

BIOSECURITY COSTS REGULATIONS / LEVY ORDERS REVIEW PROJECT – FINAL UPDATE – OCTOBER 2010

This is the final newsletter from the project, which has now closed. Costs recovery is now managed by MAF Biosecurity New Zealand Acting Assistant Director Cargo, Andrew Wilson, who is now the key point of contact for stakeholders who wish to discuss MAF's fees and charges.

The change over from the three levies to a single Biosecurity System Entry Levy went very well and the final invoice run for June 2010 imports of shipping containers and vehicles went without a hitch. There should no longer be instances of Biosecurity Risk Screening, Gypsy Moth and Shipping Container Levies appearing in industry invoices relating to goods clearances at the border.

The new "Fees and Charges" web page is accessible from the MAF Biosecurity New Zealand home page <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/fees-and-charges>

On this page are links to a wide range of fees and charges for services provided by MAF, links to applicable legislation, and a link to the New Zealand Customs Service costs recovery web page.

The original Costs Regulations and Levy Orders Review Project web page will continue to provide access to the consultation documentation, frequently asked questions, newsletters on the project's progress, and the Stakeholder Briefs - <http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/regs/cont-carg/costs-regs-levy-orders-project>

A notice appears on both web pages advising of the GST Rate changes from 1st October 2010. MAF has also provided a revised table of charges which includes the new GST rates (15%) into the regulated rates. The rates specified in the 2010 Regulations are inclusive of 12.5% GST prior to 1st October 2010.

On behalf of the project's Sponsor, Moira Lymburn, the project's Business Steering Group and the Project Team, I would like to thank all of our industry partners who offered their time and advice during the consultation. I would also like to thank all of the managers and front line staff that provided guidance and feedback to ensure that the project delivered what was required by their businesses and the importers they work with every day.

The partnership with the New Zealand Customs Service in their costs review, their assistance with MAF's costs review, and our joint consultation (including the Joint Border Management System (JBMS)) work has worked very well. This project appreciated the use of the "Customs Release" and enjoyed the collaboration.

Finally, if you have any questions about costs recovery for imported good clearance, or wish to provide feedback please contact Andrew Wilson via e-mail at andrew.wilson@maf.govt.nz

The Project Team and I thank you all.

Howard Webber, Project Manager, MAFBNZ.

