

Biosecurity – National Livestock Identification System – Sheep and Goats

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Scope:

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) promotes biosecurity as a shared responsibility between government, industry and communities. This procedure is a State Priority and should be read in conjunction with the overarching National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) Policy.

This procedure applies to NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI), an office within the NSW Department of Industry, and Local Land Services (LLS), working with or advising producers with sheep and goats. Throughout this document, any reference to sheep includes lambs and to goats includes kids.

Management of the biosecurity risk

The purpose of this procedure is to describe the minimum requirements for identification and movement of sheep and goats under the Biosecurity (National Livestock Identification System) (NLIS) Regulation 2017 (the NLIS Regulation).

This procedure sets out how the NSW Government will manage operations in relation to the identification and movement of sheep and goats in NSW

Biosecurity legislation summary

The NLIS is Australia's permanent whole-of-life identification system which aims to ensure individual cattle, sheep and goats, and pigs can be traced from property of birth to slaughter for biosecurity, food safety, and product integrity and market access purposes.

The NLIS is underpinned by State/Territory legislation, which forms the regulatory framework for the system. The NLIS is endorsed and supported by all sectors of the cattle, sheep and goats and pig industries including producer, stock and station agent, saleyard, feedlot and processor peak industry bodies.

The NLIS Regulation prescribes mandatory identification and traceability requirements for sheep and goats in NSW including:

- Part 2 - Property identification codes
- Part 3 - Permanent identification of sheep and goats

- Part 4 - Information requirements for stock transactions
- Part 6 - Clauses 57, 59 and 59A

Any person who deals with sheep and goats and who knows or ought to know of the biosecurity risks associated with sheep and goats has a general biosecurity duty to take measures to prevent, eliminate or minimise the risk as far as is reasonably practicable. The general biosecurity duty can be discharged by following the NLIS Regulation, Industry Standards and other advisory or education material.

The collection, use and disclosure of information in accordance with this procedure, including any internal or external discussion or distribution of information, must be in compliance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 or be exempted by the operation of section 387 of the Act.

Section 387 (2) of the Act provides authority for the disclosure of information about a person, without the consent of the person: to a public sector agency, or to any other person, but only if the disclosure is reasonably necessary for the purpose of exercising a biosecurity risk function.

Work health and safety

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* places an obligation on the agency (NSW DPI and LLS) as a person conducting a business or undertaking and workers to provide a safe and healthy workplace. Safe Work Method Statements that support activities included in this procedure must be used in identifying, assessing and controlling risks.

NSW DPI and LLS will work together to create a safe and supportive work environment when undertaking any activities for this procedure.

NLIS - Sheep and Goats Procedure

Introduction

The NLIS (Sheep and Goats) is a mob-based tracing system linking animals with the properties on which they have run. This is crucial to traceability which underpins the access of Australian livestock products to valuable international markets.

The NLIS (Sheep and Goats) is a mob-based tracing system. Traceability is provided by the combination of four elements – Property Identification Codes (PIC), ear tags, NLIS movement documents and records:

- PICs are printed on tags, movement documents and are the basis for NLIS database movement records
- visual ear tags for sheep and goats printed with the PIC indicates the property on which the sheep or goats was born (breeder tag), or otherwise resided (pink post-breeder tag)
- NLIS movement documents contain information provided in an approved form when the stock are moved and includes their last property of residence
- mob-based movement recording on the NLIS database provides a readily accessible record of movements over time, supported by scanned images of National Vendor Declarations (NVDs).

Roles and responsibilities:

1.1 Authorised officers

LLS authorised officers at sheep and goat sales monitor compliance by vendors, agents and buyers with NLIS identification and traceability requirements and take appropriate regulatory action where non-compliance is detected:

- the authorised officer does not have to inspect every consignment, although must inspect a feasible and workable sample to determine compliance
- NSW DPI staff can assist LLS staff with audits, breach investigations and prosecutions on request
- District Veterinarians involved in pre-export certification on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry must check that the requirements of NSW legislation are being complied with and provide advice to reduce the likelihood of an offence.

1.2 District Registrars

District registrars assign PICs and maintain district registers of PICs (refer to NSW DPI Procedure for Assigning PICs and for managing and accessing registers).

1.3 Producers/vendors

Livestock producers must ensure that sheep and goats are properly identified with permanent identifiers (NLIS tags) before the sheep or goats leave any property. The owner may delegate or pay another person to tag the stock but remains responsible for ensuring that it is done correctly.

Before sheep or goats leave the property, the owner or person in charge of the stock must:

- attach an NLIS tag to each animal, check tags are still present and replace any lost tags

- provide relevant information about the stock and where they have come from in an approved form, e.g., National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (NVD) or a Transported Stock Statement (TSS).

Producers who are buying or receiving sheep or goats directly from another property must confirm:

- stock are identified with NLIS tags before being moved
- that the required delivery information is provided (NVD or TSS)
- notify the NLIS database of the details of the movement.

Documentation must be kept for at least seven years by both the sender and recipient of the livestock.

1.4 Stock and station agents

Stock agents must ensure all sheep and goats they sell are correctly identified with NLIS tags and a properly completed NVD has been provided prior to sale by advising and confirming with producers of their responsibilities when booking in the sale.

A selling agent must check before the sale starts that their client's sheep or goats meet the NLIS requirements by observing the stock for tags and by obtaining and checking the NVD. If the sheep or goats are not identified, or an NVD is not provided or is incomplete, the selling agent must determine, in consultation with the vendor, the most appropriate course of action.

Note that the owner and sender might have already committed an offence and that the agent might be committing an offence if they sell, offer, assist or attempt to sell sheep and goats that are not correctly identified or if the required information has not been provided.

A selling agent who is acting as the saleyard operator must upload the NVD (mob-based movement data) to the NLIS database by close of business (COB) of the day of sale if the destination is an abattoir, or COB the next working day after the sale for all other movements.

The NVD or a copy of the NVD, provided by the vendor must be kept by the selling agent for at least two years and provided to the buyer within seven days.

Agents may be authorised by the District Registrar to supply special identifiers (emergency NLIS tags).

1.5 Saleyard operators

The operator of a saleyard must ensure that the NVD (mob-based movement information) about all sheep and goats sold in the saleyard is uploaded to the NLIS database within the prescribed time frame:

- where the saleyard is owned and operated by the local Council or by a private company or individual, then the owner is responsible for this task
- where the saleyard is leased, for example by a stock and station agent, the lessee has responsibility as the person in charge.

The operator of a saleyard may delegate some or all of their responsibilities to a stock and station agent or agents, or to any other person such as a contractor:

- where a saleyard is effectively operated by one or more stock agents, each stock agent is responsible for uploading data about the sheep and goats that they sell
- the saleyard owner must have a written agreement with the stock agent(s) to ensure this responsibility is clear.

The saleyard operator must have a PIC, an NLIS database account with a saleyard identifier (EUSY number) and the functionality to upload mob movements of sheep and goats:

- a contractor for more than one saleyard may use the same database account provided they use the correct EUSY number or PIC for each saleyard.

1.6 Buyers of sheep and goats

Buyers must only buy sheep and goats that are properly identified:

- the buyer should make pre-sale inquiries and checks to ensure that vendors are aware of the buyer's requirements, and instruct a buying agent to only purchase correctly identified stock and with the correct documentation
- buying agents must avoid exposing themselves and their clients to prosecution.

The buyer must ensure the prescribed mob-based movement information about all sheep and goats purchased is uploaded to the NLIS database within two days:

- the relevant information (movement document) provided by the vendor or selling agent must be kept for at least seven years.

1.7 Abattoir operators

The operator of an abattoir must ensure the prescribed mob-based movement information about all sheep and goats slaughtered is uploaded to the NLIS database within the prescribed time frame, which is COB the next working day after slaughter, or seven days after slaughter for a knackery.

The abattoir must have an 'Abattoir/Processor' NLIS database account which is linked to the abattoir PIC.

1.8 Offences

Offences may apply under the NLIS Regulation and the Biosecurity Regulation 2017. Please refer to the NLIS Compliance Monitoring procedure.

2. NLIS Element - Approved permanent identifiers (ear tags)

2.1 Permanent Identifiers

All sheep and goats must be identified with an approved identifier (NLIS tag) before the stock leave the property on which they are kept. This includes sheep and goats being moved to:

- a saleyard, abattoir, show, artificial breeding centre
- between any properties as part of normal management
- for agistment or after being sold
- to a travelling stock reserve (TSR) or road
- or live export, or
- for any other purpose, even if the stock remain in the same ownership.

Sheep and goats must be identified before movement with either:

- a breeder tag printed with the PIC of the property on which they were born if stock were born on that property (the colour is determined by the year of birth)
- a pink post-breeder tag printed with the PIC of the property on which they are being identified before movement .

Breeder tags may indicate the year of birth via the use of different tag colours but is not a mandatory requirement under the NLIS Regulation.

NLIS accredited devices for sheep and goats can be viewed on the NLIS website at:

<https://www.integritysystems.com.au/identification--traceability/animal-identification/>

Post breeder (pink) tags are used when sheep are required to be identified before movement off a property when:

- they were not born on that property
- they were bred on the property but the year of birth is uncertain
- there's uncertainty which sheep and goats in a mixed mob were born on the property
- there are insufficient breeder tags available
- it's easier to manage one tag type (e.g. grazing a common).

NLIS tags must only be attached to stock that are on the property to which the PIC on the tag relates, unless otherwise approved by an authorised officer.

When mixed mobs of animals are moved, either:

- all of the different PICs on tags in the consignment must be written in the movement document, or
- all animals must have a pink post breeder tag with the PIC of the current property attached in addition to original tags which must not be removed. In this situation only the PIC of the property from which the sheep/goats are being consigned needs to be recorded on the NVD.

Accredited NLIS permanent identifiers for sheep and goats must conform to the NLIS Standard specified by the NLIS Standards Committee of SAFEMEAT:

- accredited NLIS electronic devices made for sheep and goats may be used as NLIS tags provided they meet the visual tag standard
- NLIS tags may be attached to either ear
- it may be preferable to attach tags to the opposite ear of any ear mark (some producers apply ear marks to their sheep which are registered with LLS).

An NLIS tag is a permanent whole-of-life identifier. Once attached, an NLIS tag must not be removed except in approved circumstances.

Other information which may be included on the tag, provided it does not obscure the PIC or could be mistaken for a PIC, includes:

- V (for Gudair® vaccinated) or T (for terminal lamb)
- individual animal serial number
- property name or other property identifier
- other management information.

2.2 Ovine Johne's Disease vaccinated flocks and V-tags

Sheep or goats that are vaccinated with Gudair® vaccine for ovine Johne's disease may be tagged with a V-tag although it is no longer a mandatory requirement. The V may be printed on any NLIS breeder or post-breeder tag.

When sheep that are already identified with an NLIS tag prior to vaccination with Gudair®:

- a second pink post-breeder V tag may be attached to the sheep, or
- if the sheep are still on their property of birth an authorised officer may approve:
 - attachment of a second breeder V tag, or
 - removal of the existing breeder tag and replacement with a new breeder V tag, with the same PIC and correct year of birth colour.

A producer may choose to tag terminal lambs from a vaccinated flock with T tags to meet specific markets. These tags are either fluoro pink (as recommended for such tags) or a standard NLIS breeder or post-breeder colour.

2.3 Supply of permanent identification tags

Tag suppliers must confirm before supply:

- the order relates to the correct and active PIC, if not, the supplier needs to confirm the validity of the PIC with the district registrar
- the person ordering the tags is entitled to do so.

Approved identifiers may only be ordered by and sold or supplied to:

- the owner or occupier of the property to which the PIC is assigned
- the owner or person in charge of stock on the property to which the PIC is assigned
- an authorised officer or a district registrar.

A person must not sell or supply an approved identifier unless the identifier refers or relates to an active PIC.

It is preferable that tags for agisted stock be ordered by the property owner/occupier and then supplied under agreed terms to the person who owns or is in charge of the agisted stock.

2.4 Misuse of identification tags

A person must not make, sell, supply or use anything that is not, but could reasonably be mistaken for, an approved identifier.

A permanent identifier must not be attached incorrectly or for any wrongful purpose, including:

- attaching a breeder tag to an animal that was not bred on that property, or
- attaching a tag to sheep or goats that are on a different property to that to which the PIC on the tag is assigned (unless permitted by an authorised officer)
- unused tags cannot be sold or disposed of (e.g. at a clearing sale), and cannot be taken or given away by the original owner and used on a different property.

If a property is being sold, any unused NLIS tags must remain with the property. These tags are only to be attached to sheep or goats on the PIC which is the same as the PIC printed on the tags.

2.5 Removal of identification tags

A permanent identifier that is attached to any sheep or goat must not be removed except in the following circumstances prescribed in the NLIS Regulation:

- the stock has been slaughtered at an abattoir
- an authorised officer authorises the removal of the permanent identifier and this is done in accordance with any conditions specified in the authorisation
- the stock has died, unless there is suspicion that the death was due to a notifiable disease (whereby the identifier must be left in place until an authorised officer has examined the carcass)
- the identifier is damaged and can't be read and a replacement NLIS tag is attached immediately.

Permanent identifiers, whether attached or unattached, and any equipment used for the purposes of attaching a permanent identifier, must not be altered or defaced in a way that could adversely affect their function or compromise traceability.

NLIS tags that have previously been attached to any stock must not be reused or recycled.

Abattoirs and authorised officers must dispose of NLIS tags that have been removed from slaughtered stock in a manner to ensure the identifier is unable to be used or attached to identifiable stock. This may be achieved by:

- deep burial
- destruction by heat or rendering
- disposal at a waste management facility that is authorised under State legislation to take solid waste (such as a local council waste management facility)

An authorised officer may take possession of an unattached identifier that the officer believes on reasonable grounds is:

- for sale or supply
- being used in contravention of the Regulation
- is in the possession of a person without the approval of:
 - the owner or occupier of the property
 - the owner of the stock to which the identifier relates.
- has been abandoned.

If the identifier is not claimed by the owner or occupier of the property within three months, the authorised officer may dispose of it in a manner to ensure the identifier is unable to be used or attached to identifiable stock.

2.6 Interstate stock and identification tags

Sheep and goats entering NSW from another State or Territory must comply with the NLIS requirements of their state of origin while travelling within that State and, once in NSW, with the NSW requirements before they next move.

Sheep and goats entering NSW must be identified with an NLIS tag on arrival (if not already permanently identified) and an approved NLIS movement document (NVD or TSS) must accompany the stock during transportation and the required information provided on arrival at their destination.

Tags printed with an interstate PIC or a Western Australia (WA) brand number are lawful identifiers in NSW. It is recommended a post-breeder tag assigned to the NSW property to which the sheep or goats have been moved to be attached before they are moved or sold again.

Interstate PICs can be looked up using the 'Search the PIC register' or QuickPIC functions on the NLIS database, or WA brands at the [Stock Brand and PIC Register search guide | Agriculture and Food](#).

2.7 Special identification tags

Special identifiers (special or 'emergency' sheep tags) may be supplied by a district registrar, or an authorised person. Special/emergency sheep tags must be printed with a serial number unique to each tag and either the:

- district code
- saleyard PIC (if being used in a saleyard) or
- abattoir PIC (if being used at an abattoir).

Records of the use of special/emergency identifiers are kept by the issuer for a period of seven years and contain the:

- date the identifiers were supplied
- number and type of identifiers supplied
- serial numbers of special identifiers sold
- name and address of person to whom each identifier was supplied
- name and address of owner of stock for which identifier was supplied
- stock description (including type, number and breed)
- PIC of origin of stock
- number of special identifiers sold.

2.8 Approval for movement without tags by an authorised officer

Approval for the movement may be given:

- verbally and a record kept in the authorised officer's files, or
- written approval or permit may be sent to the person who wishes to move the stock and a copy retained by the authorised officer.

The approval or permit may cover multiple movements to a specified location. If the movement is across LLS district boundaries, the approval or permit may be given by either the authorised office for the district of origin or destination, depending on whether the sender or recipient of the stock applies, but each authorised officer must check with their counterpart in the other district to ensure they are aware of and concur with the movement and have not already rejected the application.

A TSS or NVD is required unless a written permit or walking stock permit is provided and accompanies the stock.

2.8.1 Unweaned and unmarked lambs and kids

An authorised officer may approve the movement of sheep and goats without tags when:

- lambs or kids that are both unweaned and unmarked are moved or sold with their mothers
- lambs or kids are born in transit or at a saleyard do not need to be identified if moved or sold with their mother (if they become separated a special NLIS tag must be attached).

The lambs or kids must subsequently be identified:

- at the time of weaning or marking, or
- before they are moved off the property, with breeder tags for the property on which they were born, or
- with post-breeder tags for the property on which they now reside.

2.8.2 Properties without suitable facilities

An authorised officer may approve the movement of sheep and goats without NLIS tags when:

- the stock are located on a property (including a TSR) that does not have suitable stock handling facilities, or
- it is otherwise not practical to attach NLIS tags on the property.

In these situations the stock must be moved directly from the property to the other place with facilities and may be identified with one of the following:

- NLIS tags with the PIC for the property from which they have just been moved
- post-breeder tags for the property to which they have just been moved

- special NLIS tags.

If stock are sent untagged to a saleyard for sale or an abattoir for slaughter, the sheep or goats must be tagged before their sale or slaughter.

If stock are sent to any other place other than an abattoir or saleyard, they must be tagged:

- within two days of arrival, or
- before the stock leaves the other place, whichever is sooner.

2.8.3 Other circumstances

Authorised officers may exercise with care some discretion in the use of special identifiers and permits, in consultation with the Team Leader Animal Biosecurity and Welfare on a case by case and one-off basis.

The provision that the authorised officer allows must be consistent with existing approved provisions and not compromise traceability. The exception must be provided fairly and equitably and must not become the rule.

3. NLIS Element - Movement Documents

Livestock producers must meet a number of statutory requirements and industry standards when moving and selling stock, including:

- transporting the stock with a TSS in accordance with Part 9 of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*
- providing information about the origin, type and identification of stock in accordance with the NLIS Regulation
- providing information to a processor that the stock conforms with the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transport of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption in accordance with the *Food Act 2003*
- meeting the rules of the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program managed by AUS-MEAT.

3.1 When a movement document is required

Information about the sheep or goats must be provided in an approved form of NLIS movement document on arrival of the stock at a:

- saleyard
- abattoir
- another property (a Property to property movement (P2P)), including:
 - to a show
 - between properties as part of normal management
 - for agistment or after being sold
 - to a TSR or road or
 - for any other purpose.

3.2 Required information on a movement document (delivery information)

The required information on an NLIS movement document includes:

- the number and type of sheep or goats
- the date the movement commenced

- the PIC of the property where the stock were last held
- the name and address of the previous property
- the PIC(s) on the tag(s) attached to the stock
- the unique serial number of the movement document
- whether the sheep or goats were bred by their current owner (vendor bred)
- the name and address of the property to which they are being moved.

It is an offence if any of this information is false or misleading.

NLIS movement documents must be completed by the owner or person in charge of the stock, or a person authorised to do so on their behalf.

If any information on the document is subsequently altered, the change must be countersigned by the same person in the same way as changes to other legal documents are authorised.

Under LPA rules, an NVD must be accurately completed by the accredited producer and only used for livestock movements from the PIC to which the NVD has been assigned (Rules for the LPA Program: <https://www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/national-vendor-declaration-nvd/#>)

3.3 Type of approved movement documentation

National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (NVD)

The NVD form is an approved NLIS movement document that is issued under the Livestock Production Assurance (LPA) program and must be fully completed. LPA NVDs can be a paper version (NVD book) or an eNVD. It must be used:

- when stock are moved to a saleyard or abattoir to effectively comply with all statutory and industry requirements and standards
- for movements between properties to comply with LPA standards
- to accompany the stock while they are being transported (to meet TSS requirements) and be passed onto the person who receives or buys the stock (to meet NLIS requirements and food safety and LPA standards).

Transport Stock Statement (TSS)

A TSS is a movement document that is approved in accordance with *the Local Land Services Act 2013*, including stand-alone forms of the TSS, approved livestock transporters' consignment notes, a Sale Outward Movement Record (SOMR) produced by Outcross and Agrinous saleyard software, and an ACT stock permit:

- this form must be used when stock are being moved from a saleyard to a property, or to accompany stock when they move between properties
- does not provide information about who bred the stock, does not meet LPA rules or provide information required by processors for food safety standards compliance.

Stock Permit

A stock permit issued under the *Local Land Services Act 2013* is also an approved form of movement document for NLIS and TSS purposes, but does not meet LPA or food safety standards.

Permit

A permit granted under the Act is an approved NLIS movement document for NLIS and TSS purposes, but does not meet LPA or food safety standards.

Buyers Reconciliation Report and Post Sale Summary (PSS)

These two documents are generated by saleyards and accompany livestock to abattoirs from saleyards and contain transaction information as per the NLIS Regulation.

Health Statements

The National Sheep Health Statement or National Goat Health Statement is recommended for on-farm biosecurity but is *not* an approved NLIS movement document and is not compulsory in NSW.

3.4 Movement documents and dealers of sheep and goats

If a dealer buys stock in the paddock and then consigns them directly from that property to a saleyard. The movement document may be either:

- the original vendor's NVD
- an NVD pre-printed with the original vendor's property PIC and completed by the dealer
- a TSS completed by the dealer or carrier.

If the movement is via another property, separate movement documents must be completed for:

- the journey from the first property to the second property, and
- from the second property to the saleyard (only for the sheep picked up from this PIC)

3.5 Multiple properties of origin in one consignment

A consignment (truck-load) may contain sheep or goats from more than one property (with different PICs). To comply with NLIS, TSS and LPA rules, each mob in the consignment must be accompanied by a separate movement document:

- if the sheep are boxed and sold as mixed lots, ensuring that all tag PICs are written on the relevant NVD
- the PIC on each sheep must match a PIC pre-printed or written on the NVD or TSS to match the document and animal(s)
- the PIC can be different if:
 - some or all of the sheep have been bought and are already tagged, or
 - the sheep were bred by the vendor but are being consigned off a different property, including an agistment property.
- these additional PICs must be written:
 - On an NVD under 'Description of sheep and lambs – PICs on ear tags / brands'
 - On a TSS under 'Stock identifiers – Tailtags / Ear tags / NLIS Number'.
- if a sheep has a breeder tag and a post-breeder tag, the post-breeder tag PIC must be recorded
- if there is insufficient room on the NVD, additional PICs may be listed in an attachment available from the ISC website (under 'Tools & Resources'): <https://www.integritysystems.com.au/on-farm-assurance/national-vendor-declaration-nvd/#>

4. NLIS Element - Record keeping

Movements of sheep and goats must be recorded as mobs on the NLIS database and records must be retained for:

- two years (selling agent and abattoir)
- seven years (vendor/sender and buyer/receiver).

Records may be retained in a number of ways:

- paper copy of a movement document
- electronic copy of an NVD that has been uploaded to the NLIS database, or an electronic NVD (eNVD) in the NLIS database
- or, provided they contain all the reportable transaction information:
 - post sale summary or buyer reconciliation report
 - any other data management system that may be maintained by a business for commercial purposes.

Person	Record	Time kept	Division/Clause
Vendor or person sending stock	Copy of movement document plus either the PIC or address of the saleyard or abattoir, or the address or PIC of the property, to which the stock are consigned	7 years	Clause 34
Selling agent	Copy of movement document plus PIC or address of the saleyard plus PIC of the property or abattoir to which the stock are consigned	2 years	Clause 35(4)
Buyer or person receiving stock	Copy of movement document plus PIC or address of the saleyard	7 years	Clause 37(2)
Abattoir	Copy of movement document	2 years	Clause 36(2)
Saleyard operator	Copy of vendors' NLIS movement documents and destination PICs from each sale.	2 years	Clause 35(7)

5. Saleyards and NLIS

5.1 Movement documents and record requirements

All sheep and goats must be tagged before moving to a saleyard and be accompanied by an NVD or TSS and the document provided to the selling agent when the stock arrive at the saleyard:

- the buyer must provide the PIC of the property to which the stock are to be sent to the selling agent before the stock leave the saleyard
- the agent provides this information to the saleyard operator
- the saleyard operator must upload the prescribed information to the NLIS database
 - on the day of sale if the stock are being consigned to an abattoir, and
 - by the close of business on the next working day for all other stock
- the selling agent must provide a copy of the NVD and the PIC or address of the saleyard (or post-sale summary or buyer reconciliation report with equivalent information) to the buyer within seven days, and to a processor before the animals are slaughtered to meet their obligations under the NLIS Regulation
- the carrier must obtain or provide a TSS to accompany the stock while they are being transported from the saleyard to the destination abattoir, property or another saleyard. This may

be in the form of an approved consignment note or TSS or an SOMR. The vendor's NVD, which acted as the 'incoming' TSS, cannot be also used as an 'outgoing' TSS

- the buyer must provide a copy of the vendor's NVD, post sale summary or buyer reconciliation report on arrival of the stock at an abattoir
- all records must be produced for inspection if the person holding the record is requested to do so by an authorised officer.

5.2 Uploading information by the saleyard to the NLIS register (database)

There are two ways in which the information can then be uploaded:

1. Using commercial saleyard software. This is the best option for larger saleyards with regular sheep sales. If the saleyard uploads cattle transactions to the NLIS database, their software can be readily upgraded to handle sheep and goat mob transactions as well.
2. Typing the details on screen. This may be a viable option for smaller or intermittent sales, and NVD images can also be uploaded with this method.

Uploading dead sheep:

- sheep that are dead on arrival or die while in a saleyard must be uploaded as a mob (of one or however many there are) to the PIC of DECEASED.
- carcasses may be sent to a licensed animal exhibit as food for carnivores in which case they must be uploaded by the saleyard to DECEASED.

Uploading private kills:

- single sheep bought for the express purpose of a private kill must be uploaded as a mob of one to either the abattoir PIC or property PIC.

5.3 Solving NLIS problems in saleyards

5.3.1 Unidentified sheep and goats

If sheep and goats in a saleyard are not correctly identified or are not accompanied by a correctly completed NLIS movement document, there are a number of options which will improve traceability and allow the stock to be lawfully traded. This does not negate an offence that may have been committed by the owner and consignor in the first place. An authorised officer may advise the options that are available but must not enforce an option.

The option of withdrawing stock from sale or taking them back home is the vendor's choice – an authorised officer must not order the sheep and goats to be moved.

When sheep and goats have never been identified with NLIS tags

Sheep and goats without approved identifiers cannot be lawfully sold or bought at a saleyard. If this is the case, the one of following options need to be carried out:

- sheep and goats should be identified pre-sale with special NLIS tags (pink post-breeder tags with the district code or saleyard PIC) unless an authorised officer approves post-sale attachment of tags before movement from the saleyard.

Sheep and goats may be withdrawn from that sale, held in the saleyard, identified with special NLIS tags on a non-sale day, and offered for sale again at the next sale:

- only special identifiers may be attached to stock being sold in a saleyard
- identifiers bought for use on a property must not be attached in a saleyard on a sale day.

The vendor may choose to withdraw the sheep or goats from sale and return them to their property of origin. The sheep and goats can be identified on the vendor's property and re-consigned for sale on a later date.

Agents and saleyards may charge for their services, in addition to the statutory fee for special identifiers. If the saleyard operator and agents choose not to be involved with special tags, then unidentified sheep and goats will have to return to where they came from.

If sheep and goats have lost NLIS tags

Mobs of sheep and goats may be sold and bought if the stock were previously identified with an NLIS tag but a small number have lost their identifier by the time they arrive at the saleyard.

- special NLIS tags are required to replace even small numbers of lost tags
- buyers may identify the sheep and goats with their post-breeder tags before the sheep and goats are next moved.

PIC unknown or no PIC

The vendor and buyer respectively must provide to the selling agent the PIC of the property that the sheep or goats were consigned from and the property they are being sent to:

- the selling agent may look up any PIC through the 'Search the PIC register' report on their NLIS database account
- if a buyer's PIC cannot be readily determined, the selling agent's code (if applicable) may be used. The agent is then responsible for transferring the stock to the correct destination PIC within two days
- a PIC may be assigned by the LLS district registrar to any property with sheep or goats that currently doesn't have one.

5.3.2 Incomplete or absent movement documentation

If a consignment of sheep and goats is received without an approved NLIS movement document or with an incomplete document, the sheep or goats must be held in the saleyard until:

- a completed document is supplied by the vendor, or
- the vendor may choose to return the stock to the property that they came from.

5.4 Specific requirements

5.4.1 Agent codes

Sheep and goats may be transferred to an agent code by a saleyard operator. The agent is responsible for keeping records about the location of the stock and transferring the stock off their agent codes within two days to the correct destination PIC.

5.4.2 On-property auction sales

A saleyard is defined under the NLIS Regulation as 'a property on which identifiable stock is sold by public auction'. The selling agent is responsible for recording mob movements on the NLIS database, unless the terms of sale clearly transfer this responsibility to the buyer.

5.4.3 Online sales

Type of online sale	Location of stock at time of sale	Stock movement	Responsibility for recording movement on NLIS database
Private treaty	On property	Property to property	Buyer – property to property transfer within 2 days
Auction	On property	Property to property	Buyer – property to property transfer within 2 days
Auction	In saleyard	Property to saleyard to property	Saleyard operator – saleyard out transfer by close of business next day

6. NLIS in Abattoirs and Knackeries

6.1 Movement documents and records

There are specific requirements for the provision, transfer and retention of traceability information about sheep and goats at an abattoir:

- an NVD or TSS must be provided (hard copy, fax, email, NLIS image) by the owner or person in charge of the sheep and goats to the abattoir operator on arrival of the stock at an abattoir.
- the abattoir/knackery must have an 'Abattoir / Processor' NLIS database account to which is linked the abattoir PIC.
- the abattoir operator must upload the prescribed information to the NLIS database by the close of business on the next working day after slaughter and keep a record for two years
- knackeries must upload the required information within seven days of slaughter and keep records for two years.

Three methods are available to upload the data:

1. Typing the details on screen.
2. Entering the information into and uploading a spreadsheet.
3. Modifying or obtaining abattoir software to upload the data directly to the NLIS database.

The person who consigned the stock to the abattoir must keep a record of the required information for at least seven years:

- both parties are deemed to be meeting this requirement if the stock has been transferred to their PIC (abattoir) or from their PIC (consignee) as a mob-based movement, and
- a scanned image of the NVD has been uploaded to the NLIS database with the mob-based movement file, and the person has an active NLIS database account.

All records must be produced for inspection if the person holding the record is requested to do so by an authorised officer.

6.2 Transfer of sheep and goats to abattoir and holding PICs

Sheep and goats sold through a saleyard for slaughter must be transferred by the saleyard to the abattoir PIC or, to a separate holding paddock PIC if stock will be held for more than seven days prior to slaughter. Other considerations include:

- the abattoir must transfer the stock from the holding PIC to the abattoir PIC prior to slaughter

- sheep and goats consigned directly from a property to an abattoir for slaughter do not need to be transferred first to the abattoir PIC
- if held more than seven days, they must be transferred to the holding paddock PIC, then back to the abattoir PIC prior to slaughter.

6.3 Solving NLIS problems in abattoirs and knackeries

It is an offence for an abattoir to slaughter sheep or goats where:

- they are not correctly identified, or
- a completed NLIS movement document has not been provided.

An abattoir may slaughter stock that has not met these two NLIS requirements for humane reasons on the direction of an authorised officer, food inspector, animal welfare inspector or veterinary practitioner.

6.3.1 Unidentified sheep and goats

6.3.1.1 Nil or lost tags

Untagged sheep cannot lawfully be slaughtered at an abattoir. If a consignment of sheep and goats is received with few or no tags, the abattoir must notify a Food Safety Officer or the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on-plant staff.

If the property of origin cannot be determined, the abattoir must hold the stock in lairage until slaughter is approved by that officer:

- food and export standards usually require every sheep to be tagged prior to slaughter
- special identifiers may be supplied and used at an abattoir for this purpose.

6.3.1.2 PIC unknown or no PIC (direct consignments)

The owner or person in charge of sheep or goats being consigned to an abattoir must provide the abattoir operator with the PIC of the property the stock were consigned from on arrival of the stock.

This person may be:

- the vendor (for direct consignments)
- a butcher or meat wholesaler (for service kills)
- a buyer on behalf of the abattoir, or
- the stock owner (for a private kill).

The abattoir operator may look up any PIC through the 'Search the PIC register' report or 'QuickPIC' available through their NLIS database account.

A PIC may be assigned by the LLS district registrar to any property that currently doesn't have one.

6.3.2 Incomplete or absent movement documents

If a consignment of sheep and goats is received at an abattoir without a completed NLIS movement document, the sheep or goats must be held in lairage until a completed document is supplied by the vendor:

- if this is not practical, the stock may be slaughtered and the carcasses held in the chiller
- the default number of 1234567 is accepted by the NLIS database in lieu of an NVD or TSS serial number for the purposes of completing the mob-based movement upload

- the supplier may have committed an offence for failing to provide the relevant information in an approved form when the sheep arrived, and the carrier for not having a TSS while transporting the stock.

A record must be made of any tag PICs that are observed on sheep and which have not been recorded on the NVD ('foreign' PICs).

7. NLIS with Property to Property (P2P) Movements

P2P movements include the movement of sheep or goats:

- between properties with different PICs as part of normal management
- for agistment
- after being sold
- to and from shows
- along a travelling stock reserve (TSR) or road, or
- for any other purpose, even if the stock remain in the same ownership.

The required NLIS information must be uploaded by the owner or person in charge of the stock at the current (i.e. destination) property within two days of arrival of the sheep or goats:

- the owner or person in charge of the stock must have a 'Feedlot' or 'Producer' NLIS database account, which may be opened online at <https://www.nlis.com.au>
- alternatively, they may arrange for a third party such as a stock agent, contractor, relative or friend to do the upload on their behalf
- the information may be uploaded by either typing the details on screen or uploading a spreadsheet.

Details are available in the [NLIS Database Tech Tips](#), Mob-based movement between PICs in the HELP section.

All sheep and goats must be tagged before moving to any property and be accompanied by an NVD, TSS or permit (if applicable). This document must be provided on arrival at a property and kept by both the sender and recipient of the stock for seven years.

Exemptions from tags for P2P movements are currently available for:

- dairy goats
- earless goats
- in emergencies, and
- other limited circumstances.

A special permit may be required to meet some of these exemptions, and an LLS authorised officer should be consulted prior to the movement to ensure it is valid.

Note that any current exemptions from tagging by the NLIS Regulation for movements between properties are being reviewed in 2023.

7.1 Movement documents and records

An approved NLIS movement document must be provided by the owner or person in charge of the sheep and goats on arrival at a property (the 'current property') to the person who will be the owner or person in charge of the stock at the current property.

When stock is remaining in the same ownership after movement, the owner or person in charge is still obliged to keep a record of this movement for the prescribed time, and will need to complete a TSS or obtain a walking stock permit to accompany the stock while they are being moved.

All records must be produced for inspection if the person holding the record is requested to do so by an authorised officer.

7.2 Specific requirements

7.2.1 Agistment

Sheep and goats moving to and from agistment properties must be identified with NLIS tags before movement.

An approved NLIS movement document must accompany all movements and be kept for the prescribed period:

- lambs and kids born on the agistment property must be identified before movement off the property with breeder tags for the agistment property
- if this is not practical, they may be moved with the approval of an authorised officer or on permit to a property owned or occupied by the owner of the stock and identified with either breeder tags with the agistment property's PIC or post-breeder tags for the other property
- the movement must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

7.2.2 Travelling stock reserves

Sheep and goats being moved onto a TSR, road or other public place must be identified with NLIS tags before leaving their property. The walking stock permit serves as the movement document provided it is retained for the prescribed period:

- lambs or kids born on a TSR may be moved to another place for the purposes of identification with either a TSR PIC breeder tag, or a post breeder tag for the other property PIC
- the movement onto and off the TSR must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

7.2.3 Movements between different parts of a property

Sheep and goats moving directly between different parts of the same property (different holdings or parcels of land under the same PIC) do not have to have NLIS tags:

- if they are moving across or along a public road, they must be accompanied by an approved movement document in the form of a walking stock permit or Routine Annual Stock Movement Permit from LLS
- sheep and goats moving between properties with different PICs must be tagged and be accompanied by an approved NLIS movement document, and the movement recorded on the NLIS database

7.2.4 Short term local movements

Currently sheep and goats moving directly to a contiguous property (with a different PIC) do not have to be identified provided they are returned to the original property within two days or are grazed continuously between the two properties.

If they are moving across or along a public road, they must be accompanied by an approved movement document in the form of a stock permit or TSS. This exemption allows local, short-term movements of sheep and goats for the purposes of:

- using stock yards

- using shearing shed
- gaining emergency access to water, and
- other appropriate management and animal welfare reasons.

7.2.5 Shows and artificial breeding centres

Sheep and goats moved to an artificial breeding centre, agricultural show, field day, sheep dog trial, shearing demonstration, fete or similar event must be tagged before leaving their property:

- all movements must be accompanied by an NLIS movement document which must be retained by the owner or person in charge of the sheep or goats for seven years
- the movements must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

7.2.6 Commons

A 'common' is a piece of open land for public use. Under the NLIS Regulation it is considered a property and must have a PIC if it runs livestock. The word 'common' should be included in the PIC register details to help identify it as a common on PIC registers.

All sheep and goats moving to or from a common must be identified with an NLIS tag and accompanied by an NLIS movement document.

If the common is managed by a trust with a structured management committee, the secretary may apply for a PIC, purchase NLIS tags to be attached to sheep and goats on the common, and join the LPA to obtain NVDs:

Tags must be breeder or post-breeder tags, depending on whether or not the animals are born on the common, although for convenience and because the place of birth might not always be clear, it might be more appropriate for only post-breeder tags to be used.

If sheep and goats are moved regularly between the common and other properties, such as town blocks or other small farms, those other properties may be placed on the same PIC provided they are proximate and share a similar disease and residue risk on application to and approval by the district registrar. The movement must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

7.2.7 Pounds

A 'pound' is a place of care for animals, including strayed or lost stock, often run by the local Council. Straying stock may present a significant biosecurity risk as their origin and movement history is unknown. It is important that the animal is identified even if it is promptly returned to the property that it came from. Remember:

- if the animal has an NLIS tag, this may assist in determining its property of origin, although the PIC on the tag might not relate to the property that the stock has just strayed from.
- if the animal does not have an NLIS tag, one must be attached before the animal leaves the pound, irrespective of whether it is returned to its previous property or is otherwise sold or disposed.
- the NLIS tag may be a special identifier supplied by the LLS, or the pound may apply for a PIC and order its own post-breeder tags.

An NLIS movement document is required when the animal leaves the pound. The movement onto and off the pound PIC must be recorded in the NLIS database as a mob based movement. LLS may assist with identification of the PIC for the property where the stock was found, if it is not possible, a district code may be used as a 'From PIC'.

7.2.8 Dairy goats

Dairy goats are goats of a breed recognised by the Dairy Goat Society of Australia:

- dairy goats are currently exempt from tags for P2P movements
- they must be tagged prior to moving to a saleyard for sale or an abattoir for slaughter
- all movements must be accompanied by an approved NLIS movement document which is provided and retained as prescribed
- the movement must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

This is current policy for dairy goats, however other suitable permanent identifiers will soon be available and required following the review of the NLIS Regulation in 2023/2024.

7.2.9 Earless goats

Earless goats are those of a breed born without ears. Earless goats moving between properties and shows have been exempted from tags for practical reasons. All movements must be accompanied by an approved movement document which is provided and retained as prescribed:

- earless goats must be tagged prior to moving to a saleyard for sale or an abattoir for slaughter, although a permit may be used if tagging is impractical
- the movement must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob-based movement.

This is current policy for earless goats, however other suitable permanent identifiers will soon be available and required following the review of the NLIS Regulation in 2023/2024.

7.2.10 Circuses, zoos

Currently, sheep and goats do not need an NLIS tag if the animals are owned by a mobile exhibition or animal display establishment, including an animal nursery or petting zoo, which is licensed under the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*, and are not moved to a saleyard or abattoir. A TSS may still be required to comply with the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

Following the NLIS Regulation review in 2023/2024, it is likely this tagging exemption will be removed.

7.2.11 Live export

Live sheep and goats being exported must be identified and accompanied by NLIS movement documents in accordance with both the NLIS Regulation and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) requirements. The movement must be recorded on the NLIS database as a mob based movement.

7.2.12 Carcasses

Carcasses of sheep and goats that are being disposed of at a waste management facility, or being sent to an animal display establishment as food for carnivores, do not need an NLIS tag. A mob-based movement of one should be recorded on the PIC of DECEASED.

7.2.13 Emergencies

Sheep and goats may be moved without NLIS tags if the stock are required to be moved urgently due to a flood, fire or other emergency.

The stock may subsequently be returned to the original property without tags, otherwise the stock must be identified with post-breeder tags for the current property or special tags before being sold, slaughtered or moved elsewhere.

7.3 Unidentified sheep and goats

7.3.1 Stock not identified or no movement document

If sheep or goats are moved without tags to another property, the owner or person in charge of the stock at the current property must report the incident to an authorised officer as soon as possible.

If the stock have just moved from their property of birth and the incident is reported in a timely manner (within 14 days from the date of movement), the authorised officer may authorise the tagging of the stock with NLIS tags for the property of birth within a further 14 days (i.e. within 28 days from the date of movement), provided a movement document has also been obtained and retained.

It is up to the recipient of the stock to negotiate the supply of tags with the person who sent the stock. If agreement cannot be reached, the stock will have to be identified with post-breeder tags for the current property before they leave that property.

If the stock have been moved from a property other than their property of birth, then there is little value in tagging them with tags for the previous property as lifetime traceability cannot be demonstrated, and post-breeder tags must be attached before the sheep or goats leave the current property:

- the authorised officer must investigate the alleged breach by the person who unlawfully sent the stock
- if the owner or person in charge of the sheep or goats at the property of destination fails to report the matter to an authorised officer in a timely manner, that person is deemed to have accepted responsibility for the problem. The stock must subsequently be identified with post-breeder tags for the property on which they are now located before they leave that property.

7.3.2 Lost NLIS tags

Sheep and goats that have lost their NLIS tag must be re-identified with a breeder tag (if bred on that property) or post-breeder tag (if introduced) before the sheep or goats subsequently leave the property. This replacement tag becomes the permanent identifier for that animal from then on.

7.3.3 PIC unknown or no PIC

The previous owner or person in charge of the sheep or goats must provide the owner or person in charge of the stock at the destination property with the PIC of the previous property:

- a producer who has an NLIS account may look up any PIC through the 'Search the PIC register' report on their NLIS database account
- a PIC may be assigned by the LLS district registrar to any property that currently doesn't have one.

7.4 Specialised situations

7.4.1 Feedlots

All sheep or goats consigned to a feedlot must have a breeder tag with the PIC of the property on which the stock was bred. The use of the standard year of birth colour scheme is strongly recommended. They must also be accompanied by an NVD or other approved movement document and the movement recorded on the NLIS database.

All sheep or goats consigned from a feedlot must still have their breeder tag attached as these tags must not be removed. A pink post-breeder tag with the feedlot PIC must be attached to replace any lost breeder tags and may be attached in addition to the breeder tag for ease of management.

For mob-based tracing to work effectively, feedlots must ensure that all:

- sheep or goats are correctly tagged on arrival and before consignment from the feedlot

- sheep or goats arriving at the feedlot are recorded as a mob on the NLIS database, and
- NVDs or other documents are correctly completed, and retained.

This does not apply to:

- drought feeding of sheep or goats in a confined area
- Livestock being finished in a feedlot on the property on which the stock were bred.

A fundamental principle of the NLIS for sheep and goats is that the tag PIC on any sheep or goat in a consignment matches a PIC recorded (either pre-printed or written) on the movement document that accompanies that consignment.

The feedlot must establish a quality management system with auditable records to demonstrate compliance with the NLIS.

7.4.1.1 Movement documents

An approved movement document must be provided by the vendor or person consigning the livestock to the feedlot and the feedlot must complete a movement document whenever stock are consigned. The two most commonly used forms are:

- NVD and waybill for sheep and lambs issued under the LPA program. This is the preferred form as it meets all statutory, market and product integrity requirements
- TSS in the form obtained from the LLS or provided by a transporter.

The feedlot must retain all movement documents for at least seven years.

7.4.1.2 Uploading Information

All movements to a feedlot must be recorded by the feedlot operator as a mob on the NLIS database. The feedlot operator must have a 'Feedlot' or Producer' NLIS database account.

Alternatively, they may arrange for a third party such as a stock agent or contractor to do the upload on their behalf.

Recording movements from a feedlot is the responsibility of the person receiving the stock, being either the:

- abattoir operator
- saleyard operator, or
- new owner or person in charge of the stock at another property.

7.4.1.3 Managing multiple ear tag PICs

There are a number of options for managing the complexities of large numbers of stock from multiple sources with different breeder tag PICs and so comply with the NLIS requirements.

Option	Attach pink feedlot PIC tag	Record breeder tag PICs	Write breeder tag PICs on outgoing NVD
Tag all stock before consignment	Yes	No	No
Tag all stock on induction	Yes	No	No

Option	Attach pink feedlot PIC tag	Record breeder tag PICs	Write breeder tag PICs on outgoing NVD
Record tag PICs before consignment	No	Yes, on outgoing NVD only	Yes
Record tag PICs on induction	No	Yes, and retain record with each pen of stock	Yes

7.4.1.4 Tagging all stock

All stock may be tagged with a post breeder tag with the feedlot PIC on arrival and induction, or before consigned from the feedlot. The PIC on a tag on each animal then matches the pre-printed PIC on the feedlot's NVD and no other tag PICs needs to be written on the NVD; this is preferable for mobs made up of sheep from many properties (mixed mob)..

7.4.1.5 Recording tag PICs before consignment

Before consigning a mixed mob from the feedlot, 25% of stock must be checked and all tag PICs written on the NVD (a higher percentage of checked animals is recommended with this system when there is no starting list of tag PICs with which to compare)

If more than a few different PICs are detected during this process, it might be preferable to apply a feedlot PIC tag to all sheep in that consignment

This level of checking is not required for custom fed stock or other mobs from a single source. The single breeder tag PIC can just be written on the NVD.

7.4.1.6 Recording tag PICs on induction

The feedlot may set up a system for recording all tag PICs on receipt and induction of the sheep. This may be done by listing all tag PICs as recorded on the NVD on paper or electronically, then checking the tag PICs on 5% of animals in each incoming consignment. If any missing PICs are found in this sample, then every animal must be checked and all additional tag PICs added to the list, or any non-represented PICs deleted from the list.

It may be useful to tally the number of sheep with each PIC, though this is not essential. Any lost tags must be replaced with a post-breeder tag with the feedlot PIC.

The PIC list must then be retained with the mob, even when some sheep are drafted out and combined with another mob. By the time a pen is ready for sale, it might comprise sheep from a number of incoming mobs, each with its own PIC list.

When a mob is consigned from the feedlot, a list of all tag PICs associated with that mob is written on or attached to the NVD.

It is not acceptable to simply list all incoming PICs over time and attach the entire list to the NVD, as it is likely to include PICs that are not represented in the sale mob. The PIC list must include no more and no less than the likely range of PICs in that mob.

7.4.1.7 Combined PIC recording and feedlot PIC tags

A combined system may be used, tagging mixed saleyard mobs with the feedlot PIC tag, and recording the tag PICs on stock sourced directly from their property of birth on the NVD.

7.4.2 Feral Goats and Depots

A feral goat is one that has been captured from a wild state, has not been born as a result of a managed breeding program, and has not been subjected to any animal husbandry procedure or treatment.

The following are not feral goats:

- captured doe(s) mated in captivity, and kids born to the doe(s)
- captured goats that have been marked, tagged, or treated with any veterinary medicine, drench or other chemical
- domestic goats that have been bred in captivity and subsequently escaped or released.

A goat depot is defined under the NLIS Regulation as 'land that is used to aggregate goats before the sale or slaughter of those goats'.

All goat depots must be registered with an allocated PIC for that depot (a separate PIC specific to the goat depot if the property is running any other livestock) and the depot operator must have a 'Goat Depot' NLIS account.

See the Goat Industry Council of Australia website for the '[NLIS Industry Standards for operating a goat depot and User Manual](#)' for the requirements for operating a registered goat

7.4.2.1 Ear tags

Harvested rangeland (or feral) goats are only exempt from requiring visual NLIS tags when they are:

- consigned from the property of capture directly to an abattoir for slaughter; or
- moved directly to a goat depot where the goat will be transported to the abattoir within 10 days.

Once consigned to an abattoir, untagged feral goats must be slaughtered, although they may be held for up to seven days in holding paddocks managed by the abattoir operator.

Feral goats must be tagged with a post breeder pink tag for the property of capture when:

- they are moved to another property from the capture property (other than a depot), or to a saleyard for sale (including to slaughter);
- they are moved from the depot to any other property (including a second depot), or to a saleyard for sale (including slaughter); or
- they are held at a goat depot for more than 10 days.

7.4.2.2 Movement documents

All movements of feral goats must be accompanied by an approved NLIS movement document containing the required delivery information. The person who delivers the goats must provide the operator of the goat depot, abattoir, saleyard or other property with the delivery information at the time of the delivery of the goats.

The two most commonly used movement documents are:

- NVD and waybill for goats issued under the LPA program, either a hard copy NVD book, or eNVD. This is the preferred form as it meets all statutory, market and product integrity requirements
- TSS in the form obtained from LLS or provided by a transporter.

The PIC of the property where the feral goats were loaded for trucking must be recorded as the 'Property/place where the journey commenced' on an NVD or the 'Place of loading stock' on a TSS.

7.4.2.2 Uploading information

All movements of goats to and from a goat depot must be recorded by the depot operator as a mob on the NLIS database within two days of the goats arriving or leaving the depot. The goats will be transferred in the NLIS database by the depot operator to a saleyard, an abattoir or another property.

Definitions and acronyms:

- **Abattoir:** Any premises used for the slaughter of stock or for the processing of carcasses of stock, including knackeries
- **Current property:** The property at which sheep or goats has just arrived
- **Destination Property:** The property to which sheep or goats are being sent
- **District code:** An identification code assigned to the LLS District that is accepted by NLIS database in lieu of a PIC
- **eNVD:** A completed electronic national vendor declaration obtained from the Integrity Systems Company website, or an eNVD licensed provider as specified by ISC
- **From PIC:** The PIC of the previous property
- **ISC:** Integrity Systems Company is responsible for delivering Australia's red meat integrity system which includes industry's on-farm assurance program, LPA, and through-chain livestock traceability.
- **LLS:** Local Land Services
- **LPA:** Livestock Production Assurance, is the on-farm assurance program that underpins market access for Australian red meat.
- **Movement document:** An NLIS movement document on which is recorded the prescribed information that must be provided when sheep or goats arrive at a property, saleyard or abattoir
- **NLIS:** National Livestock Identification System
- **NLIS database:** The national database which is used to record movements of sheep, goats and cattle and is managed by ISC Ltd. Under the NLIS Regulation the NLIS administrator is ISC Ltd and the NLIS register is the NLIS database.
- **NSW DPI:** NSW Department of Primary Industries
- **NVD:** National vendor declaration issued by the Livestock Production Assurance program that provides evidence of livestock history and on-farm practices when transferring livestock through the supply chain.
- **P2P:** Property to property movement
- **PIC:** Property Identification Code
- **Previous property:** The property on which the sheep or goats were most recently held and from which they have just been moved
- **Property:** An area of land (including an area comprising one or more parcels of land that are proximate) that is worked as a single property. A property has a PIC
- **SOMR:** Sale Outward Movement Record, a document produced by saleyard software at saleyards, which is approved as a TSS in NSW
- **To PIC:** The PIC of current or destination property
- **TSR:** Travelling stock reserve
- **TSS:** Transported stock statement, a stand alone TSS, or other document approved under Part 9 of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, and Part 8 of the *Local Land Services Regulation 2014*

Documentation:

- Various NLIS procedures at <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis/policy>
- NLIS Compliance monitoring procedure at: [Policies and Procedures \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)
- NLIS (Sheep and Goats) accredited devices, see: <https://www.integritysystems.com.au/identification--traceability/animal-identification/>
- The Industry NLIS Standards for Operating a Goat Depot and User Manual (Standard Operating Procedures) 2016 see: <http://www.gica.com.au/industry-programs/national-livestock-identification-system>
- National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (NVD): [National Vendor Declaration | Integrity Systems](#)
- Local Land Services offices: <http://www.lls.org.au/>
- Policy - Biosecurity collection, use and disclosure of information
- Policy – Code of Ethics and Conduct
- Policy - Records Management (IND-I-177)
- Policy - Information Security (IND-I-197)
- Policy - Classified Information (IND-I-196)
- Policy -Government Information (Public Access) (IND-I-178)
- Procedure - Biosecurity collection, use and disclosure of information

Records:

Not applicable

Revision history:

Version	Date issued	Notes	By
1	01 July 2017	Substantial revision to align with Biosecurity (NLIS) Regulation 2017	Systems, Intelligence and Tracing
2.0	May 2023	Review and minor amendments made as part of the Animal Biosecurity website uplift project	Traceability Team, Animal Biosecurity



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- Leader Traceability. Phone 0428 724705 or email: lisa.burrows@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Biosecurity Intelligence Support, phone 02 6391 3511 or email: cass.blacklow@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- NSW DPI NLIS Helpline, phone 1300 720 405 or email: enquiries.nlis@dpi.nsw.gov.au
- NSW DPI website – NLIS: <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/animals-and-livestock/nlis>
- NLIS Helpdesk, phone 1800 683 111 or email: info@integritysystems.com.au
- NLIS database: www.nlis.com.au

Appendix Approved forms of Movement Document and Record:

Form	Obtained from	Movement document	Record	Comments
Transported stock statement (TSS) approved under	LLS	Yes	Yes	The PIC of the previous property may be written next to the address at which the stock were or are to be

Part 9 of the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	Transporter (approved consignment note) ACT stock permit			loaded to commence the transportation. A copy must be given to the person receiving the stock (may need to make a photocopy).
National Vendor Declaration and Waybill (NVD)	Livestock Production Assurance (LPA)	Yes	Yes	If stock are sold through a saleyard, a separate movement document (e.g., TSS) must accompany the movement from saleyard to destination.
Post-sale summary	Saleyard	Yes	Yes	All required information must be included. A post-sale summary may be used as the retained record but is not a TSS. A TSS must accompany the movement from saleyard to destination. Some saleyard software can generate a TSS based on the sale data.
Show exhibitor entry or registration form	Show society or official	Yes	Yes	All required information must be included. An exhibitor application or registration form may be used as the retained record but is not a TSS. Separate movement documents (TSS or NVD) must accompany movements both to and from the show.
Walking stock permit under section 78 of the <i>Local Land Services Act 2013</i>	LLS authorised officer	Yes	Yes	All required information must be included.
Movement permit under Part 21 of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	LLS authorised officer	Yes	Yes	All required information must be included.

Note: The National Sheep Health Statement is not an approved movement document.