



Mycoplasma bovis 2017 – Situation Report, 7th December 2018 at 10:00

Response: Mycoplasma bovis 2017	Date/time of issue: 7th December 2018 at 10:00
Sit Rep Number: 148	Date of next sit rep: 14th December 2018
Controller: Cath Duthie	Contact for enquiries: Cath Duthie
Response Manager: Nikki Prendergast	<u>M bovis2017_Controller@mpi.govt.nz</u>

Not for public release – IN CONFIDENCE

Background	On 21 July 2017, samples taken from a dairy herd in South Canterbury tested positive for <i>Mycoplasma bovis</i> (MB), a bacterium that causes disease in cattle with severe animal welfare implications. It is widespread internationally, and has never before been identified in New Zealand. By causing untreatable disease in cows, MB can result in significant and ongoing losses to dairy and beef producers.
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Response Objectives

1. Eradicate *M. bovis* from New Zealand
2. Reduce the social, economic, environmental and farm impacts of *M. bovis* until eradication of *M. bovis* is achieved or the response is stood down, by:
 - a. Implement an agreed phased eradication plan effectively within resources/budget;
 - b. Support affected farmers, families and employees, and their communities, to manage the impacts of *M. bovis* and the response;
 - c. Minimising impacts on animal welfare;
 - d. Provide assurances and maintain confidence in New Zealand's biosecurity systems; and
 - e. To appoint and maintain a permanent and capable staff level for the required period.
3. Provide farmers and associated industries with tools, options, knowledge and motivation they need to:
 - a. Protect their farms from *M. bovis*; and
 - b. Continue their farming business to the extent possible with *M. bovis* infected herds whilst under MPI directed movement control.
4. Support directly affected farmers to re-establish viable and resilient farming businesses:
 - a. Where necessary, continue direct welfare support for affected farmers, families and employees (e.g. ongoing case management; specialist referrals); and
 - b. Establish regionally-based farming community recovery initiatives, including encouraging improvements in on-farm biosecurity

Current Situation (as of Friday 7th December, 2018):

Active positive sites	Properties under RP Notice Current	Traces – ex. IPs (visited)	Properties contiguous to IPs (visited)	Other properties of interest – e.g. contiguous to RPs & movements from RPs	0800 Exotic Disease hotline investigations (sampled)	Properties under movement, Notice of Direction
32	52	164 (146)	131 (84)	751	182 (170)	210*

**Please note: These numbers change frequently as Notices are revoked and issued*

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CONTROL NOTICES						
ISLAND	REGION	ACTIVE NOD	ACTIVE RP	REVOKED RP	ACTIVE IP	REVOKED IP
NORTH	Northland	10	1	0	1	0
	Auckland	3	0	0	0	0
	Bay of Plenty	1	0	0	0	0
	Waikato	8	6	1	4	0
	Gisborne	3	0	0	0	0
	Taranaki	1	1	0	0	0
	Hawke's Bay	15	1	4	0	3
	Manawatu-Whanganui	4	2	1	2	1
	Wairarapa	2	1	1	1	1
TOTALS		47	12	7	8	5
SOUTH	Nelson	1	0	0	0	0
	Tasman	6	2	0	2	0
	Marlborough	4	0	0	0	0
	West Coast	0	0	0	0	0
	Canterbury	95	31	35	17	26
	Otago	33	4	8	4	7
	Southland	11	3	21	1	13
TOTALS		150	40	64	24	46
GRAND TOTALS		197	52	71	32	51
			TOTAL RPs EVER		TOTAL IPs EVER	
			123		83	

FARM TYPES OF RESTRICTED AND INFECTED PLACES		
TYPE	ACTIVE RP	ACTIVE IP
Beef	21	17
Dairy	27	13
Grazing	2	1
Lifestyle	0	0
Mixed	1	1
TOTAL	51	32

M. bovis test results (as of 10:00, Thursday 6th December 2018):

		Previous submission	New submission	Total	Test progress	
		No. samples	No. samples	No. samples	No. samples test completed	No. samples test ongoing
Surveillance/Report case	Samples for PCR	80960	3012	83972	79459	4513
	Samples for serology	149412	5483	154895	149626	5269
	Total	243787	8495	252282	242500	9782

GLOSSARY:

CAN (Controlled Area Notice)	A public notice issued under the Biosecurity Act that declares an area to be a controlled area and which imposes restrictions on movement of risk goods into, within and out of the area. Normally applied at a regional/area level.
RPN (Restricted Place Notice)	A notice issued under the Biosecurity Act that declares a place to be a restricted place and which imposes restrictions on the movement of risk goods into and out of the place. Can require the treatment and/or storage of risk goods to control the spread of infection. Normally applied to specific properties.
NOD (Notice of Direction)	A notice issued under the Biosecurity Act that Imposes requirements to treat contaminated things, or destroy pests or unwanted organisms, or to prevent the spread of a pest or unwanted organism. Normally issued to a property owner or manager, directing the management of risk items in place on the property.
IP (Infected Place)	A property that has been confirmed as having infected animals on it
Sitrep (Situation Report)	A regular report of the current response situation, frequency determined by the status and immediacy of the response.
NCC	National Control Centre (Wellington)
RCC	Regional Control Centre (Invercargill, Oamaru, Ashburton and Hamilton)

CONTROLLER

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Controller@mpi.govt.nz

PLANNING NCC:

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Planning@mpi.govt.nz

Actions Planned

- National Plan review and framework establishment
- OM Spec Review/Update
- Farmer Support Manual – review with Welfare prior to finalising
- Mustering Paper ongoing due to be completed by 17th Dec.
- Compensation Guarantee of payment process re Depopped RPs
- Adverse Weather/Events Plan to be reviewed with Welfare and MCDEM prior to finalisation

Risks

- High Workload – Decreasing Staff due to contract completion and new staff start dates mismatch
- Loss of knowledge in staff changeover may push out completion timeframes for planning projects but working hard with the Controller to mitigate through investigating alternate options

Actions Completed

- ART Spec ready for approval
- Freezing/Meat Works Space with VS and RM
- Planning and Specs Job Role Descriptions
- Out of Spec Approval Process
- C&D Specs Live
- Movement Control Spec Updated
- Contingency Plan for Unexpected Loss or Departure of Farmer/Farm Manager

Issues

- Staffing Numbers

OPERATIONS NCC:

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Ops@mpi.govt.nz

Actions Planned

- BAU tasking NOD and RP requests and revocations
- Continual maintenance of Operations Master Reference List including data management of NODs, RPs and IPs recorded and Operational Data requests
- Updating National Operations SOPs to reflect current processes
- Review all properties under restrictions over 90 days
- Resourcing and handover for NCC Sampling roles

Actions Completed

- Review Legacy NODs for progression
- Confirm resourcing for the Christmas period
- Realignment of various information sources used in the response
- Plan for resource rotation from the Readiness & Response Directorate

Issues

- Ongoing discussions regarding preparedness and availability of sampling at works

LEGAL

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Legal@mpi.govt.nz

Nothing to report

MARKET ACCESS:

Nothing to report

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Direct queries to: Mbovis_H&S@mpi.govt.nz

Actions Planned

- Compose and test staff welfare survey via Survey monkey (part one of a three part study)
- Meeting scheduled with AQ to discuss the most efficient approach to H&S under the intended Directorate structure.

Risks

- Changes anticipated during transition e.g. vehicle leases, new premises, new personnel, new operational H&S risks. Requires local risk register review and possibly on-the-job training.

Actions Completed

- Submitted methodology for survey / exit interviews of staff deployed in the first 12-18 months of the response phase (re: staff welfare). Peer review underway.

Issues

- Both Ashburton and Invercargill Senior H&S Advisors will finish up by Christmas. This will leave one Senior Advisor based in Dunedin, able to travel if required.

INTELLIGENCE AND SURVEILLANCE

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Intel@mpi.govt.nz

WELFARE & RECOVERY

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Welfare@mpi.govt.nz

Actions Planned

- Continue to support farmers and communities by delivering welfare support
- Ongoing follow up of priority welfare needs
- Progress recovery funding package
- Progress with Farmer Support Manual
- Comprehensive farm by farm welfare needs by priority
- Work with Communities and Environment Directorate on H&S requirements of Rural Support Trusts
- Updating and maintaining welfare priority list
- Follow up on RST training needs
- Recruitment for Oamaru and Invercargill Regional Welfare Advisors
- Acute Recovery specification to be disseminated and implemented

Risks

- Rural Support Trusts overloaded – ensuring workload spread across staff
- Christmas: some affected farmers may be without incomes, or suffering financial duress over the Christmas period, which could result in significant welfare

Actions Completed

- RSTs providing ongoing 1 to 1 farmer support
- Follow up of priority welfare issues
- Limited kill space now addressed, agreements with meat companies through to March based on known and forecast numbers
- 9 assistors recruited for DBCAT, training during December
- Recruited additional 6 for Recovery team (2xA Hamilton, 4x Ashburton)
- Christmas period cover and roster finalised
- Recruited additional Welfare Advisor for Hamilton office, so we have 2 covering North Island

Issues

- Ensuring sufficient support for, or ability to identify/triage farmers that need support who are undergoing testing but are not under restrictions
- Understanding and communication of response priorities
- Welfare information and performance reporting – information managed across several databases, key source of information to inform welfare services not fit for purpose and making it more difficult to deliver timely welfare support.
- RST engagement and farmer advocacy

PIM

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_PIM@mpi.govt.nz

LIAISON

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_Liaison@mpi.govt.nz

Actions Planned

- Visit to Dannevirke grounds ahead of A&P Show
- Reporting of calf survey continues
- Ongoing shared workspace training
- Tarankai meeting planned
- Farms under extended controls full list being compiled

Actions Completed

- Stock agent meeting in Nelson
- Lions meeting in Methven
- Team building event

Issues

- Christmas roster

LOGISTICS NCC

Direct queries to: Mbovis2017_logs@mpi.govt.nz

HAMILTON RCC

Actions Planned

- Running out of space for staff – T&C's for new building being reviewed
- Full Depop of difficult farm

Issues

- Large bull farmers under NOD or RP – H & S issues surrounding getting mobs in for testing and/or census
- On going management by Controller of three problematic farmers
- New C&D spec release external communications
- Mustering Costs external communications

ASHBURTON RCC

Actions Planned

- RCC Response Manager in Nelson Next week speaking to Fed Farmers and stock agents as well as farmers suggested by ICPs.
- Four teams working to catch up on taskings. Positive headway being made. Mindful we are coming into the Christmas period.
- Working on priority farms (90 days plus and welfare concerns) looking at any roadblocks.
- Staff continually being encouraged to plan a way forward.
- Working on reducing the number of trace animals on farms which are holding up the next round of testing. Using the ability to depop on farm for small mobs of trace animals after following protocols for this process.
- Reminding ICP Managers to make sure response costs are properly documented and submitted before the 19th Dec.
- Reminding ICP Managers that accurate records are essential for facilitating prompt payment of Compensation.
- Working on depop of animals, especially yearlings, with RCC Ops and depop. Some key properties are being resolved finally.
- Reminding ICPs to work with farmers regarding the drier conditions in the top of the Sth Island.
- Continue to make sure ICPs, through AQ management, are aware of specs so that standards are maintained and consistency exists, both regionally and nationally.
- Working with RSTs to make sure we have situational awareness of emerging issues and are addressing them.
- Continue maintain standards in relation to animal welfare and stock being tested and culled. If in doubt a vet is tasked with checking stock.

Risks

- Beef breeding farms going under controls now who will want to sell calves at autumn calf sales.
- Dairy units not wanting testing done as they are AI'ing.
- Beef breeding units not wanting testing done now as cows set stocked for calving and want to wait until they get them in for 'marking'.
- Lost NAIT tags in trace animal mobs causing issues as more animals need to go to slaughter as we do not know which ones are trace animals.
- Inability to depop properties in a timely manner which is increasing on farm feed costs. The inability to get rid of 121 stock is holding up the next round of testing.
- Due to the number of RPs on the books the ability to depop RP/IPs in a planned manner to facilitate to return to BAU when farm revoked.
- The lack of cashflow on trading farms under NOD is creating severe hardship on many farms.
- Field staff working with stressed farmers and their staff and families.
- Grazers now looking at taking on their usual weaned dairy heifer calves which they would then take through until about July 2020.

- Limited number of ART staff to help guide processes and plans.

Actions Completed

- New RCC Controller onsite and getting situational awareness.
- Presented to Methven Lions Club (60 plus people) and had a very good response.
- Completed a number of reclassifications of NOD's and RPs. Making sure reclassifications take into account any longer term feed issue should farms still be under restrictions.
- AQ have held a number of staff interviews in light of staff transitioning to BAU unit and are working through their contract process.
- Dealt with a number of welfare issues and logistical issues.

Issues

- As per risks- Trading farm issues whilst under directions.
- Testing capacity.
- Farms under direction for over 90 days.
- Space for depopping for RPs as well as space for 121 trace animals blocking next round of testing.
- Lack of space for R1s.

OAMARU RCC

Actions Planned

- Working through the circumstances for farmers being on NOD greater than 90 days
- Consolidate AQ/MPI systems with new AQ ICP Coordinator and AQ Manager
- Work with new ICP's to ensure induction and training is satisfactory
- Working in Invercargill FHQ to offer cross regional support
- Serving of new NODs and maintaining relationships with existing farms
- Continuing C&D activity

Risk

- Wet ground conditions causing issues with all activity especially C&D
- Farmers are wanting certainty about compensation payments which they need to bridge the gap between what they received as cull stock and what they need for replacements
- Loss of intellectual knowledge as staff move out of roles

Actions Complete

- Continued work with farmers with recovery and cost recovery
- Continued relationships with RSTs when dealing with welfare
- Working with C&D as to how to roll out new C&D specs
- Farmer and staff workshops were a success. Both groups appreciated senior members of MPI visiting and being able to engage with specific questions and issues

Issues

- Stress levels are high amongst all staff

INVERCARGILL RCC

Actions Planned

- Work with Surveillance/Intel to get urgent lab results tested/reviewed ASAP.
- Ensure information is passed to EPI to progress cases.
- Ensure ART plans are actioned promptly.

- Work to provide all information needed for S122 Depopulation notices.
- Work on communication channels, get back to RCC Ops as main point of contact for field staff.
- Logs to follow up with ICP managers regarding any outstanding requests
- Continue to recruit additional Acute/Recovery team resources for ART.
- Work continuing on long-term Recovery Plans in conjunction with phased eradication planning.
- Southland working on a surveillance list of IP/RP for recovery and welfare review.
- Working with Planning on C & D specification review and implementation for farm eradication plans.
- Working on follow-up from Farmers' meeting held 16 November 2018.
- Have a long term plan sitting with legal at the moment for review and working out the structure template.
- Boundary reclassification approvals.
- Under action: Legal templates for S121 pregnant trace animals that have calved, to include the calves.
- Under action: Movement control process for embryo transfers and storage.
- Under action: Permitted movements of stock of no interest off NODs.

Risks

- Keeping NODs in place longer than they need to be due to backlog of results/taskings.
- MPI emails making their way into public domain via ICPs.
- Current kill schedules and negative impact on Recovery Plans through to 2019 season.
- Legacy NODs.
- Weather is affecting some farming practise.
- Continuity of the RCC vet tech role.
- Loss of background/corporate knowledge with the significant losses of staff in the field/change-over of staff.

Actions Completed

- Resolved some issues around compensation from the field.
- Worked with AQ permitting to highlight issues in notice-serving process.
- Actioned NOD boundary changes, ART Plans.
- Q & A sessions with the ICP Managers around specs etc.
- New feed/response cost request form has been distributed.
- Working on farmer liaison to ensure invoices are in prior to Christmas/New Year period.
- Disseminating new compensation document for farmers that has been produced by MPI and Industry.
- Progress being made with long-term farm recovery plans.
- Transitional planning to Recovery team incorporating welfare component.
- Vet tech: RCC technical advice requests, permitting requests, liaising with Recovery/ Operations/NCC sampling, VS, Processing Plants.
- Approvals of boundary reclassifications.
- Approvals of farm recovery plans.

Issues

- Backlog of revocations.
- Backlog of results to be tested and reviewed.
- Recruitment and resourcing of staff from Industry.
- Follow up around surveillance issues identified from Farmers' Roadshow on 16 November 2018. This is continuing through Response Costs and DBCAP assistance with compensation.
- Christmas rosters

ASUREQUALITY (AQ)

Direct queries to: MBFHQManager@asurequality.com

Actions Planned

- Reschedule calf surveys for far north that were cancelled this week
- In house training on lab sample packaging
- Review and establish timeframe for implementation of MC Specs.
- NODS and RP to serve and revoke.

Risks

- Overworking staff – monitoring staff hours
- Ensure Portable yards are well setup
- Last minute/urgent permits are affecting service delivery
- Roll out of new MC specs can cause miscommunication and needs to follow approved timeline
- Depop schedules loads but then farmer makes own arrangement
- Human error when recording agribase numbers

Actions Completed

- Sampling has been steady
- Teams are more positive and getting jobs done in a timely manner – continues
- Permit applications assigned
- NODs and RPs served/revoked

Issues

- Staff resourcing for field teams
- RP Audits - need to ensure all are loaded into collector



Infected Properties (last update: December 7, 2018 at 10:00 am)

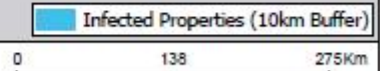


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**Infected Properties
Mycoplasma bovis Response
7/12/2018**



Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Created by the Information &
Data Management Team
Date: 7/12/18

