



Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group

NEWSLETTER

Edition. 1, April 2017.

UPDATES

- Next Meeting: AGM Tuesday 10th of October, 2017.
- Koolyanobbing Grid: still not replaced, group will continue to lobby to have this installed as soon as possible.
- EWBG Field Day Attendance: Wagin Woolarama and Merredin Show.
- Aerial Baiting: 1st round completed near Koolyanobbing, remainder to occur late April/early May.
- The EWBG would like to thank Jim Sullivan for attending and presenting at a number of Industry events on behalf of the EWBG.
- Check out the new EWBG website, updates and improvements to continually occur. www.ewbg.com.au

The EWBG welcomes new Chairman Mark Crees (Merredin) and Deputy Chair Helen Shemeld (Mount Marshall) to the Executive Committee. Due to family health concern past Chairman Dean Sinclair has had to resign from the position, the group wishes him all the best.

Dogging Data - January, February and March				
Dogs Killed	Baits Laid	Foxes	Cats	Stock Losses
4	5600	9	3	4

Declared Pest Rate (DPR)

The group would like to thank the landholders for their support and feedback on the DPR. Several suggestions were made on the method in which the rate should be calculated. This feedback has been considered by the Committee of Management and to make it as fair as possible the group have considered further alternative options to calculate the DPR. As the Minister has now prescribed a flat rate, this is an option for calculating the DPR. In 2017/18, the declared pest rate will be calculated based on the size of the Value Entity Number with a flat rate based on different hectare ranges.

Royalties for Regions

The EWBG has also been successful in securing Royalty for Regions funding through the WA Wild Dog Action Plan. This funding of \$93,750 per annum, for the next three years, will be used for wild dog control operations within the EWBG prescribed area. This funding will allow for a decrease in the total amount collected from the Declared Pest Rate from landholders over this period. The group hope in future years there will be more funding opportunities to reduce the financial cost of controlling declared pests for landholders in the eastern wheatbelt.

WA Wild Dog Alliance Group

Jim Sullivan (Committee Member - EWBG) has been selected to be the agricultural representative member on the group. The WA Wild Dog Alliance Group has met for the first time in February. The Alliance was set up to ensure a coordinated and cost effective approach to wild dog management across the State with the aim being to reverse the increasing incidence of wild dog attacks on livestock. Key projects include the 660km 'Esperance extension' of the State Barrier Fence (once environmental approval is obtained), the repair and replacement of 320km of the existing State Barrier Fence, and the support of wild dog management activities on crown lands. Funds have also been provided to assist Recognised Biosecurity Groups in their wild dog control activities. More information can be found at: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/wilddogalliance>



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Supported by: Kondinin, Kulin, Lake Grace, Merredin, Mt Marshall, Mukinbudin, Narembeen, Trayning, Westonia, Yilgarn and Nungarin (hereafter known as the Shires).

