



# The Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control





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# The Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control



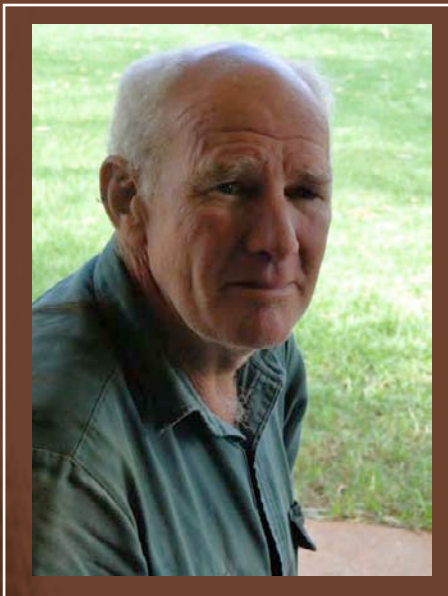
An initiative of South West Regional Economic Development Association Inc.



# Foreward

In 2002, wild dogs were moving into the Paroo Shire in large numbers and invading areas where they had not been seen for 60 years. We had a generation of people who had never had to deal with a wild dog problem. I, along with others, had very limited knowledge about wild dogs however the impacts of the wild dogs on landholders and the community was obvious. I was also concerned that before long, I too would have a wild dog problem and thought it was best to start the fight before the shire was completely overrun with wild dogs.

I was fortunate enough to find other landholders who thought the same way. Some of them were already badly affected by wild dogs; others weren't but they all agreed something had to be done and done quickly, so this was the beginning



of the Paroo Shire wild dog control program. This group of landholders believed we had to do something different if we were to be successful. It was our problem and we had to be part of the solution. We agreed that landholders should have a choice of enterprise without wild dogs destroying their livelihoods and felt the whole community would benefit if we could bring the wild dog impacts under control. It must be remembered that wild dogs are not like other vertebrae pests that affect the environment and the bottom line of your livestock enterprise, as wild dogs will kill entire flocks of sheep or goats and can grossly impact on the viability of cattle enterprises.

The Paroo Shire wild dog control program has been very successful. We have had a large reduction in dog numbers and livestock deaths. Landholders who were about to exit the sheep and goat industry have remained and several who had left the industry have returned.

This booklet is our story and I think it should give all landholders across the state some hope of staying viable in the enterprises they choose. The program is not rocket science but to be successful it does require landholders to pull together and do the hard yards. You need participation and coordination. I would like to acknowledge the four shires of the South West Regional Economic Development areas - the Paroo, Murweh, Bulloo and Quilpie Shires for gaining funding to document our program for the benefit of landholders.

*Peter Lucas*

*Chair Paroo Wild Dog Management Advisory*

# Acknowledgements

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# Purpose of the Book

This booklet aims to introduce landholders to the highly successful Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control. The Paroo model has been operational from 2004 – 2010, and has experienced many positive outcomes in successfully controlling wild dogs.

## Abbreviations

- Agforce – Queensland based rural lobby group.
- AWI – Australian Wool Innovation
- DNR – Department of Natural Resources
- DNRM / DNR&M – Department of Natural Resources and Mining
- DNRMW – Department of Natural Resources, Mining and Water
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- GPS – Global Positioning System
- MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
- NRM – Natural Resources and Management
- PSC – Paroo Shire Council
- Q Dog – Queensland Dog Offensive Group
- SW NRM – South West Natural Resources and Management
- WD MAC – Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee



# Introduction

The Paroo Shire residents have been leaders in developing and implementing best practice in the coordinated control of wild dogs. Wild Dogs are defined as feral dogs, dingoes and hybrid canines and are a declared pest under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002. The Paroo Shire Council made a decision in 2004 to raise its commitment to pest management within the Shire.

This commitment had a focus on controlling the wild dogs in the shire, and fighting the continued wild dog incursions from the areas north of the shire into the Paroo Shire area, which was having a grave impact on grazing throughout the entire Shire. At this time, the Paroo Shire had over fifty percent of its area overrun with wild dogs. The Wild Dog control program commenced with a baiting campaign which covered an area of 1.9 million hectares. A committee was set up of local residents who committed their valuable time, knowledge and expertise to lead the control efforts against wild dogs for the benefit of all landholders in the Paroo Shire.

Within four years, the wild dog population in the Paroo Shire had reduced dramatically. Ongoing monitoring work has seen the area which has required baiting reduced by 50%, down to 780 000 hectares. This booklet will outline the wild dog technical thinking and community engagement processes that were employed to achieve this outstanding result.



# About The Paroo Shire

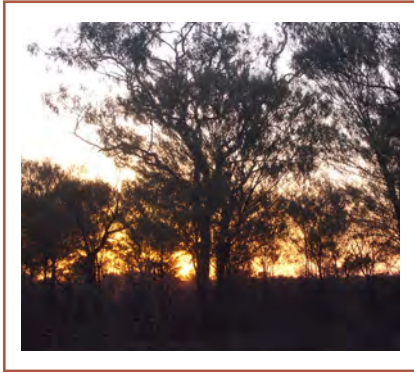
The Paroo Shire has a population of 1,946 people and covers an area of 47,633 square kilometres or 4.8 million hectares in South West Queensland. The main township of Cunnamulla is at the crossroads of the Matilda Highway and the Adventure Way. There are three other towns in the Shire – Wyandra, Eulo and Yowah. The Paroo and Warrego Rivers traverse the shire in a North-South direction and form part of the Murray-Darling Basin catchment. The two main land types in the area are Mulga and Mitchell grass downs country with Poplar Box, Gidgee, Mulga and Yupunyah vegetation. Grazing (cattle, sheep and goats) is the main industry; however this is complemented by mining, tourism, horticulture, farming and bee keeping.





# Recent History of Wild Dogs in the Paroo Shire

In the early 2000's, it was clearly evident that many graziers in the Paroo Shire were making business decisions to move away from grazing sheep and goats and investing in cattle grazing. These decisions were driven by a range of factors, one of which was the unprecedented numbers of wild dogs which were coming into the shire from the North



and East. Wild dogs had not been evident in large numbers in this prime sheep and goat grazing country in the last 60 years. The initial response by landholders to the wild dog invasion centered primarily around 1080 baiting with some trapping. This work was done at an individual landholder level, and there was no real co-ordination of a holistic wild dog control response. At this time, the Paroo Shire had four baiting groups that were actively focusing on feral pigs and foxes. These four groups operated in isolation, with each group independently approaching the Paroo Shire Council

for support. This fragmented approach was not making any real positive impact on reducing invasive vertebrate pests, including the escalating wild dog problem.





# What Makes the Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control Unique?

The Paroo model is characterised by a high level of community engagement. It gives landholders / land managers [the primary stakeholders] ownership in designing, implementing and driving the wild dog control solutions. Land holders / land managers and community members make up both the wild dog area working groups which action wild dog control and the advisory committee which reports to Council. Both groups are tasked specifically with ensuring wild dogs are controlled in a manner which offers value for money.

The Paroo model of wild dog control is an extension of the nil tenure pest control planning approach. This approach involves the removal of all land tenure issues when planning and implementing an agreed solution. It involves the collective identification of the problem and subsequent solutions, irrespective of land ownership, tenure boundaries and legal obligations.

Once the problem has been identified and the wild dog control actions defined, the tenure boundaries are reinstated and the control program progressed.

The Paroo model is characterised by a high level of community engagement.



# How Was the Paroo Shire Wild Dog Committee Formed?

A group of concerned Paroo Shire graziers were aware of the devastating negative social and economic impacts that wild dogs were having in other neighbouring shires, and could see that that same impact would unfold locally if action was not taken to stem to wild dog population explosion. Individual graziers who were undertaking dog control measures in isolation felt they were engaged in 'a lone fight' when neighbouring landholders did not undertake any wild dog control. This scenario was very expensive and time consuming for those who were expending energy, finances and time attempting to control wild dogs. Dog numbers were continuing to increase and some of the graziers were giving up with their control attempts. Others were shifting their grazing enterprises from sheep and goats to cattle.

At the start, a small group of concerned graziers organised public meetings at various places throughout the shire to engage landholder support. Four meetings were held in the four corners of the Shire. They were pleasantly surprised when 90% of landholders expressed concern and an active wish to tackle the wild dog problem. Graziers recognised that a problem was emerging in their shire and they were determined to unite and tackle the problem head on by co-operating with local government and the South West Natural Resource Management group, whilst maintaining genuine ownership of the problem and its solutions. At this point in time, no shire in Western Queensland had united to fight the wild dog challenge.



As a result of these meetings, a Paroo Shire Wild Dog Committee was formed. The Shire was divided into four regions with two representatives elected from each of the four regions. As a result of this increased awareness of wild dog issues, nearly all landholders in the shire subsequently became part of a group. The Paroo Shire Council invited the Wild Dog Committee to

become an advisory committee to the Council, and a commitment was made by Council to allocate an appropriate level of funding each year to support the wild dog eradication efforts of the group. The goal of the Wild Dog Committee was to halt the invasion of wild dogs from adjoining shires, control the impacts of wild dogs within the shire and eradicate all wild dogs from the Paroo Shire in order to protect the livestock industry.



# Local Ownership, Local Action

The willingness to be proactive was led by landholders and land managers who recognised this emerging problem to their production viability, and who observed the impact of wild dogs on neighbouring communities. This pro-activeness led to a determination to respond to the problem by working in partnership with local government and the Department of Natural Resources in order to develop solutions to the wild dog problem.

At the formation stage of the initiative, a letter was sent to selected individuals inviting them to be part of the Committee and informing them of the aims of the group. Those who wished to accept this offer and be appointed as committee member had to do so in writing, and submit this to Council.

## **The Paroo Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee was made up of the following representatives:**

- Eight landholders / land managers elected from the four regions/baiting groups
- A Natural Resource Management Land Protection Officer
- The Paroo Shire Pest and Stock Routes Officer
- Two Paroo Shire Council representatives (one of whom was the Mayor)

It was decided that all meetings would be held at the Council offices and a Council employee would attend meetings to take the minutes. These minutes would be forwarded to Council. Any decisions which were not able to be made at face-to-face Management Advisory Committee meetings could be decided from a majority vote from representatives who were able to be contacted at the time. Council also offered insurance support (under the Local Government Act) to the Management Advisory Committee.

All properties in the Paroo Shire were assigned to a regional baiting group, and it was the responsibility of the landholder / land manager representatives to maintain communication with all landholders in their region. A system was established where graziers would communicate by way of their regional baiting group representatives should they require assistance (e.g. baiting, trapping assistance) with their wild dog problem. It was determined that





funding would only go outside of the Paroo Shire boundary if a Paroo Shire property owner had a single property that traversed the Shire boundary. Properties outside of the Shire owned by Paroo Shire rural ratepayers were not eligible for funding.

The Paroo Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee identified areas within the shire where the wild dogs were presenting as a problem, and then subsequently planned a coordinated control program. This committee was supportive of an integrated control approach using a combination of 1080 baiting, trapping, fencing, shooting and the use of security animals.



Baiting groups developed their own customised baiting programs, as it was believed that this local knowledge of people, dog problems and hot spots would be invaluable. One of the first purchases by the Paroo Wild Dog group was to buy and install a six metre freezer unit in Cunnamulla. This freezer unit was installed at utility tray back height and was used to store meat before large baiting campaigns and to preserve the meat should baiting activity be

delayed by bad weather, as well as being a repository to store meat between organized baiting programs. Once the dates of an aerial baiting campaign had been determined, the Shire Pest and Stock Routes Officer was contacted so meat could be ordered and a pilot/plane booked.

The wild dog bounty continued to be paid at a set amount per scalp, and the Paroo Shire Pest and Stock Routes Officer notified the relevant regional baiting group representative if a scalp was bought in from their area. It was also determined that a statutory declaration form was to be completed by individuals when 'opportunistic scalps' were caught. This measure was to ensure that scalps being claimed had been caught within the Shire. By recording where dogs were caught, reputable data was able to be captured on the presence of dogs.

The Wild Dog Committee continued to apply for external funding from sources such as South West Natural Resource Management and Australian Wool Innovation. It also actively continued to incorporate emerging best practice techniques into its control program, as well as being involved in research trials to determine effectiveness and to assist with monitoring and evaluation of wild dog control.



# Communication and Coordination

The Paroo model of wild dog control is premised on the foundation of landholders / land managers communicating and working together. By collaborating together, accurate knowledge of what is currently happening across the landscape is shared, and this combined knowledge can be used to inform planning and achieve real outcomes.

The Paroo Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee undertook two major coordinated baiting programs each year. These baiting programs were strategically conducted over a broad range of areas, and achieved a landholder participation rate of 98%. Dog corridors were identified and ground and aerial distribution of baits occurred in these corridors and at watering points. Baiting was conducted in

May and November, as these were not only some of the driest times of the year, but also coincided with the vulnerable natural behaviours of the wild dog, as identified in recent research undertaken by Don Salway (trapper) and Lee Allen (scientist). Young male pups over the age of twelve months tend to move away from their maternal pack and relocate to clean areas in May. By November of each year, the most recently birthed pups were starting to leave their mothers. These pups were yet to gain keen hunting skills, and in their search for new territory

it was found that they readily ate the baits. The work undertaken in the Paroo Shire confirmed that baiting in November can kill up to 80% of the young progeny.

**By collaborating together, accurate knowledge of what is currently happening across the landscape is shared.**

All baiting programs were mapped with GPS data, and at times this mapping included feral pig control as well. The Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee also employed a professional trapper to monitor the wild dog populations and to trap dogs that the baiting program may have missed. During a 12 month period (September 2002 – August 2003) a professional trapper caught 32 dogs in this control area. It was becoming evident that the baiting program was working on the younger dogs; however the older dogs were avoiding taking the baits and were continuing to breed.



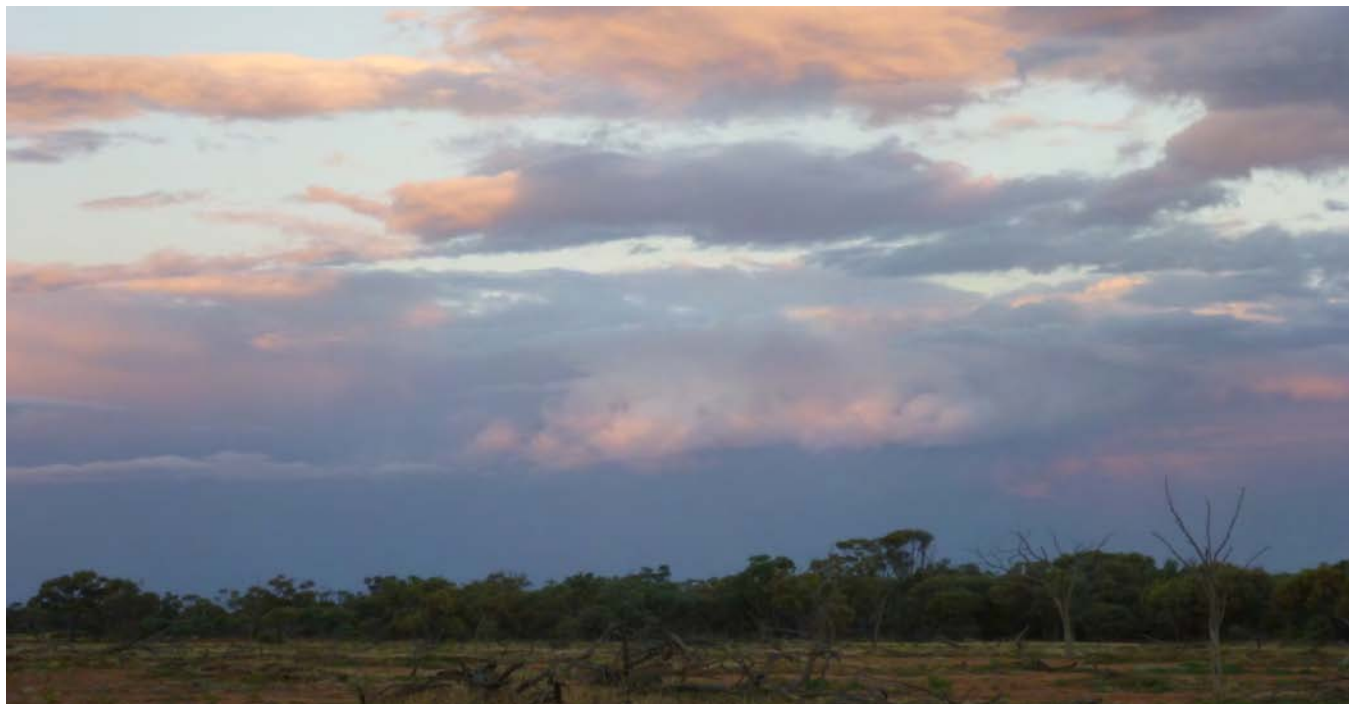


As a result of this learning, the Paroo Shire Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee gained funding and support from South West Natural Resource Management and the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Water to fund twelve dog trapping workshops which were conducted by a professional trapper. These workshops were held in five shires in South West Queensland and proved to be an important action in halting the loss of knowledge in the art of wild dog trapping.



**The role of the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee in coordinating and communicating was to:**

- Advise the Council on what steps were needed to best control wild dogs within the shire.
- Make recommendations to the Council as to how it might manage and allocate its Wild Dog budget. This also involved supporting Council members when harder decisions were needed in relation to wild dog control.
- Assist Council in the establishment of local Wild Dog policy.
- Encourage the participation of all landholders in Wild Dog control measures.
- Champion the need to control Wild Dogs to the wider community.





# Outcomes

There were some surprising results and outcomes (both realized and potential) resulting from this successful wild dog control model. These included the following estimates and observations:

- In 2002, baiting and trapping activities in the Paroo Shire were being undertaken on 30% of properties in the shire, and was ineffective. After the Shire commenced funding the control program, there was a 98% participation rate by landholders.
- The targeted baiting area was reduced from 1.9 million hectares in 2004 to 347 709 hectares in (May) 2009. Baiting since 2009 has been targeted at hot spot areas which are the wild dog travel corridors.
- The number of baits being distributed reduced considerably, and fewer dogs were being trapped.
- Landholders continued to graze sheep and some graziers returned to the sheep industry.

**In the period 2004 – 2009, for each dollar spent by the Paroo Shire on the baiting program, an extra \$3.00 - \$8.00 was generated in benefits.**

The combination of a nil tenure approach to wild dog control and 'grass roots' committees of dedicated landholders to drive the program had been overwhelmingly successful.

Economic analysis was conducted in 2010 which quantified the economic impacts of the Paroo model of wild dog control from 2004 – 2009. These calculations were based on the additional economic benefits of sheep production when compared to cattle production. A key component of this economic analysis related to the \$38 000 per annum that a sheep farming enterprise spends on the wages of shearers, which would be lost if cattle became the key focus of grazing in the Shire. Some of the key findings of this study undertaken by the Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation included:

- In the period 2004 – 2009, for each dollar spent by the Paroo Shire on the baiting program, an extra \$3.00 - \$8.00 was generated in benefits. Over the longer term (2004 – 2034), it is anticipated that potentially an extra \$5.00 - \$16.00 would be generated for each dollar spend by the Paroo Shire.
- Had the Paroo Shire not had a coordinated baiting program, the case study landholder

would have been \$1808 per annum worse off in the period 2004 – 2009. Extrapolated out to a thirty year period, this would potentially equate to a loss between \$3 535 and \$11 108 per annum.

**There was also anecdotal evidence that there had been an increase in both the populations and biodiversity of native wildlife in the area.**

- In the period 2004 – 2009, the Paroo Shire was calculated to be at least \$0.33 million and up to \$1.43 million better off with a Shire coordinated wild dog control scheme. Projections for the period 2004 – 2034 show that the potential benefit to the shire would be between \$2.53 million and \$9.2 million.

In addition to these findings, there was also anecdotal evidence that there had been an increase in both the populations and biodiversity of native wildlife in the area.





# To Levy or Not to Levy

In the Paroo Shire, concerned graziers originally (2004) attempted to lobby the Council to have a levy imposed upon rural rate payers so that a sum of money could be raised for use with wild dog control. Whilst this concept had support from Natural Resource Management and grazier groups, council rejected the idea of a levy and made a counter offer to directly fund a wild dog program. The reason for council rejecting the levy centered on the belief that the related legislative requirements were restrictive and that it would not be until the 2005/2006 financial



year that the money would be raised. The Paroo Shire Council decided that direct funding would allow baiting programs to proceed immediately.

It was determined that the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee would function as an advisory committee, as defined under the Local Government Act. The Management Advisory Committee would make recommendations and control how funds would be spent, however any expenditure had to be approved by the Paroo Shire Council at a Council meeting. The Paroo Shire Council had

two representatives on the Management Advisory Committee, and made available \$99 000 from general revenue for direct wild dog control. The annual Wild Dog Barrier Fence precept payment continued to be paid from general revenue, and was additional to this allocation.

The Paroo Shire adopted this funding position as Council believed that the control of wild dogs was seen as a whole of shire problem. At this time, the Paroo Shire Council was also keen to expand on their commitment and coordinated a meeting with three other Shires in South West Queensland (Bulloo, Paroo and Murweh Shires) to discuss the concept of a regional plan and to identify key issues in relation to the scale of the wild dog infestation. The Shire also requested that South West Natural Resource Management be closely involved in monitoring programs across and within the shires to effectively map the wild dog populations.



# Paroo Model of Wild Dog - Principles

There are four overriding principles which underpin the nil tenure Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control. The four principles are:

1

## OWNERSHIP

The wild dog control program must be owned, driven and managed by landholders and land managers. It is important that the wild dog control process be driven by the major stakeholder group. It is also essential that the individuals who make up this group have the necessary skills to form and operate a Management Advisory Committee. Equally, it is vital that those within the advisory committee accept that there is a wild dog problem in their area, and that they are willing to take ownership of this challenge and solutions.

2

## LEADERSHIP

The Chair and Management Advisory Committee members must provide strong and enthusiastic leadership and have a vision for the strategic direction and purpose of the committee. In particular, this group needs to determinedly engage and enlist the support and participation of all landholders and land managers in the Shire. They also need to build proactive and positive relationships with the wider community and provide leadership to other key stakeholders e.g. doggers, aerial baiting contractors and Shire Council teams.

3

## COMMUNICATION

Quality communication between landholders and with Council, state government and neighbouring shires is necessary. This is most important, as the sharing of factual and timely information is a key component to achieving wild dog control across a large region. It is also important to ensure that communication is reaching all landholders and land managers, so that they are included in the shared vision, and do not feel excluded from decisions or planning. The sharing of successes and failures is vital at a landholder level, so learning can continue to occur.

# 4

## CULTURAL CHANGE

This involves changing the basic beliefs amongst landholders and land managers about the value of using nil tenure, holistic and cooperative 'whole of shire' wild dog control strategies. Members of the wider community will also need to accept that pest control is desirable, and that uncontrolled wild dogs have a negative impact on the whole community. There also needs to be fundamental understanding that the most successful model of wild dog control is one that is owned and driven by landholders and land managers, and strongly supported by local and state government as partners.



The Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control

# Paroo Model of Wild Dog Control - Checklist

## *Before Setting Up A Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee:*

- ☑ Is there strong landholder and land manager support for wild dog control?
- ☑ Have absentee landholders, and managers of government or not-for-profit organisations who own land in the area been approached for support?
- ☑ Have the various methods of wild dog control currently being utilized in the area been researched and noted?
- ☑ Has local government offered to support the formation of a Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee? In what form does this support take, and what is the time frame for confirmed support? Investigations should also be made in relation to proposed budgetary support and insurance options and the role of the Management Advisory Committee under the Local Government Act.

## *Setting Up A Local Wild Dog Area Working Group:*

- ☑ Has the shire been divided into a number of smaller community based working groups (often referred to as regional baiting groups)? These could be structured according to landscape features e.g. dividing roads or parish boundaries, or aligned with natural landscape features. Alternatively, existing informal or formal working or social groups could be utilized e.g. Best Prac groups, Landcare organizations.
- ☑ Interested landholders or land managers call for an initial meeting amongst landholders to form a local Wild Dog Area Working Group. This initial meeting might coincide with an existing community event in order to maximize attendance and interest.
- ☑ At the initial meeting, there should be formal elections to form a committee to lead the local Wild Dog Area Working Group. This would include a chair, deputy chair and secretary. This meeting should also call for expressions

**Has the shire been divided into a number of smaller community based working groups (often referred to as regional baiting groups)?**



of interest from interested landholders / land managers to report to and be on the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee for the Shire. Two individuals need to be selected from each area working group to sit on the Shire's Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee and to provide leadership to producers who are in their local wild dog area working group. The role of these two working group leaders will be to take information from the Management Advisory Committee back to their wild dog area working group, and to also take issues and information from the area working group to the Shire Management Advisory Committee. Ownership of consensual local dog control strategies is essential, and the leaders need to facilitate quality producer decisions so dog control activities are as effective as possible. In addition, they will also be responsible for ensuring that all properties in the Shire have been assigned to an area working group.



- ✓ Area working group meetings will be held at least twice each year, and preferably each quarter. These meetings will be organized and chaired by the area working group leaders who sit on the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee. The leaders will ensure that there is widespread promotion of the meeting date, venue and agenda to all landholders and land managers. The area working group leaders will send out meeting notices well in advance to all landholders and land managers in their area, prior to each meeting.
- ✓ Agenda items for each meeting should include the sharing of dog sightings, movement corridors, breeding areas, wild dog impacts and control measures so continual and accurate mapping can be undertaken. It is essential that any shifts in wild dog activity be detected, so quality decision making can follow.
- ✓ The Area Working Group leaders should ensure they have accurate records which include:
  - A list of all landholders in the group, with their current contact details e.g. phone, fax, email and postal address.
  - Comprehensive maps of all the properties in their area.

- A calendar of landholder / land manager communication activities which records that during the first weeks of January each year, they have contacted all the landholders/ land managers in their area to invite them to an area working group meeting which should be held late January. This should include contacting those who have not participated in area working group meetings in the previous twelve months.

- ✓ The agenda for the first meeting each year should include a discussion as to how the last baiting program was conducted, outcomes, participation numbers, amount of bait distributed etc. Recent known wild dog kills/sightings should be recorded on area working group maps. Planning should commence for the next baiting program, and should include setting a date, working out types and amount of bait required and any other relevant operational details.
- ✓ A report on the meeting (specially collated or actual minutes) should be circulated to all landholders / land managers in the area shortly after the meeting. Both the minutes and any circulated reports should also be forwarded to Council. The Wild Dog Area Working Group leaders are responsible for completing these tasks.

The area wild dog working group leaders will be required to present their area working group report to the next Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee meeting.

### ***Operations of a Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee for the Shire:***

The key goal of the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee is to promote the integrated control (e.g. trapping, fencing, baiting, shooting, monitoring, using guardian animals etc) of wild dogs across a shire.

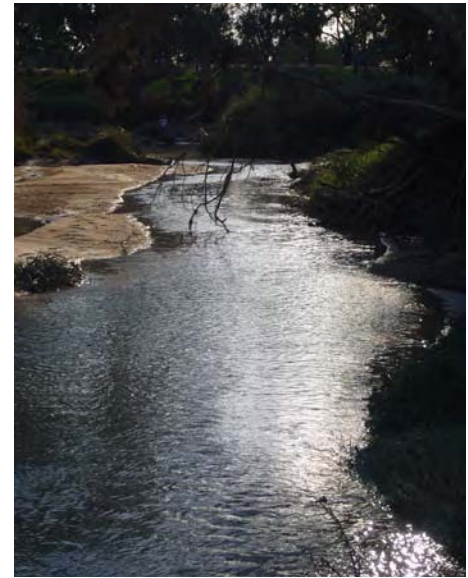
- ✓ The Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee will organise two major baiting programs each year. This involves deciding on the type of meat to be used, organizing the purchase of meat and the booking of pilot/aircraft for aerial baiting, as well as communicating the details of the baiting program to all landholders. Baiting programs should be undertaken in May and November of each year. Aircraft and a pilot should be booked 9 -12 months in advance of baiting, to ensure availability at the preferred time.

- ✓ The Wild Dog Management Advisory



Committee will also source GPS data so the baiting program can be mapped. This will record any known current information about wild dog populations, recent sightings, hot spots and trappings etc.

- ✓ Undertake a formal selection process to appoint Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee members.
- ✓ Elect a committee to lead the Management Advisory Committee – Chair, Secretary, Council representative. Suggestions of appropriate management advisory committee members might include Mayor, Councillors, senior Council Officers, landholders and land managers, Rural Lands Protection Officer / Shire Pest and Stock Routes Officer, Biosecurity Officer, Managers of state, not-for-profit or public lands, shire doggers etc.
- ✓ The Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee leadership team will send out timely advance meeting notices to all key stakeholders, and request that a council employee attend the meeting to record the minutes. Meetings should be held each quarter.
- ✓ The agenda for each meeting will include a report from each of the key stakeholders, including the wild dog area working group leaders. The sharing of any relevant data e.g. dog activity, dog impacts, producer participation and attitudes should be freely shared at each meeting. Usual meeting processes (e.g. correspondence, budgets, reports, general business etc) should be adhered to.
- ✓ The role of the Chair of the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee is to:
  - coordinate the decision making processes of the committee.
  - coordinate the activities of the area working group leaders.
  - communicate issues between key stakeholders.
  - interact with Chairs of other Management Advisory Committees and statewide groups e.g. Q DOG.
  - Work with Biosecurity Queensland to ensure the coordination of activities and resources between Shires and any relevant state government programs.
- ✓ The role of the Council representatives (e.g. Mayor, Councillors, staff) is to inform the





council of the processes and issues of the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee and to support the work of this group at other forums.

- ✓ The role of the Biosecurity Queensland officer is to provide access to technical assistance and research findings, and to oversee mapping requirements.
- ✓ The Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee will also need to liaise with neighbouring shires so wild dog movements and programs can be coordinated at a regional level.
- ✓ The Paroo Shire Council provided the Wild Dog Management Advisory Committee with financial support for each of the two baiting programs which were undertaken each year. The following table illustrates a job numbering system which outlines the cost breakdown, and was used by the Paroo Shire Council to monitor financial inputs and outputs.



Item/Activity	Description	Cost
<b>Baiting Program 1</b> (May)		
Item/Activity	Distribution (plane, fuel, etc)	
Item/Activity	Meat	
Item/Activity	Dog Control (baiting, trapping contractors)	
Item/Activity	Other	
		<b>Total Cost of Baiting Program</b>
<b>Baiting Program 2</b> (November)		
Item/Activity	Distribution (plane, fuel, etc)	
Item/Activity	Meat	
Item/Activity	Dog Control (baiting, trapping contractors)	
Item/Activity	Other	
		<b>Total Cost of Baiting Program</b>

## The “Nil Tenure” Model Process

- ✓ Do landholders and other key stakeholders understand the nil tenure model, where wild dog control is ‘tenure blind’ with effective management actions implemented across all tenures within a Shire area?
- ✓ Are all tenures adequately represented in the area working group? Have all tenures been consulted throughout the area working group wild dog control process? Is there a high level of field knowledge available within the area working group?
- ✓ Are the control measures which are being planned by the area working group acceptable to landholders and the community?
- ✓ Is mapping being overseen by Biosecurity Queensland, local government or natural resource management groups? Are they supplying A3 maps of the most recent wild dog intelligence? Are wild dog area working group leaders requesting these maps?
- ✓ Does the area working group have access to high quality maps with overlay capabilities, so wild dog tracking and movements, as well as control measures recorded? If tenure precludes certain wild dog control activities, are separate mapping layers used e.g. a map showing where aerial baiting is permitted should be overlaid on a map showing other control activities. It is important that these layers dovetail and address ‘gaps’ in the control areas.
- ✓ Is mapping undertaken on a continual basis? Maps should be updated at the 1st July each year so that an evaluation can take place of the effectiveness of wild dog control measures in the preceding twelve months.
- ✓ Once wild dog control activities have been identified, the land tenure mapping layer can be reinstated to identify actions for each land manager.
- ✓ Each landholder/ land manager should then commit to the proposed control program, and agree to action this in a timely and responsive manner.
- ✓ Have area working group leaders supplied updated wild dog control information to Biosecurity Queensland? This could be done through an annual management plan review process.
- ✓ Are the aerial baiting contractors who have been employed by the Shire supplying updated information on aerial baiting to the national wild dog facilitator?

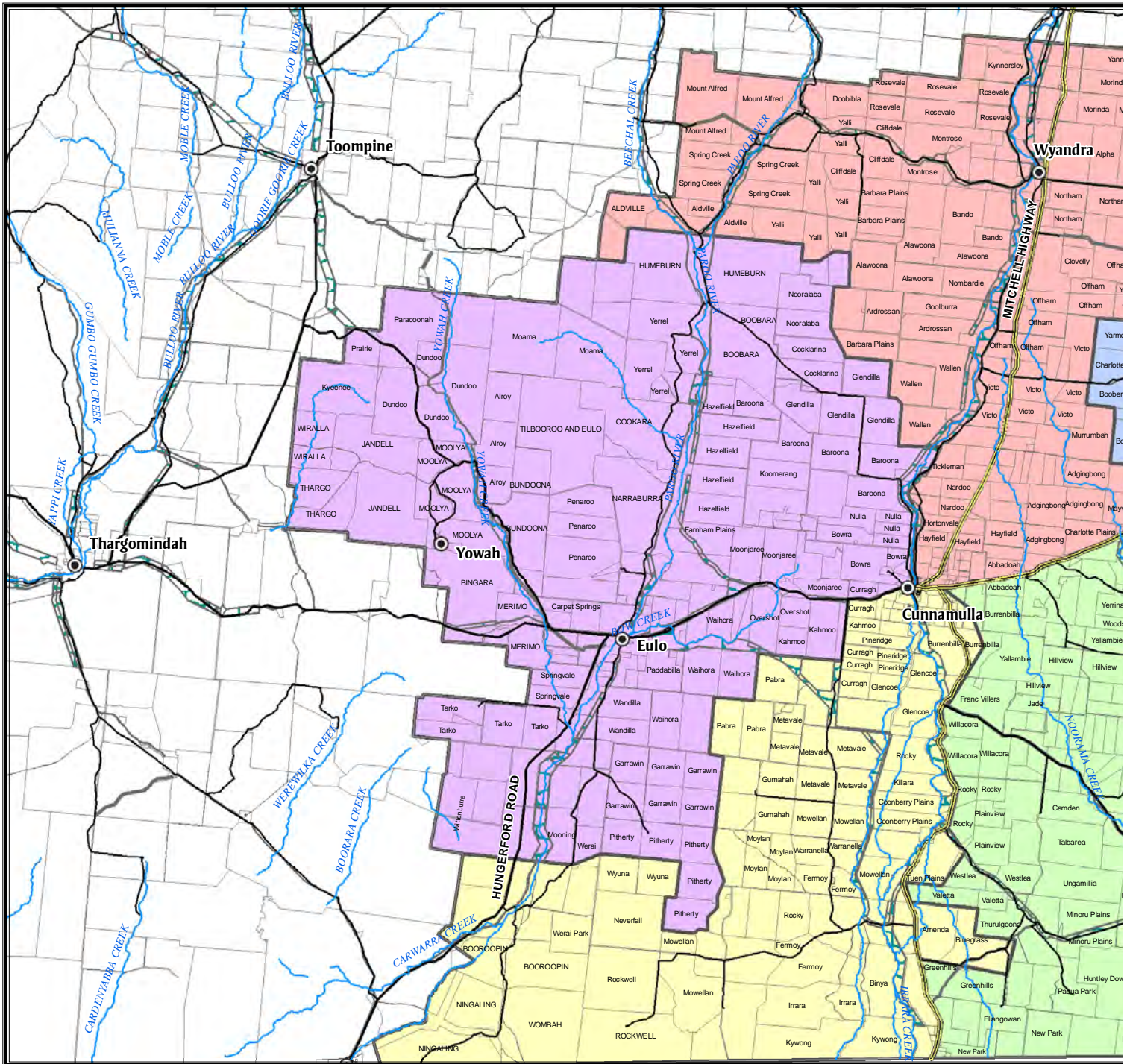
# Diagram of the Paroo Model of Wild Dog Management



*The Paroo Model of Wild Dog Management Advisory Committees (Source: John Cuskelly)*

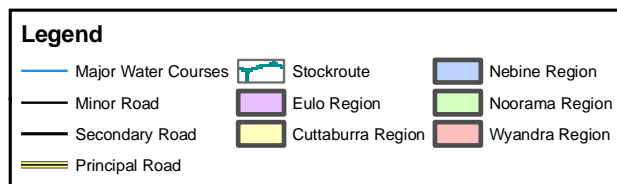


# Paroo Shire Map

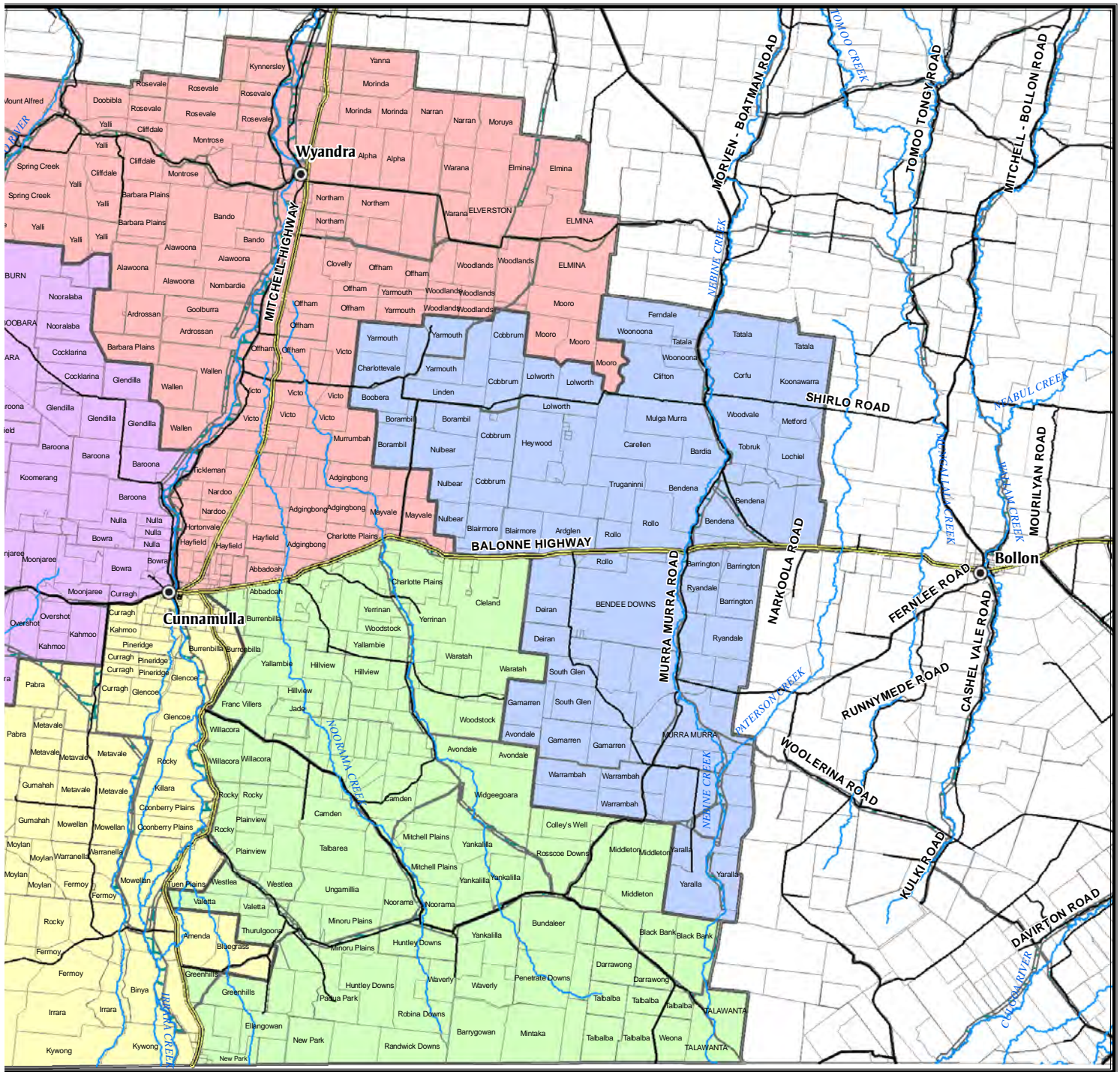


## Paroo Wild Dog Advisory Committee

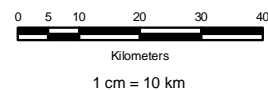
### Regional Area Map







Prepared By: Paras Acharya  
 Projection: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 55  
 South West NRM, 66 Galestee St  
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 2. Based on Cadastral Data provided with the permission of the Department of  
 Natural Resources and Mines, current as of 2010  
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 The Property boundaries shown on this plan are APPROXIMATE ONLY.  
 They are NOT an accurate representation of the legal boundaries.





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