



MEDIA

release

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HORSE QUARANTINE IN FORCE IN THE ACT

ACT Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr Will Andrew today reminded ACT horse and donkey owners that moving any equine species, products or equipment within or in and out of the ACT without first obtaining a permit could lead to a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or up to six months imprisonment.

'Moving any equine animal into, out of, or within the ACT unless a permit is obtained prior to movement breaches the current ACT quarantine,' said Dr Andrew.

'This means that horses should not be removed from the premises where they are currently agisted.

'These quarantine conditions mirror the NSW and national quarantines and restrictions that are in place to help control the spread of the disease.

Dr Andrew said that the remainder of New South Wales is still a declared control area, which means movement restrictions apply throughout the state and there are severe penalties for any breaches of movement restrictions without a permit in NSW.

'Movement permits are only being issued in special situations where a risk assessment has been undertaken by the authorities.

'To apply for a permit in the ACT, people should call the ACT Incident Control Room on **02 6205 5232**.

"The ACT will remain a quarantined area until further notice," said Dr Andrew.

For updates and information on the equine influenza call **1800 234 002** or visit www.outbreak.gov.au

Further information: Nikki Hogan, telephone 0428 970 699