

WILD DOG COMMUNIQUE

August 2013

Edition 2013/2

Welcome to the second newsletter from WoolProducers Australia (WPA) which provides a progress update on the development of the National Wild Dog Action Plan. We are also seeking assistance for PhD Student, Lana Harriott from people who regularly trap wild dogs and/or foxes in peri-urban locations (see end article).

National Wild Dog Action Plan – Public Consultation Phase pending

This National Plan will guide implementation of a nationally-agreed framework focussing on a strategic and risk-based approach to wild dog management. It will have an emphasis on humane, safe and effective management techniques and the mitigation of the impacts of wild dogs at appropriate scales.



Photo courtesy: Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, Feral Photos: Graham Wienert

Stakeholders who have responsibilities and/or a related interest in the control of wild dogs include private and public landholders, commonwealth and state/territory governments and their agencies, industry bodies, research institutes, conservation groups and community members.

The project work is now in the final review phase prior to releasing an Exposure Draft for Public Consultation. If you would like to be advised when the Exposure Draft Plan is ready for review and/or provide other input into the project please use the contacts below.

For more information go to: www.woolproducers.com.au

Project Contacts

Jane Brownbill

Chief Executive

WoolProducers Australia

M: 0429 940 444 | E: jbrownbill@nff.org.au

Michele Jackson

WPA Project Consultant

T: 02 9460 2696 | M: 0425 224 540

E: mjackson@allevents.com.au

Seeking assistance from people who regularly trap wild dogs and/or foxes in peri-urban locations

Lana Harriott is a PhD student at The University of Queensland, jointly supervised by Biosecurity Queensland. Her project is looking at 'disease prevalence and public health risks of wild dogs in peri-urban areas', and is funded by the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre. The study will look into a range of diseases such as neosporosis, hydatidosis, infections with hookworms, and Campylobacter, just to name a few. These diseases have either an economic impact on the production industry and/or can cause significant disease in humans.

For this study to be successful I am looking for assistance from people who regularly trap wild dogs and/or foxes in peri-urban locations. This assistance would involve taking blood and faecal samples immediately following trapping or shooting. Once samples have been taken dog and fox whole bodies will need to be placed in a large plastic bag and frozen until collected, and a GPS waypoint of the location that the dog/fox was trapped will be necessary for geographic analyses. All necessary equipment and shipping arrangements will be provided and further protocols and advice will be distributed to those who are willing to assist in the sample collection. **Any help would be greatly appreciated and will contribute significantly to our ability to control wild dogs and the risks they pose.** All findings will be published and made available to participants.

If you are able to help or if you have further questions please contact l.harriott@uq.edu.au or on 0420 599 898. Alternatively, you may contact one of Lana's supervisors:

- Matthew Gentle (DAFF) matthew.gentle@daff.qld.gov.au
- Rowland Cobbold (UQ) r.cobbold@uq.edu.au or
- Rebecca Traub (UQ) r.traub@uq.edu.au.

WoolProducers Australia | PO Box E10, Kingston ACT 2604 | NFF House, 14-16 Brisbane Avenue, Barton ACT 2600

E woolproducers@nff.org.au | www.woolproducers.com.au

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ABN 83 124 570 832