2.2.a: Decrease data retrieval response time for animal disease traceability from 120 hours to 24 hours by 2017 - Supplemental

**Improvement Plan:**

**Animal Disease Traceability – Safe Food Starts with Healthy Livestock**

**Background:**

Animal disease traceability, or knowing where diseased and at-risk animals are, where they’ve been, and when, is very important to ensure a rapid response when animal disease events take place. An efficient and accurate animal disease traceability system helps reduce the number of animals (livestock) involved in an investigation, reduces the time needed to respond, and decreases the cost to producers. Safe food starts with healthy livestock.
**Problem Statement:**

Traceability is one factor that has increased consumer confidence with a safe food supply. Currently most of our livestock traceability information received is in a paper format, increasing the time to accomplish a trace. Having livestock traceability information available electronically will allow animal health officials to shorten their investigation time, reducing the economic impact to our agriculture communities.

- It is estimated that an additional $10 million in economic loss can occur for every hour the diagnosis and response to a disease such a foot and mouth is delayed (2001 FMD Outbreak, United Kingdom).
- Economic impact estimated between $8-$16 billion and over 290,000 cattle and swine depopulated due to foot and mouth disease in Japan (2010).

**WSDA is working on:**

- Methods to modernize the collection, storage, and query of animal health and animal movement information in two projects:
  - Animal Tracks database
  - Electronic Livestock (brand) Inspection (eLID)
- Animal Tracks is the central repository for animal health information, change of ownership information, brand recordings, and movement information.
- The eLID project will allow livestock inspectors conducting market sale and field inspections to move from a paper to an electronic process. This information is synchronized into Animal Tracks.
- Partner with livestock industry groups on outreach and education for electronic animal disease traceability.

**Target:**

Decrease data retrieval response time for animal disease traceability from 120 hours to 24 hours by 2017.
### Analysis of Barriers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Barrier</th>
<th>Root Cause</th>
<th>Proposed Strategy</th>
<th>Expected Results</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public skepticism in USDA animal disease traceability.</td>
<td>USDA unsuccessful with National Animal Identification System. USDA shifted animal disease traceability to states.</td>
<td>Bolster outreach and education partnership with USDA. Engage industry outreach for the need for animal disease traceability.</td>
<td>Increase industry and public confidence and participation in an animal disease traceability system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current traceability system is dated and inefficient.</td>
<td>Paper based system.</td>
<td>Shift system from paper to electronic.</td>
<td>Decrease time to conduct animal traces.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Limited funding to maintain and support an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>Limited funding.</td>
<td>Industry supported rulemaking to establish fees to maintain and support an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>Reliable funding to provide longevity to an animal disease traceability system.</td>
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Next Steps:
- Continue traceability improvements to support technical advancements in different food animal sectors.
- Expand capability for private veterinarians to electronically collect and transmit food animal movement information.

### Action Plan:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem / Opportunity</th>
<th>Strategies</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Task Lead</th>
<th>Expected Outcome</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Partner</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Public skepticism in USDA animal disease traceability.</td>
<td>Bolster outreach and education partnership with USDA. Engage industry outreach for the need for animal disease traceability.</td>
<td>Develop outreach and education messaging with USDA.</td>
<td>David Hecimovich</td>
<td>Increase industry and public confidence and participation in an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>On Track</td>
<td>1/1/2017</td>
<td>USDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current traceability system is dated and inefficient.</td>
<td>Transition from a paper based system to searchable electronic system</td>
<td>Develop an animal traceability database system that is electronically searchable</td>
<td>Curt Secker</td>
<td>Decrease time to conduct animal traces.</td>
<td>On Track</td>
<td>6/30/2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited funding to maintain and support an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>Industry supported rulemaking to establish fees to maintain and support an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>Conduct work session with industry to determine consistent traceability funding</td>
<td>Lynn Briscoe</td>
<td>Reliable funding to provide longevity to an animal disease traceability system.</td>
<td>On Track</td>
<td>7/1/2015</td>
<td>Livestock Industry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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