



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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January 16 2026

Docket No. APHIS-2025-0705

Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS
5601 Sunnyside Ave., AP760, Beltsville, MD 20705

Dear Office of Management and Budget OMB):

The Washington State Department of Agriculture fully supports the OMB to approve the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) continuation of information collection for Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) for the next three years.

When the updated ADT rule went into effect in November of 2024, it created some changes in the total hours for stakeholders to expend in management of the program. APHIS conducts reviews to ensure that they are collecting only the traceability information that is needed, and the collection is not an undue burden on stakeholders. WSDA has worked hard for many years with USDA funding to build robust infrastructure in the state to capture individual electronic sightings of official EID tags that can maintain or increase efficiency for speed of commerce at markets and slaughter facilities. WSDA

Animal health officials utilize collected traceability information to document the history of the movement of an animal throughout its life from birth to slaughter. Knowing where diseased and at-risk animals have been comingled and are located is indispensable during an emergency response and important for ongoing disease surveillance programs. Reliable, accurate data capture and sharing allows the states to rapidly respond protecting the economic viability of our ag animal industry.

APHIS is not proposing any changes to the content of the Animal Disease Traceability rule with this posting and aligns with the WSDA ADT program mission and work objectives.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Very respectfully yours,

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