



ANNUAL DPR REPORT  
2020-2021

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# ANNUAL DPR Report 2020- 2021

## INTRODUCTION

The Esperance Biosecurity Association Inc. (EBA) originally formed as the Northern Mallee Declared Species Group Inc. (NMDSG) in 2004, following a community meeting called by concerned farmers, due to the increased livestock attacks by wild dogs within the Esperance Region.

Gaining consent as the Northern Mallee Declared Species Group Inc. to become a Recognised Biosecurity Group for the purposes of Section 169 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017.

In May 2017 the Northern Mallee Declared Species Group Inc. officially changed the group's name to Esperance Biosecurity Association Inc. to show better representation for all landholders within the group's operational area.

The EBA is managed by an active and dedicated voluntary committee comprising of 11 farmers, who engage one Licensed Pest Management Technician (LPMTs) who are procured by the Esperance Shire and an Administrator. The EBA Committee meet regularly to ensure efficient management of the group.

EBA work closely with Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Esperance Shire and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, consulting with them regularly and inviting them to attend committee meetings to assist with the management of the group.

The EBA has gained significant experience managing wild dog populations using alternative methods currently employed throughout the region. It is the responsibility of landholders to control wild dogs on their property, however, EBA were specifically set up to assist with controlling wild dogs within the region. The group's LPMTs target their efforts at the interface of agricultural land and the vast areas of woodlands, which provide the source of new wild dogs entering the agricultural land.

The continuous risk that wild dogs pose for livestock farmers, particularly sheep, in the region deters many farmers from investing or re-investing in livestock as wild dog attacks are a continuing concern.

The EBA is the community driver of the proposal to construct an extension to the State Barrier Fence, to extend around the Esperance Agricultural area. This is the long term answer to controlling the wild dog problem.

## Chairman's report

Welcome to our AGM and thanks for coming. I would like to thank our committee our members and our sponsors. Thanks to Lind McCrea for her time as administrator and thanks to Veronika Reck our new administrator for doing a great job. Also thanks to Peter Harkness our secretary/Treasurer for your reports and your work going forward with other RBG's. To the Esperance Shire for your input and your ongoing support is fantastic. A special thanks to Beth

O'Callaghan, Ian Mickle and to Basil Parker who is retiring from the council, thanks. To Kim Hayward for your help over the past few years. To Danny the Dogger well done keep up the good work. Daren Dixon and the staff at DPIRD, thank you. Well 2021 has been another interesting year, Peter and Veronika attended a RBG forum a couple of weeks ago, a report will follow. The DBCA Permits is ongoing these permits need to be sorted out and will be extended until sorted out. There seems to be problems with middle management and it needs to be taken up with the Ministers Office to sort out. One of the outcomes from the RBG forum is that RBG's are going to be consulted before any major decisions are made. There is a ILUA meeting on Monday in Esperance with Tjaltjraak which they will be voting on the fence. I rang Peter Bednall from Tjaltjraak I ask if I could attend the meeting, he told me it was a closed meeting. He understood where we are coming from re: the fence, thanked me for our intent and he said they had put a lot of resources and time into it so hopefully we will get a good outcome from the meeting. My understanding when Pete and I met with the minister that we will know by the Middle of November either way.

I would like to thank Shelley Payne for coming along to the meeting and giving us an update.  
Thank you

| Specific Objective                                                                             | Milestone/Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Outcomes/Achievement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Analysis                                                                   | Recommendation                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reduce livestock losses to less than 100 animals per year, with an ultimate aim of zero losses | <p>Continue to engage fully qualified LPMTs to implement an integrated tracking, trapping and baiting wild dog control program for the Esperance Region. In accordance with best pest control practices</p> <p><i>The Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of Strychnine in Western Australia</i> must be adhered to at all times.</p> <p><i>The Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of 1080 in Western Australia</i> must be adhered to at all times</p> | <p>One qualified LPMT were engaged during 20/21 implementing the control program</p> <p>Specific objective of reducing stock losses to less than 100 was achieved.</p> <p>The code of practice for the safe use and management of 1080 and Strychnine in WA were adhered too</p> | <p>42 Wild dogs taken</p> <p>100 livestock losses were reported to EBA</p> | Continue to engage fully qualified LPMT to implement the wild dog control program  |
|                                                                                                | Hand baiting – this is to be incorporated in the LPMTs integrated control program, abiding by the <i>Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of 1080 in Western Australia</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>All positions of baits distributed were logged using data loggers, the data being converted into maps showing the locations.</p> <p>The code of practice for the safe use and management of 1080 in WA was adhered to</p>                                                     | 2,881 -1080 dry meat baits laid                                            | No changes needed LPMT to continue to determine best placement of baits as needed. |
|                                                                                                | Aerial baiting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Not needed in 20/21                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                            | Reassess annually                                                                  |
|                                                                                                | Provide support to Landholders to control declared pests (wild dogs, foxes) on their properties                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Provided Fox baits to landholders to assist with the control of Foxes on their properties. Correct procedures followed with DPIRD handling the distribution of baits                                                                                                             | 7 landholders utilized this service                                        | Continue to promote this service to landholders within the Esperance Region        |

| Specific Objective                                                             | Milestone/Action                                                                           | Outcomes/Achievement                                                                                                                                            | Analysis                                                            | Recommendation                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                | Risk Assessments on all localities where wild dog control program is implemented           | Permits to bait on DBCA managed UCL land were obtained                                                                                                          | Permit system is currently under review.                            | Permit system and Code of Practice for the safe use and management of 1080 is under review by DPIRD, DBCA and DoH with plans of having new system in place. |
| Support the construction of the Esperance Extension to the State Barrier Fence | Liaise with Mel Foxley- DPIRD for regular updates on the project and assist where possible | Meetings and correspondence with appropriate Ministers and DPIRD staff to get ILUA negotiation and construction back on track                                   | Construction halted until ILUA agreement reached                    | Continue to advocate the construction of the fence                                                                                                          |
| Community Engagement                                                           | Community Engagement events                                                                | Due to Covid restrictions our engagement plan was very difficult to implement                                                                                   | Notice of Annual General Meeting<br>Planned gathering after harvest |                                                                                                                                                             |
| Efficient Reporting                                                            | Report to funding bodies as required in funding agreements                                 | Reporting to funding bodies have been predominantly successful with only some delays due to new Administrator.                                                  |                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                             |
| Off Target Deaths – Aim for nil off target deaths                              | Monitor and record off target deaths                                                       | Objective achieved<br>Records kept in minutes of committee meetings                                                                                             | Nil off-target deaths reported                                      |                                                                                                                                                             |
| Report to Pesticides Advisory Committee                                        | Report to the Pesticides Advisory Committee on off target deaths, include nil reports      | Objective achieved 2020/21 report has been submitted for tabling at the Pesticides Advisory Committee meeting<br>Copy of submitted report has been kept on file | 2020/21 report submitted                                            | Continue with reporting process                                                                                                                             |

| Specific Objective                                                                  | Milestone/Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Outcomes/Achievement                                                                                                                                        | Analysis                                                                               | Recommendation                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inform stakeholders and landholders about the value of the wild dog control program | Give regular updates of the group's activities via;<br>EBA Newsletters<br>Emails to members<br>EBA Facebook Page<br>Annual General Meeting<br>Farmers meeting e.g. SEPWA<br>updates Radio Interviews<br>EBA Committee Meetings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Due to Covid restrictions updates were provided mostly via email, multimedia platforms and radio interviews                                                 | ABC Radio<br>Emails to members<br>EBA Facebook page<br><br>AGM, EBA Committee Meetings | Continue to express the value of the wild dog control program.                                      |
| Notifying of neighbours regarding use of 1080 and Strychnine                        | 1) landholders with properties at the interface of the UCL and baited DBAC reserves in the Shire of Esperance will be written to annually – Notifying Neighbours<br><br>2) Annual notice placed in the Local newspaper (Esperance Express)<br><br>3) Existing 1080 Signage at entrances to UCL and baited reserves be maintained. New signs added where needed<br><br>4) Include notifications in EBA newsletters, emails to members, at AGM, EBA Facebook page, webpage | 1) milestone achieved<br><br>2) not achieved due to shut down of local paper<br><br>3) milestone achieved<br><br>4) milestone achieved. Copies kept on file | 1) letters sent<br><br>2) Social media used (facebook)                                 | Continue with annual notification, it is working really well with a nil result on off-target deaths |



**Esperance Biosecurity Association**

**Department of Agriculture and Food – Financial Report (Declared Pest Rate)**

**1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

Balance Brought Forward 1/7/2020 (259,819)

**Income**

Dept of Agriculture and Food (\$114,351)

**Less Expenditure**

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Dogger – Danny Carlisle         | \$ 65,650       |
| Insurances                      | \$ 721          |
| Co-Ordinator Expenses – 3 years | \$ 12,000       |
| Stationery and Sundry           | \$ 7,627        |
| Audits                          | \$ 800          |
| Bait                            | \$ 6,825        |
| Administration Costs            | \$ 10,160       |
| 1080 Concentrate & Signs        | <u>\$ 1,767</u> |

\$105,550

Balance as at 30 June 2021 (\$268,620)





**MANAGEMENT DECLARATION  
ESPERANCE BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD  
DECLARED PEST RATE  
SHIRE OF ESPERANCE**

In the opinion of Council:

- (a) The attached report gives a true and fair view of the Declared Pest Rate financial performance of the approved project for 2021; and
- (b) We have complied with the terms and conditions of the project agreement.

On behalf of Council

Office Bearer Signature

Office Bearer Name:

Shane Burge

Position:

Chief Executive Officer

Date:

20 October 2021

Location:

Esperance

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE SHIRE OF ESPERANCE FOR THE  
ESPERANCE BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC  
DECLARED PEST RATE AND TO  
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DPIRD)**

## **Report on The Financial Report**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of the Shire of Esperance – Esperance Biosecurity Association Inc Declared Pest Rate Program which comprises the statement of income and expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2021 in relation to the program.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Shire of Esperance – Esperance Biosecurity Association Inc Declared Pest Rate Program for the year ended 30 June 2021 presents fairly, in all material respects, the income and expenditure of the program in accordance with the reporting provisions of the funding agreement with DPIRD.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial report section of our report. We are independent of the Shire in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

The financial report is prepared to assist the Shire of Esperance to comply with the financial reporting provisions of the funding agreement referred to above. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Shire of Esperance and DPIRD and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Shire of Esperance and DPIRD.

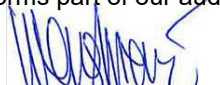
### **Responsibilities of the Management for the Financial Report**

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in the funding agreement with DPIRD is appropriate to meet the requirements of DPIRD and is appropriate to meet the needs of the Council. Management's responsibility also includes such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standard Board website at [https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar8.pdf](https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar8.pdf). This description forms part of our audit report.



WEN-SHIEN CHAI  
PARTNER



MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

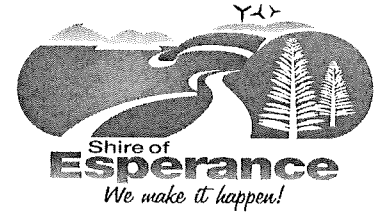
Signed at Perth this 17th day of November 2021.

**Shire of Esperance**

**Royalties for Regions – Wild Dog Management Program Financial Report**

**1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021**

|                                   |               |                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Balance Brought Forward 1/07/2020 |               | \$0             |
| <b>Income</b>                     |               |                 |
| Royalties for Regions             |               | (\$93,750)      |
| <b>Less Expenditure</b>           |               |                 |
| Dogger – Danny Carlisle           | \$92,950      |                 |
| Audit Fee for 2019/20             | <u>\$ 800</u> |                 |
|                                   |               | <u>\$93,750</u> |
| Balance as at 30 June 2021        |               | \$ 0            |



**MANAGEMENT DECLARATION  
ESPERANCE BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION  
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
WILD DOG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
SHIRE OF ESPERANCE**

In the opinion of Council:

- (a) The attached report gives a true and fair view of the Wild Dog Management Program financial performance of the approved project for 2021; and
- (b) We have complied with the terms and conditions of the project agreement.

On behalf of Council

Office Bearer Signature

Office Bearer Name:

Shane Burge

Position:

~~Acting~~ Chief Executive Officer

Date:

20 October 2021

Location:

Esperance

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE SHIRE OF ESPERANCE  
WILD DOG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
AND TO  
DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DPIRD)**

**Report on The Financial Report****Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of the Shire of Esperance – Wild Dog Management Program which comprises the statement of income and expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2021 in relation to the program.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Shire of Esperance – Wild Dog Management Program for the year ended 30 June 2021 presents fairly, in all material respects, the income and expenditure of the program in accordance with the reporting provisions of the funding agreement with DPIRD.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial report section of our report. We are independent of the Shire in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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WEN-SHIEN CHAI  
PARTNER  
MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (WA)  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Signed at Perth this 17th day of November 2021.