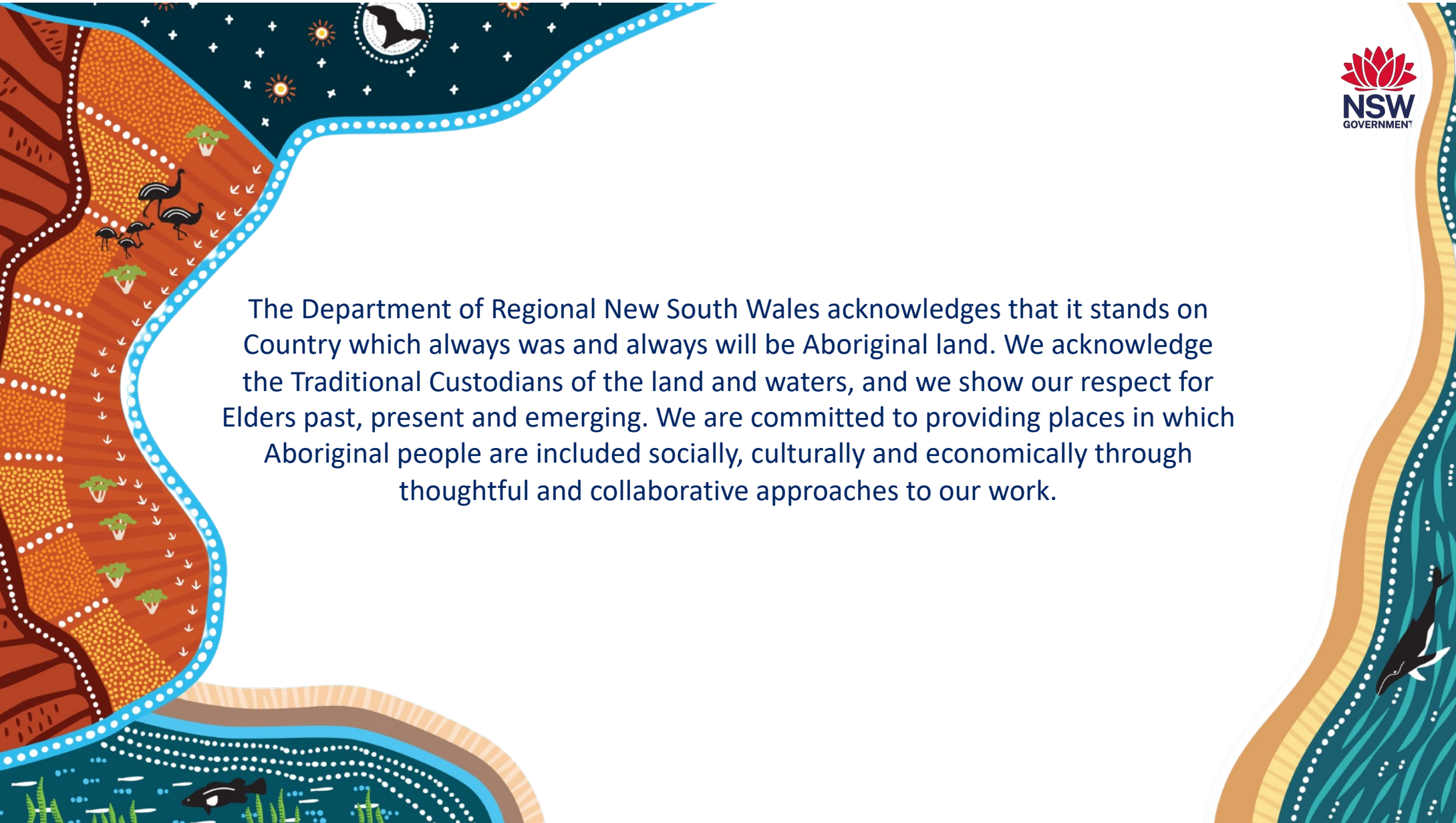


# Australia's livestock traceability system

Prepared by Jane Rindfleish

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Manager Traceability and Animal Biosecurity

The background of the slide is a vibrant Aboriginal-style artwork. It features a winding blue river with white dotted borders. The land on the left is depicted in various shades of brown and orange, with patterns of white dots and lines. There are illustrations of kangaroos, emus, and small green plants. The sky is dark blue with white stars and a white crescent moon. The water at the bottom is dark blue with white dotted patterns and a black fish. On the right side, there is a stylized blue and white wave with a black and white whale or dolphin leaping out of it.

The Department of Regional New South Wales acknowledges that it stands on Country which always was and always will be Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work.

# Australia's Red Meat Integrity System

Underpins the success of Australia's agricultural industries and their communities by supporting

- Biosecurity
- food safety and security
- Product integrity
- international market access in animal products
- other industry related purposes.

Identify, prevent and manage biosecurity threats to livestock industries

Enhances Australia's ability to respond quickly to a major food safety or disease incident including the NLIS database as a critical tracing tool.



# Australia's red meat integrity system - Purpose

A system of food safety measures, quality assurance and traceability from paddock to plate

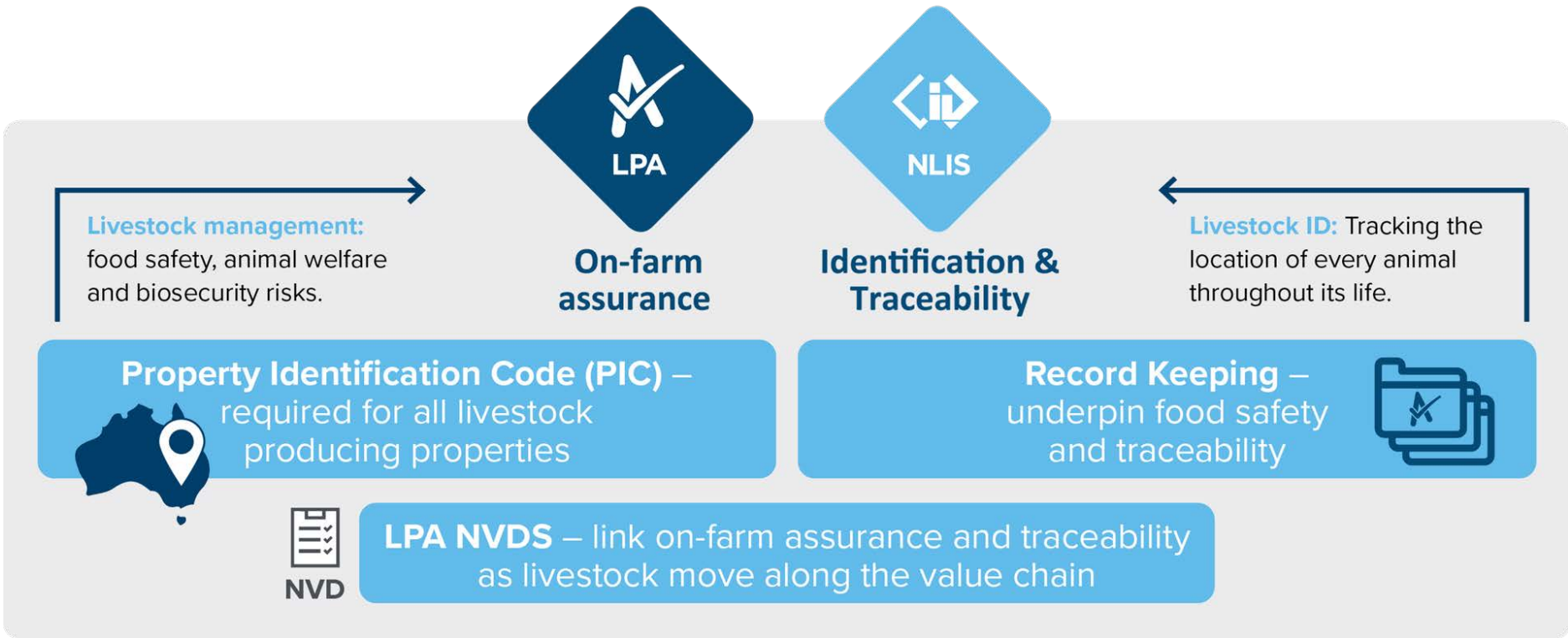
**On-Farm Assurance - Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)** on-farm assurance program underpinned by seven key elements covering food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity. It provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the value chain.

**Identification & Traceability - National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)** is a permanent lifetime traceability system which includes three elements of the animals:

- a visual or electronic ear tag,
- a Property Identification Code (PIC) for identification of a physical location,
- an online database to store and correlate the data

The system is a key industry and government partnership across Australia

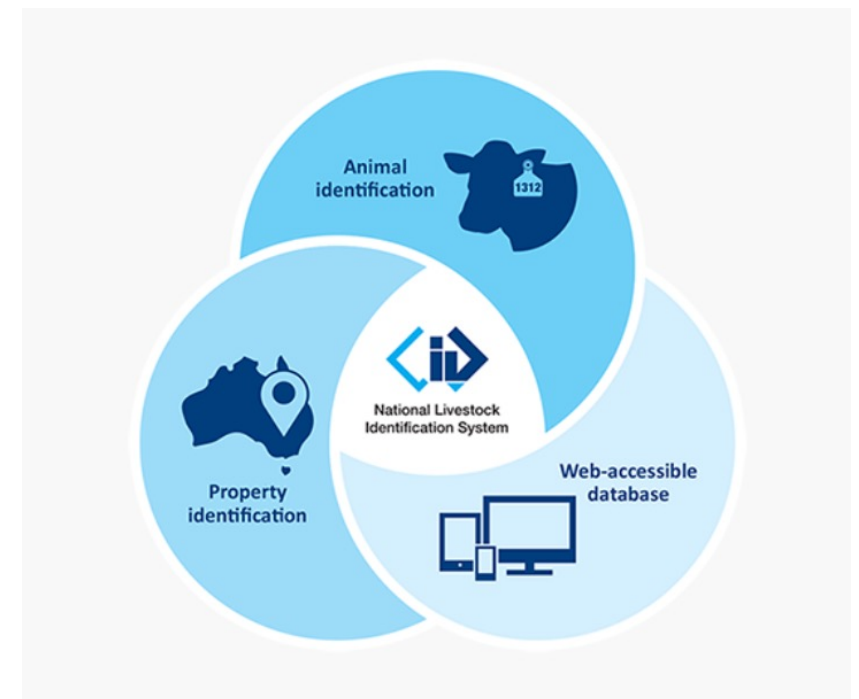
# National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)



# NLIS Database – permanent lifetime traceability

## Database includes

- Individual movement data
- group or mob-based movement data
- carcass feedback information
- images of NVD/movement documentation
- NVD responses to some questions



# NLIS History in Australia

July 2004 - NLIS (Cattle) was introduced as an individual RFID and movement document with all movements of cattle to sale, slaughter or to any other property are recorded in the NLIS database.

January 2006 NLIS (Sheep and Goats) was introduced as a mob based system using visual ear tags and movement documents with all movements of sheep and goats to sale, slaughter or to any other property are recorded in the NLIS database.

February 2018 NLIS (Pigs) was introduced with individual pigs identified with a tattoo or tag and recorded as a group. Movements are recorded in PigPass then transferred to NLIS.

July 2024 NLIS (Sheep and Goats) is transitioning to individual eID system including movement documents with all movements of sheep and goats to sale, slaughter or to any other property are recorded in the NLIS database.

# National Livestock Traceability Performance Standards

Applicable to all FMD susceptible livestock species

- Within 24 hours of the relevant Chief Veterinary Officer of being notified, it must be possible to determine the location(s) where a specified animal was resident during the previous 30 days.
- Within 24 hours it must be also possible to determine the location(s) where all susceptible animals that resided concurrently and/or subsequently on any of the properties on which a specified animal has resided in the last 30 days.





# Funding Arrangements for NLIS

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) is primarily funded by **transaction levies** paid on livestock sales by producers. The levies are used to support **marketing, research and development** activities.

Integrity Systems Company (ISC) a subsidiary of MLA, is responsible for the red meat integrity system, managing and delivering the industry's on-farm assurance and through-chain traceability programs.

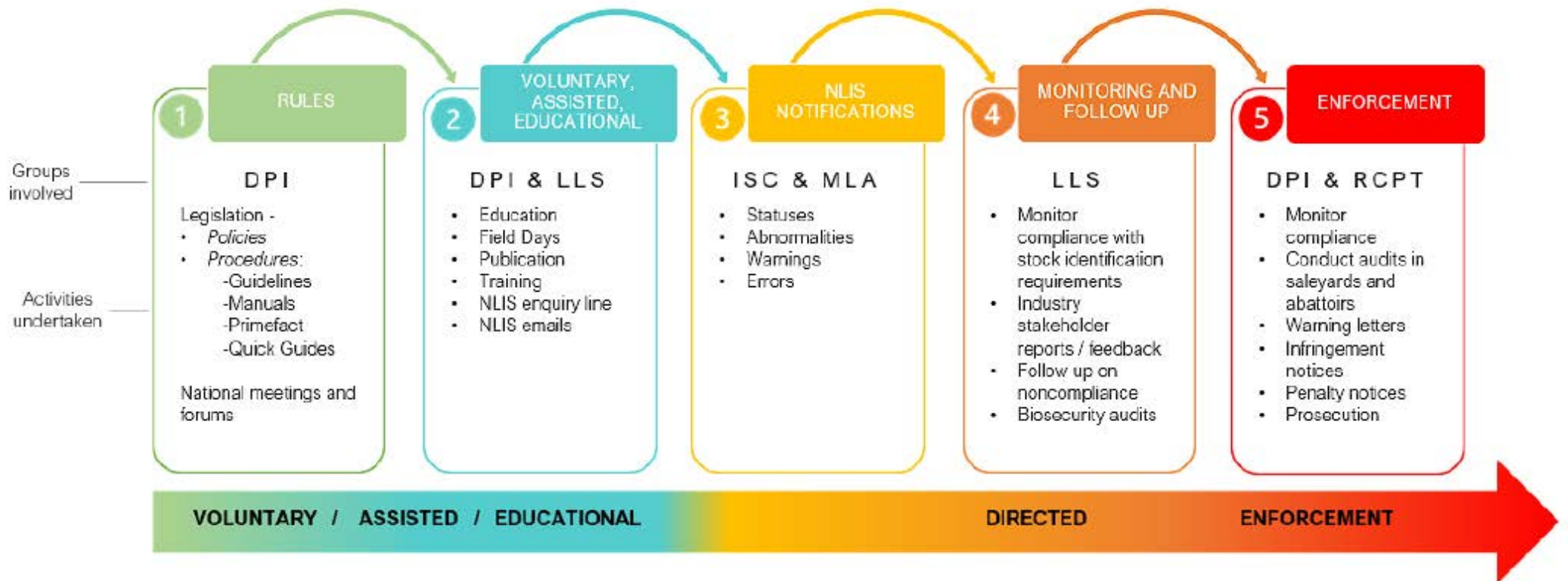
Current Project includes \$22.5 million in grant funding to ISC from the federal government.

The **NLIS Database Uplift** is a **whole-of-system** project benefitting Australia's red meat and livestock industries.

- a contemporary, fit-for-purpose national livestock traceability platform that is better placed to be able to meet current and future biosecurity and market access requirements.
- a modernised data capture, storage, and distribution platform for tracking livestock, including improved usability, functionality (including capacity), and reporting/analytics capabilities, and
- an adaptive platform that can accommodate additional data inputs from other systems to assist in demonstrating emerging credentials such as sustainability and animal welfare.



# NSW - livestock traceability operating model



# Policies, Procedures and Primefacts Online

**NLIS Procedures for Cattle** - Everything you need to know about identification and recording of cattle movements in NSW.

**Cattle abattoirs and knackeries** - the measures that should be adopted by abattoirs and knackeries in NSW to effectively implement the NLIS Cattle.

**Livestock movements in emergencies – NLIS and General Biosecurity Duty** - procedure outlines how the NLIS requirements and the General Biosecurity Duty (GBD) can be met in emergency livestock movement situations caused by bushfire, flood, or other emergencies.

**NLIS Compliance Monitoring Procedure** - describes the requirements for monitoring the NLIS in NSW, consistent with national requirements, with the aim of encouraging industry to improve lifetime traceability of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs.

**Managing statuses, errors and data transfers on the NLIS Database** - describes procedures for assigning and managing statuses, correcting errors and performing special data transfers on the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) database.

# NLIS Compliance in Australia

NLIS is regulated by **State and Territory legislation** and each jurisdiction is responsible for compliance monitoring and enforcement.

All **participants along the livestock supply chain**, including livestock exporters, have responsibilities under NLIS.

**NLIS Compliance Monitoring Procedure** - describes the requirements for monitoring the NLIS in NSW, consistent with national requirements, with the aim of encouraging industry to improve lifetime traceability of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs.

## Compliance approach driving continuous improvement

### Education and training

- Promote **voluntary compliance** through education, extension and advisory services
- Deliver face-to-face and online training for DPI staff, third-party auditors and partner agencies on their legislative obligations

### Enforcement response

- Employ a graduated and proportionate response to enforcement, based on harm or potential harm as a result of the offending



Advisory      Penalty Infringement Notice      Proven: No further action      Unproven: No further action      Verbal Warning      Written Warning

# Gundagai Lamb



- standardised approach to the collection and feedback of **animal disease and defect data** to producers.
- hook tracking at processing to provide **individual carcase tracking and sortation**.
- enhanced systems which **communicate the performance of individual animals** in the consignment against the target specification which can now include new eating quality measures.



# Lessons and learnings – NLIS Implementation

1. Nationally integrated and coordinated
2. Enhance industry connection and leadership
3. Design and deliver capacity-building programs
4. Evidence-based communications toolkits for stakeholder groups
5. Implement a monitoring and evaluation program
6. Support voluntary effort
7. Adaptable and responsive to change
8. Clear call to action and messaging
9. Address the 'weakest link'



# NSW – DPI Traceability team

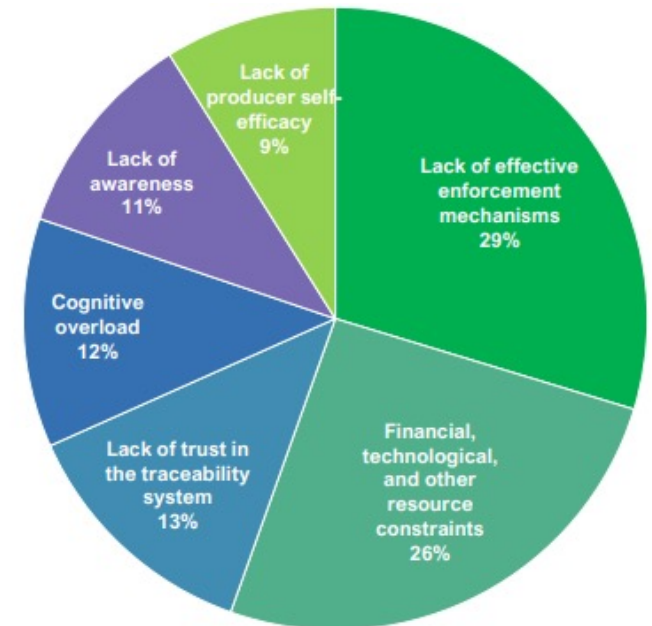


Livestock traceability is **multifaceted and complex**. Understand the **drivers and barriers** to practices within the supply chain.

**Proactive approach** and **deliver a suite of tools, learnings and educational materials** geared to support demographic and geographically **diverse clients**

Best practice **voluntary, assisted, and educational** approaches for paddock to abattoir traceability.

Focus on the potential utility of **directed and enforcement actions**, including under what circumstances different **measures are most effective**.



# Thank you for your time

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