

## SUMMARY OF COVID-19 BORDER CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND TERRITORIES FOR RED MEAT AND LIVESTOCK

**Prepared by:** Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC)  
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**Action item:** Arising from [Red Meat 2030 Ongoing Pandemic Response](#)

**NB:** This is a snapshot of current advise only. It is expected over the coming 48hours a high volume of cross-border traffic with some backlogs. Members of the industry experiencing issues are encouraged to contact their Peak Industry Council. This document is subject to change and updated regularly.

State/Territory	Overall	Agriculture and Food
<b>Federal</b>	<p>Australian Premiers and Chief Ministers agreed to implement, through state and territory laws, new Stage 1 restrictions on social gatherings, to be reviewed on a monthly basis.</p> <p>Australians should expect these measures to be in place for at least 6 months.</p> <p>The following facilities will be restricted from opening from midday local time 23 March 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pubs, registered and licenced clubs (excluding bottle shops attached to these venues), hotels (excluding accommodation)</li> <li>Gyms and indoor sporting venues</li> <li>Cinemas, entertainment venues, casinos, and night clubs</li> <li>Restaurants and cafes will be restricted to takeaway and/or home delivery</li> <li>Religious gatherings, places of worship or funerals (in enclosed spaces and other than very small groups and where the 1 person per 4 square metre rule applies).</li> </ul>	<p>At the meeting of the Agriculture Ministers’ Forum (AGMIN) on the 19th March, Ministers reaffirmed the significance of the agriculture sector in Australia. The red meat and livestock industry is currently seeking assurances that our industry will be afforded exemptions as an essential service, as well as seeking consistency of this across all states and territories.</p> <p>Each State/Territory is in various states of preparedness for individual border controls.</p> <p>Each state jurisdiction have indicated that all components of our supply chain (including inputs such as feed, feed inputs, vet products, professional services to producers, livestock, meat transportation Etc) can continue to trade across borders.</p> <p>Essential services legislation shows the following for each state or territory however all states have put exemptions in place for livestock, fresh food and associated inputs:</p> <p>NSW, QLD, SA, VIC – no specific inclusions            TA, WA – appears to be silent on this issue</p>

	<p><b>IF YOU ARE NOT ON THIS LIST THEN BY EXCLUSION THE EXPECTATION IS THAT BUSINESS OPERATIONS CAN CONTINUE IN LINE WITH NORMAL OPERATIONS UNLESS THERE ARE ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS ANNOUNCED.</b></p> <p>Isolated remote community hubs are not included in these restrictions. Other facilities are not impacted, but will be considered under stage 2 restrictions, if necessary.</p> <p>Premiers and Chief Ministers will consider further Stage 2 restrictions if social distancing measures are not adhered to.</p> <p>Operations can continue as normal until otherwise advised.</p> <p>Australia's borders will be closed to everyone except for Australian residents, citizens and their family members. Effective from 6.00PM or 1800 AWST Friday, 20 March 2020.</p>	<p>ACT – included</p>
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JURISDICTIONAL BREAKOUT				
ACT	<p>Currently open.</p> <p>ACT Chief Minister, Andrew Barr <a href="#">advised</a>: <i>The ACT cannot close its border but our region can be protected. And we will be working closely with New South Wales and surrounding local government areas to ensure that these measures work effectively.</i></p>	NA.	Freight of food will continue in the ACT.	No further action required. Minimum impact to supply chains anticipated.
New South Wales	<p>Currently open.</p> <p>Implementing Stage 1 of shutdown of non-essential activity across the country from midday 23 March 2020.</p>	Included in ongoing cross border operations.	Included in ongoing cross border operations.	<a href="#">NSW Department of Primary Industries COVID-19 Advice</a>
Northern Territory	<p>From 4.00pm on Tuesday 24 March, the Northern Territory will implement <a href="#">strict border controls</a> for all access points – by road, rail, air and sea. Self-isolation is required for 14 days upon arrival, with penalties for those who do not comply. All arrivals including Territory residents will be screened and, if deemed a non-essential visitor, will be told to quarantine themselves.</p> <p><b>This will not affect lawful trade or commerce, essential activities will not be impacted, and those providing goods and essential services will be exempt.</b></p> <p>Transport, freight and logistics are exempt, this includes livestock, beef production and transport of beef interstate and to ships – industry has been advised of the exemption.</p>	Exemption applies – please see Guidelines	Exemption applies – Please see Guidelines	<p><a href="#">Border Control advisory</a> and <a href="#">Chief Health Officer Directive NT Exemption Guidelines</a></p> <p>Within the CHO Directive there are three categories that qualify for specific exemptions (though you will still need to apply for exemptions prior to entering the NT using the <a href="#">border arrival</a> form):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Truck Drivers (under s 10 [d])</li> <li>2. On-Board Stockmen/Vessel Crew (under s 10 [e])</li> <li>3. Specialists (i.e. vets) (under s 10 [g])</li> <li>4. A fourth category exists for businesses that would like to continue operating. These businesses will be required to provide a Management Plan for approval by the Chief Health Officer. These are provided for under s 12.</li> </ol> <p>Applicants applying for exemption from self-quarantine requirements are to fill out an Application For Classification as an Exempted Person or Class of Persons form available <a href="#">here</a></p>

				<p>or at <a href="http://www.coronavirus.nt.gov.au">www.coronavirus.nt.gov.au</a></p> <p>Applications for exemption under the directions can be made using one of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand your completed form to an authorised officer on your arrival to the Northern Territory, for forwarding to the Chief Health Officer for assessment.</li> <li>Email your completed form to <a href="mailto:DOH.PCC@nt.gov.au">DOH.PCC@nt.gov.au</a></li> <li>Lodge online via <a href="http://coronavirus.nt.gov.au">coronavirus.nt.gov.au</a></li> </ol> <p>A separate application is required for each individual, including children (if applicable).</p>
<b>South Australia</b>	<p>All people entering South Australia to isolate for 14-days from their arrival. This will apply immediately to South Australians, other Australians and other travellers, and will be supported by border control from Tuesday 24 March at 4pm.</p> <p>Exceptions have been made for all freight (food, livestock, inputs) and skilled/ critical workforce.</p>	Exempt	Exempt	<p><a href="#">SA Cross Border Travel Directive</a></p> <p>Essential travellers will be asked to justify their status if they are spoken to by police at a checking point or any other place in the State.</p> <p>The officer will then make a final determination and where appropriate allow the traveller to transit into the state uninterrupted, or in other cases the requirements to quarantine under the direction will apply.</p>
<b>Tasmania</b>	<p>From midnight, Friday 20 March, all non-essential travellers departing for Tasmania will be required to quarantine for 14 days. All interstate and international visitors to Tasmania must complete a Tasmanian Arrivals Form. This can be completed <a href="#">online</a> before arriving in Tasmania or upon arrival at terminals in Tasmania.</p> <p>All Non-Essential Travellers arriving in Tasmania will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days</p>	Freight will continue to come in and out of Tasmania, with TT-Line having capacity to carry extra freight	Freight will continue to come in and out of Tasmania, with TT-Line having capacity to carry extra freight	<p><a href="#">Tasmanian border restrictions advisory</a></p> <p>Essential Traveller:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Transport, freight and logistics</li> <li>○ Any person who in the carriage of his or her duties is responsible for provision of transport or freight and logistics into, within and out of Tasmania; and</li> <li>○ Flight Crew and ship crew, for the limited period of delivery of persons, freight or logistics into, within and out of Tasmania, and for no other purpose.</li> </ul>

	upon arrival in Tasmania.			
<b>Victoria</b>	<p>Currently open.</p> <p>Implementing Stage 1 of shutdown of non-essential activity across the country from midday 23 March 2020.</p> <p>Victoria Police established a coronavirus enforcement squad of five hundred officers to ensure containment measures that have been put in place to combat coronavirus are followed.</p> <p>Includes spot checks on returning travellers who are in 14-day isolation, as well as enforcing the bans on indoor and outdoor gatherings.</p>	Exempt	Exempt	<p>Agriculture, food and allied services exempt. VICAG happy to work with industry on an ongoing basis and will ensure food supply through the development of their Stage 2 protocol.</p>
<b>Western Australia</b>	<p>From 1.30pm (WST) Tuesday, March 24, Western Australia will implement strict border controls for all access points – by road, rail, air and sea.</p> <p>Unless exempted, arrivals from interstate will be ordered to self-isolate for 14 days.</p> <p>Restrictions have been placed on travel to WA’s remote Aboriginal communities, with exceptions for delivery of essential services, medical reasons, family or cultural reasons.</p> <p>Exemptions will apply to essential services and essential workers, including health and emergency services, defence and policing, mining industry workforces, flight crews and freight of essential goods, via ports and trucks – with strict guidelines in place to monitor and manage this.</p> <p>There will also be exemptions granted on</p>	Exceptions for delivery of essential services	Exceptions for delivery of essential services	<p><a href="#">Western Australia Government announcement</a> Escalated with Minister McTiernan’s office and Department (DPIRD).</p> <p>This has been enacted through a formal declaration under the Emergency Management Act. Effective from 1.30pm (WST) Tuesday, March 24 2020.</p> <p><a href="#">Western Roads</a>, while awaiting further updates from WA DPIRD have provided Border Closure Procedures as follows:</p> <p>State Supply Chain COVID emergency response control room Staff permanently working from a State Supply Chain COVID emergency response control room, in-conjunction with the other modes, all aimed at keeping the state supplied and industry moving.</p> <p><b>Soft Start</b></p> <p>Soft start and has been accepted for at least 24 hours.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. WA Border Force Patrols - will educate drivers on</li> </ol>

	<p>compassionate grounds and where people live near border communities.</p> <p>Arrivals will have to show they meet the essential arrival criteria to be granted an exemption. All arrivals will have to fill out the <a href="#">Border Arrivals Form</a>. There is an 'essential traveller status' section for exemptions.</p> <p>Enforcement of the border restrictions will be rolled out with checkpoint stops.</p> <p><a href="#">WA Government Border Fact Sheet</a></p>			<p>requirements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Successfully argued that ALL FREIGHT is ESSENTIAL, so keep business moving as usual.</li> <li>3. Rules and Processes for WA will be sent out in the next 24 to 48 hours. We will ensure these are distributed. Also a hotline will be set up in next day or so for questions. Police Commissioner Declarations (legal thing) will be issued in the next few hours.</li> <li>4. Self isolation for 24 hours may be required - as WA looks like adopting similar provisions to Tasmania. At this stage no clarity has been given on what this actually involves.</li> </ol> <p><b>Arguing</b> Still pushing for no touch forms at the border, ideally there will be a sign on the dashboard. BUT this is NOT yet been approved.</p> <p><b>State Association Cooperation</b> Actively collaborating with the other State Transport Associations and segment specific WA transport associations.</p> <p><b>OSOM Issues</b> OSOM issues will be dealt with this afternoon.</p>
<p><b>Queensland</b></p>	<p>From midnight (AEST) Tuesday, March 24, Queensland will be <a href="#">restricting access at its border</a>.</p> <p>Measures take effect from midnight tomorrow night and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Border road closures and police checks on vehicles on major highways</li> <li>- Advice to aircraft passengers at departure point that travellers to Queensland will be required to self-isolate for 14 days</li> </ul>	<p>Exempt</p>	<p>Exempt</p>	<p><a href="#">Queensland Government media statement.</a></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Travellers arriving at Queensland airports to be met by police and other officers</li> <li>- Termination of rail services</li> </ul> <p>Exemptions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Freight</li> <li>- Emergency vehicles</li> <li>- Emergency workers</li> <li>- Those travelling to and from work</li> <li>- Court orders including family court</li> <li>- Compassionate grounds</li> <li>- Medical treatment</li> </ul> <p>Anyone travelling to Queensland, not usually resident in Queensland, for any other reason will have to agree to self-isolate for 14 days sick or not.</p> <p>Police are developing methods to identify vehicles in border communities to make frequent essential border crossings easier – such as a permit.</p>			
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