



MEDIA

release

MR325/1207

14 December 2007

MOVEMENT STATEMENTS

Following recent cases of unauthorised movement of horses, Territory and Municipal Services would like to remind all horse owners that ACT equine movements statement are still required when travelling in or through the ACT.

“Over the last week, a number of horse owners were found to be moving horses –without valid equine movement statement,” said Executive Director of Environment and Recreation Hamish McNulty.

“All horse owners are reminded that to move a horse in the ACT you are required to have a permit,” said Mr McNulty.

“For horse owners moving between NSW and the ACT you are required to have both a NSW travelling horse statement and ACT equine movement statement.

“This weekend there are a number of horse events in the ACT. TAMS Compliance Officers will be on patrol checking permits.

“The eradication of EI relies on a cooperative effort by the ACT Government and the general public. For example it is still imperative that people who handle horses and tack observe simple biosecurity measures such as washing hands, clothes and equipment after being around a horse paddock. Everyone who has any contact with horses or donkeys has a responsibility to help stop the spread of EI.

“Most of the recent outbreaks of the disease in NSW and Qld have been caused by people not following recommended decontamination procedures with disinfectant, soap and water.

“We thank the community for their support and their efforts in keeping the ACT free of EI.

“We are constantly monitoring the situation and working in line with the national strategy to control and eradicate the disease,” said Mr McNulty.

Please check our web site http://www.tams.act.gov.au/live/equine_influenza for further information or the Local Disease Control Centre on ph. 6207 8705.

Further information: Yersheena Nichols, 62053696