

Submission to LLS on Pest Animal Management Review

On behalf of the Hargraves Hill End Wild Dog Action Group we would like to submit a submission on the Pest Animal Management Review.

Firstly we would like to say that we agree with the recommendations put forward, a regional pest Management coordinator would be of great benefit to our group. But we do think the coordinator should specialise in the specific pest control (e.g. Wild Dog Coordinator) we as a wild dog group will be the first to admit the eradication of wild dogs is not quite as easy as everyone might think, it is very complex and receiving the wrong information could have very negative outcomes.

One of our biggest problems is trying to convince all our landholders that we all need to be proactive in controlling the wild dog situation it is not until they have an attack that they realise that they need to do something and by then it is too late. Some of our landholders don't report attacks or sighting which is really frustrating as it would be helpful to their neighbours.

As secretary of our group I am asking everyone to report their attacks losses and sightings to me and at the end of the month I do up a report and email it out to all our group members and other members of the community in doing this I am hoping to raise more awareness of how bad the wild dog situation is in our area. We cannot bury our head in the sand because these problems aren't going away so we have to get into landholders heads and make them very AWARE of the problems we are faced with.

Making everyone accountable for pest management is definitely a must within our LLS.

When noxious weeds are detected on a property it is the landholders responsibility to remove them so can't the same policy be adapted for pests. The pests do not belong to anyone of us so surely if we ALL take responsibility the burden is carried by everyone not just a selected few.

We do a community baiting but we would like to see a lot more of our landholders get involved in these programs some of our landholders have 100's of hectares surrounding them that never see a bait which is really defeating the purpose. So if all landholders were STRONGLY encouraged to bait by way of letters from the LLS it may help to raise more awareness.

In conclusion Thank you for giving us the opportunity to put in a submission we do hope that some of the recommendations are put into practice as our group would definitely benefit because our problems are getting far worse.

We believe we have to make EVERYONE AWARE of our pest problems not just the larger landholders with more livestock everyone should be made accountable for their own land.

Helen Lawson

Secretary Hargraves Hill End Wild Dog Action Group

