

Ledknapper Wild Dog Action Group Inc.

Mr Callum Robinson
Chairperson Ledknapper Wild Dog Action Group Inc.



NSW 2840



10th February 2016

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment Committee
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Chairperson,

RE: Inquiry into barrier fences in Queensland-submission

The Ledknapper Wild Dog Action Group Inc. (LWDAG Inc.) thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in regards to the “Inquiry into barrier fences in Queensland”.

The Ledknapper Wild Dog Action Group Inc. (LWDAG Inc) was formed in 2008 as a direct result of escalating wild dog activity in the Ledknapper region which is located north and north east of Bourke in New South Wales. The LWDAG Inc. has been committed to wild dog management in this region now for eight years. The group has achieved a reduction in wild dog numbers over the last eight years through a multi facet approach. Our target area covers approximately 1.8 million acres. The group believe that the problem arose initially due to small isolated groups of wild dogs on land that

was held by absentee landowners, stray dogs wandering from residential areas, pigs dogs lost from hunters, ability of wild dogs to travel large distances and complacency by individuals and a lack of education and understand on wild dog behaviour.

The New South Wales wild dog barrier fence is maintained to a high standard. Every section of this fence is checked and inspected on a twice weekly basis to make sure it is dog proof fifty two weeks of the year. This fence is critical to the survival of the pastoral industry of N.S.W. Without this barrier fence the pastoral industry would fail to exist. It was estimated by Mr Ben Allen research scientist who was conducting study on Quinyambie Station located in S.A, north of Broken Hill outside of the wild dog barrier fence that on this property alone there was approximately a minimum of 5000- 7000 wild dogs at any one time.

Barrier fencing is only one tool used in the control strategy of wild dogs. It is essential that all methods of control are employed and not just one method favoured. Education and information sharing is also extremely important in understanding how best to adopt and engage control strategies.

The Q.L.D, N.S.W and S.A wild dog barrier fences cannot operate alone as it would defeat the purpose of their role which is to stop the distribution and movement of wild dogs. It is imperative that these fences continue to stem the distribution of large numbers of wild dogs. The land to the north of the barrier fences where once productive livestock producing areas. Many of these areas have now changed their operations to cattle in a hope to minimise predation. A lot of this country is not necessarily suited to cattle production. It is estimated wild dogs now costs the Q.L.D livestock industry \$64 million dollars a year in lost production. The impacts of wild dogs do not just affect the livestock industry but it also flows onto greatly affect the communities that are surrounded and rely on agricultural businesses. Knowing that these barrier fences are maintained and upgraded regularly by active barrier fence organisations is very reassuring for all

stakeholders. It brings great peace of mind to stakeholders to know that these barrier fences are a positive control method that they don't actively need to monitor themselves.

The LWDAG Inc. supports the maintenance and management of the QLD, NSW and SA wild dog barrier fences and a united and nil tenure approach to wild dog management. We are relying on a positive outcome in relation to this inquiry.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Mr Callum Robinson.

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Mr Callum Robinson
Chairperson Ledknapper Wild Dog Action Group Inc.

