Subject:	feasibility of a national horse traceability register for all horses
Date:	Wednesday, 6 March 2019 14:25:34

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission the above.
I think it is important that all horses can be traced by being placed on a register.
All our horses are branded and microchipped, which gives an immediate visual representation of ownership, very handy if a horse ends up at the sales illegally, microchipping is an added security also.
I think cost effectiveness should be considered for those that have more than one horse.
With regards to the Australian Heritage Horses (brumbies) there has been very poor recording of those captured.
Department of Primary Industries (DPI) claim, "
NSW DPI provides information to all these sectors primarily on the issues of horse health and welfare.

NSW DPI is successfully leading the state in the control and eradication of equine influenza."

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Land Transport of Livestock) Standards 2013 No2 outlines the principles that everyone involved in livestock transport must use to protect the welfare of the animals in their care. Livestock includes alpacas, buffalo, camels, cattle, deer, emus, goats, horses, ostriches, pigs, poultry and sheep.

All people involved in the livestock transport process, from assembling livestock to handling at their final destination, will be expected to conduct themselves in accordance with these Standards.

Transported Stock Statements (TSS) are required for horses travelling within NSW by vehicle (including those travelling into NSW). This assists the tracing of horses in the event of a disease outbreak. TSS are available individually or in booklets from Local Land Services and need to be kept for two years following the movement. Some exemptions apply.

There appears to be no records of those Brumbies that have been captured, and transported either to be sold, slaughtered or rehomed.

I have requested documentation to assist in the evaluation and monitoring of wild horse capture, however have been advised by Parks offices that even under the ROI I would not be able to have access.

My concern therefore is, what traceability is there for the Australian Brumby?, being wild and unhandled when initially trapped, microchipping would not be an option at this point. Therefore adequate documentation and recording is reliant on those persons who are invested with this at initial contact and thereafter.

All Brumbies should have adequate paperwork on capture,

1. Completed trapping documents, where trapped, description, colour, sex.

2. Completed documentation, date trapped, where/to whom brumby went, address, transport.

3. On arrival at destination return documents should be submitted to finalise where Brumby ended journey and for what reason.

4. All documentation should be on a national wild horse register, accessible to the public.

There are enormous numbers of wild horses that are moved throughout the Country yet there is no accountability from those in charge of this, we do not know how many brumbies are removed, from what area and where they end up and for what reason they may end up at slaughter.

Vanja Cunningham

Secretary/Wild Horse welfare Officer
Australian Brumby Board Inc