



NATIONAL ANIMAL HEALTH INFORMATION PROGRAM

BUSINESS PLAN
JULY 2025 – JUNE 2028

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1. OVERVIEW

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

This business plan is the management document for the National Animal Health Information Program (NAHIP or 'the program'). It is owned by Animal Health Australia (AHA) to facilitate delivery of the program.

1.2 PROGRAM TITLE

National Animal Health Information Program

1.3 BACKGROUND

National Animal Health Information System (NAHIS) is a software application and database that collates data from a wide range of government and nongovernment surveillance and monitoring programs to provide an overview of animal health in Australia. The information in NAHIS is essential for supporting trade in animal commodities and meeting Australia's international reporting obligations. The NAHIS is part of the Central Animal Health Information Database and shares common infrastructure with the National Arbovirus Monitoring Program's NAMP-Info, and the Endemic Disease Information System (Figure 1).

In 2009, the system was expanded to house data that are accessed by two other surveillance program applications — NAMP-Info (information system for the National Arbovirus Monitoring Program) and EDIS (Endemic Disease Information System). The three applications use the same underlying database but maintain separate and distinct web interfaces. The NAHIS provides selected summaries of national animal health data, NAMP-Info provides the official interactive bluetongue virus transmission zone map and EDIS has a searchable register of herds and flocks in the Australian Johne's disease Market Assurance Program.

The NAHIS data are routinely reported in the *Animal Health Surveillance Quarterly* (AHSQ) and *Animal Health in Australia* (AHiA) annual report and are used by the Australian Government in reports to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the World Health Organization. Current disease surveillance reports and publications are available via the NAHIP page of the AHA website.

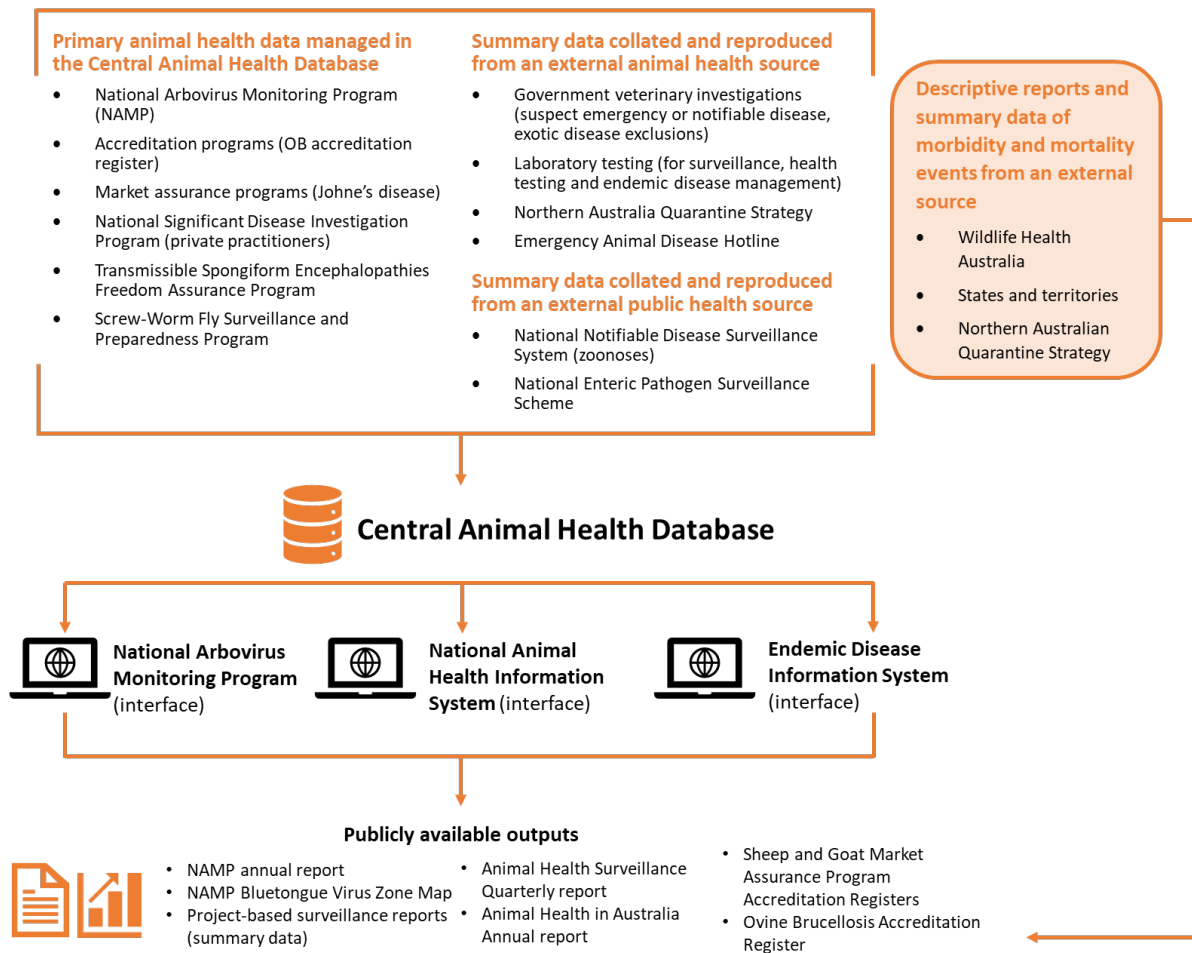


FIGURE 1. CENTRAL ANIMAL HEALTH DATABASE DATA SOURCES, INTERFACES, AND REPORTS

1.4 CONCLUSION/TERMINATION

The NAHIP is an ongoing program of AHA.

2. PROGRAM GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

2.1 PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of the NAHIP is to support Australia's market access through the collation and reporting of surveillance and monitoring information.

2.2 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the NAHIP are to:

1. collect summary data on animal health status and surveillance from the Australian, state and territory governments, and selected non-government agencies as required by AHA's members;
2. manage, analyse (as needed) and report NAHIP data to accurately reflect Australia's animal health status as well as its surveillance and disease control activities and capabilities; and
3. for the purposes of objectives one and two, identify the needs and priorities in animal health information and potential enhancements to the NAHIS.

2.3 OUTPUTS

The following outputs are delivered by the NAHIP and are listed in order of importance.

1. Accurate, summary animal disease data, renewed quarterly and available through a web application.
2. An annual synopsis through the Animal Health in Australia (AHIA) report.
3. Quarterly activity and status reports (AHSQ)
4. Disease information tables that summarise the animal health status of WOAHA-listed and other diseases.
5. A NAHIS database user manual available on the NAHIS wiki.
6. Technical advice on data collection and animal health status provided as required.

2.4 OUTCOMES

The general target outcome of the NAHIP is that summary animal health information is made available to AHA members through a national system to support trade in animals and animal commodities.

Specific target outcomes and their measures are detailed in Table 1.

TABLE 1. OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT

Outcome	Measures	Completion Date	Accountability
Surveillance information needs of the Australian Government are satisfied	- A current and complete summary of national surveillance information is available to the Australian Government. - Summary surveillance information collected is consistent and readily comparable across jurisdictions. - Surveillance information captured addresses priorities (WOAH reporting, supporting claims of diseases status and trade negotiations).	Ongoing	AHA and members
Surveillance information needs of the state and territory government departments are satisfied	- A national forum that supports effective cooperation for the collation of summary national surveillance information - Dissemination of summary surveillance information, topical surveillance related news, and case reports to practicing veterinarians.	Ongoing	AHA and members
Surveillance information needs of livestock industry councils are satisfied	- Information needs to support market access and products are provided - A national forum available that supports effective cooperation between governments and industry for the collation and reporting of summary national surveillance information - Availability of disease occurrence information disease surveillance, control and prevention programs.	Ongoing	AHA and members
Surveillance information needs of Wildlife Health Australia are satisfied	- A voice for wildlife health issues and expertise at national animal health surveillance discussions. - Dissemination of accurate and relevant national wildlife health event information. - Integration of wildlife health information into relevant sections of AHIA. - Availability of published wildlife health information for WHA stakeholders including those represented on the Advisory Committee. - Coordination of reports to the Australian Government via the Advisory Committee reflecting WHA's wildlife health reporting responsibilities.	Ongoing	AHA and members

2.5 SCOPE OF WORK

TABLE 2. NAHIP SCOPE OF WORK

Part of the program (Inside Scope)	Responsibility	Not part of the program (Outside Scope)	Responsibility
Coordinate collection, entry and upload of complete and accurate state/territory summary data/reports every quarter into the NAHIS database ensuring first-level quality control	NAHIP State/Territory Coordinators	Conducting monitoring and surveillance for animal health diseases to generate trade-relevant animal health data	State/territory governments
Second-level quality ¹ control of uploaded data	Contributors and Technical Review Panel		
Provide policy support, advice and reports to stakeholders and clients	NAHIP Advisory Committee	Draft government policies, update the AUSVETPLAN disease strategy manuals or report to the WOA	Australian and state/territory governments
Maintain the NAHIS data projects ² and review them annually to ensure that data has achieved the objectives of its collation and modify the projects accordingly	NAHIP Advisory Committee		
Provide NAHIS database user support	AHA		
Publish AHIA annually	AHA, Australia Government with contributions from the NAHIP Advisory Committee		
Publish AHSQ quarterly	AHA, Australia Government with contributions from the NAHIP Advisory Committee		
Review the program activities for the past year and advise AHA on improvements to the Program and business plan	NAHIP Advisory Committee		
Conduct six-monthly audits of authorised users of the database	AHA		
Review and approve data access requests	AHA and NAHIP Advisory Committee		

¹ Checking for data anomalies after data entry

² Ensuring functionality of each data project within the NAHIS application

2.6 PROGRAM SCHEDULE – DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

TABLE 3. NAHIP SCHEDULE – DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES

Id	Description	Who is responsible	Scheduled Finish	Predecessor ³
1	Quarterly data entry	State/territory coordinators	1 st week August	
2	Data check	Surveillance Coordinator, state/territory coordinators	4 th week August	1
3	Annual program report prepared	Program Manager	Mid-September	
4	Annual coordinator report	State/territory coordinators	Mid-October	
5	Virtual Advisory Committee meeting	NAHIP Advisory Committee, Program Manager	Mid-October	3,4
6	Quarterly data entry	State/territory coordinators	1 st week November	
7	AHiA pre-production	AHA Program Manager, DAFF Coordinators, AHA Communications	End-November	
8	Propose program budget for AHA draft Annual Operating Plan based on advice from Advisory Committee	Program Manager	End-November	5,16
9	Data check	Surveillance Coordinator, state/territory coordinators	4 th week November	7
10	Reports for inclusion in AHiA	Program Manager	January	6
11	Quarterly data entry	State/territory coordinators	1 st week February	
12	Data check	Surveillance Coordinator, state/territory coordinators	4 th week February	11
13	Draft business plan prepared	Program Manager	April	8
14	Quarterly data entry	State/territory coordinators	1 st week May	
15	Annual report	DAFF, Industry representatives	Mid-May	
16	Annual Advisory Committee General Meeting	NAHIP Advisory Committee, Program Manager	Mid-May	13, 15
17	Data check	Surveillance Coordinator, state/territory coordinators	4 th week May	14

³ Identify deliverables or milestones that must be completed before this deliverable/milestone can be completed

2.7 RISK MANAGEMENT

2.7.1 Risk Identification

A risk analysis carried out internally by AHA has identified some principal external program risks for the NAHIP:

1. Inclusion of poor-quality data. This could be due to:
 - low familiarity with the NAHIS database and its outputs;
 - poor understanding about the end use of data and significance to trade;
 - absence of jurisdictional coordinator during the data entry period;
2. Delays in timely submission of data. This could be due to:
 - increased data volume and complexity
 - changing data systems and infrastructure
 - competing priorities and workloads
3. Database system failure. This could be due to:
 - technical or mechanical glitch in the database infrastructure (hardware);
 - lack of maintenance of the database infrastructure;
 - age or exceeded capacity of the database infrastructure; and/or
 - lack of capability in or support to software aspects.
4. Data security breaches. This could be due to:
 - passwords of authorised users being provided to unauthorised users;
 - authorised users providing or selling data to unauthorised users for other unauthorised purposes;
 - indefinite access given to authorised users;
5. Insufficient resources for AHIA and AHSQ production and approvals. This could be due to:
 - competing workloads;
 - different priorities set;
 - lack of awareness by or disengagement of decision-makers regarding the AHIA annual report's significance and end use; and/or
 - lack of resources to undertake such work.
6. There are significant externally-caused delays in the timely publication of AHIA and AHSQ. This could be due to:
 - delayed contributions by authors;
 - delayed comments in the editorial phase;
 - protracted negotiations with the editor and/or printer;
 - lack of relevant photo libraries;
 - lack of suitable photos from available libraries; and/or
 - delayed delivery by printer.
7. Failure to respond to future information recording and reporting needs. This could be due to:
 - lack of assessment undertaken of future information needs of members; and/or
 - poor communication about future information needs with relevant technical groups (e.g., AHC).
8. Failure of AHIA and AHSQ to adequately support market access requirements and/or reach their target audiences. This could be due to:
 - lack of understanding of international market requirements;

- reports not being used for their intended purpose; and/or
 - reports not being accessible to their intended audiences.
9. Lack of clear documentation in relation to the reporting lines for feral and wildlife data versus domestic data. This could be due to:
- poor documentation of data reporting lines.
10. Lack of clear documentation about decisions made for the development of data standards. This could be due to:
- poor documentation being developed at the time that decisions are made;
 - loss of documentation over time as a result of poor information management resulting in a loss of corporate knowledge over time.
11. Lack of suitable database to meet the requirements of the program. This could be due to:
- failure of the current database with no suitable backup;
 - inherent limitations in a new database system;
 - lack of implementation of fixes, enhancements or updates to the database system as required to accommodate the critical needs of the program and its stakeholders.
12. Inadequate funding of the program. This could be due to:
- increased program expenses, such as database maintenance costs; and or
 - reduced funding from members.

2.7.2 Risk Mitigation

For the principal risks identified above, AHA's broad mitigation strategies⁴ include:

- proactive efforts to consult and seek advice on emerging issues;
- provision of high quality, professional and timely advice on issues;
- responding effectively to members' requirements;
- systematic business planning and reporting processes (including through this business plan);
- use of risk evaluations as part of policy analysis, program delivery design and services procurement (see Section 2.7.5);
- development of tightly defined contract management processes and service standards for delivery of key external services (including information technology and human resource processing);
- funding agreements that reflect the assessed risk, balanced against the need for the delivery of services; and
- widely disseminated, well-articulated and managed policies and procedures covering program expectations and contingency planning.

⁴ AHA methodology has been reviewed to determine consistency with AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Australian Standard on Risk Management

2.7.3 Risk Analysis, evaluation and mitigation

TABLE 4. RISK ANALYSIS, EVALUTION AND MITIGATION OF RISKS IDENTIFIED IN SECTION 2.7.1

Id	Risk	Likelihood (untreated risk)	Consequences (untreated risk)	Risk rating (untreated risk)	Evaluation and response	Likelihood (after treatment)	Consequences (after treatment)	Overall risk rating (after treatment) ⁵
1	Inclusion of poor-quality data	Possible	Major	High	- Raising awareness about the need for data accuracy and subsequent use of data. - Hold ad-hoc meetings as required to discuss nuances and achieve consistency and consider potential sensitivities. - Clarifying data fields and instructions within workbooks - Workshopping of data quality issues during the development of updated data standards - Annually reviewing the NAHIP Data Management and Use Policy and data standards	Unlikely	Minor	Low
2	Delays in timely submission of data	Likely	Moderate	High	Confirming and communicating clear end use requirements	Possible	Minor	Low
3	Database system failure	Possible	Major	High	- AHA review NAHIS and the CAHD as part of a whole of company information and communications technology plan. - Contract in place with database provider	Rare	Moderate	Low

⁵ AHA's risk analysis and evaluation matrix can be found in Appendix 2

Id	Risk	Likelihood (untreated risk)	Consequences (untreated risk)	Risk rating (untreated risk)	Evaluation and response	Likelihood (after treatment)	Consequences (after treatment)	Overall risk rating (after treatment) ⁵
					- Monitoring and reviewing database performance with jurisdictional coordinators - Evaluation of future system requirements and alternative options 2024-25 FY a major investment was made to significantly upgrade the database, with subsequent plans to continue to maintain the system to contemporary standards within the routine operations of each years contract.			
4	Data security beaches	Possible	Major	High	- User access requests through NAHIP coordinator/supervisor endorsement from requester 6-monthly auditing of database users - Penetration testing of database - Explore use of multi-factor authentication 2024-25 FY a major investment has been made to significantly upgrade the database	Rare	Moderate	Low
5	Insufficient resources for AHIA and AHSQ production and approvals	Possible	Moderate	Medium	- Maintenance of relationships with key collaborators - Increase efforts to inform stakeholders of the need to contribute to the publication	Possible	Minor	Low

Id	Risk	Likelihood (untreated risk)	Consequences (untreated risk)	Risk rating (untreated risk)	Evaluation and response	Likelihood (after treatment)	Consequences (after treatment)	Overall risk rating (after treatment) ⁵
6	Significant delays in the timely publication of AHIA and AHSQ	Likely	Moderate	High	- Enhanced consultative processes (e.g. 'high-level' meetings) to address and resolve significant issues. - Maintenance of relationships	Possible	Minor	Low
7	Failure to respond to future information recording and reporting needs	Possible	Major	High	- Close collaboration with AHC and the NAHIP Advisory Committee Annually reviewing the NAHIP Data Management and Use Policy and data standards - A project is underway to determine Members high level needs for a database and future national data sharing opportunities more widely	Possible	Moderate	Medium
8	Failure of AHIA and AHSQ to adequately support market access requirements and/or reach their target audiences	Possible	Major	High	- Regular governance meetings (annual NAHIP meetings) - Analytics into readership	Possible	Minor	Low
9	Lack of clear documentation in relation to the reporting lines for feral and wildlife	Likely	Minor	Medium	Clarify wording in Business Plan and supporting documentation	Rare	Minor	Low

Id	Risk	Likelihood (untreated risk)	Consequences (untreated risk)	Risk rating (untreated risk)	Evaluation and response	Likelihood (after treatment)	Consequences (after treatment)	Overall risk rating (after treatment) ⁵
	data versus domestic data							
10	Lack of clear documentation about decisions made for the development of new data standards.	Likely	Moderate	High	Retain documentation of decisions made in the development of the data standards.	Rare	Moderate	Low
11	Lack of suitable database to meet the requirements of the program.	Possible	Major	High	- Work with Ausvet to ensure database development/upgrades are fit for purpose and meet the needs of the program. - A project is underway to determine Members high level needs for a database.	Rare	Moderate	Low
12	Inadequate funding of the program.	Possible	Major	High	Ensure program expenses don't exceed the budget for the program. Follow procurement guidelines.	Rare	Moderate	Low

2.7.4 Risk Management

The program accepts the residual risk ratings following treatment.

2.7.5 Risk Monitoring Review and Reporting

AHA will review the NAHIP risks annually in consultation with the NAHIP Advisory Committee as part of the Annual General Meeting. Members of the advisory committee are to raise any additional risks and recommend adjustments to the Program Manager for consideration.

2.8 RELEVANT POLICY, LEGISLATION AND RULES

Each state and territory has a list of 'notifiable' animal diseases; each disease lists contains all the diseases on the national list and can include others specific to that state or territory. These diseases are notifiable, meaning there is a legal requirement for anyone who suspects or diagnoses a disease on the list to immediately notify their relevant state or territory animal health authority.

3. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

3.1 GOVERNANCE

1. Oversight of the program is the responsibility of the Program Manager, AHA.
2. The Program will be managed in accordance with program management policies of AHA.
3. The NAHIP Advisory Committee will evaluate, review and decide on operational policy in relation to program activities.
4. The Program Manager will liaise with the NAHIP Advisory Committee in preparing the business plan.
5. The NAHIS database user support and coordination is the responsibility of AHA.
6. Technical guidance in relation to meeting the program objectives is provided to AHA by the NAHIP Advisory Committee and/or AHC.
7. Application and database administration is the responsibility of AHA.

3.1.1 Program Sponsor/Owner

The NAHIP is a core-funded program of AHA and therefore 'owned' by, and providing benefits to, all AHA members.

3.1.2 Advisory Committee

The primary purpose of the NAHIP Advisory Committee is to ensure that the objectives and scope of the Program meet the needs of AHA members for national surveillance information management.

Terms of reference:

1. Develop and review the NAHIP Business Plan for the upcoming financial year annually.
2. Consider and comment on any complementary activities regarding disease surveillance and animal health information systems when required.
3. Decide on the composition of the NAHIP Advisory Committee.
4. Make recommendations to and receive advice from AHC, as required, on surveillance information needs and priorities and potential enhancements to the surveillance system.
5. Oversee all changes to NAHIP reporting.

The NAHIP Advisory Committee will meet in person each year. Other business of the group will be addressed out-of-session through email correspondence and teleconference.

TABLE 5. NAHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Role	Representative	Organisation
Program Manager (Advisory Committee Chair)	Bronwyn Hendry	Animal Health Australia
Program Manager (NAHIS database and web applications)	Mikhaila Nye	Animal Health Australia
Program Coordinator (includes NAHIS support and support of AHSQ and AHIA)	Sheaaz Sakur	Animal Health Australia
Australian Government NAHIP Coordinator *This role will consult with the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, Aquatic Animal Health and Export Standards Branch	Emily Sellens	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Australian Government representative (Animal Biosecurity)	Adam Robinson	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Australian Government representative (Northern Australia Quarantine Strategy, NAQS)	Guy Weerasinghe	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness representative	James Watson	Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness
AHA Industry Forum representative	Johann Schroder	Sheep Producers
AHA Industry Forum representative	Raymond Chia	Australian Pork Limited
NSW Gov. coordinator	Geoff Campbell	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, New South Wales
NT Gov. coordinator	Stacey Carnogoy	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Northern Territory
Qld Gov. coordinator	Selina Ossedryver	Department of Primary Industries, Queensland
SA Gov. coordinator	Callain Howarth	Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia
Tas. Gov. coordinator	Jennifer Voss	Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Tasmania
Vic. Gov. coordinator	Julia Sarandopoulos	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Victoria
WA Gov. coordinator	Leander McLennan	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
WHA representative	Keren Cox-Witton	Wildlife Health Australia

3.1.3 Program Manager

Specific responsibilities include to:

- produce and implement a business plan to meet the information needs of stakeholders for consistent and reliable information on the national animal health status and surveillance activities;
- manage and chair a national advisory committee to identify needs, priorities and opportunities for the NAHIP;
- manage program reviews;
- manage the NAHIS (including its database and web application);
- manage a consultant contract for the NAHIS database and application services; and
- manage the production of the AHSQ and AHIA reports.

3.1.4 Program Officer/Coordinator

Specific responsibilities include to:

- coordinate the quarterly collation of NAHIS data;
- coordinate the production of AHSQ and AHIA in cooperation with a technical editor and AHA communications team;
- coordinate preparation for, and make a record of, NAHIP Advisory Committee meetings;
- support the implementation of program actions and implementation of the program business plan; and
- review user access to the NAHIS database.

3.1.5 Application and database support (AHA and contractor)

Specific responsibilities include to:

- support users of the NAHIS surveillance data projects;
- maintain the NAHIS wiki pages and support users;
- maintain the NAHIS and database user manuals; and
- coordinate database server requirements.

3.1.6 Australian Government NAHIP Coordinator

An Australian Government NAHIP Coordinator will be nominated by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The role sits within the Animal Health Policy Branch.

Specific responsibilities include to:

- coordinate the NAHIP activities within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

- coordinate consultation and input to program matters from various department branches and sections including (but not limited to) the Office of the Chief Veterinary Officer, Exports Standards Branch and Aquatic Animal Health;
- participate on the NAHIP Advisory Committee and help to ensure technical review of AHSQ by representatives of various department branches;
- communicate the needs of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to the NAHIP Advisory Committee (e.g. appropriate information and its format).

3.1.7 State/territory NAHIP Coordinators

State/Territory NAHIP coordinators will be nominated by their Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) as their representative on the NAHIP Advisory Committee.

Specific responsibilities include to:

- coordinate the collection and timely contribution of accurate state summary data and reports to the NAHIS database;
- prepare state/territory contributions for AHSQ according to the requirements of the writing guide;
- prepare state/territory contributions for AHIA;
- participate on the NAHIP Advisory Committee;
- contribute to the development and operation of state information systems to ensure they are capable of providing data in the appropriate format for the NAHIS database;
- promote NAHIP to AHA industry members and other livestock industry organisations at the state level; and
- ensure adequate links between state and the NAHIP websites.

3.1.8 NAQS NAHIP Coordinator

A representative from the Australian Government NAQS will be a member of the NAHIP Advisory Committee.

Specific responsibilities include to:

- coordinate the collection and timely contribution of accurate summary data and reports to the NAHIS database;
- prepare NAQS contributions for AHSQ according to the requirements of the writing guide;
- prepare NAQS contributions for AHIA;
- participate on the NAHIP Advisory Committee;
- contribute to the development and operation of agency information systems to ensure they are capable of providing data in the appropriate format for the NAHIS database;
- ensure adequate links between agency and the NAHIP.

3.1.9 WHA NAHIP Coordinator

A representative from the Wildlife Health Australia will be a member of the NAHIP Advisory Committee.

Specific responsibilities include to:

- coordinate the collection and timely contribution of accurate wildlife summary data;
- prepare WHA contributions for AHSQ according to the requirements of the writing guide;
- prepare WHA contributions for AHIA;
- participate on the NAHIP Advisory Committee;
- contribute to the development and operation of agency information systems to ensure they are capable of providing data in the appropriate format for the NAHIS database;
- ensure adequate links between agency and the NAHIP.

3.1.10 Industry Forum Representative

A representative from the Animal Health Australia Industry Forum will be a member of the NAHIP Advisory Committee.

Specific responsibilities include to:

- consult with AHA industry members
- provide an annual update on industry surveillance information needs and gaps
- participate on the NAHIP Advisory Committee
- ensure adequate links between industry and the NAHIP.

3.2 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The NAHIP reports through the NAHIP Advisory Committee and internal AHA channels.

TABLE 6. NAHIP REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Reported by	To whom	Reporting requirements	Frequency	Format
Program Manager	AHA Board	Program update	As required	Written
	Advisory Committee	Program management report	Annually	Written
	Advisory Committee	Program plan	Annually	Written
NAHIP Coordinators	Advisory Committee	Reporting of data to NAHIS	Quarterly	Electronic
Database contractor	AHA	Database update report	Quarterly	Written
NAHIP Advisory Committee and Program Manager	AHC	Issues as they arise	As required	Written

4. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

4.1 ANNUAL MEETING

The purpose of the annual NAHIP Advisory Committee meeting is to evaluate program performance and plan future program activities. The Annual General Meeting is held in May each year, with a short virtual (90 minute) meeting to discuss activities from the previous year in October each year. The Advisory Committee is required to revise the business plan at the end of the plan period.

- Review the program activities for the year passed.
- Receive and assess a financial update provided by the Program Manager.
- Share issues and developments related to the Program and reach consensus on any required changes to program activities.

4.2 NAHIS APPLICATION AND DATABASE

The NAHIS application and database are described under Section 1.3. Public access to datasets as published in AHSQ is provided via the NAHIS webpage (nahis.animalhealthaustralia.com.au).

4.3 SURVEILLANCE DATA PROJECTS

Data for surveillance data projects of the NAHIS are supplied by state/territory NAHIP coordinators and other organisations via the online NAHIS interface following the end of each quarter. Data are aggregated to the national level after submission.

All wildlife disease investigation data including notifiable disease testing are entered into eWHIS and not into NAHIS. This includes free-ranging native and feral species, and wildlife in captivity (rehabilitation, captive breeding programs, zoo collections, etc). Investigations in aviary birds kept as pets, backyard poultry and loft pigeons are entered into NAHIS.

State/territory coordinators are to edit test results such that true area status is indicated. For example, where there is a positive test result in an animal in a particular local government area (LGA) which is known to have acquired infection elsewhere, then the result should be omitted from that LGA and a comment made to reflect the action taken instead.

During data entry, state/territory coordinators are to ensure test results, which may change the animal health status for a particular disease and lead to a significant trade impact, are fully investigated to confirm the accuracy of such results (i.e. first-level quality control). Note: for any exotic disease, confirmation is required by the Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness.

During the production of AHSQ, a second-level quality control check of the data is undertaken by AHA and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry through the technical review phase of the production schedule. Final validation of data occurs during the AHC review of summary data and endorsement for print.

4.4 ANIMAL HEALTH SURVEILLANCE QUARTERLY

AHSQ is published four times per year with the target of being released within three calendar months of the end of the quarter. AHSQ can be accessed through the AHA website and SciQuest. Production is the responsibility of AHA with assistance from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in the technical review.

The target audience consists of stakeholders in the animal health system. The primary audience is trading partner countries, with a secondary domestic audience consisting of veterinarians, peak industry bodies (national level), industry bodies (state level) and executive management in government organisations.

The AHSQ is designed to contain general summaries of Australian surveillance activities of the previous quarter period. It comprises of several feature articles, highlights, disease statistics and a list of contacts for follow up on articles for the publication quarter.

Information in AHSQ may be reproduced by readers with appropriate acknowledgment. The format and general content of AHSQ are revised at the Annual General Meeting. In addition, the reports of national surveillance programs are highlighted in relevant issues of AHSQ. These include NAQS, Dairy Australia's enzootic bovine leucosis surveillance and national wildlife health surveillance. Reports are also included about aquatic animal health.

4.4.1 Compilation

The AHA program officer/coordinator is responsible for compilation of AHSQ, including the canvassing of jurisdictions for topical issues and liaising with authors to finalise contributions. Feature articles are submitted by a variety of authors with some as regular contributions.

4.4.2 Approval

The approval process is as follows:

- The program officer/coordinator compiles the draft newsletter and circulates it for technical review within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and AHA.
- Comments are incorporated by the program officer/coordinator.
- Final draft is provided by AHA to AHC for formal written approval.
- AHC's secretariat advise AHA of AHC's approval, and any relevant comments.
- The final draft is submitted to the AHA communications team for approval in relation to corporate issues and final review by the NAHIP Manager or delegate.

4.4.3 Distribution

AHA manages the mailing list for all jurisdictions. It is an electronic system, and users can update their own subscription choices and preferences.

4.5 ANIMAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA REPORT

The Animal Health in Australia (AHiA) Annual Report is published annually in May and covers the previous calendar year. It is the primary, permanent record of Australia's animal health status and related matters that have occurred during that year, including relevant new policies, disease incidents and status, and research. The AHiA Annual Report is published in hard copy and electronic formats and is on the AHA website. AHiA content is determined by the Chapter Coordinators each year, using the previous year's contents as a basis.

The AHiA System Report was first produced in 2021. It provides detail on Australia's animal health systems and governance in addition to surveillance, emergency management and animal welfare arrangements that support Australia's unique animal health status. It is envisioned that this report be updated whenever significant changes have occurred to Australia's system, anticipated to be approximately every three years.

Due to a wider audience than AHSQ, AHiA is produced to a higher editorial, design and production standard. It is distributed to all WOAHP member countries and Australian agricultural counsellors. A distribution list is produced and maintained by AHA and is updated annually with the assistance of jurisdictions and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. The report is also given to trade delegations to support trade and market access negotiations conducted by the Australian Government.

AHA is responsible for the production of the AHiA. However, the process of production is a collaboration between AHA, the Australian Government and Chapter Coordinators.

The production schedule of AHiA is designed to permit its digital distribution at the WOAHP General Session in May each year and has the following phases:

- a) **Planning:** this phase must be finished in November and begins with a planning meeting of the Australian Government and AHA to decide on topics and authors.
- b) **Writing:** this phase must be completed by the end of January, with fine-tuning completed by the end of February.
- c) **Editing:** this phase must be completed by mid-March.
- d) **Pre-publication clearance:**
 - Required from AHA and the Australian Government to ensure the accuracy of information. This may be a limiting step and the time required is difficult to assess.
 - Needs to be completed by the end of March if deadlines are to be met.
- e) **Pre-press design:** requires engagement of a designer and needs approximately three weeks to produce final product. This must be completed by mid-April.
- f) **Printing:** requires two weeks and must be finished by the end of June.

4.6 WOAHP REPORTS

Australia submits detailed six-monthly animal (including aquatic animal) health status reports to the WOAHP, through the Australian CVO.⁶ Reports are compiled by the Australian Government

⁶ Australia's wildlife health status report to the WOAHP (on listed and non-listed diseases) is completed using data from the electronic Wildlife Health Information System (eWHIS), managed by Wildlife Health Australia, and reported to the Australian Government on a six-monthly basis.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry using information on the NAHIS, Departmental (for aquatic animal disease status) and Wildlife Health Australia (eWHIS) databases and consultation with state/territory coordinators when necessary. Additional information is provided in an annual report.

Occasional special reports (such as reporting of disease incidents or notification of planned simulation exercises) are prepared and forwarded, as necessary.

4.7 ADVICE AND REPORTS

Requests may be made from time to time by AHA members or other organisations for specific *ad hoc* reports using data contained in the NAHIS. Prior approval by AHA is required through the Program Manager, and the NAHIP Advisory Committee as required, in preparing such reports. The approval process will also involve the submission of a data access request form and a confidentiality agreement between AHA and the other party/parties. AHA may recover costs from applicants to offset the time spent on managing the assessment of, and gaining approvals for, the provision of the data requested and any further queries on the data. An estimated cost will be provided at the time of execution of the confidentiality agreement and invoicing will occur within 30 days of access completion.

5. STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS

AHSQ and AHIA reports are prepared through the Program to publicly communicate and promote national summaries of animal health and surveillance information on behalf of program partners.

The Advisory Committee comprises all program partners and nominated industry council representatives. Internal communications and consultation on the Program will be undertaken by AHA through committee representatives. Committee representatives are required to consult with and inform their stakeholders as required.

6. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

6.1 FUNDING SOURCES AND BASIS

AHA manages the NAHIP as a subscription-funded program, i.e. direct costs are primarily covered through equal contributions from the Australian Government, the state and territory governments in aggregate, and all livestock industry members in aggregate. AHA's service providers and associate members also contribute a proportion of their total contributions to AHA subscription-funded programs, and some funding comes from the company's interest income. At the AHA General Meeting in June each year, members formally agree upon this funding on an aggregate basis for the next financial year. The breakdown within the state and territory governments and industry groups, respectively, is based on the rolling three-year averages of industry gross values of production (GVPs) and those industries' location in the states and territories. The contribution for these members is adjusted annually to reflect changes in the rolling three-year average of industry GVP. Likewise, forward estimates for contributions from service providers, associate members and income from interest are estimates only.

6.2 EXPENDITURE

The NAHIP budget for 2025/26 is \$729,858 and reflects core-funding agreed by AHA members at the AHA Annual General Meeting. As part of the NAHIP budget, a coordination fee is paid to states and territories, the Australian Government and WHA. A breakdown of the coordination payment is shown in Table 7.

TABLE 7. NAHIP COORDINATION PAYMENTS

	Basis for state/territory coordination ⁷	Coordination payments 2025–26 (\$ex GST)	Forecast payments 2026-27 (\$ex GST; 2% CPI)	Forecast payments 2027-28 (\$ex GST; 2% CPI)
New South Wales	100%	40,875	41,692	42,526
Northern Territory	50%	20,436	20,845	21,262
Queensland	100%	40,875	41,692	42,526
South Australia	90%	36,786	37,522	38,272
Tasmania	50%	20,436	20,845	21,262
Victoria	100%	40,875	41,692	42,526
Western Australia	100%	40,875	41,692	42,526
Aus. Gov.		53,011	54,071	55,153
WHA		38,688	39,461	40,251
Total coordination payments		309,091	332,857	339,515

⁷ See Appendix 1 for details

7. STRATEGY

7.1 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

AHA, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, will evaluate program performance annually and review the business plan at the end of the plan period.

Program performance will be measured by target outcomes, measures and indicators as outlined in the business plan (Table 8). Evaluation of program performance will include assessment of a financial report provided by the Program Manager.

Review of the business plan will include review of all contents to ensure relevance to the Program and accuracy.

TABLE 8. NAHIP TARGET OUTCOMES MEASUREMENT

Target outcome	Measure	Key performance indicators
Surveillance information needs of the Australian Government for livestock are satisfied	A current and complete summary of national surveillance information is available to the Australian Government.	- Summary surveillance information is contributed to a national database by state and territory governments each quarter. - Surveillance information is complete and contributed promptly.
	Summary surveillance information collected is consistent and readily comparable across jurisdictions.	- Clear guidelines are available to coordinators for contributing summary surveillance information. - The consistency and comparability of data is verified.
	Summary surveillance information captured addresses priorities of the Australian Government (WOAH reporting, substantiating Australian claims to a disease occurrence status and trade negotiations).	- Surveillance information priorities are identified and communicated. - Data projects are established and maintained as required to address surveillance information priorities. - Summary surveillance information, news and case reports published quarterly in a dedicated national newsletter (e.g. AHSQ). - A description of the status of animal health in Australia published annually in a national report (e.g. AHIA).

Target outcome	Measure	Key performance indicators
Surveillance information needs of the state and territory government departments are satisfied	A national forum available that supports effective cooperation (incl. shared understanding) with state and territory governments for the collation of summary national surveillance information.	- Each state and territory government is represented on the NAHIP Advisory Committee. - The Advisory Committee meets face-to-face annually and by teleconference as required.
	Dissemination of summary surveillance information, topical surveillance-related news, and case reports to practicing veterinarians.	Summary surveillance information, news and case reports published quarterly in a dedicated national newsletter (e.g. AHSQ).
Surveillance information needs of the livestock industry council are satisfied	- Information needs of the Australian Government to support market access for livestock and livestock products (as above) are provided. - A national forum available that supports effective cooperation (incl. shared understanding) between governments and industry for the collation and reporting of summary national surveillance information. - Availability of disease occurrence information disease surveillance, control and prevention programs.	- Information needs of the Australian Government are satisfied. - Information provided in program outputs (including AHSQ and AHIA) is understood by livestock industry councils and their members.
Surveillance information needs of Wildlife Health Australia (WHA) are satisfied	- A voice for wildlife health issues and expertise at national animal health surveillance discussions. - Dissemination of accurate and relevant national wildlife health event information. - Integration of wildlife health information into relevant sections of AHIA. - Availability of published wildlife health information for WHA stakeholders including those represented on the Advisory Committee. - Coordination of reports to the Australian Government via the Advisory Committee reflecting WHA's wildlife health reporting responsibilities.	- WHA representative on the Advisory Committee. - Standalone WHA article published in AHSQ each quarter. - Information from WHA published in relevant sections of AHIA annually. - AHSQ and AHIA published online in a timely manner and freely available. - WHA reports to the Advisory Committee annually.

7.2 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Data submitted under the National Animal Health Information Program are housed in a secure database system. Access permissions are separated into five levels (Table 9). Data submission is restricted to contributors, who are able to submit and manage data for their own jurisdiction. Supervisor and technical coordinator logins are able to view data but not able to make any changes to data within the system. Approved summary reports are published within the AHSQ, AHIA and public interface of the NAHIS.

AHA will maintain contact lists, program management and deliverable documents on its internal SharePoint system. Annual committee papers will also be available via the NAHIS wiki page to committee members.

TABLE 9. NAHIS USER ACCESS LEVELS

User access level	Organisation/position	Access to	Notes
Administrator	- Program Manager - Program Coordinator - Database contractor (Ausvet)	- View all summary and detailed data - View the interactive map from a national perspective - View all data projects - Submit, update and delete data	
Contributor	NAHIP State/territory and NAQS Coordinators	- Submit, update and delete data from own jurisdiction - View all data from own jurisdiction (validated and unvalidated) - View summary reports of data from all jurisdictions once data has been validated - View the interactive map (limited to user's jurisdiction)	NAHIP State/Territory/NAQS Coordinators have been set up with a secondary login at the supervisor level to view the national interactive map. The contributor login must be used to submit and make any changes to data.
Supervisor	- Australian CVO - State/territory CVOs - NAHIP Advisory Committee Members	- View all national notifiable disease investigations through the interactive map - View all the summary and detailed national NNDI dataset	If additional staff from jurisdictional departments require access this request should be made through the relevant jurisdictional NAHIP coordinator to the Program Manager.
Technical Coordinator	NAHIP Australian Government Representatives	- View both summary and detailed data - View the interactive map	
Public		View validated data as summary reports	Data will be validated (for public view) as each issue of AHSQ is published.

8. BUSINESS RULES

AHA is responsible for the management of the NAHIP. As the operation of the NAHIP is a collaboration of the Company, governments and a range of livestock industries, the following rules apply:

- A Business Plan for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2025 has been prepared and endorsed by Parties. It can be reviewed at any time during this period at the request of the NAHIP Advisory Committee or AHA;
- Any increases in budget require endorsement by Funding Parties to the Business Plan and must be recorded and notified to AHA Finance immediately. It is the responsibility of each NAHIP Advisory Committee representative to inform their organisation;
- A finance facilities charge is applied according to FTE hours;
- A program fee is applied to all programs to cover corporate expenses;
- All Funding Parties are required to nominate a representative who has responsibility for NAHIP issues within their organisation;
- The NAHIP can be independently reviewed as part of the AHA review process and funded as part of the program;
- Only those activities consistent with this Business Plan are undertaken, with any proposed additional activities first reviewed as fit for purpose, value and alignment and then approved by Animal Health Australia and relevant funding bodies;
- AHA's financial and program accounting policies must be complied with;
- AHA's program financial reports provided by the finance section must be used for all internal and external reporting.

APPENDIX 1 – COORDINATION PAYMENTS

This section shows the basis on which the coordination payments have been determined, drawing on time taken to ensure NAHIP inputs are delivered. Last reviewed and costed in 2019. Fees have had an annual CPI applied each year.

TABLE A. Approximate coordination days for NAHIP activities and calculation of coordination payments

NAHIP coordination activity	Approximate coordination days/year		
	State/territory	WHA	Aus. Gov.
AHSQ			
Contribution to national wildlife surveillance data collection		8.4 ^a	
Extract, check & submit data	20	18 ^b	4
Write text	8	12	4
Check draft	2	2	
Distribute	2	1	
Maintain mailing list	0.2	0.2	
AHiA			
Write text	5	3 ^c	21
Check drafts	2	1	6
WOAH 6-month report			10
WOAH emergency reports			3
WOAH other reports (animal health questionnaire)			4
WOAH Reports	2		
Administration	5	4	
Awareness & other activities	8	1.7	5
Total days per year	54.2	51.3	57
Percentage of FTE (210 days/yr)	26%	24%	27%
Approx. avg. NAHIP coordinator salary 1 FTE 2019 – 20	\$104,692	\$104,692	\$129,108
Plus salary overhead cost @ 35%	\$36,642	\$36,642	\$45,188
Total coordination payment	\$36,478	\$34,526	\$47,309

- Includes partial time required for organising and minuting quarterly teleconferences (TCs) with surveillance partners (e.g. WHA coordinator, zoo, sentinel and university surveillance partner TCs) and activities relating to collection of data from > 46 national WHA surveillance partners.
- Includes partial time required for data moderation, cleaning, reconciliation and checking.
- Time required for data analysis for AHSQ and AHiA; and circulating article drafts for approval to WHA surveillance partners

APPENDIX 2- RISK ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

The likelihood rating is determined by answering the question “What is the likelihood of the event or incident happening”

Likelihood Rating	Description of an event likelihood
Rare	The risk is highly unlikely to happen. In the biosecurity context, this might refer to the introduction of a disease that has been eradicated globally, with only remote chances of resurgence.
Unlikely	The risk is not expected to occur, but it’s still possible. This could apply to a disease that has been effectively controlled in the past but could re-emerge if vigilance decreases.
Possible	The risk might happen, but it’s not certain. An example might be the potential for disease spread through indirect contact, such as contaminated feed or equipment, which could happen under certain circumstances.
Likely	The risk is likely to happen at some point. In an animal biosecurity context, this might mean a disease is spreading through wildlife that interacts with domestic animals, making it likely that it could eventually spread to livestock.
Almost Certain	The risk is expected to occur frequently. For example, if a new disease has already been detected in neighbouring regions, its introduction into your area might be almost certain, especially if biosecurity measures are weak.

A consequence rating is determined by answering the question “What will the consequences be if the incident happened – i.e. what impact it would have on one or more of the following areas:

Consequence Rating	Description of the consequence of the event
Catastrophic	Extreme impact, could be disastrous. In animal biosecurity, this might mean the introduction of a highly contagious and deadly disease that could lead to massive livestock losses, severe economic consequences, and long-term damage to the industry.
Major	Significant impact, will require considerable effort to manage. This could involve a widespread disease outbreak that leads to significant losses in livestock, disrupts trade, and requires substantial resources to control.
Moderate	Noticeable impact, may require additional resources to manage. An example might be a disease outbreak that affects a significant portion of a herd, requiring quarantine and additional veterinary care, but not threatening the overall viability of the operation.
Minor	Some impact, but can be managed without significant effort. For example, this could involve a small number of animals getting sick, requiring treatment but not leading to significant losses or disruption.
Insignificant	Minimal impact, easily manageable. For instance, a minor disease outbreak that can be contained quickly with minimal cost and no long-term effects on livestock health.

Using the standard risk matrix below, establish what the ‘risk rating’ is by collating the likelihood of the incident or event happening against the consequence if it actually did happen.

RISK MATRIX		Consequence Rating				
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood Rating	Almost Certain	Medium	Medium	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Likely	Low	Medium	High	High	Extreme
	Possible	Low	Low	Medium	High	Extreme
	Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Rare	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High



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