities based on four Trace Performance Measures (TPMs):

1. In what state was an animal officially identified?
2. Where in the state was the animal officially identified?
3. From what state was an animal shipped?
4. From what location was an exported animal shipped?

#### **4.4 Data Requirements**

Washington ADT uses Animal Tracks as the main traceability system as documented in paragraph 2.2 and 2.3. Animal tracks has 24/7 accessibility to approved users to support traceability.

Premises Identification Numbers (PINs) are voluntarily and assigned through the federal State Premises Registration System (SPRS) to record shipments of 840 devices and support stakeholders in programs that require a PIN.

Distribution of official metal (NUES) and RFID tags, accredited veterinarian regulatory forms, and legislatively approved identification programs are dispensed from the state veterinarian's office. Shipments are recorded in Animal Tracks. RFID 840 devices are recorded in both Animal Tracks and USDA Animal Identification Number Management System. To support increase use of RFID, WSDA has reserved to maintain distribution of NUES tags to accredited veterinarians only upon request.

Interstate CVIs are shared with receiving states at least weekly, and interstate CVIs in violation of federal regulations are worked through our compliance

program and coordinated with our AVIC. WSDA issues temporary grazing permits (aka interstate commuter herd agreements) to producers in states that share a common border with Washington. Temporary grazing permits are approved by both states and are valid for 6 months. All cattle are inspected prior to movement out-of-state. The cattle, listed on the grazing permit, are required to move only to the destination specified on the grazing permit and return to the location of origin. WSDA receives ~75 requests for grazing permits in a paper format per year.

#### **4.5 Information Technology Plan**

Information technology (IT) support is crucial to enhancing and maintaining the statewide infrastructure for our animal traceability program. We utilize Animal Tracks to collect and record animal movement information, to make it electronically searchable.

The ADT Coordinator is the lead person for working with our database developer on enhancements/issues to enhance ADT that has created database features to increase the state veterinarian's ability to collect animal movement information through additional or enhanced digital interfaces such as the ability to upload data from markets and RFID tag numbers from slaughter facilities into animal tracks.

WSDA is continually making investments in software and module enhancements/upgrades to Animal Tracks to keep up-to-date on traceability advancements and is able to accommodate data generated electronically in other state and commercial animal health record platforms for traceability. This browser-based application houses animal health records such as ICVI's, federal brucellosis vaccination and test records, tuberculosis test records, trichomoniasis test records, import permits, quarantine/hold orders, slaughter facility RFID tag numbers and livestock inspection information.

Animal Tracks is able to accommodate data generated electronically in the Oregon Veterinary Information System (OVIS) and other state and commercial animal health record platforms (VSPS, GVL, etc.) that can be imported and stored for ADT.

Animal tracks also houses all the reportable animal disease data that is captured on a new electronic platform. Laboratory reports, Animal identification and location information, as well as owner and reporting veterinarian information are captured and can be used for traceability efforts.

As new opportunities for advancement of Washington's IT portion of the animal traceability program are identified, they will be fully explored and implemented when and where possible.

#### **4.6 Resource Requirements**

Key impediments to having a successful animal traceability program are limited financial and human resources. Washington will address these needs in the cooperative agreement.

#### **4.7 Organizational Needs**

Division organizational transformations are not needed to implement the ADT road map at this time.

##### **4.7.1 Executive Support**

Washington's current governor and agency director fully support a robust animal disease traceability system for the well-being of the livestock industry in our state and have made it a priority in the last 3 years.

##### **4.7.2 Coordination and Oversight Procedures**

ADT in Washington is overseen by the assistant state veterinarian and is aligned under the state veterinarian Animal Health program.

##### **4.7.3 Policy**

Legislative processes form the authority for the Animal Health program to support the citizens of Washington State. The Revised Code of Washington (RCW), title 16 is the governing laws for Animals and Livestock, ADT is one section of those governing laws. Additionally, ADT information is exempt from public disclosure under RCW 42.56.380 Agriculture and livestock.

ADT also collaborates with our established livestock associations, the Washington Beef Commission, and private cattle sectors for consulting on animal disease traceability; to ensure traceability is achieved.

In Dec 2017, WSDA filed two CR-101's (preproposal statement of inquiries) and mailed these out to interested parties (licensed feedlots, licensed dairies, public livestock markets, brand holders, and large animal veterinarians).

The CR 101's proposed to amend chapters 16-86 and 16-604 WAC to require cattle to be individually identified with an official USDA

Radio-Frequency Identification device (RFID) instead of a USDA official metal tag when:

- Female cattle receive brucellosis vaccination;
- Bulls are sampled for trichomoniasis; and
- Sexually intact cattle and bison over 18 months of age that are presented for sale at a public livestock market.

The preproposal failed and the process never moved to the CR-102, rule phase.

#### **4.7.4 Staffing**

Animal disease traceability is centralized; all programs fully utilize existing staff with traceability information gathering overlapping with other animal health requirements and requirements in codified statutes.

#### **4.7.5 Budget Requirements**

The program manager and ADT coordinator is supported by state general funding, state local funds, provided by an industry approved private-based fee of \$0.23 cents per head on all Washington cattle sold, slaughtered, or that were moved out-of-state and \$0.05 cents per head on all out-of-state cattle slaughter. A portion of this funding supports our livestock inspectors with data capture devices and supplies, data entry staff to enter animal health information into the ADT system and IT support for system software enhancements.

Federal resources are utilized to support ADT cooperative agreement annual work plan objectives. Our work efforts will adjust to annual federal cooperative resources allotted to support animal disease traceability work efforts. Currently there are no federal cost share requirements for ADT federal work efforts.

#### **4.7.6 Outreach**

##### **4.7.6.1 Accredited Veterinarians**

WSDA field staff would integrate advancing animal traceability information into their program outreach materials when interacting with accredited veterinarians in our state. ADT is providing information to veterinarians in the WA State News blasts that go out to the accredited vet email list, Animal Health Updates, quarterly e-newsletter, during accreditation training where individuals practice issuing an electronic CVI and provided information to sign up for the

free OVIS system. The ADT coordinator and his staff regularly engage veterinarians with one on one training of the OVIS system, the use of handheld readers and data transfer.

The Assistant State Veterinarian has presented at WSVMA Pacific NW Veterinary Conference annually to provide ADT project updates and provide resources to veterinarians. Teaching efforts at Washington State University to the veterinary technician programs where students are introduced to the importance of traceability, learn about official ID and accurate CVI completions, and become familiar with electronic health, vaccination, and testing options.

#### **4.7.6.2 Livestock Markets**

Livestock markets play a key role in implementing electronic identification in cattle and they will continue to be key players for the future enhancements for ADT. We have collaborated with individual livestock market operators and the markets software developer, Saletime Systems, to create an electronic veterinary module outlined under the Executive Summary. Additionally, livestock markets allow animal health to stock brochures and other handout materials explaining identification and movement requirements of covered livestock species.

These markets have an agreement with ADT that RFID will be used by the regulatory veterinarian to support the Saletime Veterinarian Module. To help mitigate the spread of bovine disease, Animal health field veterinarians have assigned livestock markets; a requirement is routine surveillance i.e. to educate and enforce state animal health regulatory requirements. Field staff also conduct market inspections with USDA veterinarian field staff to conduct approved livestock market facility agreement inspections; to insure those provisions are met.

#### **4.7.6.3 Industry as a Whole**

Animal health routinely communicates with the livestock and poultry industries. Our communications representative works closely with industry leaders, USDA APHIS VS, and

Washington State University to ensure consistent messaging on traceability and other topics. ADT/Animal Health is frequently represented at industry meetings, conventions, and exhibitions to interact with producers and other stakeholders. Livestock and poultry industries also participate in animal health emergency exercises where they see the benefits of traceability in real-life scenarios.

#### **4.8 Monitoring and Reporting Interstate Movement Activity**

Interstate CVIs for import and export are reviewed by animal health permitting staff for completion of data and satisfaction of movement requirements. Issuing veterinarians receive a letter of education for all deficiencies, and all ADT violations are reported to the AVIC for further investigation. Animal Health Compliance program works with USDA AVIC and field veterinarians to conduct livestock market compliance audits on cattle traveling interstate. Other compliance actions on covered livestock is shared with the AVIC.

ADT uses Animal Tracks to capture and sort information from interstate CVIs, including origin name, city, and state; destination name, city and state; issuing veterinarian; issue date; certificate number; species; identification and number of animals. ADT works with animal health staff to monitor and reports movement of other covered livestock to support USDA cooperative agreements, as well as NPIP poultry flocks submitting VS 9-3 forms.

Animal disease traceability statistics stipulated by the ADT cooperative agreement will be reported quarterly, as required.

### **V. TRACEABILITY IMPLEMENTATION**

#### **5.1 Ranking of Priorities for Advancement**

Specific programmatic goals to advance animal disease traceability in Washington are outlined in section 4.2 for each year. Prioritization will be determined cooperatively between the state veterinarian, assistant state veterinarian and the AVIC.

#### **5.2 Implementation of Objectives**

WSDA will follow our roadmap objectives and will proportionally adjust to annual federal cooperative resources to support and/or exceed these objectives. The annual workplan will identify and describe how each project/objective will be conducted.