

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Wild dog fence submission  
**Date:** Monday, 29 February 2016 3:06:47 PM

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WILD DOG FENCE ISSUE.

We wish to make some important details from our point of view in relation to the Wild Dog fencing issue.

First of all we make the point that we are just an everyday rural couple who have no ability to “put a spin on words” but just want to state the bleeding obvious and are at our wit’s end at this present time in relation to wild dogs.

We are a predominately sheep and wool grazing property which has been in the one family for over 100 years and are now facing the prospect of a continual decline of sheep numbers due to wild dog infestation.

Despite council baiting, extra private baiting that we do in conjunction with some neighbouring sheep properties and continual trapping, the wild dog problem has continued to escalate in recent years. Council in our region is only paying a paltry amount for scalps which does not encourage people to want to try and eradicate the dogs and the employment of just one trapper by the council is way under what is actually required to make some sort of a difference to dog numbers. The unwillingness of some neighbours not to be involved in baiting programs has severely enhanced and increased the dog problem on our property resulting in the maiming, destruction and death of our sheep which is our main source of income. Believe me, it is not a pretty sight.

Unfortunately governments at all levels do not have the “guts” to enforce baiting despite it being a landholder’s responsibility to keep feral animals under control.

Wild dog exclusion fencing is the other option. We, at the present time, have no other alternative but cost of erecting such a fence is an enormous burden to carry, especially after 3 years of drought and now very little income. Therefore the subsidising of this type of fencing is absolute imperative as it is impossible for us to wholly fund any fence coming out of the past three years of drought with only a quarter of sheep numbers to what would be normally be run and now losing sheep to dogs especially after feeding and looking after them throughout the drought. After 121 years of family ownership we believe we should not have to see our livelihood decimated.

This **IS** predominately sheep grazing country and sheep **DO** bring economic benefits to this rural region as it has done in the past and will into the future if we are able to run sheep without having them killed off through wild dogs.

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