

Demonstrating WSSV zone freedom from outbreaks

Regional Workshop for WOA H Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

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Australia Focal Point for
Aquatic Animals

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World Organisation
for Animal Health



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



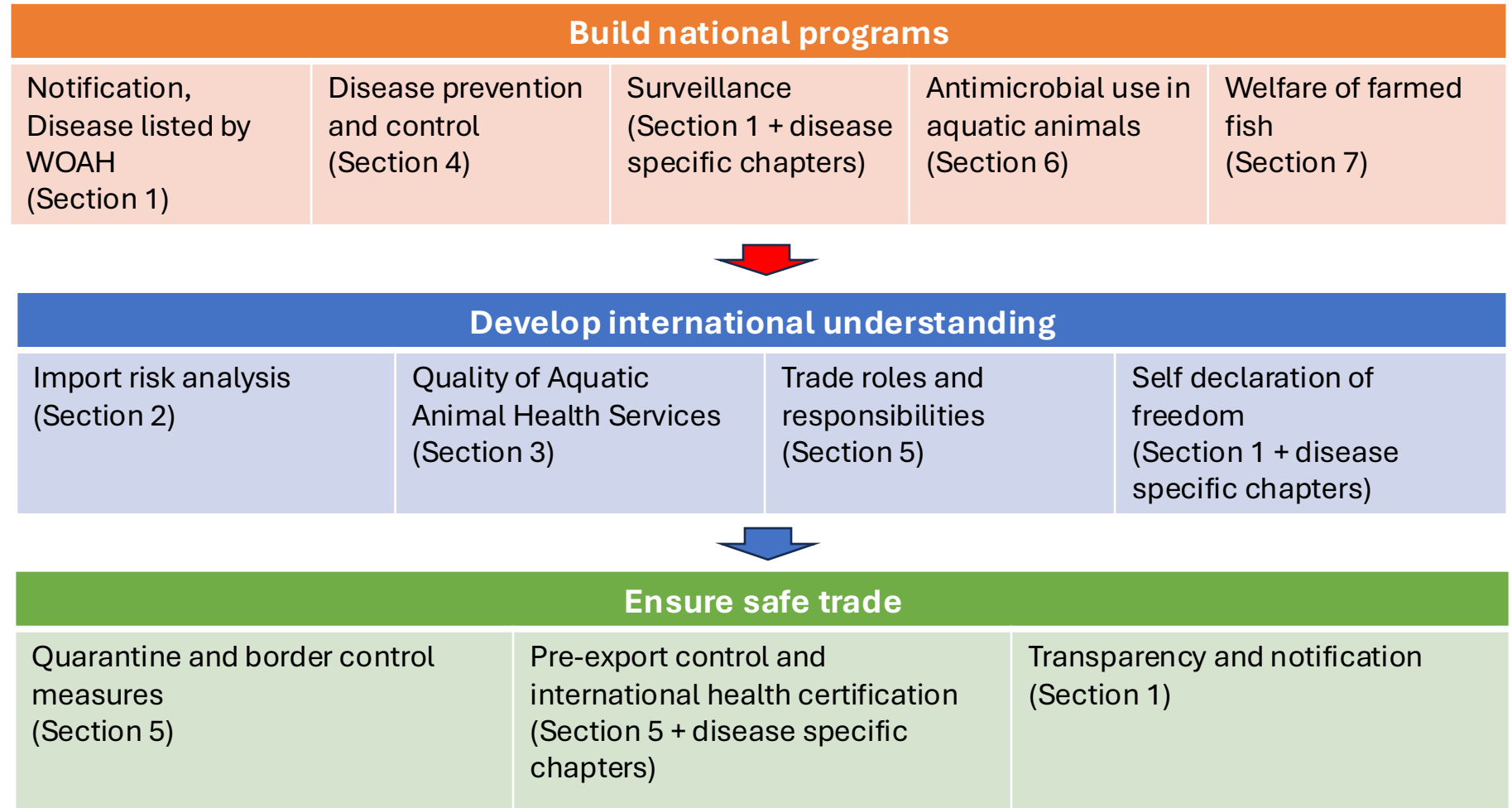
国立大学法人

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Implementation of chapters in the Aquatic Code and Manual





Demonstration of WSSV freedom

Article 9.9.6. (Self-declaration of zone freedom from infection with WSSV)

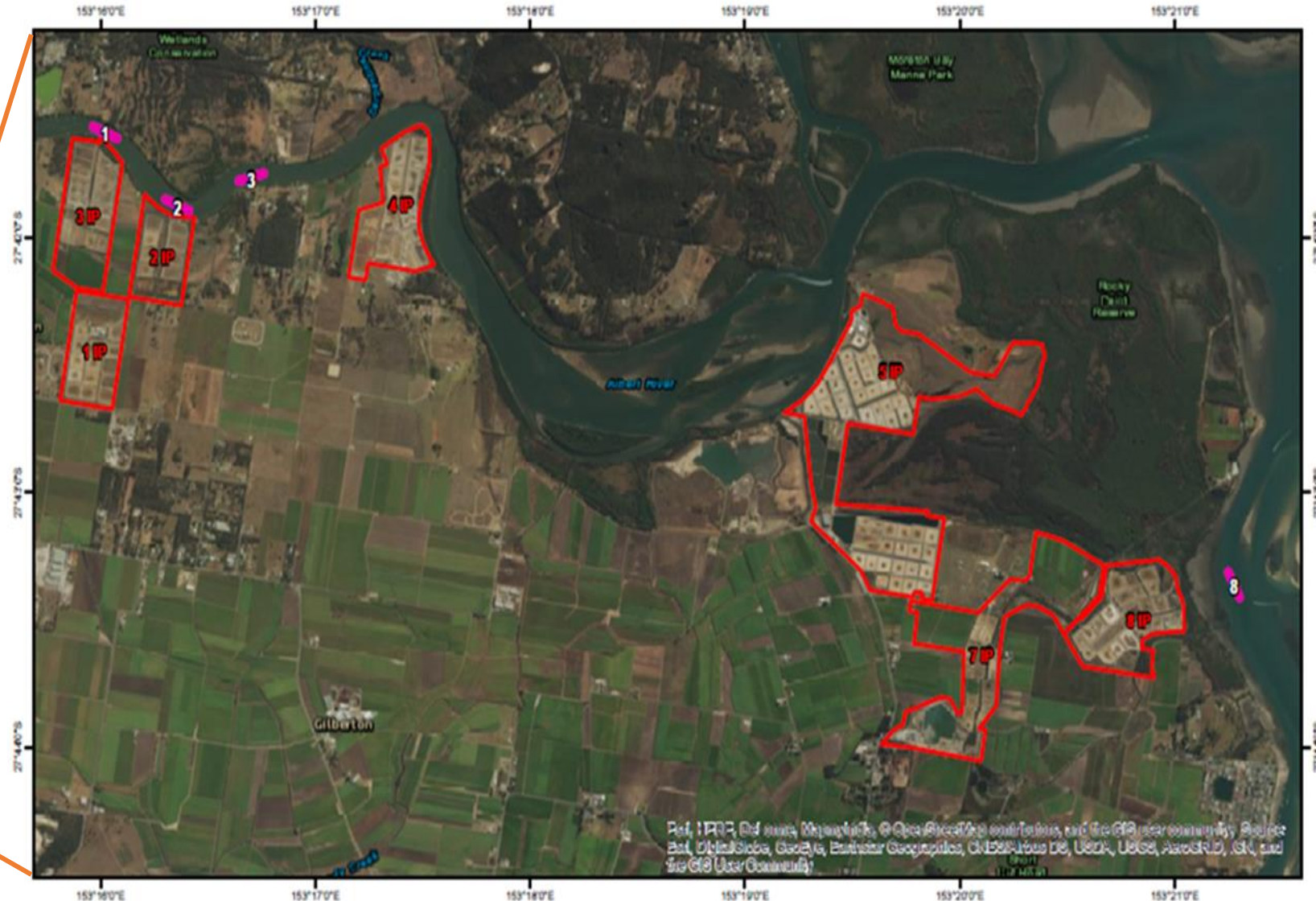
Point 4. It (the country) previously made a self-declaration of freedom for a zone from infection with WSSV and subsequently lost its free status due to the detection of WSSV in the zone but the following conditions have been met:

- a. on detection of WSSV, the affected area was declared **an infected zone and a protection zone** was established; and
- b. infected populations within the infected zone have been **killed and disposed of** by means that minimise the likelihood of further transmission of WSSV, and the appropriate **disinfection** procedures (as described in Chapter 4.4.) have been completed followed by **fallowing** as described in Chapter 4.7.; and
- c. previously existing **basic biosecurity conditions** have been reviewed and **modified** as necessary and have continuously been in place since eradication of infection with WSSV; and
- d. **targeted surveillance**, as described in Chapter 1.4., has been in place for at least the last **two years without detection of WSSV**.



White spot disease outbreak in SE Qld (2016–2020)

WOAH Article 9.9.6. Point 4





White spot disease outbreak in SE Qld (2016–2020)

WOAH Article 9.9.6. Point 4 b.

4.b. infected populations within the infected zone have been **killed and disposed of** by means that minimise the likelihood of further transmission of WSSV, and the appropriate **disinfection** procedures (as described in Chapter 4.4.) have been completed followed by **fallowing** as described in Chapter 4.7

23 May 2017

Disposal and decontamination, discharge of water completed

31 May 2017 – 31 May 2018

All 7 Logan River prawn farms have laid fallow for 12 months





White spot disease outbreak in SE Qld (2016-2020)

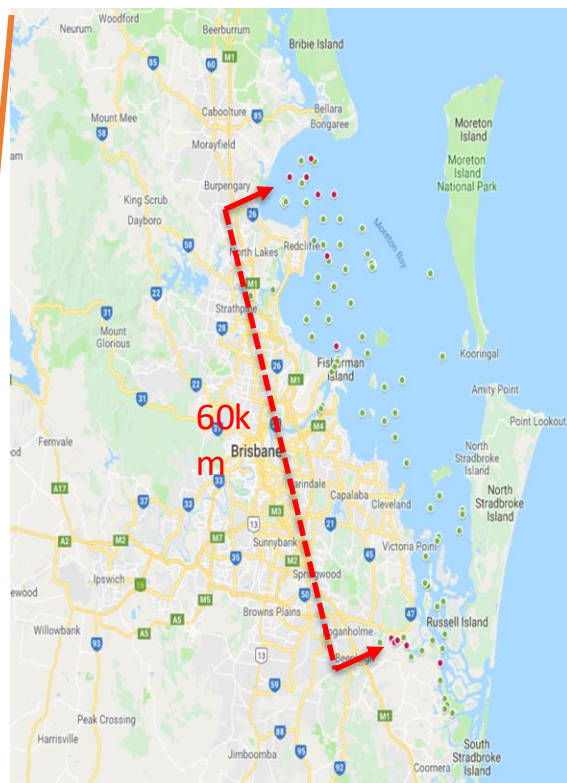
WOAH Article 9.9.6. Point 4 a.

4.a. on detection of WSSV, the affected area was declared **an infected zone**, and a **protection zone** was established



7 March 2017

WSSV detected in the adjacent Moreton Bay
60 km north from infected farms



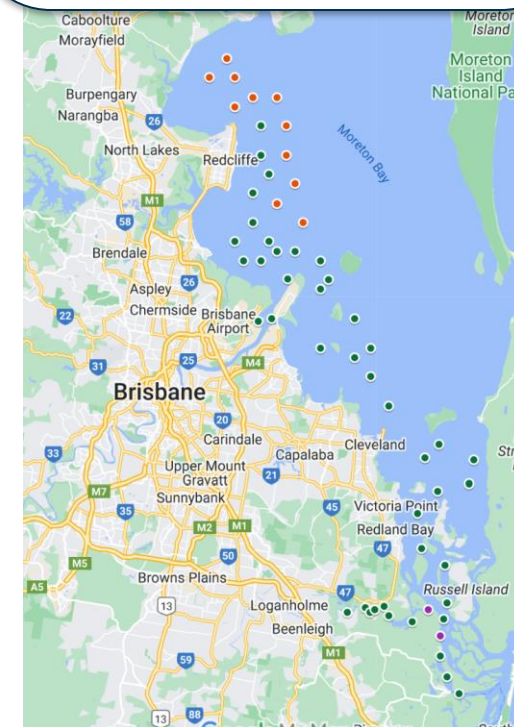
16 March 2017

Movement restrictions put in place to prevent the human-mediated spread of WSSV



2017 to 2020

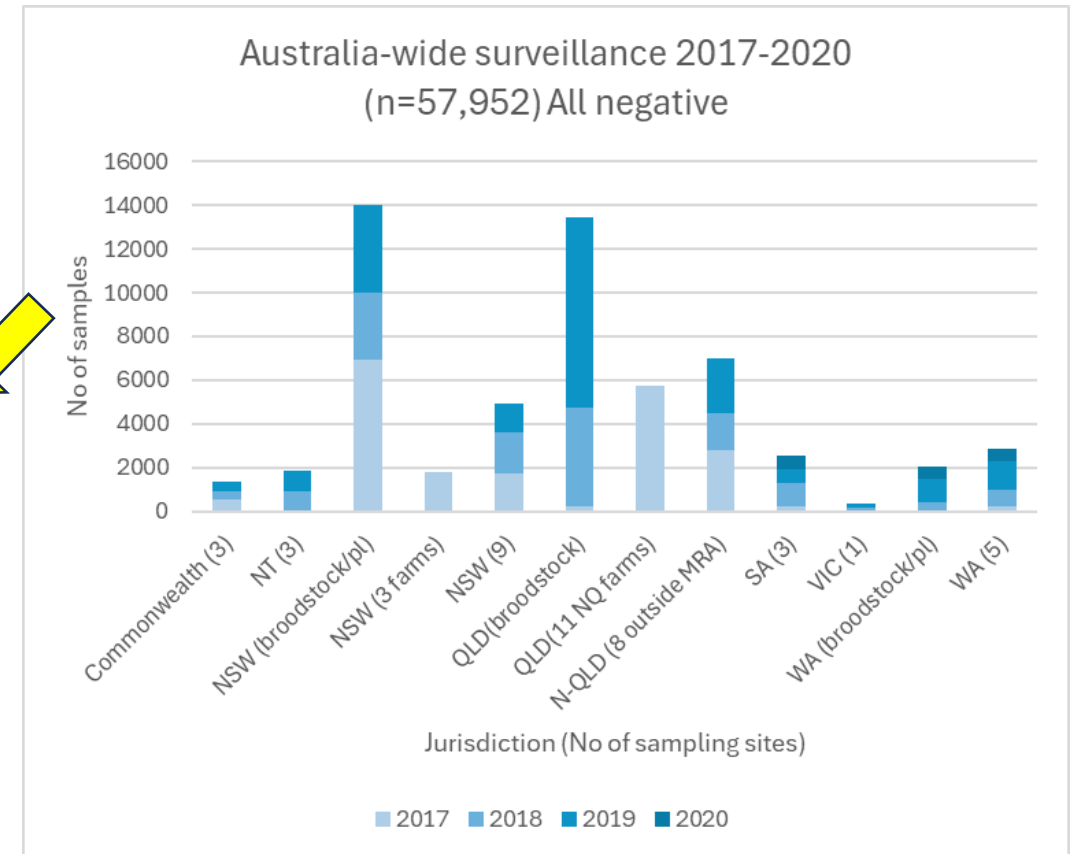
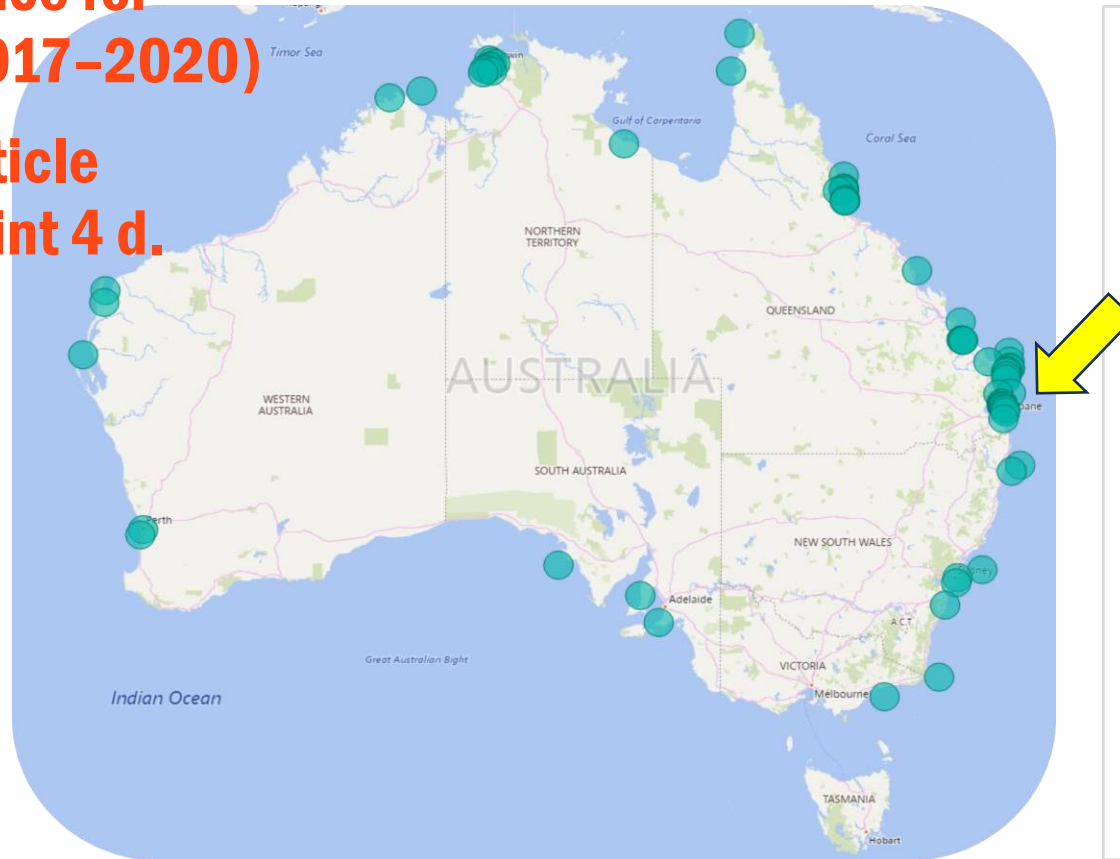
Surveillance within the zone detected WSSV over multiple years, confirming that the virus is established in this zone.
Boundary surveillance is ongoing in 2026





Australia-wide surveillance for WSSV (2017–2020)

WOAH Article 9.9.6. Point 4 d.

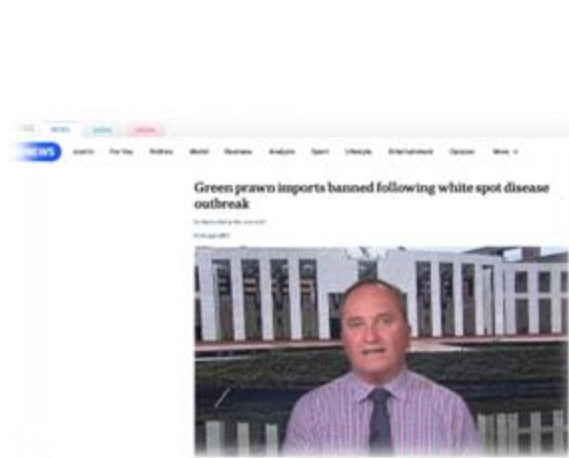




Updated Basic Biosecurity Conditions

WOAH Article 9.9.6. Point 4 c.

- (Point 4c) previously existing **basic biosecurity conditions** have been reviewed and **modified** as necessary and have continuously been in place since eradication of infection with WSSV
- Basic biosecurity conditions:
 - An early detection system (surveillance and diagnostics)
 - Measures to prevent the introduction (import measures)
 - Measures to prevent the spread within or from infected zones and protection zones (ongoing surveillance for the zone boundaries)





Pathways for demonstrating freedom

WOAH Code Chapter 1.4.

- Pathway 4 – Returning to freedom (Article 1.4.14.)
- Sensitivity of an early detection system / Passive surveillance system (Article 1.4.7.)
- Combining multiple sources of information (Article 1.4.17.)
e.g. **scenario tree modelling**

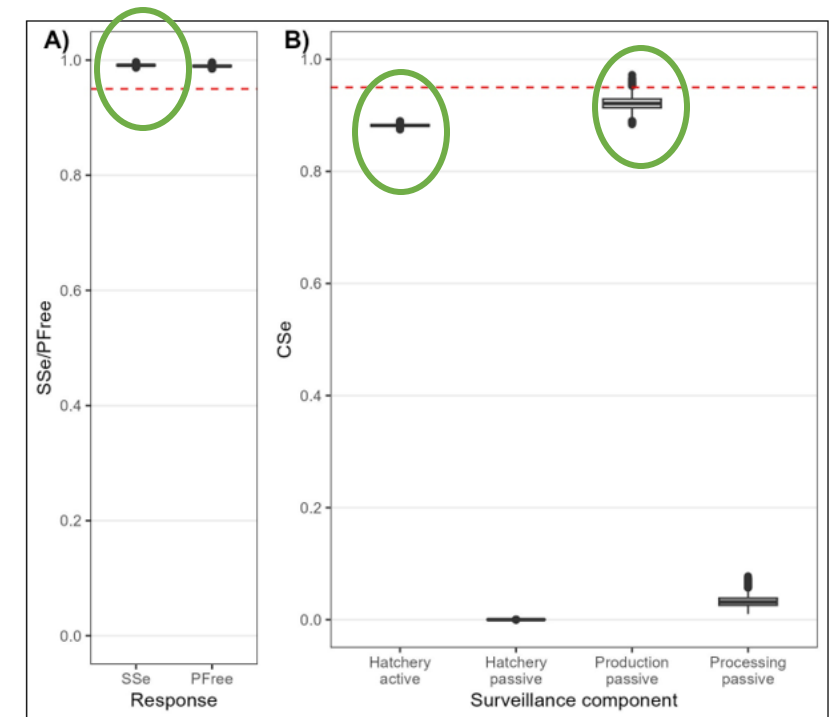
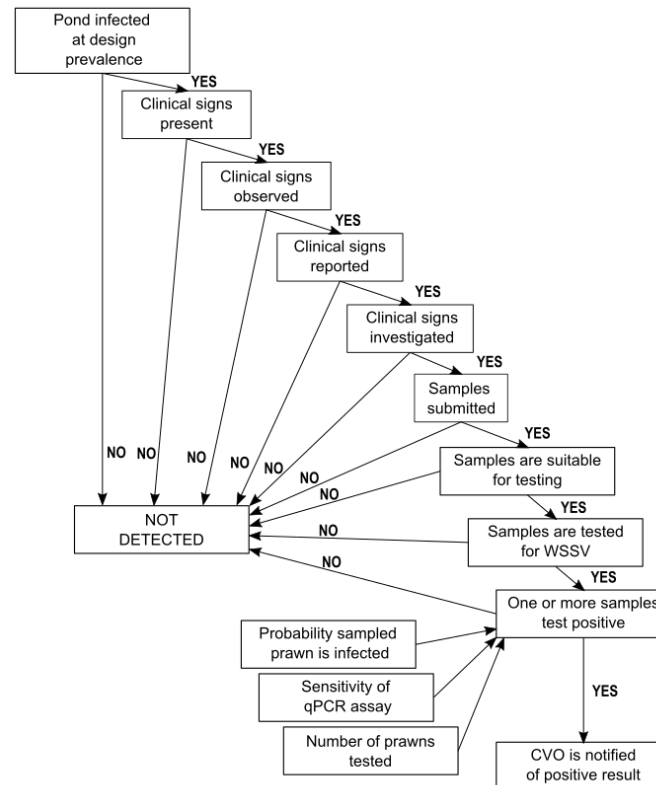
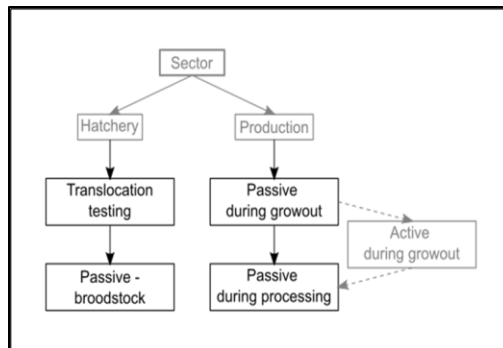
Pathway	Primary evidence	Secondary evidence	Areas
1. Absence of susceptible species	Surveys of species, historical data, import records, env info	None	Country, zone
2. Historical freedom	Passive surveillance	Targeted surveillance (if passive surveillance is not appropriate)	Country, zone
3. Targeted surveillance	Targeted surveillance	Passive surveillance	Country, zone, compartment
4. Returning to freedom	Targeted surveillance	Passive surveillance	Country, zone, compartment



Combining multiple sources of information to assess the sensitivity of surveillance
WOAH Article 1.4.17.

FRDC 2019-193: Scenario tree modelling to quantify the sensitivity of Australia's surveillance system

- WSSV for prawn farming industry
- Megalocytiviruses for barramundi farming industry



Hall et al 2026 (PVM, in prep)



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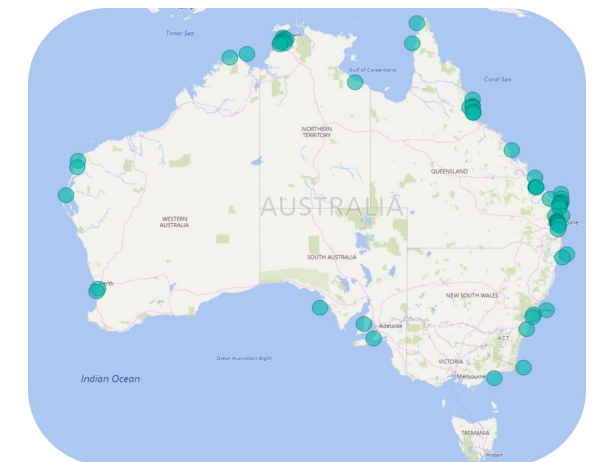
Point 4. The following conditions have been met:

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- targeted surveillance**, as described in Chapter 1.4., has been in place for at least the last **two years without detection of WSSV**.

Article 1.4.14. Pathway 4 – Returning to freedom

Article 1.4.17. Combining multiple sources of information (Article 1.4.17.)
using scenario tree modelling

White spot syndrome virus



Thank you

Acknowledgement



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Economic Development,
Jobs, Transport
and Resources



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development



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