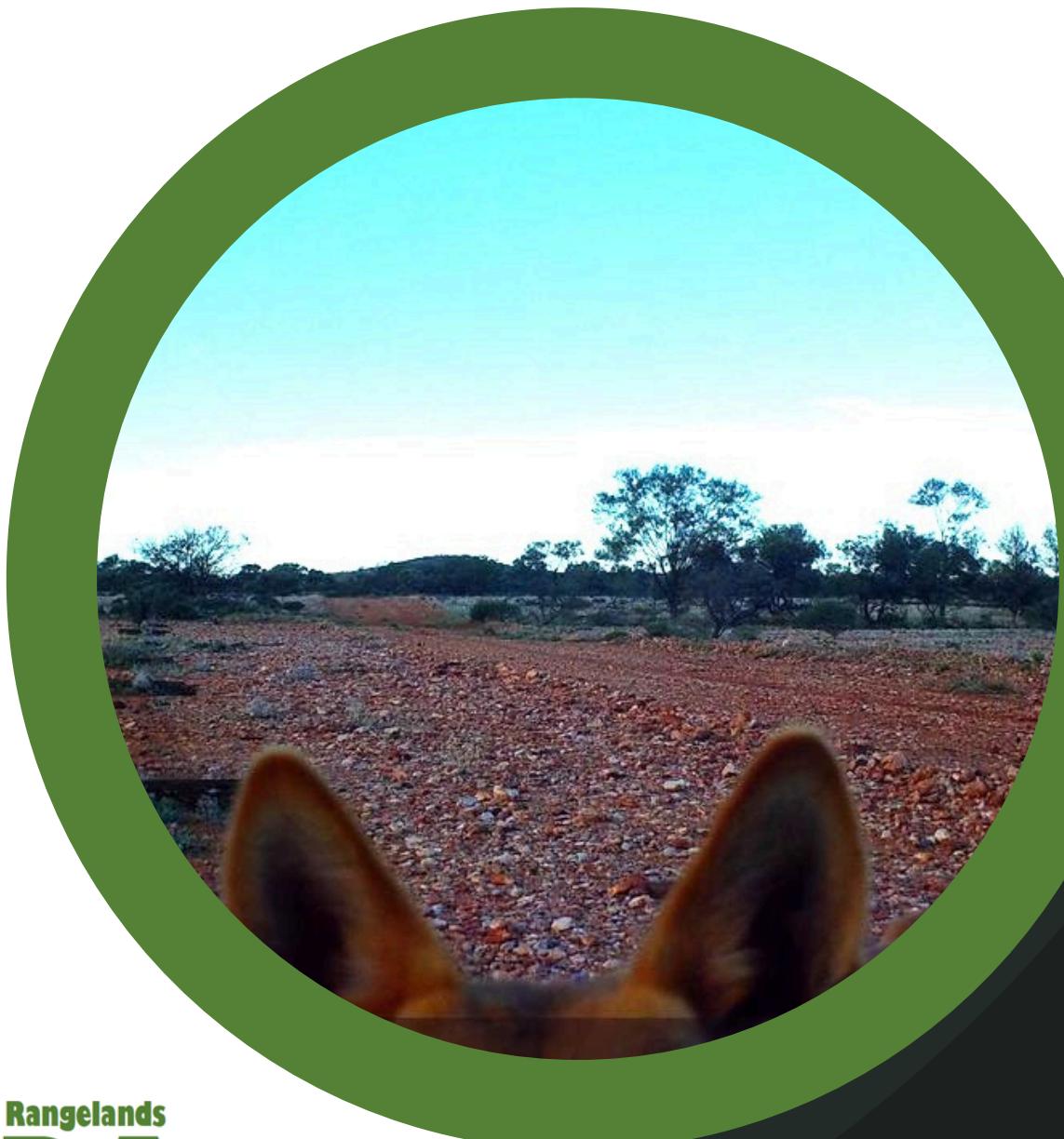


ANNUAL REPORT

2024 - 2025



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1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The 2024/25 season again highlighted the unpredictability of our climate, with low to limited rainfall across much of the region. This continued to place pressure on pastoral enterprises and allowed declared pest activity to remain a significant challenge.

With the final report from the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (BAM) Act review presented to the Minister in December 2023, it is disappointing to note that, 18 months on, there has been no indication of the report's contents, what government is considering, or the timelines for any changes. Until the review is made public, the path ahead remains uncertain. For the CRBA membership, serious consideration will be required regarding the group's future direction, with declared pest rate funding only confirmed until 2026/27. Despite strong efforts from our group and the wider RBG network, the future of Wild Dog Action Plan funding beyond 2025/26 is neither confirmed nor anticipated.

For Recognised Biosecurity Groups, including the CRBA, ongoing operations and plan implementation continue to be hindered by challenges such as changes to the Firearms Act, access restrictions, evolving guidelines, and increased regulation around restricted chemicals—all of which place further barriers in the way of agricultural support. We also continue to face the issues of unmanaged lands, absentee owners, and limited ability to work effectively on government-managed land. Our Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) have again provided strong support to landholders in managing declared pests across their territories. Their involvement was central to the success of the Spring Aerial Baiting program, and they continue to make full use of all available tools. I sincerely thank our LPMTs for their dedication, particularly those who stepped up to fill gaps in coverage during transitions in the North Murchison region this year.

The CRBA has reduced administrative and overhead expenses to 8.94% of total operational costs, thanks largely to the efforts of our Executive Officer, Krystie Bremer. She has streamlined reporting, data collection, governance, chemical record-keeping, and property data management. These processes ensure CRBA meets all regulatory requirements for declared pest management services. Importantly, over 90% of funds are now directed towards program delivery and on-ground activities. Administrative costs are consistently covered by the DPR, with supplementary funds dedicated exclusively to program delivery. A DPR payment rate of **82.93%** for 2024/25, along with further payments against historical debt, remains a positive step forward.

This year we again coordinated aerial baiting across pastoral estates in key locations to maximise impact and reduce pest movements at a landscape scale. Additional activities included LFH control initiatives led by LPMTs and local bait meat suppliers, research collaborations with DPIRD's Tracy Kreplins, and sustained financial support from the Shires of Upper Gascoyne and Murchison. I must also acknowledge the sudden and tragic passing of Eric Roulston. Rollo was not only a trusted pilot for the CRBA but also a friend to many. His contribution ensured our aerial baiting programs consistently met and exceeded expectations. His loss is deeply felt by his family, friends, and the wider region.

The committee remains committed to achieving the best possible outcomes in declared pest management, despite the considerable challenges and uncertainties facing the industry. I would like to extend my thanks to the CRBA committee and volunteers for their ongoing effort and commitment, which ensure the effective management of the group. I also wish to acknowledge the continued work of our Executive Officer Krystie Bremer, in advocating for the region and ensuring the smooth running of operations.

Andrew Whitmarsh
Chair, CRBA

2. BACKGROUND

Declared Pest management has been a longstanding practice in the pastoral regions of Western Australia since the inception of the industry. Initially, this management fell to the individual pastoralists before falling under the purview of the Agricultural Protection Board (APB), with the subsequent establishment of Zone Control Authorities (ZCA) in the 1950s, each focusing on specific geographical areas. These ZCAs collaborated with pastoral land managers to specifically mitigate the impacts of wild dogs # on livestock.

In 2007, with the enactment of the Biosecurity Agriculture Management (BAM) Act, efforts to establish Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBGs) commenced. RBGs replaced the ZCAs in 2010, with the Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association (CRBA) being one of five pastoral RBGs established during this time. The RBG model offers a more adaptable framework capable of addressing declared pest issues at a landscape scale. The work undertaken by the CRBA adds value to pest control efforts undertaken by individual landholders, striving to provide a coordinated, landscape-scale approach to declared pest management. Utilising local insights and knowledge.

The CRBA serves as a crucial partner in aiding landholders in managing declared pests on their respective properties. The CRBA operates primarily within the Shires of Carnarvon, Exmouth, Murchison, Shark Bay, and Upper Gascoyne, with additional pastoral leases in the Shire of Northampton and the City of Greater Geraldton (locality of Mullewa). Our association collects Declared Pest Rates from all Pastoral Leases within this jurisdiction to facilitate and coordinate control measures targeting vertebrate pests, including feral pigs, foxes, and wild dogs, as well as large feral herbivores and declared weed species. We collaborate across both public and private lands to implement these control activities, with the overarching goal of achieving comprehensive landscape management of these invasive species to mitigate total predation pressure and assist in total grazing pressure management.

*# The term wild dog is used to describe pure-bred dingoes, feral/escaped domestic dogs, and their hybrids. Both dingoes and wild domestic dogs are the same species, *Canis familiaris*. Wild dogs are a major pest species impacting on grazing industries across mainland Australia.*

3. AIMS

The Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association (CRBA) aligned its aims directly to its objectives in the group's constitution.

- Foster the *management and control of declared pests* throughout the Area, via the formulation, implementation, and review of appropriate management plans and programs;
- Focus on improving further *integration, coordination, and general collaboration* of all Area stakeholders in pest management matters;
- Promote the adoption of *sound biosecurity practices* throughout the Area; and
- Work with non-pastoral landholders to manage land and biosecurity issues that impact heavily on business and non-business entities operating within the landscape

The CRBA will achieve these aims by:

- Continuing to try and attract additional resources;
- Establishing systems and processes to enable the CRBA to continue operating effectively;
- Actively encouraging and working with all land managers (not just pastoral properties) to be engaged and participate in biosecurity matters; and
- Openly communicating with ratepayers and key stakeholders in the business of the CRBA.

This will lead to:

- Resources being provided by non-rate paying land users;
- Increased ownership & active participation by all landholders; and
- Continued assistance with control of declared pests in the region to encourage livestock production increases (due to effective actions of CRBA).

Achieving success in this role will help CRBA pastoral businesses become robust and viable through improved production, reduced variable costs, and reduced labour costs.

The CRBA remains focused on mitigating the impacts of declared pests species across the region to minimise the impacts on agriculture, community, and the environment.

Through our annual operations, the CRBA undertakes our activities each year focused on Collaboration, On-ground assistance, Training, Education & Awareness to meet the group's aims. The group remains focused on high-priority declared pests as directed by CRBA members through the committee of management.

Vertebrate Pests

Vertebrate pests remain the greatest concern for land managers across the region. The most significant impacts on pastoral production come from foxes and wild dogs, which attack sheep, goats, and young cattle. These pests not only cause direct stock losses but also lead to indirect income losses through injuries that reduce livestock value at market, and in some cases exclude animals from certain markets altogether.

Community-wide baiting programs, both ground and aerial, along with the work of Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs), continue to be the most effective tools in managing these pests. The CRBA recognises that control efforts within our region also benefit surrounding RBGs by reducing the southward movement of these pests into the State's agricultural areas.

Feral pigs remain destructive pests, causing significant damage to remnant vegetation and watercourses, particularly within high-value catchments in the Gascoyne. Smaller populations are present in the eastern part of the CRBA region. Their capacity to spread disease remains an ongoing concern for industries across Western Australia, with control costs increasing when outbreaks occur in isolated areas. Increasing numbers of these pests on our boundaries continues to be of concern, with key water courses currently without these pests susceptible to movements in those areas closer to major regional centres.

Large Feral Herbivores (LFH)

Large feral herbivores continue to be recorded across the CRBA region, with population movements leading to new areas of activity where numbers were previously minimal. Notable populations of donkeys and camels persist, with increasing reports of feral horses as far south as the Kennedy Ranges, north of the Gascoyne River, and concentrated areas within the Shires of Carnarvon, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne. Control of LFH remains a core part of day-to-day activities undertaken by LPMTs in collaboration with land managers throughout the year.

Weeds

Weeds of concern within the CRBA catchment include Mesquite, Parkinsonia, and Coral Cactus. CRBA's efforts remain particularly focused on Mesquite, a declared Weed of National Significance (WONS). Mesquite outcompetes native vegetation, reduces the productive grazing capacity of pastoral lands, exposes topsoil to wind and water erosion, damages infrastructure, and significantly increases the operating costs of pastoral enterprises across the region.

Coral Cactus also remains a management priority. Its ability to spread rapidly through livestock and native fauna movement makes it a persistent threat. The ongoing release and establishment of the cochineal bug continues to provide an effective and practical biological control tool in limiting its spread.

4. AREA OF OPERATION

The CRBA area of operation takes in the Shires of Carnarvon, Exmouth, Murchison, Shark Bay, and Upper Gascoyne. Along with additional pastoral properties below the state barrier fence within the Shire of Northampton and the City of Greater Geraldton (locality of Mullewa) also forming part of the CRBA area of operation. There are over 100 pastoral leases covering some 14.5 million hectares, with approximately 20% small stock carrying properties; multiple Exclusive Native Title properties covering approximately 1.3 million hectares and approximately 2.1 million hectares of land under the control of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions (DBCA).

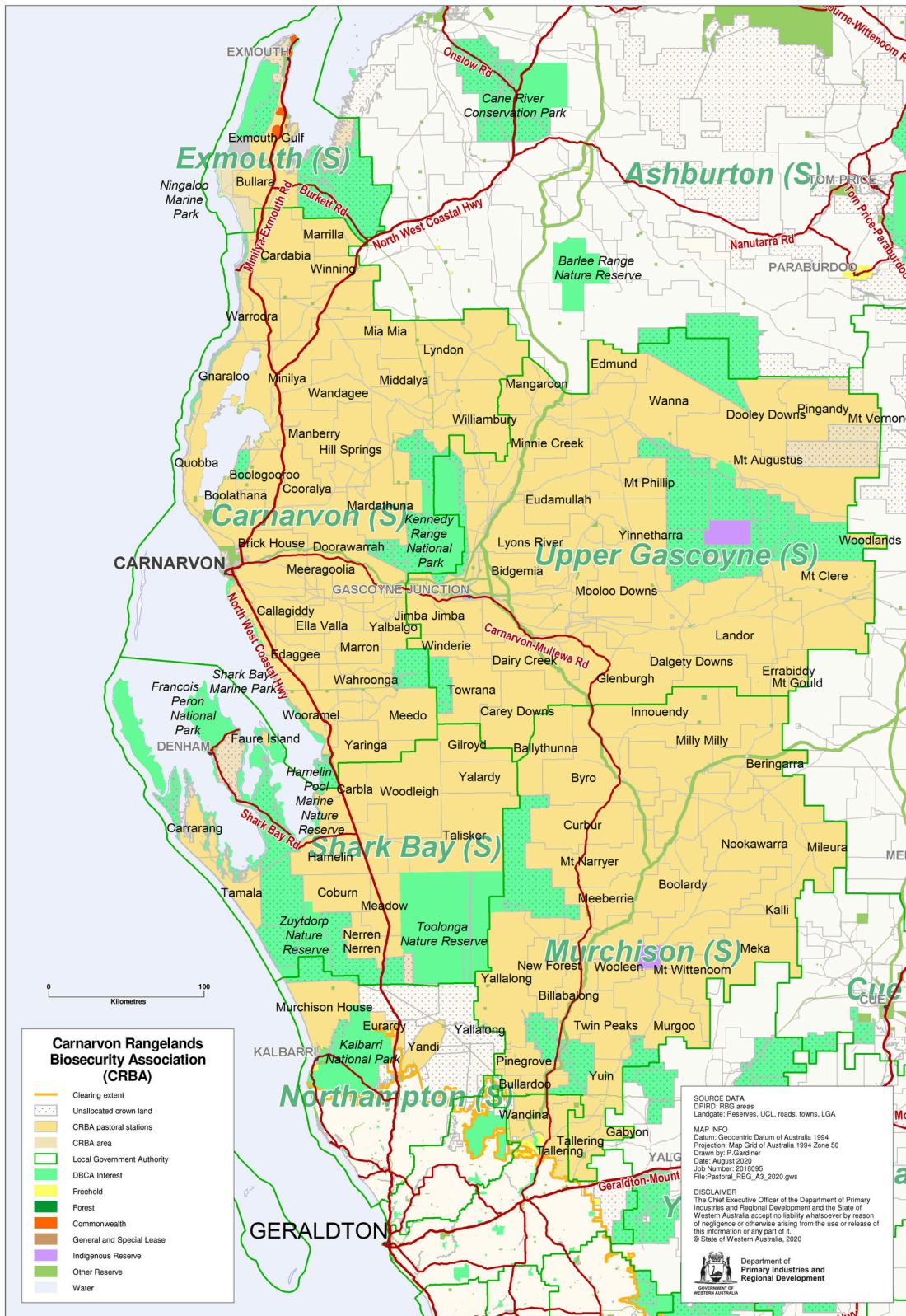
The population of the CRBA area is approximately 8,600, with this number and numbers across the CRBA region doubling during the tourism season, with this number continuing to grow along with the popularity of station stay tourism. Our largest town is Carnarvon, with a population of approximately 4,800 residents. Carnarvon is the regional service centre for the entire Gascoyne area.

The CRBA region encompasses the Shark Bay & Ningaloo World Heritage Areas; Cape Range, Kennedy Range, Mount Augustus, Nyinggulara (Ningaloo), and Pimbee National Parks; multiple nature reserves, exclusive native title, and former pastoral leasehold properties.

The types of land tenures and access to them continue to change annually, with the CRBA working closely with the three DBCA regional offices that are responsible for the management of these and other such properties within our region to ensure, where possible, declared pest work is undertaken or access is granted for these activities. This assistance ensures minimal impact on neighbouring pastoral properties and assists all land users in meeting their obligations under the BAM Act.

There continue to be ongoing and region-wide changes regarding land access due to different identified responsible parties, along with different priorities across the different land tenures in the CRBA region.

The CRBA shares its northern boundary with the Pilbara Regional Biosecurity Group (PRBG), the eastern boundary with the Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association (MRBA), and the southern boundary with the Northern Biosecurity Group (NBG), which includes Kalbarri National Park and a significant amount of unallocated Crown Land (UCL).



Note: Since this map was developed, there have been significant land tenure changes. Areas of former pastoral lease around Kennedy Ranges and Pimbee Stations are now recognised as National Parks under Joint Management. In addition, Mt Augustus is now under Exclusive Native Title possession.

5. COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

The CRBA is a not-for-profit association formed under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*. The committee of management consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer and no less than four and no more than eight other members. The positions of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer must all be held by a full member of the Association.

POSITION	NAME	MEMBER STATION/ORGANISATION	TERM EXPIRY
Chairperson	Andrew Whitmarsh	Glenburgh & Innouendy Stations (<i>Upper Gascoyne & Murchison</i>)	25 October 2028
Vice Chairperson	Gina McGee	Minilya Station (<i>Carnarvon</i>)	28 October 2026
Secretary / Treasurer	Dannielle Ackroyd	Edaggee Station (<i>Carnarvon</i>)	25 October 2028
Full Member	Harry McKeogh	Carey Downs Station (<i>Upper Gascoyne</i>)	29 October 2025
Full Member	Roger Davies	Eudamullah Station (<i>Upper Gascoyne</i>)	28 October 2026
Full Member	Greydon Mead	Bullardoo Station (<i>Murchison</i>)	25 October 2028
Full Member	Simon Thomas	Marron Station (<i>Carnarvon</i>)	28 October 2026
Full Member	Ray Hoseason-Smith	Dairy Creek Station (<i>Upper Gascoyne</i>)	28 October 2026
Full Member	Ben Dorrell	Mia Mia Station (<i>Carnarvon</i>)	25 October 2028
Member	Vacant		
Member	Vacant		

The CRBA also contracts the services of a part-time Executive Officer, Krystie Bremer.

The CRBA works with local people who hold local knowledge of the region's problem pests. Utilising this local landscape understanding to form the basis of our annual operations each year.

6. 2024/2025 OPERATIONS

6.1 DECLARED PEST RATE

The CRBA operates a Declared Pest Account, managed in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD). Each year, the Office of State Revenue issues rate notices to all pastoral leases within the CRBA region. Funds raised through the Declared Pest Rate are matched dollar-for-dollar by the State Government, recognising its responsibility as the majority landholder within the region. This 50/50 funding model remains one of the strongest features of the Recognised Biosecurity Group (RBG) system.

For 2024/2025, the Declared Pest Rate for the CRBA was gazetted at 6.4724 cents in the dollar, applied to the unimproved value of pastoral land leases across the prescribed local government districts, remaining unchanged from 2023/2024.

RBGs continue to play a vital role in declared pest management, delivering practical services and strong community outcomes. The CRBA committee and members remain concerned about the uncertainty following the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act (BAM Act) Review. While the Panel's final report was provided to the Minister in December 2023, there has been no clear indication of how the recommendations will be implemented.

The CRBA strongly supports the current RBG model under the BAM Act. While we acknowledge improvements can be made, we believe enhancing the existing system is a more effective path forward than creating new levies, new bodies, or shifting to a competitive funding model.

Improvements should focus on better coordination, increased resources, streamlined government processes, and stronger engagement with stakeholders. These steps would address gaps without undermining the efficiencies and community ownership that the current system provides. Along ensuring that maximum use of funding remains focused on on-ground delivery and not consumed by excessive governance and administration.

The DPR approach remains a fair and cost-effective way to manage widespread declared pests. It ensures local knowledge guides decision-making, fosters shared responsibility, and delivers outcomes tailored to community priorities. These benefits risk being lost if alternative models are pursued through the BAM Act review.

At present, funding has only been guaranteed by the Minister until 30 June 2027. Without a secure long-term commitment, the ability to plan strategically, retain skilled staff and deliver consistent programs will remain under pressure.

6.2 OTHER FUNDING & GRANTS

Royalties for Regions - Wild Dog Action Plan 2

During 2024/25, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) advised that funding for the WA Wild Dog Action Plan (WDAP) would be confirmed through to 2025/2026.

This commitment acknowledged the State's responsibility for managing pests across vast areas of Crown land within our region and supported a genuine landscape-scale approach to declared pest management. It also enabled the CRBA to continue assisting pastoral land managers with managing total predation pressure while providing a vital buffer zone to known hotspots, many of which occur on State-managed lands.

The CRBA again received \$200,000, which was directed towards contracting two Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) for a combined total of 285 days (1.4 FTE). The CRBA covered all additional costs associated with these contractors to ensure on-ground delivery.

Funding has only been confirmed for the 2025/2026 year. The CRBA has actively worked this year with DPIRD and other RBGs to advocate for longer-term security of funding into the next iteration of the plan. However, the final version of WDAP 3 will not be provided to RBGs directly until after Ministerial approval, if at all. This lack of transparency is disappointing and makes forward planning difficult, particularly in ensuring the protection of the State Barrier Fence and broader regional control efforts.

While the CRBA and other RBGs have contributed input into the development of WDAP 3, there is little confidence at this stage that funding will be extended beyond the next Operational Plan. Without certainty, the ability to plan strategically, retain capacity, and deliver effective control programs remains under significant pressure.

Shire of Upper Gascoyne

The CRBA continues to welcome the yearly contribution by the Shire of Upper Gascoyne towards our operations. This support involves a direct financial continued of \$50,000 towards extending operations within the shire-wide and an in-kind continuation of approximately \$15,000 for the costs associated with the CRBA bait meat freezer at the Shire depot in Gascoyne Junction.

Shire of Carnarvon

The Shire of Carnarvon provides an in-kind contribution associated with the CRBA bait meat freezer continued to assist the CRBA.

Shire of Murchison

The CRBA continues to welcome the contributions made by the Shire of Murchison to pest control. A direct financial contribution of \$10,000 was out towards operations in the shire, along with their continued in-kind contribution related to the bait meat freezer and their own programs.

6.3 PARTNERSHIPS

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions

The CRBA continues to work with the two DBCA regions - three District Offices to gain support, assistance, and access for LPMTs to undertake control of declared pests on land under their management. Through the Native Title determination process, along with the establishment of Joint Management Bodies (JMB) access to some of this estate continues to be challenging. Throughout 2024/25 access was returned for between 3 months and 3 years to some estates, taking considerable effort on both sides of this partnership.

Midwest Regional Office - Gascoyne District (Shark Bay)

After a considerable time with limited access to lands through the Gascoyne District Office, the announcement in August 2023 of the expansion of Kennedy Range National Park to encompass the ex-pastoral estate surrounding it, and the gazetting of Pimbee National Park. Tim Meecham, on behalf of the CRBA presented to the JMB in October 2024, continuing the lines of communication between the two groups. This engagement again provided the CRBA with access to undertake works in the Kennedy Range National Park for a further 12 months. This access to the Kennedy Range National Park, particularly the west side, is critical to landscape-scale management within the CRBA region, aiding in movements from known hotspots to small stock properties in the south.

Further discussions and presentation by Executive Officer Krystie Bremer at the Mulgnana Joint Management Body meeting in March 2025 allowed the CRBA to provide a history of the CRBA, and the work previously undertaken before the Native Title determination in and to adjust access to areas within their management perspective. These discussions are critical in opening the lines of communication, creating a shared understanding, and moving towards common goals in land management across the region.

Mid-West Regional Office (Geraldton)

The CRBA welcomes continued access to some lands in the Murchison over the course of 2024/2025 year, allowing LPMTs in this area to assess movement across the entire landscape and undertake control activities when needed.

Pilbara Regional Office - Exmouth District (Exmouth)

The CRBA continues to work with the district office to maintain and improve access for LPMTs within this region. Access to the eastern side of Cape Range National Park, ex-Exmouth Gulf was maintained for 2024/2025, along with ex-Gnaraloo Coastline (now a reserve). There continue to be concerns over limited access to the estate that surrounds Coral Bay, with reports of wild dogs continuing to be received. The CRBA worked with DBCA and Cardabia Station owners to undertake a small control program on the pastoral estate in early 2025 to assist with these growing concerns. May 2025, the CRBA provided LPMT services to also undertake a small feral cat and fox management program on the western side of the Cape.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Work with the Office of RBG continues to ensure the CRBA meets all our funding obligations during the year. This partnership continues to evolve with a shared understanding of not only the obligations of RBGs through our funding but also the need for DPIRD to ensure a seamless process, with funding being released quicker than in previous years, and the undertaking of a DPIRD audit of the Declared Pest Account to ensure the accuracy of our group's finances.

The Office of RBG also organised the Annual RBG Forum on the 18th and 19th of February 2025 in Perth is a key opportunity for key stakeholders and RBGs to connect and come together.

Organisation of the event also included a day of engagement prior to the commencement of the forum by key stakeholders on the development of the state's Wild Dog Action Plan.

CRBA Executive Officer, Krystie Bremer also works with DPIRD, sitting on the State DPIRD-RBG Advisory Group. This group meets bi-monthly online to allow for two-way communication and understanding between RBGs and the department. A key platform amidst the reviews of the BAM Act, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act, Firearms Reform, and S7 Chemicals code of practice review.

The CRBA also continues to work with Tracey Kreplins, a Research Scientist on several projects across the region, including 1080 bait research, wild dog/cow movement relationships, camera monitoring, and wild dog diet.

Rangelands NRM

2024/2025 after continued engagement and discussions with the group a small LFH program was undertaken in May 2025 in the South Murchison region as part of the RNRN Mallee Fowl project, funding secured prior to the departure of Sarah Jeffery.

Local Government

Our long-standing relationships with three shires in our prescribed area sees the CRBA able to provide key services to those landholders within those areas to ensure that the impacts of declared pests are managed within our limited capacities.

Grower Group Alliance

The CRBA is an associate member of the Grower Group Alliance (GGA). GGA provides opportunities for capacity building, along with providing visibility of the CRBA.

RBG Monthly Meetings

RBGs gather monthly online to provide a regular platform for the 14 groups to share timely information, updates, and insights related to the challenges associated with declared pest management. This collaboration and coordination amongst RBGs allows for opportunities to explore joint initiatives across the state.

S7 Retailers

The CRBA appreciates the ongoing roles of Elders Carnarvon in storage of our S7 Chemicals.

6.4 VOLUNTEER SUMMARY

The CRBA counts on the local knowledge of our volunteers and members to manage declared pests across our vast landscape. The CRBA committee estimates that our volunteers contribute upwards of 3,000 hours each year to the group and its operations, a value of more than \$200,000 in-kind. The CRBA depends on volunteers within the community to assist with various roles/activities that are required to ensure the smooth running of our operation.

These roles include:

- Participation on the Management Committee;
- Attendance and participation in meetings with outside stakeholders;
- Review of vast correspondence received by the CRBA;
- Time and fuel commitments by members to attend training days, workshops, industry and government meetings, and liaisons. Given the vast area the CRBA covers this is a big commitment by our committee with often more than 600km round trips required to attend face-to-face meetings.;
- Local Rack Coordinators – who coordinate local pastoralists to attend bait preparations racks to inject, dry, and bag meat baits ready for baiting programs;
- LPMT Coordinators – local pastoralists who are responsible for supervising and guiding local LPMTs who operate across a defined network of pastoral properties. Coordinators are also involved in contract reviews and reviews of monthly reports and invoices before payment;
- Assistance with wild dog baiting programs, including helping with loading baits and providing fuel into the contracted charter plane ;
- Negotiating and developing partnerships with DBCA, local Shires, and other key stakeholders; and
- Pastoral stations that make airstrips available for the aerial programs to use, along with providing meals and overnight accommodation for the pilots, and ground staff during various declared pest programs including aerial baiting, LFH, and weed control.

Over and above the volunteer contribution made by CRBA leaseholders is the additional the financial cost of managing the state's pests with land managers undertaking their control the programs (including operation of aircraft such as helicopters and planes), providing meat for baiting programs and even fuel for contractors.

6.5 VERTEBRATE PEST PROGRAM

Vertebrate Pests, particularly wild dogs remain a high priority for the CRBA due to their impacts to agriculture, particularly in poor seasonal conditions as experienced during 2023/2024. To mitigate the impacts of these pests the CRBA contracts 7 Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) focused on total predation pressure across the region.

LPMTs work with CRBA land managers to provide assistance in the management of vertebrates across the region. These LPMTs with land managers to cover seven regions:

LPMT 1	Greg Hobson	South Murchison
LPMT 2	James Ferrier	Shark Bay / South Carnarvon
LPMT 3	Jye Hough	North Upper Gascoyne
LPMT 4	Mat Cole	North East Carnarvon
LPMT 5	Adam Robinson	North West Carnarvon
LPMT 6	Jason Holds#	North Murchison
LPMT 7	James Rounsevell	South Upper Gascoyne

#Jason Holds covered this region for part of the year, with it then split & covered by other CRBA LPMTs.

Wild Dogs

During 2024/2025 the CRBA undertook the following wild dog-specific programs across the region:

- One community-wide baiting program;
- One aerial baiting program, focused on providing landscape-scale assistance in managing movements for region-wide benefits;
- One aerial baiting program coordinated with DBCA in the Kennedy Range NP;
- Supporting land managers in individual control programs;
- Monitoring of wild dog movements; and
- Contracting LPMTs who undertook baiting, trapping, and shooting (day & night) of wild dogs.

The operations undertaken across our region play a key role in minimising the risk to the State's agricultural industry. The CRBA believes a key to our success in the management of wild dogs comes from region-wide engagement of LPMTs, alongside land manager control, and stakeholders engagement.

A summary of LPMT operations, specific to wild dog control is below and includes total number of contracted days worked during 2023/2024.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	
Total days worked	1,367.5	1,234.0	1,198.5	⬇️
Number of baits laid	37,061.0	29,372.0	23,671.0	⬇️
Number of baits made	19,417.0	83,518.0	101,510.0	⬆️
Number of traps set	2,340.0	1,849.0	3,397.0	⬆️
Average Traps in ground EOM	678.2	878.2	784.0	⬇️
Number of dogs destroyed - Shot	80.0	130.0	84.0	⬇️
Number of dogs destroyed - Trapped	812.0	946.0	641.0	⬇️
Number of dogs destroyed - Other	7.0	5.0	10.0	⬆️
Number of reported small stock kills by wild dogs #	45.0	179.0	20.0	⬇️
Number of reported wild dog complaints by landowners #	32.0	62.0	37.0	⬇️
TOTAL Dogs (Shot/Trapped/Other)	899.0	1,081.0	735.0	⬇️
TOTAL Dogs (Bait Estimates)	370.6	835.2	1,015.1	⬆️

Points of note:

- Whilst the number of baits laid by LPMT has reduced, the number distributed has increased significantly. These baits were made by LPMTs and put out via the aerial baiting program (77,343).
- Based on research, number estimated number of wild dogs controlled by baiting programs is 1015.
- 10 foxes were removed from the landscape, with an unknown number potentially attributed to the baiting programs.
- Stock attacks continue to be a concern, particularly in dry years such as this with an unknown number of animals impacted across all livestock managed across our region.

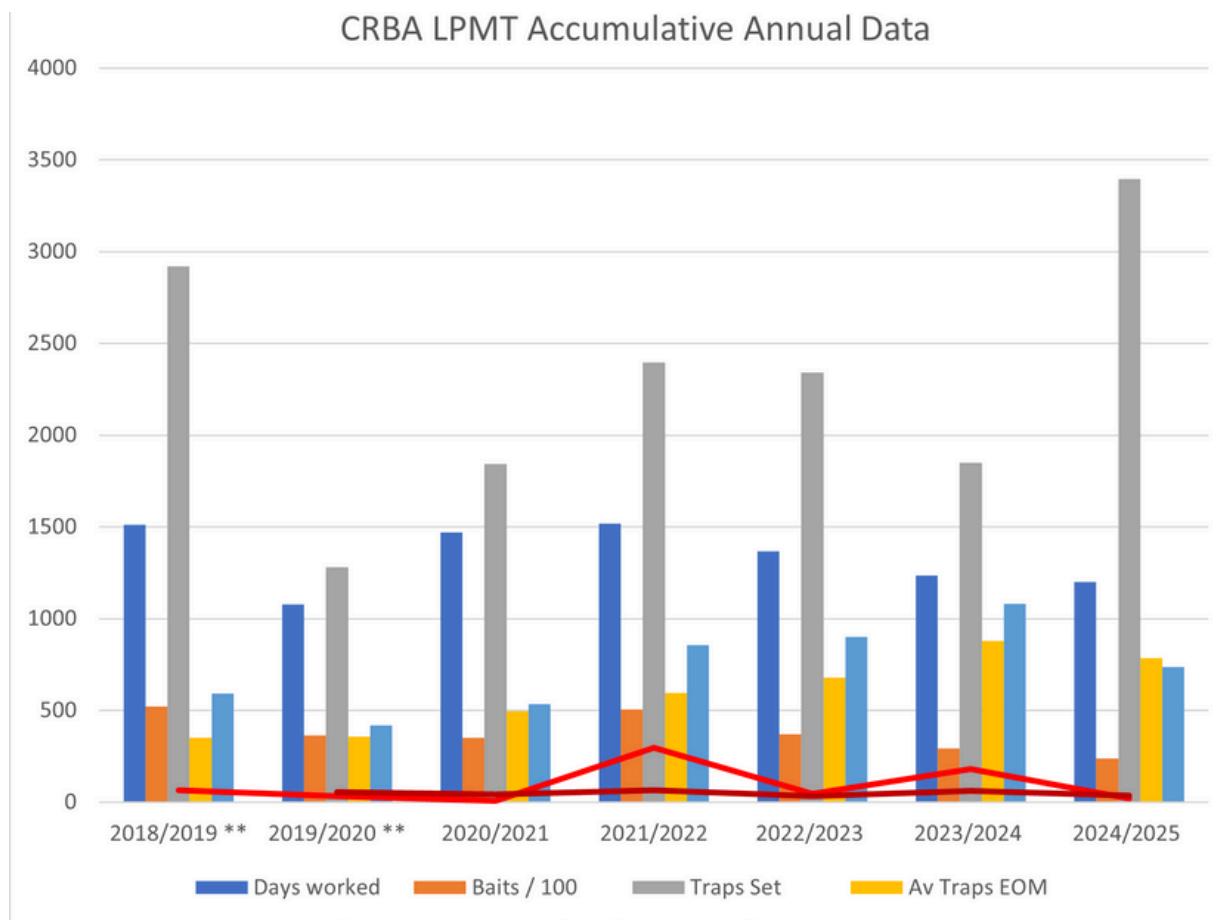
The Carnarvon Barrier Fence incompleteness continues to cause issues for small stock properties in the south of the region, causing an undue additional workload for land managers and our contracted LPMT.

The CBRA relies heavily on pastoral leaseholders playing active roles in the management of declared pests and planning for their properties. The active role of land managers continues to be inconsistent across the region, with additional pressures on pastoral businesses and other areas of concern are taking precedence across management businesses. The group continues to rely on its members and key stakeholders to participate in preparing wild dog baits at the community baiting events, and distributing dried prepared baits across their properties, along with other individual control methods.

The CBRA would also like to recognise the Shire of Murchison, which continues to actively encourage the management of wild dogs via internal initiatives. From their records, 50 wild dogs have been controlled throughout 2024/2025.

LPMTs have and continue to increase their monitoring activities, working with the CRBA Executive Officer to install 30 field cameras across the region. These have been used to assist in better understanding the impacts of wild dogs across the landscape, understanding movements, and assisting in target control in problem areas.

The CRBA also maintains in key locations such as the end of fence lines and at road grids, squawker boxes as additional deterrents for vertebrate pests.



Feral Pigs

CRBA LPMTs continued monitoring in known feral pig locations to track movements and numbers, which has highlighted the need to increase management activities. The CRBA has also noted a small increase in the number of properties affected, along with renewed access to a property with established pig populations.

To support land managers, trap gates were built for the four properties with known populations, with each property receiving five gates. These assets will be valuable for future control programs, supported by heavy mesh supplied by a CRBA member for use in trapping operations.

In late 2024, CRBA delivered five trap gates to Landor and Mt Clere Stations, with both land managers eager to take an active role in control. While Mt Clere works directly with MRBA for feral pig management, CRBA was pleased to assist by providing not only trap gates but also field cameras and a reporting template to track control efforts.

Through active control programs during the year, CRBA LPMTs removed five pigs, while landholders accounted for a further eleven.



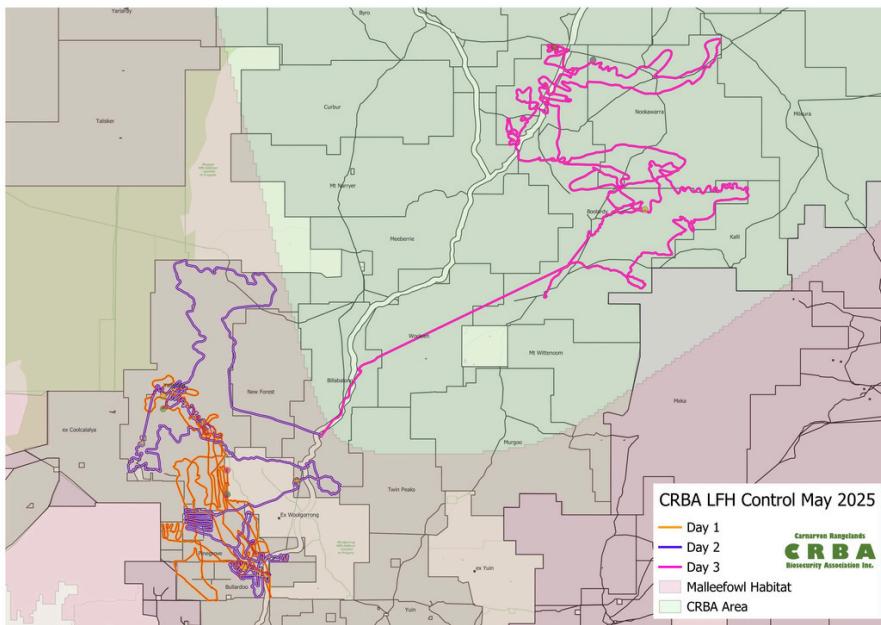
Feral Cats

Whilst feral cats are not a declared pest under the Biosecurity Agriculture Management Act, they are environmental pests of concern for land managers across our region. There continue to be a notable number of feral cats across the region with the CRBA working with a landholder this year to organise feral cat traps, along with undertaking work with DBCA in the Exmouth region.



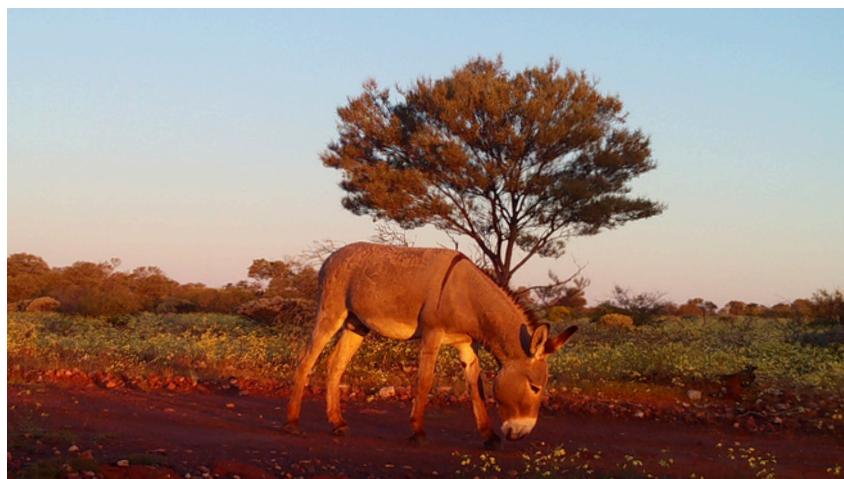
6.6 LARGE FERAL HERBIVORE PROGRAM

Movements of large feral herbivores into our region continue to be of concern, with the cost of running large coordinated control of these pests so high the CRBA relies on additional outside funding to make such programs happen. During 2024/2025 the CRBA, with support from CSIRO and Rangelands NRM was able to run a small control program in the South Murchison. This is the first coordinated control program in this region in more than 5 years with 139 LFH removed from the landscape.



LPMTs worked to actively manage 69 LFH during the year, an unknown number LFH were also controlled by landholders, and an additional 82 were managed within the Shire of Murchison LFH program. Additional LFH management and removal also occurred as part of our local bait meat production program, with the contractor removing an estimated 50 additional LFH.

Through the removal of these LFH and future control plans the CRBA is able to assist land managers in their overall management of total grazing pressure, which is imperative during dry seasons.



6.7 WEED PROGRAM

Mesquite & Parkinsonia

These woody weeds continue to be an invasive weed of concern for the CRBA and land managers across the region. With support from the Shire of Carnarvon, provided in 2023/2024 the CRBA was able to undertake work on both mesquite and parkinsonia within the Shire boundaries. 6 days saw a total of 310 mesquite and 450 parkinson trees spready.

The CRBA also supplied a landholder in the Shire of Upper Gascoyne with chemicals to undertake a self funding program, with more than 1,000 mature trees spready along a key river catchment in the region. This program was estimated at \$95,000 as a helicopter was utilised, along with ground support to spray those smaller trees.

LPMTs continue to monitor known infestations, and the CRBA continues to encourage land managers with known infestations to undertake control programs, providing the chemicals and loan spray equipment to do so.

Coral Coast Cactus

Continued monitoring and reporting of this weed has seen known infestations managed and no new locations reported during 2024/2025. LPMTs actively worked together to move cochineal bugs to a new location to improve control in that area (unmanaged pastoral estate). A focus on ensuring the good work already undertaken across the region will continue into future years and as land managers of these properties change.

6.8 GOVERNANCE

Executive Officer

The CRBA continues to contract a part-time Executive Officer (EO), Krystie Bremer, as an integral part of ensuring the CRBA meets all of its obligations to both funders and land managers. Our Executive Officer continues to spend considerable time dealing with the increasing pressure put on the volunteer committee by outside stakeholders. Ensuring the day-to-day operations of the group, working with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions on pest management issues faced by the region, the Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development, and other regional stakeholders.

During 2024/25 Krystie continued to provide executive support to the CRBA committee, ensuring the smooth implementation of the group's operational plan, and worked hard to engage with land managers and stakeholders alike. Krystie attended the RBG forum in February, gaining insights into the state's future direction for pest control and updates on research and legislation relative to the group. Krystie, along with Andrew Whitmarsh, also attended the Wild Dog Action Plan meeting held in February to provide input into the future direction of the state-wide plan, which sees the CRBA receive funding towards LPMTs.

The CRBA also continued its move to streamline our reporting and governance. Krystie has been instrumental in this, now having all property level information available quickly with abilities to monitor and manage LPMT reporting, chemical usage, control numbers and other key information quickly and efficiently.

The work undertaken by our Executive Officer ensures that the good work undertaken by the CRBA isn't missed, and we are actively included in discussions relevant to our region.

Restricted Chemical Permits

During 2024/2025 the CRBA actively assisted 27 landholders in accessing or renewing their chemical permits, which included permits for state-managed lands that require considerable time and effort to send for processing. This assistance involves providing landholders with their obligations under the code of practice, encouraging training, providing maps, and assisting in completing the application form.

The CRBA is committed to continuing this assistance, along with funding for the processing costs incurred to ensure the region is fostering good management practices and a whole-of-landscape approach to pest management.

These permits are vital in providing the CRBA access to the tools required to manage pests across our vast landscape.

6.9 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The CRBA continues to proactively engage with our community on declared pest management and the operations undertaken across our region.

Month	Activity
July 2024	Bi-Annual Newsletter including Landholder Feedback Survey
August 2024	19th Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference - Sydney
September 2024	Notice of Annual General Meeting
	Public Notice: Community Baiting Notice
October 2024	Reminder/Change Annual General Meeting x2
	Annual General Meeting
November 2024	2023/24 Annual Report & Audited Financials
December 2024	Letter to all members from CRBA Chair
January 2025	Bi-Annual Newsletter
February 2025	WD Impact Statements Request
March 2025	New Firearms Laws
April 2025	Autumn Baiting & Landholder Reporting
May 2025	
June 2025	WA Firearms Feedback
All year	CRBA Website

7. PROJECT SPECIFIC OPERATIONS

7.1 WILD DOG ACTION PLAN 2 - LPMTS

Through Royalties for Regions, the state's Wild Dog Action Plan provides funding to the CRBA for Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) to assist in the management of wild dogs on government-managed lands and neighbouring pastoral properties to protect agricultural assets. This funding provided a total of **285** LPMT days, with the CRBA extending the work of these contractors to a total of 340 days across two regions. All other costs associated with these LPMTs, including insurance, traps, chemicals, and other overheads, are covered by the CRBA.

The two contractors work to protect mainly small stock properties in the south of the CRBA region, focusing on mitigating the risk to these highly susceptible animals before they hit their backyards where possible. These LPMT regions are also the last line of defence before the state barrier fence in the south of the CRBA region. For various reasons, including the incomplete dog-proof cell fence and the season, there was an increase in the number of wild dog complaints and stock attacks.

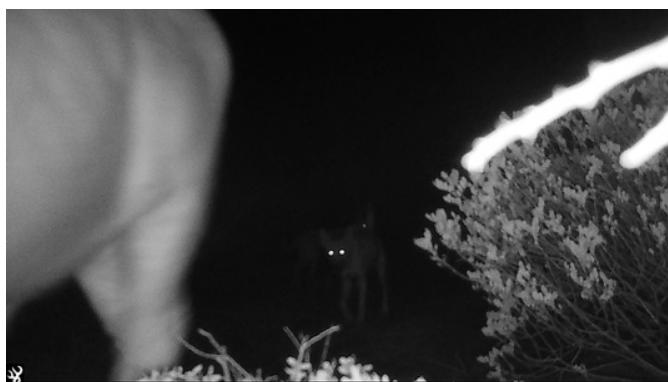
Funding through the Wild Dog Action Plan has been confirmed through until 2025/26 with the CRBA working closely with DPIRD to ensure security of funding into the next iteration of the plan, providing evidence of the good work achieved through this funding.



Incomplete cell fence



Monitoring camera small stock boundary



Dogs stalking cattle

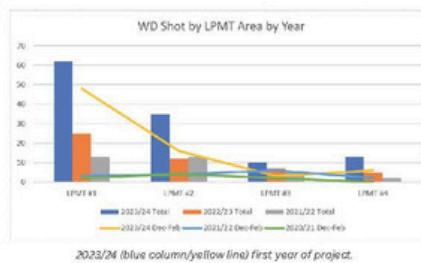
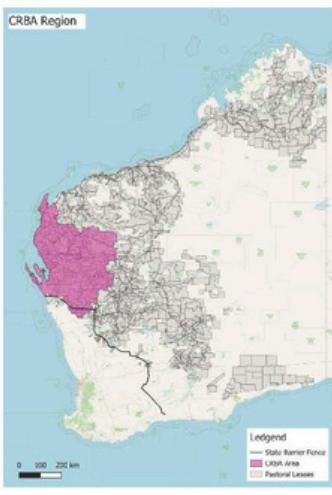
7.2 WILD DOG ACTION PLAN 2 - THERMAL PROJECT

The WDAP2 Thermal project finished in December 2024, with all four thermal scopes continually used in the field to provide an additional tool to our LPMTs not only in the control of wild dogs but other declared pest animals. LPMTs working in South Murchison, North West Carnarvon, North East Carnarvon and South Upper Gascoyne.

The work undertaken on this project was shared by our Executive Officer Krystie Bremer in Sydney at the Australasian Vertebrate Pest Conference in August 2024. An excellent opportunity to share the work undertaken not only as part of this project but more broadly by RBGs across Western Australia.

These beneficial tools, alongside field cameras, continue to play a vital role in the management of declared pests across the landscape.

Advancing wild dog control in the Rangelands: Harnessing thermal technologies, WA



- Extremely hot summer with increased WD activities and numbers
- No ground water available across the region, only troughs. LPMTs wait at waters overnight
- LPMTs used thermal field cameras and handheld scopes to aid in thermal scope usage
- Observed some nights the ambient temperature was hot, meaning scopes couldn't be used (average temp for area Dec-Feb 40-50 degrees, overnight lowest 32)
- One LPMT reported 4 dogs on one water, was able to control over two nights
- Another controlled 3 young dogs on same night



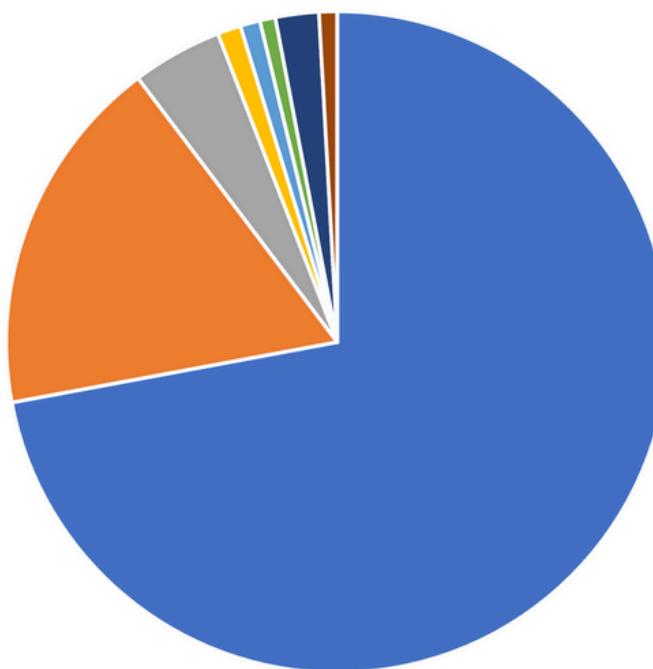
QR Code
Thermal scope recording

Carnarvon Rangelands
CRBA
Biosecurity Association Inc.

8. 2024/2025 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

8.1 OPERATIONAL INCOME

2024/2025 Operational Income



- Declared Pest Rates Account * ■ Wild Dog Action Plan 2 **
- Other Income ■ Rangelands NRM ■ Shire of Upper Gascoyne
- CSIRO ■ Shire of Murchison ■ DPA from other Sources
- Bank Interest Received

2024/2025 Operational Income (excluding GST):

Declared Pest Rates Account *	\$ 817,086.00
Wild Dog Action Plan 2 **	\$ 200,000.00
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	\$ 50,000.00
WDAP Thermal Project	\$ 5,000.00
Other Income	\$ 12,954.96
Rangelands NRM	\$ 11,000.00
DPA from other Sources	\$ 8,594.59
CSIRO	\$ 24,000.00
Shire of Murchison	\$ 10,000.00
Bank Interest Received	\$ 59.00
Total Operating Income	\$ 1,138,694.55

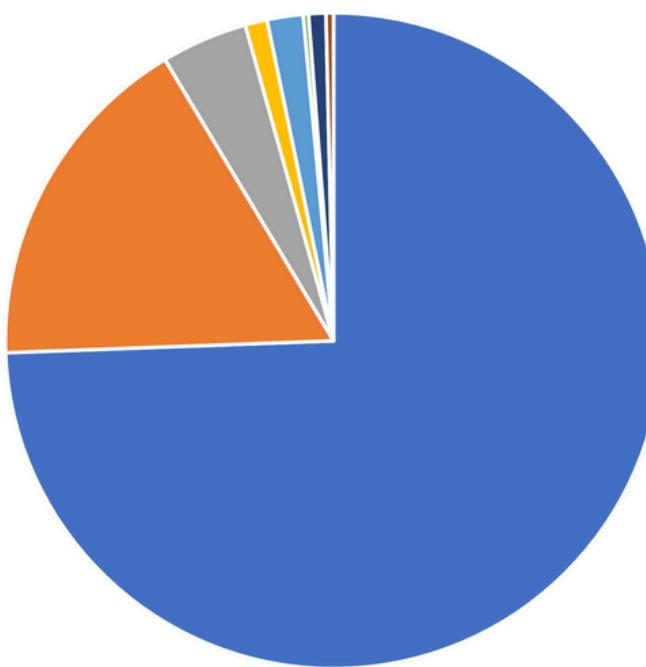
* DPA income breakdown is as follows:

DPIRD matching CF appropriation	\$ 416,086.00
Declared Pest Rate paid by Pastoralists	\$ 331,000.00
CRBA drawdown of reserve funds held by DPIRD	\$ 70,000.00
	\$ 817,086.00

** R4R Funding covers 1.4 FTE at current LPMT contractor rates, all other cost (equipment, chemicals, insurances, baits, traps, administration & management) are funded by the CRBA.

8.2 OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

2024 /2025 Operational Expenses



- Declared Pest Rates Account
- Wild Dog Action Plan 2 (R4R)
- Shire of Upper Gascoyne
- Wild Dog Action Plan Thermal Project
- Other Sources
- DPIRD Research Projects
- Rangelands NRM
- Shire of Carnarvon Weeds
-

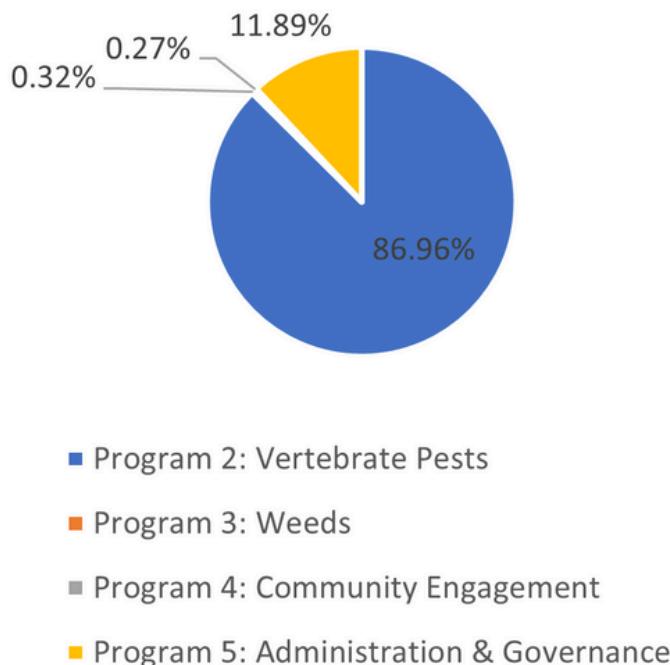
2024/2025 Operating Expenses (excluding GST):

Declared Pest Rates Account	\$ 875,708.18
Wild Dog Action Plan 2 (R4R)	\$ 200,000.00
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	\$ 50,000.00
Wild Dog Action Plan Thermal Project	\$ 12,794.14
Other Sources	\$ 20,841.25
DPIRD Research Projects	\$ 3,081.65
Rangelands NRM	\$ 10,009.09
Shire of Carnarvon Weeds	\$ 4,320.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 1,176,754.31
PROFIT 2024/25	-\$ 38,059.76

The CRBA Declared Pest Rate payment for 2024/2025 was **82.93%**, with payments also received against historical debt.

8.3 DECLARED PEST ACCOUNT BREAKDOWNS

DPA Operating Breakdown by Program



DPA Operating Expenses (excluding GST):		%
Program 1: LFH	\$ 4,832.00	0.55%
Program 2: Vertebrate Pests	\$ 761,513.75	86.96%
Program 3: Weeds	\$ 2,816.82	0.32%
Program 4: Community Engagement	\$ 2,374.57	0.27%
Program 5: Administration & Governance	\$ 104,171.04	11.90%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 875,708.18	100.00%

The CRBA committee continues to work within the budget to ensure that the impact of increased governance/administration pressures have a limited impact on the group's ground operations. A task that gets more difficult each year, however this year across all funding channel's Program 5 took up only 8.94% of total operational expenses, a reduction from previous years.

The CRBA Executive Officer continues to monitor the DPIRD Declared Pest Account to ensure the funds available to the group remain correct, rate payments remain consistent, and the debt from unpaid rates remains at a manageable level.

The total balance of unpaid rates for 2024/2025 is \$188,522, an increase of 7.78% on last year.

\$109,499 relating to accumulative or historical debt.

APPENDIX 1 - AUDITED FINANCIALS

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

WESTWOOD
ACCOUNTANTS

ABN 74 420 909 329
128 Chapman Road
GERALDTON WA 6530

Phone: 08 9964 1941
Email: admin@westwood.com.au

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC
ABN 98 325 203 509
Committee's Declaration

The chairman of the committee declares that:

1. the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
 - (a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations; and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
2. in the committee's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the organization will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the chairman.

Dated: 10 October, 2025

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC
ABN 98 325 203 509

Contents

- Committees' Declaration
- Independent Auditor's Report
- Detailed Statement of Financial Position
- Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement
- Declared Pest Control Account Funding

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC

ABN 98 325 203 509

Independent Auditor's Report

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Signed on 10 October, 2025:



Kevin Cassidy, Institute of Public Accountants IPA
Westwood Accountants
Geraldton

CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC
ABN 98 325 203 509
Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of CARNARVON RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION INC (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2025, a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2025 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Act 2015. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Detailed Income & Expenditure Statement

Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc.

ABN 98 325 203 509

For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025
<hr/>	
<u>Trading Income</u>	
DPIRD - Declared Pest Rate	
DPIRD - DPA Matching	416,086
DPIRD - DPA Rates	331,000
DPIRD - DPA CRBA Held Funds	70,000
Total DPIRD - Declared Pest Rate	817,086
DPIRD - Other	
DPIRD - DPA Other	2,771
DPIRD - DPA Rates From Other RBG	5,824
DPIRD - Wild Dog Action Plan - R4R	200,000
DPIRD - Wild Dog Action Plan - Thermal Project	5,000
Total DPIRD - Other	213,595
Other Income	
CSIRO	24,000
Interest received	59
Other income	12,955
Rangelands NRM Income	11,000
Shire Contributions	
Shire Contributions	10,000
Total Shire Contributions	10,000
Shire of Upper Gascoyne	50,000
Total Other Income	108,014
Total Trading Income	1,138,694
<hr/>	
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	
Declared Pest Rates	
Program 1: LFH	
DPA - LFH Control	4,832
Total Program 1: LFH	4,832
Program 2: Vertebrate Pests	
DPA - 1080 Baiting Programs	1,996
DPA - 1080 Landholders	631
DPA - Air Charter	25,047
DPA - Avgas	6,434
DPA - Bait	86,858
DPA - Bait - Aerial	218
DPA - Baiting Advertising	1,127
DPA - Baiting Supplies	3,647
DPA - Chemicals	97

Detailed Statement of Financial Position

Carnarvon Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc.

ABN 98 325 203 509

As at 30 June 2025

30 JUNE 2025

Assets	
Bank	
CRBA Declared Pest Account	84,855
CRBA Other Main Account	258,184
Total Bank	343,039
Current Assets	
GST	30,546
Total Current Assets	30,546
Total Assets	373,585
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	3,850
Total Current Liabilities	3,850
Total Liabilities	3,850
Net Assets	369,735
Member's Funds	
Reserves	
Accumulated Funds	369,735
Total Member's Funds	369,735

Rangelands NRM	
Rangelands NRM Donkey - Helicopter Hire	10,009
Total Rangelands NRM	10,009
<hr/>	
WDAP - LPMT	
WDAP2 - LPMT - #1 South Murchison	117,870
WDAP2 - LPMT - #2 Shark Bay / South Carnarvon	82,130
Total WDAP - LPMT	200,000
<hr/>	
WDAP - Thermal Project	
DPIRD - WDAP - Thermal Project	5,314
DPIRD - WDAP - Thermal Project - Contractors	7,480
Total WDAP - Thermal Project	12,794
Total Operating Expenses	1,176,754
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(38,060)

DPA - LPMT - #1 South Murchison	14,610
DPA - LPMT - #2 Shark Bay/South Carnarvon	34,200
DPA - LPMT - #3 North Upper Gascoyne	80,700
DPA - LPMT - #4 North East Carnarvon	146,200
DPA - LPMT - #5 North West Carnarvon	138,960
DPA - LPMT - #6 North Murchison	56,440
DPA - LPMT - #7 South Upper Gascoyne	11,120
DPA - LPMT Days (Previous Financial Year)	16,150
DPA - LPMT Safety & Misc	11,614
DPA - Meekatharra RBA (Mt Clere)	8,828
DPA - Strychnine	3,364
DPA - Traps	13,273
Total Program 2: Vertebrate Pests	761,514

Program 3: Plant Pests

DPA - Plant Control	2,817
Total Program 3: Plant Pests	2,817

Program 4: Community Engagement

DPA - Meetings	1,142
DPA - RCP	399
DPA - Signage	47
DPA - Website/Communications	1,185
Total Program 4: Community Engagement	2,773

Program 5: Governance & Administration

DPA - Accountancy - XERO	764
DPA - Accounting Fees - Audit	4,000
DPA - Executive Officer	63,802
DPA - Executive Officer Travel & Office	8,859
DPA - Insurance	26,347
Total Program 5: Governance & Administration	103,772
Total Declared Pest Rates	875,708

Other Funding Sources

Other Sources - Executive Officer	1,010
Other sources - Feral Cats	6,480
Other Sources - Feral Pigs	8,081
Other Sources - LFH	5,270
Other Sources - LPMT Research	3,082
Other Sources - SUG LPMT	50,000
Other Sources - Weed Control	4,320
Total Other Funding Sources	78,243