

Carnarvon Rangelands **CRBA** Biosecurity Association Inc.

July 2022 – Newsletter #8

Committee Update

The CRBA committee has met twice so far in 2022. The first meeting taking place via Zoom to finalise the 2022/23 Operational Plan and Budget. The second meeting was planned to take place in Gascoyne Junction but due to welcomed rain it was moved again to an online format.

This May meeting saw the committee make needed adjustments to the groups budget for many reasons. The biggest impacts to the groups budget where due to the increase in insurances, with WHS Legislative changes, increase in costs associated with day-to-day business, including changes to LPMT contractor rates. These large increases to our expenses and the limited cash carryover have meant that the committee had to make the hard decision to have only seven LPMT contractors moving into the 2022/23 year.

The committee will be meeting with all seven LPMT contractors and hopefully coordinators in late July, early August to discuss not only day to day operations but also the implementation of the CRBAs new WHS procedures.

The CRBA Annual General meeting is scheduled to take place in Carnarvon on Friday 28th October 2022 and is open to all members and stakeholders within the region to attend.

Declared Pest Rates 2022/23

The CRBA has received notification that the Minister for Agriculture and Food has determined the CRBA rate for 2022/23 inline with our recommendation. This rate being 5.884 cents in the dollar on the unimproved value of land held under Pastoral Lease within the CRBA area. This will see the CRBA able to maintain the following operations into 2022/23:

- One community baiting region wide (no additional bait meat available outside of Spring baiting)
- 7 Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs)
- Small Large Feral Herbivore (LFH) program
- Standard CRBA overheads, governance and administration costs
- Small Declared Weed assistance program

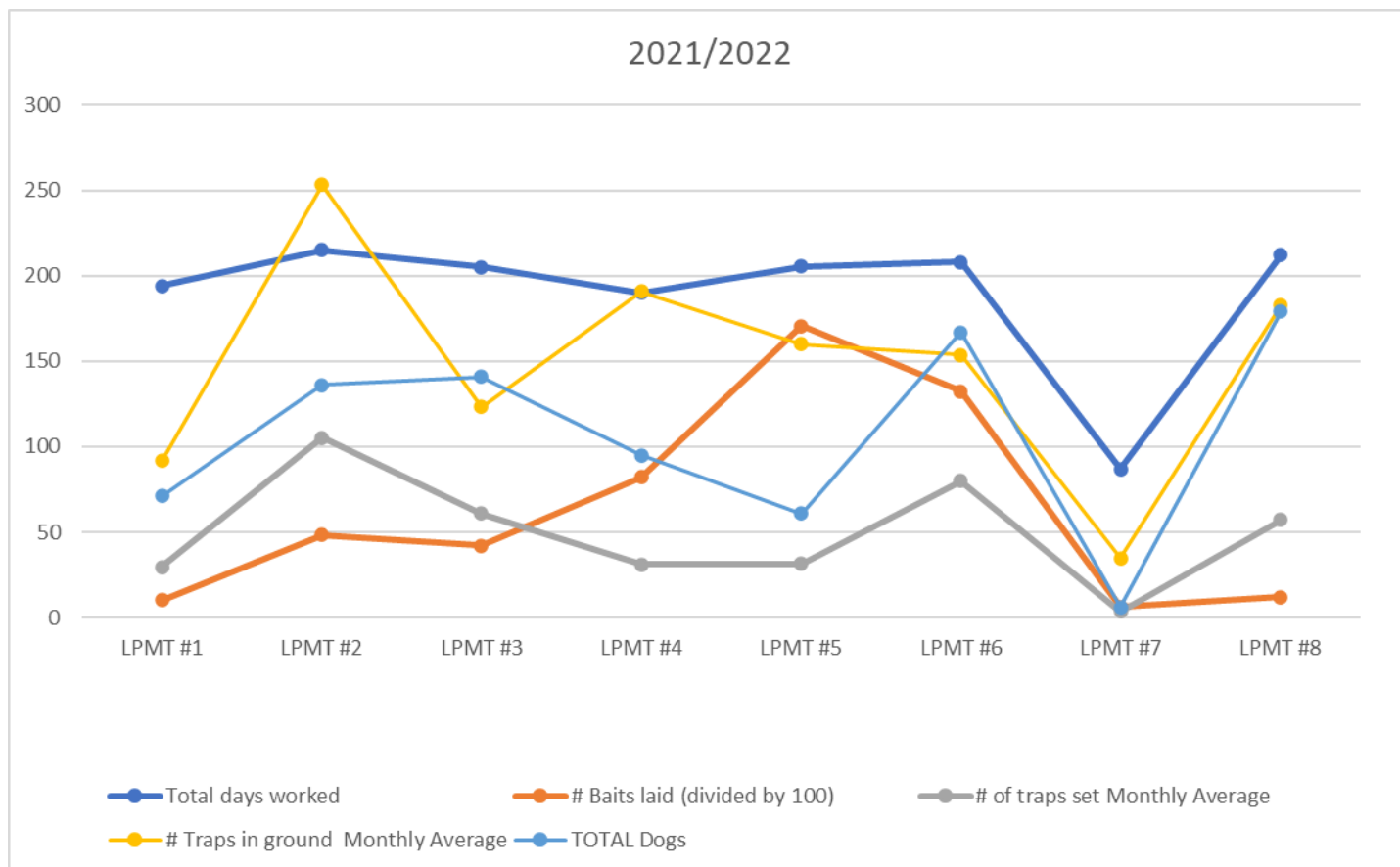
The CRBA received noticed in late June 2022 that the Wild Dog Action Plan 2 (WDAP2) funding had been extended for another 12 months to ensure we are able to meet the above coverage through the year.

The CRBA continues to have discussions with DPIRD on how declared pest rates are determined and managed. This includes pointing out that only Pastoral Leaseholders are rated within the rangelands and that works needs to be regularly undertaken on all land tenures to ensure region wide control.

Wild Dogs

2021/22 saw a significant increase in wild dog activity across the region, including reported damage, sightings and control undertaken by both LPMTs and landholders. Whilst the CRBA doesn't have final figures from landholders to include in this newsletter we are able to share with you all the control data collected by our LPMT contractors, who have all done a great job this year in assisting landholders in meeting their obligations under the BAM Act to control declared pests.

Across the entire CRBA region a total of **856** dogs were controlled by LPMTs with more than **45** controlled by landholders*.



* data only for those that have shared in recent months, survey to be completed remained of the year

LPMTs alone, will not control pests within the region.

Other Declared Pests

Further to the work undertaken by CRBA LPMTs on wild dogs we can also report that LPMTs have controlled **129** donkeys, **18** camels, **21** cats and **4** foxes.

2022 Spring Baiting

Community Baiting is back for Spring 2022 with bait meat ordered. The CRBA Executive Officer will be contacting rack coordinators in the coming few weeks with further details and estimated delivery dates for bait meat.

There continues to be issues with supply/access to bait meat for baiting programs across Western Australia and like most things, there has also been a significant increase in the costs associated with this meat. The CRBA committee has placed orders for bait meat within the budget restrictions faced but this meat is specifically for the community baiting, with **no** other meat available through the year.

Landholders are still encouraged to undertake individual programs, of which the CRBA is able to provide chemicals provided correct permits are in place.

The Committee would again like to thank the Shires of Carnarvon, Murchison, and Upper Gascoyne for providing the location and ongoing running costs of these freezers.

CRBA LPMT and Areas of Operation
(as at July 2022)

LPMT	LPMT Coordinator	LPMT Regions	Properties
Greg Hobson	Tim Higham	#1 Shark Bay, South Carnarvon	Carrarang, Tamala, Pimbee, Coburn, Carbla, Wooramel, Meedo, Yaringa, Woodleigh, Talisker, Yalardy, Gilroyd, Wahroonga, Callagiddy, Brickhouse, Ella Valla, Yalbalgo, Edaggee and Marron.
Jim Rousenvell	Ray Hoseason-Smith	#2 South Upper Gascoyne	Towrana, Lyons River, Bidgemia, Dairy Creek, Glenburgh, Dalgety Downs, Carey Downs, Winderie and Jimba Jimba.
Andrew Walker	Andrew Whitmarsh	#3 North Murchison	Ballythunna, Byro, Curbur, Mt Narryer, Wooleen, Innouendy, Milly, Beringarra, Boolardy, Kalli and Mileura.
Mat Cole	Johnno Percy	#4 North East Carnarvon	Middalya, Lyndon, Williambury, Mangaroon, Minnie Creek, East Mia Mia, East Miniya, Wandagee and Eudamullah.
Adam Robinson	Tim Meecham	#5 North West Carnarvon	Exmouth Gulf, Ningaloo, Bullara, Warroora, Cooralya, Booloogoroo, Cardabia, Winning, Marilla, West Manilya, West Mia Mia, Doorawarrah, Hill Springs, Mardathuna, Quobba, Boolathana and Gnaraloo.
Allan Straw	Greydon Mead	#6 South Murchison	Yallalong, New Forest, Pinegrove, Bullardoo, , Billabalong, Twin Peaks, Yuin, Tardie, Murgoo, Yandi, , Mallee, Mt Wittencoom, Murchison House, Eurardy, Woolgorong, Twin Peaks, Narloo, Nerren, Meadow, Meeberrie and Coolcalalaya.
Allan Smith	Matt Wright	#8 North Upper Gascoyne	Edmund, Wanna, Dooley Downs, Mt Augustus, Mt Phillip, Landor , Pingandy, Mooloo Downs and Yinnetharra.

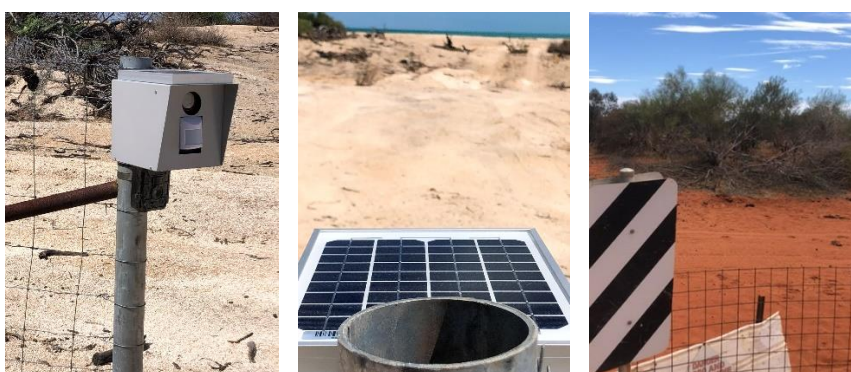
If you are unable to contact your LPMT Co-ordinator please contact either the Executive Officer – Krystie Bremer
CRBA Vice President – Tim Higham.



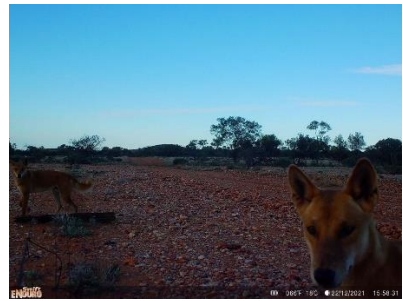
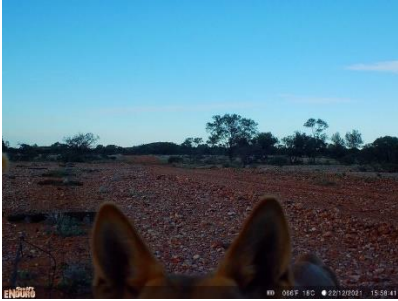
Training & New Technologies

With thanks to Australian Wool Industry (AWI) Funding grant the CRBA was able to purchase a number of field cameras and squawker boxes. These have been purchased to place in various places along the new barrier fence around small stock properties in the south of the CRBA region.

It is hoped that these will assist with keeping wild dogs from incurring this area where the fence ends and access point, such as grids are located. At present three have been installed with data being collected able to assist landholders to ensure the security and longevity of the fence.



In addition to the cameras installed with these devices the CRBA also purchased additional cameras for LPMTs to use in strategic places. Allowing them to track the number of dogs, their movements and also monitor bait uptake. These cameras have provided some quality images to assist LPMTs in better understanding these declared pests.



The CRBA was also able to hold another 1080 Injector training course in Carnarvon during March 2022, which was well attended by people from across the region. These courses are a great opportunity to not only learn about chemicals used in dog control but also to meet other pastoralists from across the region.



Through this program the CRBA will also be providing 1080 boxes to all of those who have attended these courses. These are lockable boxes that will contain 1080 Oats, an injector gun, record sheets, 1080 safe usage guidelines and safety data sheets.

Thanks again to AWI for their continued support in the control of these invasive pests.



Rangelands NRM

Rangelands NRM – LFH Control for Ningaloo World Heritage Region

The follow up program was undertaken in March 2022, again across the North Carnarvon and Upper Gascoyne. It was another well-run program with numbers showing our continued efforts are assisting with the control of these declared pests.

Across the entire area covered a total of **591** animals were controlled. Including ferrying time, a total of **37.30** hours were utilised.

The CRBA is pleased to announced that Rangelands NRM will continue to support this program into 2022/23. Without this support he groups ability to assist landholders in the control of these declared pests would be limited.

Since the inception of this program (and utilising other funding sources) almost 4,000 LFH have been controlled.

The CRBA would like to thank Rangelands NRM for their continued support.

WONS – Mesquite Control

The WONS State NRM program ended in June 2022, after three years which saw impacts from seasonal conditions and of course Covid-19. Spraying was undertaken across a large area and covered more sites than originally planned due to the efficiency of the contractors we engaged to undertake the work.

Throughout the three years of the program the CRBA was able to undertake control work on Bidgemia, Brickhouse, Boolathana, Bullara, Doorawarra, Eudamullah, Lyons River, Mangaroon and Minnie Creek. This spraying included not only initial treatment but follow up treatments on a number of properties.

Through this work a total of **21,992** mesquite trees and **1,365** Parkinsonia trees.



2022 Meeting Schedule

28th October 2022 (Carnarvon) –AGM & General Meeting

*Newsletter contributions relating biosecurity are always welcomed.
Please send submission for the next newsletter to
CRBA Executive Officer Krystie Bremer.*

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