

WILD DOG COMMUNIQUE

October 2013

Edition 2013/4

NATIONAL WILD DOG ACTION PLAN



Public Consultation Submission time ending

The National Wild Dog Action Plan (the Plan) Exposure Draft Consultation Phase will close on **25 October**. The Project Steering Committee is seeking public feedback regarding the suitability of the Plan Exposure Draft before progressing to the final project review stage.

The Plan has been developed, as an industry-driven initiative, in response to the increasing number of wild dogs, their increasing impacts on the environment and primary industries (sheep, cattle and goats), and the need for a nationally coordinated approach to dealing with these issues.



Photo courtesy: Ben Allen

The economic impact of wild dogs is estimated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars per annum.

Wild dog predation limits livestock enterprise choices. Regional communities are affected by declining sheep numbers as the employment opportunities and supporting businesses and services reduce in response.

Participation in coordinated wild dog management programs varies across the country. Existing programs are often fragmented by jurisdictional (red tape) and tenure boundaries.

Methodologies and tools can vary from state to state. Wild dog management struggles to establish a unified strategic and risk-based approach upon which local, regional and state-

based management can be undertaken. Planning for multi-pest animal and weed control is rarely done.

A 14 strong committee comprising industry, government, animal welfare and research organisations has guided the development of the Exposure Draft. This diversity has ensured the greatest pickup of views from all stakeholders. The Plan's mantra is: *promoting and supporting community-driven action for landscape-scale wild dog management.*

A national approach will lead to more consistent action across jurisdictions that also meets local needs. There will be enhanced opportunities for collaboration and coordination of control efforts, and development and implementation of nationally-acceptable wild dog control practices integrated with other pest species.

Feedback is sought from private and public landholders, commonwealth and state/territory governments and their agencies, regional and local governments, industry bodies, research institutes, conservation groups and community members.

Feedback process

The Exposure Draft materials can be downloaded from WPA's website:

<http://www.woolproducers.com.au/national-wild-dogs-action-plan/>

Feedback will be accepted up to the **Close of Business** on **Friday 25th October 2013.**

Feedback and all inquiries should be directed to:

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