

NATIONALLY AGREED STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (NASOP)

Title: Establishing check points for emergency animal disease movement control

Version: 1.0

Prepared by: Subcommittee on Emergency Animal Disease

Approved by: Animal Health Committee

Revision history:	Version	Date of approval	Comments
	1.0	02/05/11	Approved by AHC

NASOPs support national consistency and provide guidance to response personnel undertaking operational tasks.

1. Purpose

- This NASOP outlines the procedure to be followed when establishing vehicle check points during an emergency animal disease (EAD) response.

2. Application/scope

- This NASOP concentrates solely on establishing check points.
- The purpose of a check point is to stop high risk movements and reduce the potential for further disease spread.
- This NASOP assumes that a check point must provide the ability to intercept, stop, inspect and re-direct vehicles; however this may not happen with all vehicles.
- Checking vehicles is one strategy which may be used to promote compliance with movement restrictions implemented during an EAD response.
- Successful establishment and operation of a check point will require cross government support, particularly from police, transport and local government authorities. It may also need joint industry body support.
- Check points may be in place for variable periods of time dependant upon the EAD response.
- The location, duration and vehicles/materials to be intercepted are determined by the operations centre in liaison with police, industry, local government and transport authorities.

3. Resources/equipment

- Assembling the necessary resources and equipment will require cooperation between police, transport department, local government and biosecurity officers. Each party has obligations to meet and each party should assemble resources to enable their part of the operation to be undertaken.
- Planning should occur out of response time for best results.

3.1 Traffic management equipment

- livestock standstill signs
- reflective witches hats—minimum 20
- signs advising traffic—'Checkpoint Ahead'
- speed reduction signs—60 / 40 / 20
- portable traffic lights or Stop / Slow signs
- 2 way radios
- portable power source
- torches (minimum of one per person)
- light sabres.
- batteries for torches etc

3.2. General equipment

- tables / desks and seating for 6 people
- environmental protection—tent / awning / caravan / demountable
- portable toilet
- hand basins and materials for washing / drying hands
- portable shower with personal washing / drying materials
- matting for areas where pedestrian activity is high
- foot baths / plastic tubs / boot picks
- stores to handle contaminated laundry—heavy duty plastic waste bags, cable ties, disinfectant, hand spray gun
- means of communication with operations centre and police (telephone, satphone if outside normal range)
- rubbish bins and bags
- additional equipment for rest area (additional table / shade, refreshments).

3.3. Decontamination / Disinfection

- personal disinfection equipment (see NASOP 01: *Personal decontamination – entry and exit procedure*)
- vehicle decontamination equipment (see NASOP 12: *Decontamination of large equipment*) or site for vehicles to be diverted to for decontamination.

3.4. Workplace Health and Safety

- personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for the disease—which must include (for each person) boots, overalls, high visibility vest, suitable hat
- first aid kit(s)
- sun protection
- fire extinguishers—minimum of (i) water and (ii) dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

3.5. Documentation

- copies of legislation
- Jurisdictions Livestock Act (or similar)
- legislation specific to organisation operating an interception site (police or department of primary industry)
- copy of livestock Standstill Order
- map of Standstill Zone
- Movement Permits in force (if applicable)
- list of prohibited items.

4. Warnings

- Traffic interception sites are inherently dangerous and should only be operated by trained and competent staff in accordance with established police or department of road transport procedures.
- Danger increases in adverse road conditions at vehicle interception sites.
- All facilities should be in place before commencing operations. These include adequate warnings to drivers; correct PPE for interception site operators including reflective work wear; relevant training in traffic management e.g. Stop/Slow sign operations; and police support.
- Operating environment—typically the interception sites will be roadside and therefore be temporary. Personnel will be exposed to the weather and also rely on temporary toilets etc. Site hygiene must be maintained.
- Communications between each interception site and the operations centre must be in place.
- There is potential for cross infection to occur at an interception site. This includes staff becoming contaminated and transferring infection to other susceptible stock and clean vehicles becoming contaminated by the residue left by previous vehicles. Facilities to allow strict biosecurity are required.

NOTE: To establish check points appropriate legal authority must be place.

5. Description of activities

- Possible check points should be identified before an emergency response. Factors including use of major intersections to give the ability to monitor traffic using a number of roads, key points in the road system that livestock vehicles must use, ability to turn around or re-route large livestock transport vehicles should be considered.
- Final choice and establishment of a check point will be made by the agreed lead authority for traffic management in each jurisdiction. The operations centre requirements for movement control must be considered in this process.
- A check point site coordinator should be nominated. This may reflect formal legal requirements.
- Ensure appropriate legislative instruments are in place.

5.1. Administrative area

- An administrative area should be established close to the check point to maintain control over what is happening, but far enough away to reduce noise, dust and contaminant problems.
- A tent, office, caravan, or other form of shelter from the elements can be set up as an office and administrative area.
- The office/administrative area should have electricity and communications for both internal and external use.
- There should be sufficient space to set up a map and display boards on which to display current information.
- Establish record-keeping systems.

5.2. Rest area

- A suitable rest area is necessary for staff welfare.
- The area should be separated from work area to avoid dust and other contaminants.
- The area should have shade, seating, tables, hand washing facilities, toilets etc. and adequate refreshments should be available.
- Refrigeration facility or alternatively large capacity good quality cool box for food/beverage storage etc.

5.3. Biosecure facilities

- Preference should be to redirect livestock according to policy. Consideration needs to be given to the location of facilities for the secure holding of livestock or materials and for the decontamination of vehicles.
- These facilities may not be at the check point but may be located at nearby facilities.

6. References

- Jurisdiction-specific legislation
- NASOP 01: *Personal decontamination – entry and exit procedures*
- NASOP 10: *Stop and Search of vehicles at checkpoints*
- NASOP 12: *Decontamination of large equipment*
- NASOP 29: *Management of detained vehicles and items*
- QLD SOP - OR-S-001 Transport Interception during a livestock standstill by GM Akers 2008
- AUSVETPLAN Operational Procedures Manual Decontamination
- Jurisdictional plan outlining interception sites of first choice
- Jurisdictional plans for temporary holding sites and their management
- Jurisdictional plans for dealing with infected or suspect stock found in transit

7. Appendices

- Nil.