ADVANCING ANIMAL DISEASE TRACEABILITY ROAD MAP FOR THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS

A Three-Year Plan

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

[The length of this section should be two pages at most. Sufficient detail should be provided to allow the reader to quickly understand what needs to be done, what are the benefits, and what resources are needed to accomplish the objectives. A simplified timeline should be included indicating anticipated milestone achievements during the lifecycle of the plan. A tight narrative of several paragraphs, followed by a list of key bulleted items, would be appropriate.

- What is the fundamental problem(s) this plan addresses?
  Awareness of USDA APHIS program specifics.

- What are the key elements in summary form?

- What are the primary benefits? The tribal ranching community will become more aware of the opportunity and benefits of this program to identify their livestock.

- How does this plan build upon previous efforts to advance animal disease traceability? The last couple of years there has been an effort to provide outreach to tribal members on the need to register livestock. Meetings have been held with each of the six range districts to inform them of new measures to identify their livestock. This has required multiple meetings in each district to achieve maximum participation.

- How does this plan fit within USDA’s new framework for animal disease traceability? At each of the meetings there has been a discussion of how a “premise” would be defined on the reservation. Some have thought a tribal-wide premise would be appropriate, others have suggested a premise by individual range districts. Since there is an overlapping of livestock production from one district to another, some have suggested a more workable division that more accurately defines the two main areas the livestock are from. This has not yet been resolved.

- How does this plan support animal health information systems within the State/Tribe/Territory? The tribe will further develop premises registration on the 6 Grazing Districts and then provide the same education and outreach component to register premises for individual ranchers who maintain their own separate herds.

- How does this plan support animal health information needs with other States/Tribes/Territories and USDA nationally? Through the tribal data system for livestock, this information will be available, as needed.

- What alternatives were explored?

- What are the projected costs for FY2012 ($7,000), FY2013($7,000), and FY2014 ($7,000). Budget: $8,750 (Total project cost). The federal (APHIS share) funds, $7,000, will be used directly for the corral facility upgrades or another 4 wheel ATV to assist with roundup for identification. The expenditure of funds will be by the best use determined by evaluating the needed repairs to the corral and the need for another ATV. There will be a in-kind contribution (20% of the total project cost) by the Tribes in the amount of $1,750 to the education and outreach component. Range and Ag staff will...]

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assist with conducting meetings where the program and benefits of this plan will be explained to tribal livestock owners. Range and Ag staff will also serve as the central administrator for the premise registration process and tagging system.

Panels, Squeeze Chute, or 4 wheeler........................................$7,000 (APHIS)

Education and outreach meetings
Outreach personnel and tagging................................. $1,750 (Tribal share)

$8,750 (Total project)

II. CURRENT TRACEABILITY SITUATION

II.1 Who are we?

[Although various State/Tribe/Territory governmental agencies are tasked with animal disease traceability efforts, identifying the specific agencies/units involved in implementing this road map is essential to planning success. This also includes identifying constituents that advancing the proposed plan will impact and/or require collaboration.

- Who are the primary constituents? The Tribal ranching community.
- Who are the external constituents? Local livestock markets and suppliers.
- What does statewide, tribal-wide, territory-wide mean? Within each Range District.
- How are traceability data used internally, externally? Internally.
- What values guide the animal disease traceability system? Accuracy and health reports.
- What is the make-up of the animal disease traceability advisory group? Within each Range District this is established. How and how often are they engaged? Range and Ag Committee meetings the first and third Thursday from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. The Range and Ag Manager, addresses the APHIS registration issues. In addition, the Range and Ag Manager, has been meeting with tribal livestock owners weekly (at least one hour per week) to discuss their individual circumstances for registration.

II.2 Where are we now?

The tribal ranching community is becoming more aware of the opportunity and benefits of this program to identify their livestock. The below item are being developed.

- How is animal disease traceability currently defined? Is it viewed as a cross-cutting component to animal health information systems? Is it viewed as a stand-alone initiative?
• What measures of traceability capability are currently being used? What are the specific values and associated interpretation?

• How is coordination being currently achieved within the unit?
• How is coordination being currently achieved state-wide, tribal-wide, territory-wide?
• How does the present unit coordinate activities with other existing agencies/units?
• What standards for traceability are currently being used? Are they appropriate?
• What is the state of technology infrastructure? Capability in terms of size? Compatibility within and outside the agency/unit/department/etc. for sharing data when needed?
• Are requests for information available 24/7, or only available M-F, 40 hours per week, if authorized personnel are present?
• What is the impact of state, tribe, or territory funding on capability? How does Federal funding fit into the plan?]  

II.3 Strengths and Weaknesses

[Strengths are intended to describe circumstances or positions that allow an organization to take advantage of opportunities. Weaknesses, in contrast, are issues or threats that make an organization less able to exploit opportunities.

• What are the strengths of the organization in terms of technology, human resources, personnel capabilities, etc.?
• What are the weaknesses in terms of “lack of” technology, human resources, personnel capabilities, etc.?

II.4 Opportunities and Threats

[The basis for this component is the assumption that improving animal disease traceability capability will create opportunities for those involved that would not be available should traceability not be optimized. At the administrative level, implementation of standards for improving efficiencies of information collection, storage, sharing, and security would be an opportunity. Every State/Tribe/Territory is subject to catastrophic events, such as tornados, wildfires, drought, winter storms, animal/zoonotic disease, flooding, possibly hurricanes. Does this plan create an opportunity in ability to respond?

• Does this plan enable or avoid consequences of potential threats?
• Does this plan provide for better use of available resources than current approaches?
• Does this plan enhance networking opportunities?]  

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II.5 Inventory of existing infrastructure and suitability assessment

[This section is intended to provide a more detailed and technical assessment of existing infrastructure than the “Who we are” section. An outcome of this section is to support the requirements analysis for funding prioritization and justification.]

- Human resources
- Space availability
- Connectivity resources, both in office and in the field
- Access to USDA animal disease traceability and animal health information resources
- Organization of all existing paper record systems used to access animal disease traceability or animal health information
- Computerized data management capability, including present storage size, speed, security, etc.
- Automated data capture capability]
IV.1 Strategic goal(s)
[Inherent in applying and accepting Federal funding for advancing animal disease traceability is accepting the overarching strategic goal as being: to develop and implement a State-wide, Tribal-wide, Territory-wide infrastructure for advancing animal disease traceability compatible with State, Tribe, Territory and USDA standards.

- If other goals exist that are important and relevant, they should be added.]

IV.2 Programmatic goals (objectives)
[These are intended to prioritize the specifics of what needs to be accomplished to support the strategic goal(s). They are best created following an accurate portrayal of “where we are now” (Section 2.2). This is a three-year plan and, as a result, the programmatic goals should reflect short- and mid-term planning. Programmatic goals or objectives should be challenging, but feasible as aligned with realistic resource availability and stated priorities. Objectives should be prioritized and presented for each of the three years projected by this Road Map, and similarly aligned within the budget proposed. Examples might include:

- Target, develop, and implement outreach messaging regarding data quality and processing for animal health information forms
- Monitor ICVI data quality
- Input data into appropriate systems
- Improve retrieval of available traceability information
- Establish compatible standards for sharing data with States/Tribes/Territories and USDA when needed
- Integrate surveillance and traceability data
- Establish advisory committee
- Establish authority
- Develop policy
- Enhance IT infrastructure
- Establish and/or update tag distribution record system]

IV.3 Animal disease traceability performance measures (required)
The tribe will further develop premises registration on the 6 Grazing Districts and then provide the same education and outreach component to register premises for individual ranchers who maintain their own separate herds.

- How has performance been measured to date? A baseline of information has been developed and recorded by the Range and Ag Department.
- What is the current baseline? Tribal livestock inventory, by range districts.
• Measures should be offered as performance per unit of time Not yet established.

• If the four recommended performance measures are not used, when will they be used? This has been part of the process of developing our database for identification purposes. So this is part of the 3 year roadmap.

IV.4 Data requirements

[This section should reflect a thorough examination of how animal disease traceability data are acquired; monitored for quality; organized; stored; secured; retrieved; used for surveillance; and shared when required. This section would also contain a listing of needs for the near term and possibly mid-term future. Since valuable traceability data are being, and will likely continue to be, collected and provided via paper formats, even if the intent is to diminish its use, this section should include a discussion relative to how paper and electronic animal health information systems are intended for use and integration in developing animal disease traceability information.

• Fully describe standards to be used for location identification, if used Animals are entered into the database with location within a Grazing District.

• Fully describe standards to be used for official animal identification, including arrangements with other States, Tribes, Territories, as well as official identification methods/devices used within the cooperator’s jurisdiction To date this has been an internal process with the Range and Ag Department.

• Will the State/Tribe/Territory be using official metal ear tags beyond the current system involving accredited veterinarians only applying the tags at the time of performing regulatory animal disease work? What formats? What volume is expected for use? How will they be distributed? What is the plan for distributing taggers? VS Memo 578.12 is to be used for reference guidelines. (required to be addressed within the Road Map)

There has been the customary use of branding by families of individual ranchers. This is a time-honored system within the tribe. However, there are livestock ranchers that are now using tags, and others willing to use the tag system. Tags being issued to a centralized administrator for later distribution to individual tribal members. The central administrator will record the allocation to the users so an animal could be traced back to the ranch of origin.

• What tag distribution record keeping systems will be used? (required to be addressed within the Road Map)

• What data requirements exist for commuter herd agreements? Not yet developed.
• What forms are approved for interstate movement in addition to ICVIs? Not yet developed.

• How and when will data be shared with other States, Tribes, Territories, and USDA? (required to be addressed within the Road Map) Through the tribal data system for livestock, this information will be available, as needed.

• How will group/lot official numbers be handled within the system? This is within the database by Range Districts.

IV.5 Information technology plan
This area has received the support from our IT staff to further this system as needed, and as projected for FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014. This system will provide data best served by the Range and Ag Department. As it is developed, it will fit within the broader system and plan of the Tribal system, including specific back-up processes and services.

IV.6 Resource requirements
[This section is intended to describe additional resources needed to implement the road map.

• Is specific expertise needed that is not currently available? No.

• Will consultants be needed? No.

• Is a continuity of operation plan (COOP) in place and how frequently is it tested? That is also being developed in cooperation with the IT staff.

• Are automated data capture resources needed? No.

• Will additional or new space be required? No.

IV.7 Organizational needs
[This section is intended to identify any organizational transformation that might be needed to implement the road map.

• Does a need for organizational change exist? Is it recognized?

• Can additional resources be leveraged within the current administrative structure?]

IV.7.1 Executive support
[This section is intended to describe how current administrative authorities view the importance of a sound animal disease traceability system to the well being of the livestock and poultry industries affected.

• Is additional support from executive management needed?

• How is accountability provided?

• How are officials briefed on progress and baseline measures of performance?]

IV.7.2 Coordination and oversight procedures
[This section is intended to describe who is responsible for advancing animal disease traceability and how an integrated plan is presented, monitored, and accounted for within the socio-political environment.

- What is the make-up of the applicant’s animal disease traceability advisory group? How frequently are they engaged?
- How are emergency preparedness resources engaged or responded to when necessary?
- How is compatibility with other States, Tribes, Territories, and USDA monitored?
- How are responsibilities assigned for implementing the plan?
- How are disputes arbitrated?
- How is feedback obtained relative to perception of successful implementation above and below the administrative authority?
- How is transition achieved when administrators are replaced?]

IV.7.3 Policy

[This section is intended to explain:

- How do existing mandates assist, limit, or modify what is intended to be achieved? This is being developed.
- Is there a need to address any specific mandates and act to modify them to align them with current goals and objectives? This is being developed.

IV.7.4 Staffing

[Questions such as the following may be addressed:

- How is full-time, paid support staff justified?
- What qualifications are needed?
- What personnel are needed to implement the plan?
- Can other human resources be leveraged to assist in implementing the plan?
- Are professional credentials and certification an issue?
- Are job descriptions for the roles needed provided?
- Is animal disease traceability information a distinct function within the unit or an add-on “coordinated by committee” versus an individually coordinated, stand-alone sub-unit?]

IV.7.5 Budget requirements

[This section is to include not only amounts by project, but also a description of sources and accountability.]
• How are you funded for animal disease traceability? Tribe.
• What are the funding requirements projected by year for FY2012, FY2013, and FY2014 for implementing this plan? $10,000 is projected for each year.
• How is cost sharing achieved? In-kind services.
• How can the applicant insulate against budget cuts and shortfalls? Tribal funds or other grants if necessary.
• Can other funding sources be leveraged to support this plan? This is being developed.

IV.7.6 Outreach (required to be addressed within the Road Map)
The Range and Agriculture Department, holds regular meetings to inform tribal members of the need and opportunity for premise registration. This will include mailings to individual ranchers, articles in Spilyay Tymoo newspaper, our tribal newspaper, and at least one meeting with the ranchers of each of the 6 Grazing Districts during inspections and permitting process. We will also provide fact sheets and brochures provided by the USDA as part of the education and outreach component.

4.7.6.1. Accredited veterinarians
[Accredited veterinarians are instrumental to the new framework focusing on interstate movement of livestock and poultry.
• What is the plan for informing accredited veterinarians of the new framework and the specific three-year plan for implementation?

Continued use of existing Veterinary Services.

• What continuing education is being planned for improving data quality relative to animal health information systems being used? Submitting official forms in a timely manner? Meetings have been held with each of the six range districts to inform them of new measures to identify their livestock. This has required multiple meetings in each district to achieve maximum participation.
• What is the plan for enhancing the use of eICVIs, if any? In development.
• What role, if any, does the accredited veterinarian have in providing low-cost, official identification tags/devices to producers?

4.7.6.2. Livestock markets
[Because of frequent commingling of livestock, and sometimes poultry, at livestock markets, increased biosecurity risks are incurred and, as a result, the importance of access to traceability information when needed is important.

- What continuing education efforts are being planned for addressing the concerns of the livestock markets in the jurisdiction? Range and Agriculture Department informing individual member of the livestock markets. This is also being developed.
- What is the plan for accessing or requesting traceability information from livestock markets? Not yet determined.

4.7.6.3. Industry as a whole

[Implementation of any plan to advance animal disease traceability impacts a variety of constituents, likely none more so than industry itself.

- How is industry being informed of the implementation plan? Not yet determined.
- How is the advisory committee being leveraged for this continuing education purpose? To date this is being done through the Range and Agriculture Department.
- What other resources are available for industry outreach? Not yet determined.
- What constitutes industry? What species are involved? Bovine.
- How are under-represented and under-served communities being included in the outreach plan? Meetings have been held with each of the six range districts to inform them of new measures to identify their livestock. This has required multiple meetings in each district to achieve maximum participation.

4.8. Monitoring and reporting interstate movement activity (required)

[The new traceability framework is focused on interstate movement and the accompanying ICVI or similar documentation for that movement.

- How will the number of animals and the number of shipments be monitored that move interstate? This information has been developed and recorded by the Range and Ag Department.
• How will the data be verified or validated? This is being developed by the IT staff.
• The following data must be reported for quarterly reports beginning with calendar year 2012:
  o Number of ICVIs and other interstate movement documents created within the State/Tribe/Territory on a year-to-date basis for move-out animals
  o Number of ICVIs and other interstate movement documents received for move-in animals
  o Number of animals by species and class for move-in events associated with ICVIs and other interstate movement documents, indicating the number of animals officially identified and the number not officially identified
  o Number of animals by species and class for move-out events associated with ICVIs and other interstate movement documents, indicating the number of animals officially identified and the number not officially identified
  o Volume of distribution for each official numbering system/device issued by the State/Tribe/Territory and/or AVIC office, including backtags by market or processing (slaughter) facility

V. TRACEABILITY IMPLEMENTATION

V.1 Ranking of priorities for advancement
Projects are in the process of being prioritized for funding over the next three years. This is being done in comparison to the annual work plan for approval.
• What specific steps are needed to advance from where the initiative currently resides? This is being developed.
• Is a phased-in approach appropriate over the three-year period? Yes. These steps are designed to be progressive in the identification of tribal livestock.
• Are various components dependent upon measurable successes rather than defined time periods? This dependent upon measurable successes of registered livestock.

V.2 Implementation of objectives
The Range and Agriculture Department, will continue hold meetings to inform tribal members of the need and opportunity for premise registration. This will include mailings to individual ranchers, articles in Spilyay Tymoo newspaper, our tribal newspaper, and at least one meeting with the ranchers of each of the 6 Grazing Districts during inspections and permitting process. We will also provide fact sheets and brochures.
provided by the USDA as part of the education and outreach component. The ranking of each step for the 3 year period is being determined.