Summary of the NAIT changes made in 2019

Change area	The changes
Animal tagging and registration	• PICAs must use NAIT tags only at the specific location they were issued for. Failing to do this is an offence and infringements will be issued. • The 'impracticable to tag' exemption is now an 'unsafe to tag' (UTT) exemption. Safety of the PICA is the only reason permitted for getting this exemption. • All UTT animals must be registered with NAIT before they are moved, and must be visibly identifed, such as with a ruddle/spray. Failure to do this is an offence. The UTT exemption will be reviewed in five years' time to assess whether it is still necessary.
Moving animals	• It is an offence for anyone to transport an untagged animal that does not have an exemption. Transport operators or drovers are exempt from this offence if they are carrying a PICA declaration that the animals are identified and registered in accordance with NAIT law. • From June 2020, PICAs must give transport operators a declaration that animals being transported are identified and registered according to the law. It is a serious offence to make a false or misleading declaration.
Increased penalties	• Infringement fees have increased, most to $400 per offence. • Failing to register as a PICA carries an $800 infringement. • A court judge can impose larger fines – up to $100,000 for an individual and up to $200,000 for a body corporate.
NAIT reporting	• PICAs must report to NAIT every year the estimated number of specified farmed and captive non-NAIT animals at a NAIT location. The animals are alpacas, emus, goats, llamas, ostriches, pigs, and sheep. Failing to provide this information is an offence. • A seller can make the *location* history of a NAIT animal available to a potential purchaser. This is likely to become a typical part of stock sale and purchase agreements. PICAs can easily print off the histories from their NAIT log in – click 'view reports' from the home page, select 'animal registration & movement history report' from the drop-down list, and follow the instructions.
NAIT locations and reponsibilities	• NAIT responsibilities apply to everyone in change of NAIT animals, including body corporates. • NAIT obligations apply at all locations where a NAIT animal is. • Local authorities and rangers acting under the Impounding Act 1955 are exempt from NAIT Act obligations. • The term 'emergency services' is defined and includes animal control officers and similar roles.

Change area	The changes
Auditing and accreditation costs	• Audit and accreditation charges of $135 per hour (including GST) will be recovered from entities and information providers. For those with fewer than 1000 clients, charges are capped at 16 hours. For those with 1000 to 4999 clients, charges are capped at 22 hours. For those with 5000 or more clients, charges are capped at 32 hours. • A mileage charge of $0.72/km also applies.
NAIT data	• The NAIT Act has three new purposes for its core data: responding to stock theft, to enable the return of wandering stock, and managing NAIT animals found dead in a public place. • MPI staff approved byt the Director-General will be able to access NAIT data for the specific purposes set out in the Act; MPI will also be able to help emergency services to access the data in urgent situations. • Defined public sector organisations can apply for access to core data for the purposes set out in the law. • Evidence produced by a device, such as a NAIT reader, can be presented in court.
Oversight and reporting requirements of NAIT Limited	• The NAIT organisation must provide the full core dataset to the Crown periodically on request, at no cost to the Crown. • The NAIT organisation must ensure continuity of access to NAIT data and the information system by whomever is the designated NAIT organisation. • The Minister can notify the NAIT Board of government priorities and expectations that relate to the organisation's statutory functions and duties. • The threshold for ministerial intervention now includes failure to perform statutory duties or functions, if the failure is a significant risk to the scheme's integrity and effectiveness. • The Minister may issue, amend and revoke 'directions' in relation to the performance of a statutory function or duty or the exercise of a power. Safeguards include a requirement that the Minister must consult the NAIT Board and table the direction in Parliament. • The Minister may, after receiving advice from the Director-General, appoint a person to the NAIT Board for a specified term. This appointee has the right to attend all discussions related to the NAIT Board, the NAIT scheme, and the wider traceability system. • The NAIT organisation must keep the Minister informed on its performance in delivering its statutory duties and functions. NAIT Limited must: i. include in its National Operating Plan the details of how it will measure and independently audit its activities in relation to the performance of its statutory duties and functions ii. report to the Minister the independently audited results of its performance against these measures, at an agreed frequency iii. provide the Minister with results of the annual review of the National Operating Plan before the new plan is finalised iv. report to the Minister how government appropriations and industry levies have been spent