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**NLRAD Electronic Lab Reporting Project**

**Questions for State Animal Health Officials**

Surveillance Design and Analysis

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USDA APHIS Veterinary Services (VS) is starting a new project to have Laboratories report test findings electronically to satisfy the U.S. National List of Reportable Animal Diseases (NLRAD) system standards. We would like to gather your input about what you would like from this system. To help better this new system please complete this survey by …

The [NLRAD Standards](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/monitoring_surveillance/nlrad-system-standards.pdf) will require information to be collected for two categories: Notifiable Diseases and Conditions and Monitored Diseases (Figure 1). Within the Notifiable Diseases and Conditions category, three sub-categories of diseases have been identified: emergency incidents (such as foreign animal disease investigations, e.g., Rift Valley fever, Virulent Newcastle disease, African swine fever), emerging disease incidents (e.g., SARS-CoV-2/Cov-19 Virus), and regulated disease incidents (e.g., Spring viremia of carp, equine infectious anemia, Pullorum disease). Monitored diseases generally are those that are endemic (present) in the United States (e.g., Bovine viral diarrhea, Tularemia, Enzootic abortion of ewes).

Figure 1. NLRAD disease list structure.



**NLRAD - NOTIFIABLE DISEASES**

This first section of questions will discuss notifiable diseases. These include emergency incidents, emerging disease incidents, and regulated disease incidents. When answering the questions below please think about your current practices with any laboratories reporting information on notifiable diseases. We understand that each laboratory may have different practices and these practices may be dependent on the disease being reported. Therefore, answer the questions below for any practices done by any laboratories that reports results on any notifiable diseases.

1. How do you receive results from any laboratory for **NOTIFIABLE** diseases? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Lab electronically messages results directly to a state database or system as an HL7 message

[ ]  Lab electronically reports results directly to a state database or system as a spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab manually enters results to a state system and the SAHO downloads or views the report, such as a spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab calls SAHO’s office with preliminary results

[ ]  Lab emails preliminary report to SAHO’s office, such as an attached pdf or spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab calls SAHO’s office with final results

[ ]  Lab sends final report to SAHO’s office by regular mail

[ ]  Lab emails final report to SAHO’s office, such as an attached pdf or spreadsheet

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

1. In your office, who receives any laboratory results for **NOTIFIABLE** diseases? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Tribal Veterinarian

[ ]  Assistant Tribal Veterinarian

[ ]  Field epidemiologists

[ ]  Office staff

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

1. Are there any differences in any laboratory reporting for the three categories of notifiable diseases, emergency incidents (such as foreign animal disease investigations), emerging disease incidents, and regulated disease incidents?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. If you answered YES to #3 and you believe there are differences in reporting across labs or across notifiable diseases, please explain in more detail below:

**NLRAD - MONITORED DISEASES**

This section of questions will focus on monitored diseases. Monitored diseases are generally those that are present in the U.S. and are reported to OIE in 6-month and annual reports. APHIS uses the data it gathers to monitor disease trends. For NLRAD monitored diseases, state veterinarians are required to report disease occurrence (e.g. presence/absence) monthly; however additional information may be requested or provided voluntarily to monitor disease trends and enhance response and control efforts. When answering the questions below please think about your current practices with any laboratories reporting information on monitored diseases. We understand that each laboratory may have different practices and these practices may be dependent on the disease being reported. Therefore, answer the questions below for any practices done by any laboratories that reports results on any monitored diseases.

1. How do you receive results from any laboratory for **MONITORED** diseases? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Lab electronically messages results directly to a tribal database or system as an HL7 message

[ ]  Lab electronically reports results directly to a tribal database or system as a spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab manually enters results to a tribal system and the SAHO downloads or views the report, such as a spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab calls SAHO’s office with preliminary results

[ ]  Lab emails preliminary report to SAHO’s office, such as an attached pdf or spreadsheet

[ ]  Lab calls SAHO’s office with final results

[ ]  Lab sends final report to SAHO’s office by regular mail

[ ]  Lab emails final report to SAHO’s office, such as an attached pdf or spreadsheet

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

1. In your office, who receives any laboratory results for **MONITORED** diseases? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Tribal Veterinarian

[ ]  Assistant Tribal Veterinarian

[ ]  Field epidemiologists

[ ]  Office staff

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

**Current Reporting**

Please provide responses regarding your current reporting system for both notifiable and monitored diseases.

1. What system(s) do you use now to summarize information about notifiable and monitored diseases that you report to USDA? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Tribal-owned instance of CoreOne

[ ]  Surveillance Collaboration Services (SCS)

[ ]  USAHERDS

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

1. Do you have any challenges in the way lab information is received and transferred into the NAHRS/NLRAD reporting system?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. If you answered YES to #8 and you believe there are challenges in the way lab information is received and transferred into the NAHRS/NLRAD reporting system, please explain in more detail below:

**Future Reporting**

The goal of this project is to improve NLRAD reporting to both tribal veterinary offices and to APHIS. For the next set of questions, please provide responses regarding how you would like to report information in the future.

1. In the **future**, what information do you need from the labs, that you cannot get from other sources, to support decision making on **NOTIFIABLE** diseases? Please check all that apply.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Data Field** |  |  | **Data Field** |
| **[ ]**  | Animal ID |  | **[ ]**  | Sample ID assigned by sample collector |
| **[ ]**  | Animal species |  | **[ ]**  | Sample type (example: nasal swab, lung, etc.) |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Premises ID |  | **[ ]**  | Date Sample was collected |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: State |  | **[ ]**  | Lab accession number |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Zip Code |  | **[ ]**  | Sample ID assigned by laboratory |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Address |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Type |
| **[ ]**  | Animal age |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Date performed |
| **[ ]**  | Clinical signs |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Result |
| **[ ]**  | Case/herd history |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Interpretation |
| **[ ]**  | Herd type |  | **[ ]**  | Other, please specify |
| **[ ]**  | Vaccination history |  |  |  |
| **[ ]**  | Owner: Name |  |  |  |
| **[ ]**  | Owner: Address |  |  |  |
| **[ ]**  | Reason for sample submission |  |  |  |

1. In the **future,** what information do you need from the labs, that you cannot get from other sources, to support decision making on **MONITORED** diseases? Please check all that apply.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Data Field** |  |  | **Data Field** |
| **[ ]**  | Animal ID |  | **[ ]**  | Sample ID assigned by sample collector |
| **[ ]**  | Animal species |  | **[ ]**  | Sample type (example: nasal swab, lung, etc.) |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Premises ID |  | **[ ]**  | Date Sample was collected |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: State |  | **[ ]**  | Lab accession number |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Zip Code |  | **[ ]**  | Sample ID assigned by laboratory |
| **[ ]**  | Animal Location: Address |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Type |
| **[ ]**  | Animal age |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Date performed |
| **[ ]**  | Clinical signs |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Result |
| **[ ]**  | Case/herd history |  | **[ ]**  | Diagnostic Test: Interpretation |
| **[ ]**  | Herd type |  | **[ ]**  | Monthly number of diagnostic tests conducted |
| **[ ]**  | Vaccination history |  | **[ ]**  | Monthly number of confirmed cases |
| **[ ]**  | Owner: Name |  | **[ ]**  | Monthly number of susceptible animals |
| **[ ]**  | Owner: Address |  | **[ ]**  | Other, please specify |
| **[ ]**  | Reason for sample submission |  |  |  |

1. For the options listed below, please rank the top 3 ways you would like to see **future** reporting of NLRAD information to APHIS with the selection placed in the top position being your highest priority

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **\_\_\_** | No change to the current process: have lab send results directly to your office, your office reports NLRAD results to APHIS via current reporting process |
| **\_\_\_** | Lab electronically messages results to APHIS which would be routed to your tribe’s system and your office reports via NAHRS |
| **\_\_\_** | Lab electronically messages results to APHIS, but results would only be available to APHIS after your office has reviewed and approved for release |
| **\_\_\_** | Lab electronically messages results to APHIS, with results accessible to your office and to APHIS simultaneously |

1. Is there any other option you would prefer for reporting of NLRAD information to APHIS that is not listed above?
2. In the **future**, how would you like to be notified that results are available for review? Please check all that apply.

[ ]  Email

[ ]  Text

[ ]  Other, Please Specify

1. Is there anything else that would help you with report NLRAD information to APHIS?

[ ]  Yes

[ ]  No

1. If you answered YES to #15, and have suggestions on how to improve the reporting of NLRAD information to APHIS, please provide your suggestions below:

|  |
| --- |
| If you would like to contact us with any additional questions or input, below are contact names and information |
| Leah Estberg, DVM, MPVM, PhD VMO Veterinary InformaticistCenter for Informatics (CFI)Strategy and PolicyUSDA APHIS Veterinary Services Mobile: 970-631-6517Email: Leah.Estberg@usda.gov | Jane A. Rooney, D.V.M.Veterinary Medical Officer (Epidemiology)NLRAD Coordinator Center for Epidemiology and Animal HealthStrategy and PolicyUSDA APHIS Veterinary ServicesPh: 970-494-7397Mobile: 301-789-3064Email: Jane.A.Rooney@usda.gov |

Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

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