

Please accept this submission for Biosecurity Review:

It will be important for this review of Australian Biosecurity to consider the need to improve our understanding of wildlife biosecurity in Australia. There is increasing concern about emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) due to the potential adverse impacts of such diseases on public health, economics and biodiversity conservation. Emergence of EIDs in humans and wildlife seems to be driven by common factors operating within a host-parasite continuum that links human, wildlife and domestic animal populations; and anthropogenic environmental change is considered to be a primary factor responsible for the emergence of EIDs. In order for Australia to develop a better understanding of wildlife health, as a platform to investigate disease issues that are relevant to public health as well as wildlife and domestic animal health, greater recognition and resourcing of wildlife biosecurity is required by Australia's biosecurity and quarantine systems.

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