



Action Plan hits the ground running

The next exciting phase of the National Wild Dog Action Plan (the Plan) was confirmed on Friday 4 July when the Minister for Agriculture, the Honourable Barnaby Joyce officially endorsed and launched the Plan at the University of New England, Armidale. The Minister also announced a \$280,000 start-up investment towards wild dog management under the Plan.



Minister Joyce officially launching the Plan

In February 2013 WoolProducers Australia identified a gap in the management of wild dogs, being a national coordinated approach where all states, territories and the Commonwealth work together, and initiated the consultation for the Plan's development. This resulted in collaborative development of the Plan by the wool, sheepmeat, cattle and goat industries and by state and territory governments.

All State Agriculture or Environment Ministers have signed off on the Plan and the Federal Government endorsement makes this a first in pest management in Australia and a possible future model for tackling other pests.

Minister Joyce said he was proud to be able to provide Federal support to launch this important industry-driven initiative. "It's clear that there is a real need for a co-ordinated approach to this issue and I congratulate WoolProducers Australia for taking such a leading role in development of the National Wild Dog Action Plan," Minister Joyce said last Friday.

The investment grant will be administered by the Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre to coordinate the management efforts of the industry led-Implementation Steering Committee. The Committee will be supported by a stakeholder consultative group to be confirmed by the implementation team during July 2014.

The money will be used for initiating the implementation of the Plan, as well as on-the-ground work with landholders tackling the problem of wild dogs. It is expected the initial phase of implementation will take up to 9 months.

Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre Showcase

As part of the Plan's launch event the Invasive Animals CRC provided a three-stand showcase demonstrating some of the innovative work being conducted by the CRC as part of the national efforts to curb wild dogs.

For example, surveillance camera technology is being developed to detect wild dogs on farm properties and alert farmers through a text message.



Dr Paul Meek, IA CRC explaining the surveillance technology principles to Minister Joyce

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