

Regulatory Priorities 2026-2027

1 July- 31 December 2026



Enduring



Biosecurity

- 1** Protect NSW agriculture, economy, biodiversity and wildlife by minimising biosecurity risks and impacts from animal pests (invertebrate and vertebrate) and disease threats.
- 2** Protect human health, Aboriginal lands, agriculture and biodiversity by minimising biosecurity risks and harms from plants including high-risk weeds.
- 3** Prepare for and respond to biosecurity emergencies and natural disasters to minimise damage to NSW communities, economy and environment.



Food Safety

- 1** Protect human health by being prepared for, responding to and preventing food safety incidents, targeting:
 - High risk licensed food businesses
 - Food export businesses
 - Manufacturers and Wholesalers



Animal Welfare

- 1** Continuously improve animal welfare in NSW, targeting:
 - Animal Research
 - Exhibited Animals



Biosecurity

- Vertebrate Pest Animals**-practical regulatory guidance for land managers and compliance support for Local Land Services
- Red Meat Abattoirs**-licensed abattoirs in NSW targeting National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) compliance
- Almond and Blueberry Pollination**-proactive compliance inspections of bee hives
- Harvesting Equipment**-Parthenium weed vectors in harvesting equipment on the NSW/QLD border
- Priority Weeds- Hudson Pear**- practical regulatory guidance for land managers in Northwest NSW.
- Sheep and Goat electronic identification (eID)**-regulatory education of livestock saleyards to ensure that sheep and goats will be fitted with a proper eID by 1 January 2027



Food Safety

- Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) in Retail Meat**- monitoring and testing for illegal use of SO2 and meat species to protect consumers and human health.
- Vulnerable Persons**- compliance audit program on vulnerable persons facilities, Central Production Unit's and Delivered Meal Organisation's, including those facilities in the Third Party Audit Program.
- High Risk Seafood Processing**-High Risk Seafood Processing Audit Program
- Egg Processing**-compliance audit program on licensed egg processing facilities



Animal Welfare

- Red and Non-Red Meat Abattoirs**- targeting licensed red meat and non-red meat abattoirs in NSW to monitor animal welfare compliance with the Australian Standards.

Six monthly



Regulatory Priorities (Food Safety) 2026-2027

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The NSW food sector contributes over \$100 billion to the NSW economy every year. Foodborne illness and food safety incidents have a direct human health impact but also will impact the confidence in the industry and its contribution to the NSW economy.

Enduring

1 Protect human health by being prepared for, responding to and preventing food safety incidents.



High risk licensed food businesses

Compliance operations targeting high risk processes in aged care, meat processing and meat retail facilities



Export registered businesses

Compliance operations on export registered businesses trading meat and dairy products, ensuring Commonwealth export requirements are met, overseas market access is sustained and industry integrity is protected



Manufacturers and Wholesalers

Inspection and enforcement programs on high risk food manufacturers and wholesalers



Capability, maturity and preparedness

Growing our capability, maturity and preparedness

Six monthly



Sulfur Dioxide in Retail Meat

Monitoring and testing for illegal use of SO2 and meat species to protect consumers and human health.



Vulnerable Persons

Compliance audit program on vulnerable persons facilities, central production unit's and delivered meal organisation's-including those facilities in the Third Party Audit Program.



High Risk Seafood Processing

High risk seafood processing audit program



Egg Processing

Compliance audit program on licensed egg processing facilities



Regulatory Priorities (Biosecurity) 2026-2027

1 July- 31 December 2026



We play a crucial role in ensuring that the legislative and policy settings are in place to support the best practice management of biosecurity risks. We work with other jurisdictions to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from biosecurity incursions and incidents.

Enduring

1 Protect NSW agriculture, economy, biodiversity and wildlife by minimising biosecurity risks and impacts from animal pests (invertebrate and vertebrate) and disease threats.



Invasive Invertebrate Pests

High visibility vehicle inspections on the NSW/Qld Border-fire ants and cattle tick



Vertebrate Pest Animals

Regulatory extension and compliance operations in Southern and Northwest NSW



Bee Industry

Enforcing compliance with registration conditions in the code of practice



Abandoned Orchards

Compliance operations in the Mudgee and Griffith regions

2 Protect human health, Aboriginal lands, agriculture and biodiversity by minimising biosecurity risks and harms from plants including high-risk weeds.



Prohibited Matter banned from sale

Online trade of state priority weeds



Prohibited matter eradication

Hawkweed, Parthenium weed



Tropical Soda Apple

Working with Local Control Authorities



Movement of plant material

Interstate and Statewide



Partnerships with Local Aboriginal Land Councils

Early detection, rapid response and control of priority weeds

3 Prepare for and respond to biosecurity emergencies and natural disasters to minimise damage to NSW communities, economy and environment.



National Livestock Identification System

Compliance with mandatory NLIS transfer uploads



Capability, maturity and preparedness

Growing our collective capability

Six monthly



Vertebrate Pest Animals

Development of regulatory guidance for land managers



Red Meat Abattoirs

Compliance with the National Livestock Identification System (NLIS)



Almond and Blueberry Pollination

Inspection of bee hives and enforcement action to identified biosecurity risks



Harvesting Equipment

Parthenium weed vectors in harvesting equipment on the NSW/QLD border



Priority Weeds- Hudson Pear

Practical regulatory guidance for land managers in Northwest NSW.



Sheep and Goat electronic identification (eID)

Working with LLS to coordinate regulatory education of livestock saleyards to ensure that sheep and goats will be fitted with a proper electronic identification device by 1 January 2027



Regulatory Priorities (Animal Welfare) 2026-2027

1 July- 31 December 2026



The NSW community has high expectations for the welfare of animals. A strong emphasis on animal welfare aligns with community expectations and legal obligations, reflecting a commitment to compassion, accountability, and best practice.

Enduring

1 Continuously improve animal welfare and traceability in NSW.



Animal Research

Compliance inspection program of accredited animal research establishments and animal supplier licence holders that house animals for use in research, to improve animal welfare outcomes.



Exhibited Animals

Compliance audit program of exhibited animal facilities to assess compliance targeting exhibited animal legal requirements on mandatory incident notifications (escape, injury and zoonoses), and enclosure standards to improve animal welfare in NSW.

Six monthly



Red and Non-Red Meat Abattoirs

Compliance audit program targeting licensed red meat and non-red meat abattoirs in NSW to monitor animal welfare compliance with the Australian Standards.