

SCREW-WORM FLY SURVEILLANCE AND PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE ANNUAL MEETING RECORD OF MEETING

TUESDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2025 | Berrimah Farm, NT

In attendance:

Participant	Organisation
Mikhaila Nye	AHA – Chair
Sheaaz Sakur	AHA – Record
Bronwyn Hendry	AHA
Fiona Knox	NAQS – proxy
Kathleen Moylan	NT Gov
Selina Ossedryver	Qld. Gov
Rhys Powell	NSW – Southern Jurisdiction representative
Will Janson	WA Gov
Niamh Pilatti	Cattle Australia (CA) – livestock industry representative
Geoff Brown	Qld Gov, Reference Entomologist

Apologies: Guy Weerasinghe (NAQS)

1. Arrivals and Introductions

- The Chair gave an acknowledgement of country, welcomed Steering Committee (SC) members to the 2025 annual meeting and thanked Northern Territory for hosting the meeting.

2. Program status and year in review

2.1 Progress on 2024 meeting action items (S. Sakur)

- S. Sakur referred to the Action Register provided.
- B. Hendry provided an update on Action Item 1, noting concerns raised in the 2024 meeting about a clause in the Business Plan (BP) suggesting SWF incursions could be detected within 12 months.
 - On 21 November, the Committee met to review the clause. It was agreed AHA would review relevant documentation using FAO standards, focusing on the 12-month detection objective.
 - The origin of the 12-month timeframe couldn't be verified, and assumptions like the 11% wounding rate was found to lack evidence.
 - Harriet Garvey, a Master of Applied Epidemiology (MAE) student, has incorporated this work into her research project. Further details on her project will be provided under Agenda item 6.1.
- Action items 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 15, 18, 19, 21-23, 25-27 were completed.
- Action item 7 was closed and item 12 is resolved as surveillance in NPA has resumed and is on track.
- Action item 9 is in progress and has been raised with the CDC.
- S. Ossedryver provided an update on Action item 13 under Agenda item 6.2.

- Action item 14 is in progress. Given that AHA's minor use permits are due for renewal next year, the Committee agreed that AHA should initiate contact with Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (AVMPA) via the WA representatives contact and engage with the NSW pharmaceuticals team to explore other viable chemical alternatives.
- Action item 16 was further discussed under agenda item 3.2.
- Action item 17: initial consultation with NAQS and DAFF occurred but was not progressed for the 2025 workshop.
- Action item 20 is in progress and will be further discussed under Agenda item 5.1.
- Action item 24 is to be carried over for the 2026-27 BP to incorporate outputs from the MAE scholar review.
- Action item 28 is in progress with wording being proposed to be put within the BP and will be further discussed under Agenda item 8.1.

Conclusion:

The Committee acknowledged the updates provided on the 2024 action items, noting that Action Items 9, 13, 14, 20, 24 and 28 remain in progress. The Committee welcomed the involvement of MAE student Harriet Garvey as well as the progression of deepening understanding of international genomics of SWF.

Action/s

1. AHA to contact APVMA (via WA representative) and liaise with the NSW pharmaceuticals team to identify alternative chemical options ahead of the minor use permit renewal in 2026.

2.1 Program status report 2024-25 (M. Nye)

- M. Nye referred to the paper provided.
- It was noted that the underspend primarily resulted from reduced trapping activity, a previous bulk purchase of trapping materials, and a prolonged vacancy in the AHA coordinator role.
- Communications and trapping material requirements will be addressed early next year, with further discussion scheduled under agenda item 7.1.
- WHA was engaged regarding SWF within their wildlife health clinics, leading to an increase in wildlife case submissions from jurisdictions.
- AVMPA permits for SWF are valid until October next year; AHA is planning a review of these permits.
- AHA's MAE scholar, Harriet Garvey, is conducting an evaluation of the program.
- The Committee is requested to review the trapping plan in Appendix A to ensure alignment.
- AHA will hold an out-of-session discussion with NAQS to explore the amalgamating of traps, sites, and feral animal surveillance data capture.
- A discrepancy in Queensland uploads was noted; Queensland will follow up to reconcile reported data with NAHIP records. The project status report will be updated accordingly.
- Moving forward, jurisdictions are encouraged to liaise directly with their WHA coordinators to include wildlife myiasis surveillance in their coordinator reports. This approach supports both data validation and engagement with jurisdictional WHA coordinators.
- The committee also emphasized the importance of involving welfare teams in passive myiasis surveillance for SWF.

Conclusion:

The SC noted the program report and performance for 2024-25 and discussed areas of focus including continuing communications with WHA and welfare coordinators.

Action/s:

2. AHA to work with NAQS regarding their SWF reporting looking at the NAQS workbook and DMU.
3. WA to put together a template to support jurisdictions engaging with their welfare teams regarding myiasis passive surveillance.
4. Qld to upload missing SWF exclusion record to NAHIP.
5. AHA to circulate the updated status report with the corrected Qld and NAQS data.

3. Australian Government report

3.1 Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy (NAQS) report (F. Knox)

- Fiona Knox referred to the paper.
- NAQS noted that while kits are re-branded with NAQS logos and instructions, there is limited visibility on how kits are returned.
- The Committee queried NAQS on which laboratory submission forms are included within the re-branded kits. NAQS will take this on notice.
 - It was discussed that Queensland uses a jurisdiction-specific form, whereas a generic AHA submission form is more widely used. Jurisdictions are to review the form included in the kits to determine its suitability and whether there is a need for jurisdiction-specific versions.
- Qld noted the use of QR codes on NAQS kits to collect information from sample submitters. The Committee discussed the potential for AHA to implement a QR code system on maggot kits. It was suggested for the code to prompt users to input their name, location, and intended lab prior to submission, with automatic notification sent to the relevant jurisdictional coordinator.

Conclusion:

The SC noted the surveillance activities conducted by NAQS for 2024–25 and noted that their implementation of QR codes could be a useful feature to consider incorporating into the AHA maggot kits distributed to jurisdictions.

Action/s:

6. Jurisdictions and NAQS to review the current submission form included in maggot kits and assess the need for jurisdiction/organisation-specific forms (e.g., like Queensland's version).
7. AHA to explore the feasibility of implementing QR codes on maggot kits to improve tracking and coordination.

3.2 International focus (F. Knox)

- The paper referenced in this item is yet to be provided and will be circulated out of session.
- NAQS noted that most items under this agenda item currently lack direct oversight and will require consultation with DAFF.
- Regarding Action Item 16, a discussion with the OCVO confirmed that no feasible site is available for the insectocutor trial. Limitations in molecular capability make the trial unviable.

- NAQS discussed the need for an additional member on the SC to support international aspects. NAQS previously held oversight in this area, but structural changes have reduced their capacity to cover these topics.
- The Committee suggested inviting a DAFF representative to join the Committee. However, it was noted that DAFF staff are already engaged across multiple committees, and there may be restrictions on how many committees' individuals can participate in.
- Qld proposed that NAQS write to the Committee outlining the scope of the role and suggest suitable candidates. NAQS noted this may be difficult, as the agenda items span diverse areas requiring varied expertise across DAFF.
- AHA will compile a summary of the required expertise and liaise with NAQS to identify appropriate contacts and formally request a representative for the Committee.

Conclusion

The SC noted the cessation of the insectocutor trial in PNG. It also noted NAQS's concerns regarding providing an update for this agenda item and expressed support to engage a DAFF representative—potentially with assistance from NAQS—to join the Committee for discussions related to this matter.

Action/s:

8. NAQS to provide paper for Agenda item 3.2 out of session to AHA for circulation.
9. AHA to compile a summary of the required expertise and liaise with NAQS to identify suitable contacts, with the aim of formally requesting a DAFF representative to join the Committee with insights on international focus.

4. Coordinator reports

4.1 Northern Territory Report (K. Moylan)

- Kathleen Moylan referred to the paper.
- NT raised there was a three-month gap where user-references were not recorded for myiasis sampling. The Committee raised concerns that this information has been excluded, as the user reference supports tracing with the activities that occurred in case more information is needed down the track. While user-reference is not critical for data reporting such as through AHSQ, it is preferable to capture something that can be used to trace the record, such as a sampling date and location code (e.g. 241031-COOM). —even as “UNKNOWN” within the user reference—to maintain traceability.
- The trap placement at Santavan Export Yard is being considered as the current location is not ideal due to lack of shade and distance from the yards, and trap catches have been low.
- Targeted myiasis inspections have increased, particularly in sentinel herds, following last year's meeting. These inspections have resulted in more wound detections and sample submissions.
- NT discussed the need to engage with livestock biosecurity officers in SWF maggot collection, as some maggot samples have been received in unlabelled zip-lock bags or in liquid without proper identification.
- One human myiasis submission was noted. NT discussed identifying contact points within the human health sector to encourage submission and identification of maggots found in human lesions.

Conclusion

The SC noted the report on SWFSPP activities undertaken by the NT in the 2024-25 year, including the increase in targeted myiasis inspections, need for increased training of maggot collection by biosecurity officers and a human myiasis case submitted.

Action:

10. NT to update their data records that are missing user references to support traceability of submissions.

4.2 Queensland Report (S. Ossedryver)

- Selina Ossedryver referred to the paper.
- Committee was informed of a delay in trap deployment for the 2024–25 period due to staffing constraints. Qld sought advice on adjusting the trapping schedule, proposing flexibility to allow for 4-weekly trapping during the preferred time of year to meet the six collections across six sites. This was discussed further under item 4.6.
- An additional collection was recorded (totalling 31) due to one being lost in transit and later recovered, with the replacement collection also completed.
- Qld has updated its reporting procedures to align with the new DMU and workbook.
- Passive surveillance included outreach to eight major wildlife hospitals and vet clinics, with SWF materials and maggot kits distributed. This led to increased submissions.
 - One submission from a deceased animal was excluded from reporting.
 - Difficulties in maggot identification have resulted in samples being sent for genomic analysis.
- Qld continues to utilise NSDIP-funded workshops to promote SWFSPP and distribute brochures and kits.
- Noted they are still awaiting publication of the PCR protocol which is included in the SWF ID manual.

Conclusion

SC noted Qld proactive efforts in passive surveillance within the wildlife sector, which have led to an increase in case submissions. It was also noted that Qld has commenced genomic analysis using non-identifiable maggot samples. The Committee was informed that publication of the PCR protocol is still pending and will be notified once it becomes available.

Action:

11. Qld to provide an update to the SC once the multiplex PCR paper is published.

4.3 WA Report (W. Janson)

- Will Janson referred to the paper.
- The Committee was informed of trap modifications aimed at improving target species capture. An example was the use of a dusting powder to reduce ant by-catch without affecting fly collection.
- A new fly trapping form was implemented and has allowed challenges with data collection to be addressed such as at hard-to-access sites.
- Communication updates included the launch of a new website, with updated forms and links to the AHA website.

- WA highlighted the work of the Northern Australian Coordination Network (NACN), which focuses on three pillars: surveillance, communication, and training.
 - As part of training efforts, NACN introduced a branded fishing lure featuring the EAD hotline number.
 - A new surveillance kit was developed, containing basic PPE, instructional materials, hand sanitiser, apron, and face shields. The kit includes an LSD component and a SWF maggot kit.
 - Kits are numbered for tracking, cost approximately \$50 to produce, and have a 2-year shelf life. Consumables are replaceable, and kits are distributed across jurisdictions via NACN.

Conclusion

The SC noted the report on SWFSPP activities undertaken by the WA in the 2024-25 year, as well as WA active efforts to increase SWF awareness.

4.4 Southern Jurisdictions (R. Powell)

- Rhys Powell provided a verbal update.
- Noted limited engagement from South Australia and Victoria. The Committee discussed the possibility of a rotating southern state representative. Qld suggested that southern jurisdictions nominate their representative for each SWFSPP meeting and the representatives who are coming to the meeting decide on the attendee.
- NSW is planning to engage with district veterinarians involved in sale yard surveillance (FMD) to identify potential lesions that could contribute to SWF data.
- Noted that Eliz Braddon presented on SWF and the program at the District Veterinarians Conference, helping raise awareness.

Conclusion:

The SC noted NSW's concerns regarding limited engagement from SA and Victoria. A potential suggestion was raised to implement a rotation for southern jurisdictions representatives at the SWFSPP SC meetings.

Action:

12. AHA to talk internally with General Management on how to increase engagement with the other Southern Jurisdictions.

4.5 Industry priorities and recommendations (N. Pilatti)

- Niamh Pilatti provided a verbal update.
- CA has not been actively engaged in SWFSPP during the past few years but is committed to beginning active on the committee going forward.
- Committee was informed that CA supports increased collaboration with other livestock funding bodies, aiming to bring a broader industry-wide perspective to SWFSPP discussions.

Conclusion:

The SC welcomed Niamh Pilatti as the new livestock industry representative and expressed enthusiasm for CA's increased engagement with SWFSPP, recognising the value of bringing a broader industry-wide perspective to future discussions.

4.6 Surveillance Plan (M. Nye)

- M. Nye provided an update on the surveillance plan (SP) for the upcoming year, noting it is embedded within the Business Plan (BP) and open for updates.

- The Committee discussed adding a footnote on trap frequency, clarifying that while trapping is ideally every two months, flexibility is allowed if evenly spaced collections are not feasible. The trapping instructions will be reviewed for consistency.
- NAQS (Myiasis): Garrithiya and Gunbalanya, both NAMP sites, are undergoing different processes with their availability to act as NAMP sites. Garrithiya is also currently progressing through ethics approval for cattle blood sample collection. NAQS will keep the Committee informed of any changes regarding these sites and the effect on myiasis inspections.
- Qld (Trapping): Townsville showed consistently low fly counts compared to other sites. Due to WHS concerns with site access, Qld requested the relocation of this site. AHA asked Qld to provide updated site details including name, physical address, and latitude/longitude coordinates to formalise the change through email.
- NT informed Committee that a trap has been set up at a private property where an individual called and mentioned suspected SWF presence. NT has requested a site code for this trap.
- The Committee noted that if the MAE scholar's review results in significant changes to the SP for 2026–27, an out-of-session meeting may be required to discuss and approve updates.

Conclusion:

The SC discussed the surveillance plan for the coming year, with no major changes proposed to the surveillance strategy. It was noted that if MAE scholar's review results in significant changes to the SP for 2026-27 an out-of-session meeting may be required.

Action:

13. AHA to update the SP within the BP to include a footnote on the flexibility with trapping frequency if evenly spaced collections are not feasible, and to update WA's trapping frequency.
14. NT and Qld to provide site details for new sites to AHA, who will set up site codes.

5 Entomology expertise

5.1 Reference entomologist update (G. Brown)

- G. Brown referred to the paper provided.
- Regarding action item 20, G. Brown advised that maggots can be stored in water for 24–48 hours before being preserved in ethanol. This method simplifies field collection, as maggots remain alive in water for that period. While heat treatment can be done in the lab, it is preferable to perform it prior to shipping due to potential delays.
- Qld raised concerns about repeated heat treatment. It was clarified that once maggots are heat-treated, they become visibly hardened and white, indicating prior treatment. Furthermore, no adverse effects have been observed from subjecting them to heat treatment more than once.
- G. Brown discussed surveillance methodology and confidence levels, noting discrepancies in sampling intensity estimates for achieving 95% confidence:
 - 3,300 animals with 11% wounding
 - 500 animals with 11% wounding
 - Both estimates are statistically valid, and Qld DPI statisticians are currently working on simulations to explore the variance.
- Noted work is being done on developing a key for SWF eggs to assist with species identification.
- The Committee was asked to clarify whether, in the event of an incursion, proof of freedom requires species-level identification or exclusion – AHA to confirm with DAFF. Qld noted the

non-destructive PCR method that has been developed will allow for testing while preserving the sample for visual identification.

- A case in NSW was reported where a chicken had maggots described as having “barbs.” The Committee was informed that this terminology is not common but seems to be emerging as a way of describing the spines on maggots.
- WA noted the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) facility undertaking fruit fly eradication trials on Kangaroo Island. Committee discussed the cost of SIT facilities and the challenges with building a facility large enough to support SWF breeding.
- The Committee was reminded that any trap modifications must be tested in endemic areas to ensure effectiveness.
- Noted that two canine myiasis cases due to poor welfare were reported but did not involve the SWF program or have any identification undertaken. WA will follow up with their animal welfare team to investigate why identification of the maggots was not undertaken, and ways to increase maggot identification of welfare cases.
- New World screw-worm fly (NWSWF) outbreak in Mexico and Central America
 - Spread has been noted to be linked to illegal cattle movements and pet transport.
 - SWF travel about 1.2–1.9 km/day, but recent outbreaks have been over 50 km apart.
 - In the past month, Mexico reported 5,900 cases across species.
 - Control efforts including a SIT facility in Panama releasing 100 million sterile flies weekly, has been insufficient in stopping the outbreak from spreading. The US estimates 5 million flies/week are needed to stop the spread into the US; the current plant being set up in Texas will produce 1 million. A second facility is being built in Mexico, expected to take 2–3 years to complete.
 - One human case has been reported in the US. Detection dogs are being trained, and the FDA is fast-tracking SWF treatments. Doramectin and ivermectin are currently the recommended chemicals for treatment and prevention in cattle.
 - WOAHP provided a public webinar on the current NWSWF situation in August, but the recording is no longer available.

Conclusion:

The SC noted the update to the protocol involving maggot re-immersion in water just off the boil, as well as the ongoing assessment of the 95% confidence level and discrepancies in sampling intensity. The Committee also noted the update regarding the NWSWF outbreak currently affecting Mexico and Central America.

Action/s:

15. AHA to reach out to DAFF to confirm the level of exclusion required for proof freedom from SWF in the event of an outbreak.
16. G. Brown to compile and share with the SC a list of articles and papers that reference SWF.

6 R&D, diagnostic resources, database and review

6.1 Update on the SWFSPP evaluation project (H. Garvey)

- Harriet Garvey spoke to the presentation.
- Committee was informed that the scope of the evaluation entails planned, unplanned and preparedness surveillance activities.

- The evaluation will assess system attributes including representativeness, acceptability, timeliness, and data quality, using methods such as literature review, stakeholder engagement, data analysis, and interviews.
- Key focus areas include assessing the relevance and accuracy of current risk assessments and surveillance practices.
- Next steps:
 - Distribution of a stakeholder questionnaire in the coming weeks.
 - Interviews with key participants.
 - Data access request approved to support data quality analysis and identify gaps.
- The Committee agreed to share G. Brown's SWF distribution papers with H. Garvey to further support her literature review.
- G. Brown noted ongoing work with a statistician to clarify assumptions around sensitivity and sample sizes (e.g., 3,300 vs 500 animals for 95% confidence) and will share modelling results with H. Garvey.
- Committee was advised that sensitivity will not be included as an attribute due to the complexity, which would require PhD-level analysis.
- H. Garvey requested guidance on distributing the questionnaire and shared a draft with the Committee to help identify the target audience.
- The Committee agreed that jurisdictions should circulate the questionnaire internally, rather than Harriet sending it directly to multiple contacts. It was suggested that the survey also be shared with AMRIC, industry bodies through Cattle Australia (via N. Pilatti) and include southern state representatives.
- The survey is expected to be sent out in the coming weeks, with the project write-up targeted for completion by the end of the year. An Excel version of the questionnaire will be circulated for feedback to the SC, with responses requested by the end of next week.

Conclusion:

SC noted the update on the SWFSPP evaluation project. Committee members are to provide feedback on the questionnaire to H. Garvey and assist with its internal distribution.

Action/s:

17. H. Garvey to provide presentation to AHA to circulate to Committee.
18. G. Brown to share modelling results related to the 95% confidence levels to H. Garvey. Following Action Item 12, SWF articles and papers provided to the SC are to also be shared.
19. AHA to circulate Harriet's survey for input from the Committee due by COB next week.

6.2 Update on the insectocutors trial (Future needs and gaps)

- As the insectocutor trial has been closed this item will be used to explore future needs and gaps.
- **Understanding genomics of international SWF (S. Ossedryver)**
 - In relation to action item 13, Qld noted that work has started with passive surveillance samples from wildlife being sent to the genetics department for formal identification, focusing on relevant gene segments.
 - Qld mentioned that next steps include conducting a preliminary literature review to assess existing methodologies, and reaching out to G. Brown and international contacts to access fly samples for cooperative assessment.

- Ability to expand the understanding of international SWF genomics by using samples from neighbouring regions will aid in improving outbreak tracing and inform control strategies, including identifying resistance traits and sourcing genetically compatible flies for SIT programs.
- Committee identified key questions include identifying population differences, resistance genes, and the relevance of current risk assessments.
- Focus will be on OWS populations.
- Genetic compatibility is critical for control strategies; significant genomic differences can hinder mating success in SIT programs.
- The Committee agreed to keep the initiative informal for now. Qld genomics team will be approached to explore feasibility and develop a proposal based on Committee questions and interest.
- **Human cases of SWF and connecting with human health**
 - The Committee discussed improving communication and coordination with the human health sector regarding SWF cases.
 - Northern Territory reported that some labs are unable to process human samples due to NATA accreditation limitations, as they are veterinary labs.
 - AHA will raise this issue with the CDC during upcoming reviews of the notifiable disease list.
 - The key challenge is identifying where human samples should be sent and who is responsible for testing, prior to making SWF reportable in humans.
 - Before expanding maggot kit distribution to human health sectors, the Committee agreed it is essential to confirm willingness and capacity to submit and process specimens.

Conclusion:

The SC noted the conclusion of the insectocutor trial. Support was expressed for Qlds work expanding internal SWF genomics, highlighting its value for potential incursion response and control strategies. The Committee also discussed the challenge of SWF not being reportable in humans and the need to identify suitable laboratories for testing human samples.

Action/s:

20. Qld to discuss with genomics team undertaking the genomics work on internal SWF species and provide an update to the SC on if a formal proposal for samples/data and funding will be requested of the SWFSPP.
21. Jurisdictions to reach out to respective human health laboratories to determine procedures for handling a human SWF case and report findings to the SC
22. AHA continuing to reach out to CDC on the appetite to include SWF on the human health notifiable disease list.

6.3 SWFSPP Data collation and reporting (B. Hendry and M. Nye)

- B. Hendry provided an update on SWFSPP data collation and reporting. SWF data is entered into NAHIS, with the broader program managed under NAHIP. The database had become outdated, prompting collaboration with DAFF to explore Auspest Check (APC). After the cessation of APC, backend improvements have been made, including updated code and a secure single sign-on system managed by Ausvet.

- AHA within this time has also conducted a high-level review of data needs across its members.
- Future system enhancements may include trend analysis, machine learning, and climate-based modelling. While SWF data remains limited, efforts are underway to explore how existing data can be better analysed.
- Noted that annual meetings provide an opportunity to assess and update the DMU policy as needed.
- The Committee raised concerns about the numTrapYield field being limited to numerical input, preventing clarification on whether values are exact counts or estimates. It was clarified that such details can be included in the optional targetSpecies field, with either field being optional and available for use depending on what is most appropriate
- AHA will review how jurisdictions are uploading data within the optional fields. The Committee agreed that optional fields can be valuable for future data analysis, but it was clarified that their use should depend on relevance, not user preference.

Conclusion:

SC noted the update on the current SWFSPP data collation and reporting along with future system enhancements.

Action:

23. AHA to review how jurisdictions are uploading data within the optional fields and report back to SC on any suggested changes.

7 Awareness and communications materials

7.1 Update on communications and awareness materials (S. Sakur)

- Sheaaz Sakur spoke to the presentation
- Noted the current communications materials, including brochures, posters, magnets, and a video—all available digitally on the AHA SWFSPP webpage. The 5th edition of Old-World SWF: A Manual for Diagnosis will be uploaded once Queensland's PCR publication is released.
- The brochure, published on 20 May 2024, has been downloaded 749 times; the poster, published on 3 May 2021, has reached 2,133 downloads.
- Following last year's discussion, a maggot kit numbering system was implemented (format: Year–Jurisdiction/Organisation–Kit Number–AB), applied to the bottom of the kit, both ethanol vials (A and B), and the lab submission form. The Committee recommended also placing the identifier on the inside of the lid and potentially adding a QR code, like NAQS kits.
- Qld noted that additional kits and trapping components may be needed ahead of the usual February 2026 communications and supply call.
- Qld noted that wildlife kits were labelled with the required return address and return postage costs were covered by Qld.
- Updates to communications materials per early discussions included clarifying instructions around boiling and storage in lukewarm water. AHA will work with G. Brown to determine which materials require updates.
- A previous action item called for the creation of an internal report for members and an external infographic (placemat) for broader dissemination. A preliminary placemat was

shared, based on discussions from the 2024 SWFSPP Steering Committee meeting. The process will include:

- Incorporating meeting feedback and referencing official minutes with a draft being circulated along with draft minutes one month post meeting for review and then finalisation for distribution.
- The placemat was initially designed to support NSW in communicating meeting outcomes to other southern jurisdictions, but has since evolved into a tool for all committee members to use to communicate internally, and for AHA to communicate with its members.
- Queensland reported positive engagement with WHA.
- The Committee discussed potential SWFSPP promotion at the BEEF27 conference (held every three years, next in 2027), pending available resources.
- Cattle Australia will explore relevant industry events where SWFSPP could be promoted.

Conclusion:

The SC noted the update on SWF communication materials, with the next call for communications including trapping components scheduled for February 2026. Following the revised instructions on maggot boiling and storage in lukewarm water, updates to the materials may be required. The Committee also acknowledged the trial development of an external infographic summarising the SC meeting and insights for broader dissemination

Action/s:

24. AHA to update the numbering system for the next batch of maggot kits, ensuring kit numbers are also displayed on the underside of the lid.
25. AHA will work with G. Brown to determine which awareness materials require updates following the outcome of studies regarding storage and heat treatment.
26. CA to identify upcoming events and opportunities where the SWFSPP can be promoted.

8 Program documentation

8.1 Work Instructions for adult fly trapping and targeted myiasis inspection work (M. Nye)

- M. Nye noted that no edits were identified in the fly trapping and myiasis inspection documents circulated prior to the meeting.
- Fly trapping:
 - The section on trap timing should clarify that trap frequency should ideally be spread throughout the year. If this is not feasible, more frequent trapping is acceptable to meet annual targets.
 - To note that any modifications to traps must be tested with SWF to ensure they do not affect capture rates.
 - Email addresses throughout the trapping instructions should be reviewed and updated.
- Myiasis inspections:
 - Instructions are to be updated to reflect updated guidance on the boiling of maggots and submersion in lukewarm water prior to ethanol treatment to improve field collection processes.
 - Minor grammatical corrections were noted throughout the document.
 - A review of the map is required to verify details around northern sites.
 - Included information about the identification code (kit number) for maggot kits.

- AHA to confirm the history and status of AHA reply-paid mailing bags. If no longer applicable, wording should be updated to reflect current mailing practices (padded mailing bags).
- Updates to Appendix 1 are required to align with the revised DMU.
- Email addresses throughout the myasis instructions should be reviewed and updated as well as removal of Qld FAX number.

Conclusion:

The SC supported minor updates to the work instructions for adult fly trapping and targeted myiasis inspections noting its circulation prior to finalisation.

Action/s:

27. AHA to confirm the history and status of reply-paid mailing bags and inform SC if still applicable within the SWFSPP.

28. AHA to update work instructions and circulate to SC.

8.2 Business Plan 2025–28 (updates for 2025–26 and any major changes for 2026-27)

- M. Nye confirmed that the 2025–26 Business Plan has been finalised, noting that it is part of a three-year plan. While a minor update may be made for the 2025–26 year, a major revision is anticipated following the results of the evaluation.
- Noted the addition of opportunistic myiasis sampling under Section 4.1.2 (Targeted Myiasis Inspections).
- Update jurisdictional contact details.
- Qld proposed including the potential molecular work in the Business Plan. It was noted that this could be revisited in the next BP cycle, depending on the outcomes of current molecular research.
- Register of entomology training attendance will be updated following the entomology workshop scheduled.
- NAQS to confirm their representative for the SWFSPP SC.

Conclusion:

The SC supported the minor updates to the BP noting for its circulation prior to finalisation.

Action/s:

29. NAQS to confirm SWFSPP SC member

30. AHA to update BP and circulate to SC.

Other Business: Wrap up

- Meeting was closed at 4:30pm.
- Western Australia will host the next SC meeting, scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, 8–9 September 2026.

SWFSPP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 2025 ACTION REGISTER

#	ACTION	WHO	BY
1	AHA to contact APVMA (via WA representative) and liaise with the NSW pharmaceuticals team to identify alternative chemical options ahead of the minor use permit renewal in 2026.	AHA	APR 2026
2	AHA to work with NAQS regarding their SWF reporting looking at the NAQS workbook and DMU.	AHA & NAQS	DEC 2025
3	WA to put together a template to support jurisdictions engaging with their welfare teams regarding myiasis passive surveillance.	WA	JAN 2026
4	Qld to upload missing SWF exclusion record to NAHIP.		DEC 2025
5	AHA to circulate the updated status report with the corrected Qld and NAQS data.	AHA, QLD & NAQS	NOV 2025
6	Jurisdictions and NAQS to review the current submission form included in maggot kits and assess the need for jurisdiction/organisation-specific forms (e.g., like Queensland's version).	JURISDICTIONS AND NAQS	FEB 2026
7	AHA to explore the feasibility of implementing QR codes on maggot kits to improve tracking and coordination.	AHA	FEB 2026
8	NAQS to provide paper for Agenda item 3.2 out of session to AHA for circulation.	NAQS	JAN 2026
9	AHA to compile a summary of the required expertise and liaise with NAQS to identify suitable contacts, with the aim of formally requesting a DAFF representative to join the Committee with insights on international focus.	AHA	SEP 2026
10	NT to update their data records that are missing user references to support traceability of submissions.	NT	DEC 2025
11	Qld to provide an update to the SC once the multiplex PCR paper is published.	QLD	DEC 2025
12	AHA to talk internally with General Management on how to increase engagement with the other Southern Jurisdictions.	AHA	JAN 2026
13	AHA to add a footnote on the flexibility with trapping frequency if evenly spaced collections are not feasible into the draft 2026-27 BP.	AHA	MAR 2026
14	NT and Qld to provide site details for new sites to AHA, who will set up site codes.	AHA	NOV 2025
15	AHA to reach out to DAFF to confirm the level of exclusion required for proof freedom from SWF in the event of an outbreak.	AHA	DEC 2025

16	G. Brown to compile and share with the SC a list of articles and papers that reference SWF.	REF ENTO	DEC 2025
17	H. Garvey to provide presentation to AHA to circulate to Committee.	AHA	DEC 2025
18	G. Brown to share modelling results related to the 95% confidence levels to H. Garvey. Following Action Item 12, SWF articles and papers provided to the SC are to also be shared.	REF ENTO	FEB 2026
19	AHA to circulate Harriets survey for input from the Committee due by COB next week.	AHA	COMPLETE
20	QLD to discuss with genomics team undertaking the genomics work on internal SWF species and provide an update to the SC on if a formal proposal for samples/data and funding will be requested of the SWFSPP.	QLD	SEP 2026
21	Jurisdictions to reach out to respective human health laboratories to determine procedures for handling a human SWF case and report findings to the SC	JURISDICTION S	SEP 2026
22	AHA continuing to reach out to CDC on the appetite to include SWF on the human health notifiable disease list.	AHA	SEP 2026
23	AHA to review how jurisdictions are uploading data within the optional fields and report back to SC on any suggested changes.	AHA	SEP 2026
24	AHA to update the numbering system for the next batch of maggot kits, ensuring kit numbers are also displayed on the underside of the lid.	AHA	COMPLETE – updated for QLD Oct batch
25	AHA will work with G. Brown to determine which awareness materials require updates following the outcome of studies regarding storage and heat treatment.	AHA & REF ENTO	JAN 2026
26	CA to identify upcoming events and opportunities where the SWFSPP can be promoted.	CA	SEP 2026
27	AHA to confirm the history and status of reply-paid mailing bags and inform SC if still applicable within the SWFSPP.	AHA	FEB 2026
28	AHA to update work instructions and circulate to SC	AHA	DEC 2025
29	NAQS to confirm SWFSPP SC member	NAQS	COMPLETE – Fiona Knox as new SC member
30	AHA to update BP and circulate to SC.	AHA	DEC 2025
Notes: US FDA has approved the emergency use of Credelio to address SWF in dogs. Is this something AHA should consider with the renewal.			