



# RAPAD QUEENSLAND FERAL PEST INITIATIVE

## Queensland Feral Pest Initiative RAPAD Cluster Fencing Round 2: 01/02/17 – 01/02/19 FINAL REPORT



The Queensland Feral Pest Initiative has received funding through the Queensland Government to support the growth of a productive and prosperous food and fibre sector in Queensland and the Australian Government Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the Australian Government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.

## Contact details

**Project title:** RAPAD QFPI Cluster Fencing Project  
**Recipient:** RAPAD  
**Contact person:** Morgan Gronold  
**Contact details:** 0448739759 [mgronold@rapad.com.au](mailto:mgronold@rapad.com.au)  
**Name of person authorising report:** David Arnold, CEO RAPAD

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## Project Summary

RAPAD secured additional funding operating through the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative (QFPI) to deliver another round of funding under the Australian Government Pest Animals and Weeds (AGPAW) program for cluster fencing arrangements in areas with high wild dog density.

The RAPAD Board resolved to invite only the 11 clusters who missed out in the initial QFPI Round 1 program to resubmit by January 31 2017. It was still a competitive round between these 11 as not enough funding was secured to fund all applicants. As such no new applications were sought. The project aimed to provide approximately 782km of fencing based on a \$2700 / km with the number of clusters expected to be funded between 6-8 depending on size and other relative spatial factors, which in turn would represent approximately 35-40 properties.

As per the Round 1 process, an independent technical committee of industry leaders was engaged to assess the remaining 11 applications and provide recommendations to the RAPAD Board. The technical committee consisted of Greg Mifsud, National Wild Dog Facilitator, Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre and Brett Carlsson, Queensland Wild Dog Coordinator. The technical committee was chaired by independent RAPAD board member Cr Rick Britton, Boulia Shire Mayor. RAPAD CEO David Arnold participated as process observer.

The Technical Committee offered the following recommendations:

- 7 clusters of 31 producers;
- To fence 776.1km and protect 401 933 ha from wild dogs;
- Would see a \$6.49m private contribution representing a 75% private investment overall;
- Will see sheep numbers grow from 103 552 to an expected 239 129, an increase of 135 578;
- Will generate an expected \$2.87m in direct shearing, crutching and lamb marking wages per annum from the new expected total sheep numbers.

In late February 2017 the RAPAD Board unanimously supported the recommendations of the independent technical committee, and approved funding to seven clusters across the Central and North West designated priority one areas. The seven successful clusters are Way out West, Barcoo South, Southern Dangaraga Road, Arrilalah, Stamford, Strathdarr and Wild Horse.

This funding will complement that received in Round 1. As per the original funding goals, this project's long term goal is for the project to be the catalyst for achieving significant improvement in profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.

For the RAPAD region this funding is about more than just a fence, it is about:

- empowering people and giving them back control of their time, finances and wellbeing;
- delivering regional prosperity through reduced credit problems;
- growing employment opportunities and full sporting teams; and
- enabling people to become better equipped to manage total grazing pressure and withstand future drought events.

The project delivered:

Cluster Name	RAPAD Funding (GST excl)	Area Fenced/Feral Animal control [Ha]	Fence length (km)	Properties involved	Landholder in-kind \$	Total Project Costs	In Kind%
Way out West	\$71,820.00	14169	26.6	5	\$213,146.00	\$284,966.00	75%
Barcoo South	\$453,600.00	73797	168	4	\$1,379,200.00	\$1,832,800.00	75%
Southern Dandaraga Road	\$218,700.00	60031	81	4	\$720,400.00	\$939,100.00	77%
Arrilalah	\$280,800.00	58430	104	5	\$837,500.00	\$1,118,300.00	75%
Strathdarr	\$348,300.00	52895	129	5	\$989,823.00	\$1,338,123.00	74%
Stamford	\$449,550.00	53542	166.5	4	\$1,060,545.00	\$1,510,095.00	70%
Wild Horse	\$272,700.00	89069	101	4	\$1,296,000.00	\$1,568,700.00	83%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,095,470.00</b>	<b>401933</b>	<b>776.1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$6,496,614.00</b>	<b>\$8,592,084.00</b>	<b>75%</b>



## How the project met objectives, milestones and outputs

The project met all objectives, milestones and outputs as outlined in the deed between RAPAD and DAF.

Milestone Number	Milestone description	Was it completed & How was it met
1	<p>Delivery of a draft project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (M&amp;E Plan) detailing the project schedule of activities, mechanisms for monitoring progress and evaluation of outcomes, to the Department for review.</p> <p>Delivery of a final project M&amp;E Plan (incorporating comments from the Department) to the Department for endorsement</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Hall Chadwick &amp; GRC engaged to work with RAPAD to develop and deliver MERI program.</p> <p>Full report attached and please go to <a href="http://notjustafence.org/">http://notjustafence.org/</a></p>
2	<p>Engage landholders within the five Central-Western Queensland Shire Councils areas and Flinders Shire Council region with an aim to form 8 landholder cluster groups (or more or less groups as approved by the Department in writing). Provide location data and mapping of clusters/linear fencing for each landholder cluster groups, if required by the Department.</p> <p>Provide copies of statements of incorporation of an association in relation to each landholder cluster group.</p> <p>Provide a draft standard terms of contract with landholder cluster group to the Department for review.</p> <p>Provide a finalised standard terms of contract with landholder cluster group (incorporating comments from the Department) for approval.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Landholders engaged within the five central western Queensland shire council areas and Flinders shire region, delivered 7 clusters representing 31 properties.</p> <p>Appropriate legal structures and agreements were made with all landholders, information provided to DAF.</p> <p>Application form and map provided to DAF and attached.</p>

3	<p>Delivery of project induction training to participating landholders</p> <p>Develop Property Pest Management Plans (in accordance with current best management practice)</p> <p>Develop overarching Cluster Pest Management Plans for each cluster</p>	<p>Completed Provided by RAPAD</p> <p>PMP's were developed in partnership with NWDAP, Invasive animals CRC and AgForce in accordance with current best management practice guidelines and completed by each cluster prior to completion of their respective cluster fences.</p> <p>Template attached.</p>
4	<p>Completion of strategic fencing installation (approximately 780 km) and ensure the Minimum Fencing Requirements in Annexure 5 are met.</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>7 clusters completed 776.1km of fencing across the region. Map attached.</p>
5	<p>Completion of social and economic impact assessment (including assessment of impact of fencing and wild dog management.</p> <p>Completion of project review and evaluation.</p> <p>Provide all assessment and evaluation material to the Department</p>	<p>Completed and submitted.</p> <p>Full MERI report attached.</p>

## Positive outputs and outcomes of the project

The project delivered numerous positive outputs and outcomes for

- Participants
- RAPAD communities; and
- Other regions applying the success of the project to their locality.

### Participants

Examples below outline some of the positive outputs and outcomes the project delivered to participants:

- All milestones participants were required to undertake were completed in full; and
- MERI program results.

### All milestones participants were required to undertake were completed in full

A positive outputs and outcomes of the project was all milestones participants needed to undertake, as outlined in the deed between DAF and RAPAD, were completed in full. This saw the project deliver:

- The formation of 7 clusters representing 31 landholders all competing appropriate legal structures and agreements with RAPAD;
- Fencing 776.1km and protecting 401 933 ha from wild dog predation;
- A private contribution of \$6.49m representing a 75% private investment overall; and
- PMP's developed in partnership with NWDAP, Invasive Animals CRC and AgForce completed by all clusters.

### MERI Program Results

Like what occurred for Round 1 funding the RAPAD Board recognised the importance of the M&E process in the delivery of cluster fences to the broader central west communities and engaged Hall Chadwick and GRC to work with RAPAD in its development and delivery.

As outlined in the project deed a project MERI plan was developed and completed detailing the projects schedule of activities, mechanisms for monitoring progress and evaluation of outcomes. This plan included assessment of the social, and economic impact of fencing and wild dog management conducted with the appropriate report submitted to DAF. This culminated in the <http://notjustafence.org/> being developed.

For participants the MERI process undertaken throughout the project clearly demonstrates the positive outcome the project is having on the them regardless of where they were across the region. A recurring theme captured was how the project has delivered control, confidence and motivation for investment to participants. That is, as fences were being constructed cluster members felt they were once again gaining financial and environmental control of their properties and operations. This control gave them confidence to look past the recent difficulties associated with the impacts of wild dogs on their income, properties and wellbeing, focus on the future and begin to invest in employment (staff) and additional infrastructure. This is a considerable change to what most producers in the region would traditionally be thinking after six years of drought.

The M&E plan captures a broad range of economic, environmental and social data during this process. Andrew Perkins who is undertaking RAPADs M&E for the program, states his analysis of this funding indicates:

- An extra 25 FTE's employed in the region;
- Increased regional gross margin rising by approximately \$4.1m from \$6.2m to \$10.4m;
- Increase in gross income by \$5.1m from \$13.6m to \$18.7m
- Annualised multiplier based on one off expenditure \$3.11 per year every year from \$1 Government spend; and
- Proponents Return on Capital (Increased Gross Margin/CAPEX) is \$1.06, \$1.49 increased gross margin for every \$1 a producer spent on their fence.

An example of participants comments outlining the positive outcomes and outputs of the project are below in their own words, the complete MERI report is attached or go to <http://notjustafence.org/>.

- We've got sheep again, when the dogs came we got out of sheep altogether, the fence has meant we have brought sheep back and are breeding sheep again now
- From an economic point of view, we've shorn 22 000 sheep this financial year, all those wages are going into Longreach, if we didn't have the fence there wouldn't be a sheep at home and there would be no wages going into town
- I reckon I have paid more in shearers wages than I received in Government funding to build the fence and that's ok with me
- No fence = no sheep = no wages, it's as simple as that
  
- It cost us \$11 an acre to fence and it's paid for itself in one year without any capital growth in our asset simply because we can get back control
- Everything we predicted would happen has thanks to the fence
- For the last 5 years we've averaged lambing of less than 40%, now it's over 80%, last year we got 26 dogs this year we got 1
- We are about to lambmark sheep in a paddock we haven't been able to run sheep in for years, it was cattle country before that, you couldn't put sheep in there, thanks to the fence sheep are in now and they have done really well, I am really looking forward to the results
  
- Our Lambing figures have been great now of marking well over 75% in all mobs. In fact now, you can lock in the fact that you can expect 80 lambs for every 100 ewes lambing down. Prior to fencing, this could not been done and it was sheer luck the years that we got good lambing percentages. Despite the severe drought, the good lambings has meant excellent sales of sheep as we have destocked, the extra alive sheep that we sold has put a lot of money in the bank and really helped our financial position.
- As we are running <50% of normal numbers due to drought, there are far less employment opportunities. Nevertheless if we had been forced out of sheep, we would have reduced our employment of (day workers, shearers, contractors, etc) by 70%.
  
- This country has the capacity to maintain 50 000 sheep, yet current flock numbers of our cluster are around 6 000. We have a long history in breeding and running sheep and have maintained wool production since 1948. However since 2006 sheep have seen a steady decline with an exponential increase in dog activity. Average lambing percentages for all of us in the cluster prior to 2006 were consistently above 60%, averaging 75-85%. Post 2006 numbers have reduced to an average of 30% due to dogs. The result of this fence being built will not only allow us to increase our sheep numbers, we are keen to bring around 34 000 sheep back, but it will also mean we would be employing extra 2 permanent staff and providing easily a month of shearing for 13 people. I honestly can't wait to get sheep back home tucked in behind our fence.
  
- In 2006 our cluster ran 41 000 sheep with an average lambing percentage of 75%. In 2017 we have a combined total sheep number of 5 000 and are averaging 25% lambing. We simply had no option, we could not run sheep without an exclusion fence. Once fenced our cluster is confident of bringing back 33 000 head of sheep bringing nearly \$400 000 in wages directly back into our local communities.

- I am more confident now and happy to invest, things are really jumping along all thanks to the fence
- Life has certainly improved, confidence that we will be in sheep has grown so I have continued investing in equipment and technologies to making my sheep operation efficient and up to date. Some examples include DNA genomics in our breeding flock, new sheep handling equipment and new marketing strategies for our unmulesed wool including a relationship with the NZ firm ICEBREAKER
- It was getting to me, seeing something you have invested in torn to pieces, from here on in I have peace of mind and I look forward to being viable again
- Husbands are now much more relaxed and have a much better long term outlook, this has a massive flow onto the entire family
- Makes me feel proud and makes the old fences look insignificant
- For peace of mind and security I would rather do exclusion fencing than conventional, the proof is there as soon as you put it up
- Fencing has been a really exciting thing. Even with the tough dry times we can be proactive and positive for the long term build our business and not be as reactive. Before you would go mustering and see dogs so you would spend days after that searching for them, now we don't have to it's a wonderful thing for our business. When most other things have been really challenging due to drought this project has given us a focus, it's saving us time and has allowed us to focus on the future
- Given us back time and is allowing us to improve stock rather than just simply trying to keep them alive, before that's all you were doing, now you can invest in good genetics and your business knowing you will get a return
- So much time saved, all the traps are in the shed now, haven't needed them
- Employment we created whilst we were building it so it's making a positive now and a good time to have it when things were dry and no one was employing anyone, so benefits are happening now as well as into the future
- Seeing the green shoots of potential right now as a result of the project, benefits aren't just long term they are happening now, they started when the fencing started
- No one wants to be first, advantage of the program is it allowed people to kick this off and show the benefits
- I know one fenced block near me was recently sold to a NSW sheep producer who paid a premium and his number one priority was a fence, very rare you get NSW sheep producers looking to invest in western Queensland but we are seeing it now and the main lure is the fences
- Neighbours are keen to join up in round 3, we don't have any objections, more the merrier, will mean happy days for all of us, we all get control of our destiny, one outside neighbor sold since the fence went up and the new owner has now fenced and joined up to us aswell, 2 in 12 months have added onto it, and that's good for everyone
- Exclusion fencing ourselves now internally to gain independence within the cluster is the ultimate goal, we are still part of the cluster it remains the same, cluster still operates but you operate independently within that and more fencing means more checks and more control for us and all the cluster members
- No one is putting 6 wire fences up anymore, internally we are doing exclusion as well, means more opportunities and choices for us as a business, could be dorpers, goats etc, more opportunities to run different types of small stock, we had no option before we simply couldn't run them, now we can run a diverse agricultural holding which is better for everyone

## RAPAD communities

Examples below outline some of the positive outputs and outcomes the project delivered to RAPAD communities:

- Jobs for the long term unemployed through RESQ; and
- Local government funded programs developing as a result of the projects success.

### Jobs for the long term unemployed through RESQ

RAPAD Employment Services Qld (RESQ) used the project as both a training program for job seekers and then as a career opportunity. The project provided the opportunity to train job seekers on both normal fencing techniques and those skills required to build quality exclusion fencing. As a result long term unemployed job seekers have secured employment throughout Western Queensland and interstate.

### Local government funded programs developed and delivered as a result of the projects success

A positive output of the project is the continued interest from shires wanting to develop and deliver local government funded programs in their area which will again allow more producers in Queensland to reap the benefits of the project. Local government area proposals would not have been championed nor have occurred had it not been for this projects and RAPAD's Round 1 success.

## Positive unintended outcomes as well as challenges the project encountered

A number of positive unintended outcomes occurred as a result of the project. Challenges were also encountered however none had significant impact on the project's delivery.

### Positive unintended outcomes included:

- Development of the not just a fence website
- Outback Property Solutions Virtual Dog Fence product as a result of the program; and
- Challenges from Round 1 became unintended outcomes in Round 2;

### Development of the not just a fence website

The not just a fence website grew as a direct result of the continuation of Round 1 and round 2 cluster fencing MERI process. Like what occurred for Round 1 funding the RAPAD Board recognised the importance of the M&E process in the delivery of cluster fences and the positive role the Round 1 RAPAD infographic made in communicating the success of the project. Round 2 challenged the team to make it bigger and better and the not just a fence concept was born and culminated in the <http://notjustafence.org/> being developed.



### Outback Property Solutions Virtual Dog Fence product as a result of the program

Outback Property Solutions product *Virtual Dog Fence* came as a direct result of the continuation of Round 1 and round 2 cluster fencing across central western Queensland. Virtual Dog Fence prevents dogs breaching wild dog exclusion areas where sections are difficult to place a physical fence. Such as where the fence crosses a creek channel. In these cases, several *Virtual Dog Fence* devices will be installed facing the direction the dogs will approach from. Product founders Keith Gordon and Andrew Barton say without the cluster fencing program from RAPAD OPS's virtual dog fence program would have remained an idea, the program inspired us to make it a reality.



### Challenges from Round 1 became unintended outcomes of Round 2

Due to the success of Round 1 RAPAD now had an understanding as to how others were collecting data and what else was occurring in Queensland and nationally in this space. As such RAPAD continued to discuss the project with a broad and diverse group of people including Government, academia, commercial operators and producers. This minimised duplication and allowed a more informed MERI process to be developed and delivered.

#### **Challenges included:**

Due to the success of the Round 1 project challenges for this project delivery were minimal and had negligible impact on project's overall success.

## **Key learnings, information gaps and risks that have been identified through the implementation of the project**

A number of key learnings, information gaps and risks were identified through the implementation of the project.

#### **Key learnings included:**

- Success of RAPAD Round 1 program;
- Application form design;
- Technical committee role;
- MERI Program; and
- Fence Inspections

### Success of RAPAD Round 1 program

Lessons learned come from the success of the RAPAD Round 1 program, this allowed Round 2 development and delivery to be based on a model already working extremely well.



### Application form design

Based on the success of Round 1 RAPAD once again used the original application form to capture evidence based data. The design undertaken allowed each applicant to highlight the change the fence would have on their profitability (economic indicator), land management (environmental indicator) and wellbeing (social indicator). The key learning is this design provided a significant component of the assessment process as well as providing critical baseline data for the projects MERI plan. Application form attached.

### Technical committee role

Based on the success of Round 1 RAPAD once again used an independent technical committee of industry leaders was engaged to assess the applications and provide recommendations to the Board. The key learning is because of the competitive nature of the project it is essential to have external industry leaders and experts assess the application process to ensure transparency of the process for all parties involved.

### MERI program

Based on the success of Round 1 RAPAD once again used a comprehensive MERI program which continues to reinforce how important evidence based data capture is for the project. By capturing producer's thoughts pre, during and post the fencing process, it also allows more quality data to be collected which again, being straight from the producers themselves, remains a powerful tool in outlining the success of the process and project. The key learning is to ensure MERI is developed and delivered by professional partners at the beginning of the project to maximise benefit and ensure the correct data is collected throughout. Round 2 challenged the team to make it bigger and better and the not just a fence concept was born and culminated in the <http://notjustafence.org/> being developed.

### Fence inspections

Based on the success of Round 1 RAPAD once again used as part of the projects governance program a physical fence inspection undertaken before each milestone payment. The process involves RAPAD's project leader travelling to each cluster and physically driving along sections of the completed fence and taking photo's of each members fence. The fences are checked off against the cluster fence design as submitted and recorded in the RAPAD contract. A copy of the receipts regarding what monies were spent on is also collected and a signed stat dec confirming these expenses are true and correct. This document is then added to the original contract details and PMP for the cluster.

### **Information gaps included:**

Due to the success of the Round 1 and by turning identified Round 1 information gap challenges into key learnings, information gaps for this project delivery were minimal and had negligible impact on the project's overall success.

### **Risk identified included:**

- Legal risk; and
- Market environment risk.

### Legal risk

During the application process there was the possibility of legal action against RAPAD. This was expected due to the competitive process of the funding. No legal action resulted. No corrective actions were required to be undertaken as a result.



### Market environment risk

Unexpected material demand and delays were encountered during the project. This led to negligible impact on the overall project delivery.

## **What are the future directions that have been identified as a result of the project**

RAPAD's long term goal is for this project to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefits of cluster fencing.

For RAPAD and the central west this funding is about more than just a fence, it is about:

- creating jobs in the region both directly, and indirectly along the supply chain and via the multiplier effect throughout regional communities;
- empowering people and giving them back control of their time, finances and wellbeing;
- delivering regional prosperity through reduced debt and credit problems;
- growing employment opportunities and full sporting teams; and
- enabling people to become better equipped to manage total grazing pressure and withstand future drought events.

Based on the success of the project two key future directions have been identified:

### 1. Continued funding to bring back the sheep

RAPAD is advocating to the Queensland and Australian Governments for the continuation of strategic cluster fencing funding in the local government areas of Barcaldine, Longreach, Blackall-Tambo, Winton, Barcoo, Boulia, Richmond, McKinlay and Flinders shires to bring back the sheep. As such ongoing funding would provide a continued catalyst for fencing thus bringing back more sheep and continuing to grow the economic, environmental and social benefit to the region and the state.

This is supported by the 2017 Regional Australia Institute (RAI) report, commissioned by RAPAD, which highlighted bringing back the sheep as one of six priority areas for RAPAD and the region. The RAI report indicated cluster fencing could provide, "potential regional economic growth to \$38.8m annually through increased gross margin from sheep production, stimulating jobs for an additional 158 people in the industry".

### 2. Opportunity to link existing exclusion/cluster fences in future funding rounds

RAPAD is advocating for future funding rounds to expand the current model to include linking existing exclusion/cluster fences either privately or publicly funded. When the funding was first made available in the region there were very few cluster/exclusion fences and the model for enclosing an area was determined as the best outcome to gain long term benefit for producers and communities.

RAPAD continues to support this model however believes, due to the success of this project, it would be worthwhile to consider allowing the linking of existing exclusion fences in potential future funding rounds. RAPAD feels this position would enhance the success of this project and result in more benefits being delivered to producers and communities.

# Appendices

Appendix 1: Monitoring, Evaluation Reporting and Improvement Plan

Appendix 2: Map

Appendix 3: Media Examples

Appendix 4: Application Form & Pest Management Plan Template

Appendix 5: Audited Financial Statement for the activity

# Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Plan



**Project      RAPAD QFPI Cluster Fencing Program                      Round 2 Draft Report November 2018**

Organisation name:	RAPAD
Organisation Address:	117 Eagle Street Longreach Queensland Australia 4730
Project Manager:	Mr Morgan Gronold
	Tel: 07 4652 5600
	Email: <a href="mailto:mgronold@rapad.com.au">mgronold@rapad.com.au</a>
MERI Coordinator [if different to project manager]	Tel:
	Fax:
	Email:

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## Attachments

**Attachment 1. Program Logic – RAPAD QFPI Cluster Fencing**

**Attachment 2. Map of cluster groups**

**Attachment 3. Round 2 Benefit Cost calculations**

**Attachment 4. Map of the ASGS regions Barcaldine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach**

**Attachment 5. Completion survey**

**Attachment 6. Logic Level 3, preliminary data survey**

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## 1.0 MERI Plan Purpose

The continuous and integrated cycle of **monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement** is referred to as **MERI**.

A project MERI plan articulates all the different aspects of MERI that will be needed and how they will be implemented over the life of the project.

This project MERI plan:

- Guides MERI for the QFPI Cluster Fencing Project
- Provides a base from which to review the progress the project is making towards the agreed targets and outcomes, and from which to learn about successful implementation strategies and to adapt in response to lessons learnt.

## 1.1 MERI stages

MERI planning covers the three-phase cycle of preparation, implementation and review:

- i. **Preparation** — involved first developing the project Program Logic and using it to develop the MERI Plan. This occurred before project implementation.
- ii. **Implementation** — of the plan provides for ongoing monitoring of progress, periodic evaluation of impact and achievements, and reporting to all Stakeholders. The evaluation process has been developed to suit length of the project and provides for progress reporting.
- iii. **Review** — of the MERI plan will occur at the end of the project. This will enable: project assumptions to be tested; an assessment of progress in delivering the targets identified in the funding Deed; a review of management and delivery processes/ techniques; identification of recommendations for improvement; and assessment of the effectiveness of the project in delivering against its objectives.

## 2.0 Scope

The box below contains a brief project description that includes an outline of the QFPI Project and the rationale for investing in the project, and the boundaries of the project.

The long term goal is for this funding to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.

Table 1 shows the primary users or the key people who will use this MERI plan to organise data collection, analysis and reporting. The secondary users are people who may benefit from understanding and being aware of this MERI plan.

**Table 1** Key users of this MERI plan

Primary users: <b>who will reflect and adapt</b>	RAPAD Board and management, cluster group participants
Secondary users: <b>who need to be aware of this plan</b>	Longreach Regional Council,

## 2.1 Project Timeframe and budget

Year 1 and 2 of the proposed work program is attached here.

**Table 2** Project work plan summary

Milestones for 2017 and 2018	Due date	Status
Development of project Monitoring and Evaluation (ME) Plan detailing the projects schedule of activities, mechanisms for monitoring progress and evaluation of outcomes and endorsement sought from Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).	Within 60 days of agreement	Complete
Landholders engaged within the five Central-western Queensland Shire Councils areas and Flinders Shire Council region to establish approximately 7 clusters or linear fence arrangements including set up of appropriate legal structures and agreements with landholders.		Complete
Property Pest Management Plans for enclosed properties compiled in accordance with current best management practice guidelines prior to completion of their respective cluster or linear fences. Development of an overarching Cluster Management Plan for each cluster.	Within 2 months of execution of a contract between the cluster and RAPAD	Complete
Installation of approximately 770kms of strategic fencing aiding land managers to improve land management through controlling total grazing pressure across approximately 7 clusters thereby assisting in the ability to conduct rotational grazing, paddock spelling and reducing predation of livestock.		Complete
Interim evaluation of project to be completed and submitted to DAF at the end of the third (3rd) quarter after commencement of the project.		Complete
Assessments of social and economic impact of fencing and wild dog management conducted and report submitted to DAF.		Complete

### 3.0 Program Logic

Program logic is a key element of an evaluation process as it shows a series of expected consequences, not just a series of events, at different outcomes levels within the logic. The program logic describes the relationships between activities and desired outcomes.

See Attachment 1 to this document for the program logic for the RAPAD QFPI Program Logic.



## 4.0 MERI Reporting

**Table 3 MERI Summary**

That the RAPAD QFPI program funding to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.			1 year	3 years	5 years (based on 2021 Census data where possible)	10 years (based on 2026 Census data where possible)					
Targets	Notes	Measurement	Level 1	Level 2		Level 3		Level 4		Level 5	
Direct RAPAD MERI Round 2			Baseline	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
<b>Project Metrics</b>											
Number of Clusters	1	#		7	7						
Hectares fenced in clusters	2	ha			401,933	1,250,000		1,900,000		1,900,000	
Kilometres of fencing	3	km		700	776	2,545		3,500		3,500	
Number of properties	4	#			31	118		168		168	
MAP showing planned area to be fenced with RAPAD QFPI	5				Attached						
<b>Planned accumulated capital cost of fencing</b>											
RAPAD (Govt) Funding	6	\$		2,095,470	2,095,470	4,195,470		7,195,470		7,195,470	
Cluster Contribution	7	\$			6,496,614	8,390,940		14,390,940		14,390,940	
Total	8	\$			8,592,084	12,586,410		21,586,410		21,586,410	
<b>Livestock in RAPAD clusters</b>											
<b>Before</b>											
Sheep	9	#			103,551	375,000		450,000		450,000	
Cattle	9	#			15,896	50,000		65,000		65,000	
<b>After</b>											
Sheep	10	#			239,129	735,000		700,000		1,500,000	
Cattle	10	#			8,317	37,500		45,000		45,000	
<b>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</b>											
<b>Before</b>											
Sheep	11	%			0-30%						
Cattle	11	%			65-90%						
<b>After</b>											
Sheep	12	%			65-85%						
Cattle	12	%			75-90%						
<b>Change in management</b>											
All participating landholders have a current Pest Management Plan	13	#			31	124		190		190	
<b>Benefit Cost</b>											
Benefit:cost ratio on Government funding per year every year for \$1.00 upfront Government Expenditure	14	\$			\$3.11			\$5.84		\$11.49	

**Table 3 cont'd**

That the RAPAD QFPI program funding to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.			1 year		3 years		5 years (based on 2021 Census data where possible)		10 years (based on 2026 Census data where possible)		
<b>Targets</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Measurement</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>		<b>Level 3</b>		<b>Level 4</b>		<b>Level 5</b>	
<b>Direct RAPAD MERI Round 2</b>			<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Regional Impacts</b>											
Sheep Income (Gross Value of Production)	15	ABS Commodities	33,829,912					50,000,000		100,000,000	
Total km of exclusion fencing (all properties, not just QFPI round 2)	16	Km of fencing to be constructed		1,700	3,726	3,000		6,000		15,000	
Proportion of RAPAD region protected with exclusion fencing	17	% of RAPAD region with exclusion fencing		3.50%	7.45%	10%		20%		50%	
RAPAD QFPI is a catalyst for other fencing in the region	17	Total area protected by exclusion fencing (ha)	-	600,000	1,707,694	2,000,000		4,000,000		10,000,000	
Sheep Numbers	18	ABS Ag Census data Sheep Numbers	465,858					700,000		1,500,000	
Employment in the region	19	<a href="https://economic-indicators.id.com.au/">https://economic-indicators.id.com.au/</a>	5,881					5,981		6,321	
Agricultural employment	20		1,255					1,600		1,475	
Increase in population in the region	21		9,829					10,229		11,589	
<b>Health and Well Being</b>											
Landholder baseline attitudinal survey - see attached	22	Survey	Baseline	Survey	Survey results attached	Survey		Survey		Survey	

Notes to table for Round 2 results

1. The QFPI cluster fencing application was for 7 clusters.
2. The total area fenced is 401,933ha. With Round 1, the total fenced area will be to 1,250,000 ha and the Expression of Interest round will take the total fenced area to approximately 1,900,000 ha
3. The QFPI cluster fencing application envisaged 770 km of fencing. The actual result was 776km of fencing.
4. The total number of properties involved in Round 2 was 31. Round 2 will take the total properties up to 118 and the EOI will take the total number up to 168.
5. A map of the cluster areas is attached. (Attachment 2)
6. Round 2 Government funding was \$2,095,470 for direct fencing expenses out of a total grant of \$2,400,000.
7. Contributions by participants totalled \$6,496,614.
8. Total expenditure on fencing is \$8,592,084.
9. Sheep and cattle numbers (before fencing) based on applicants data at the time of submitting applications.
10. Producers expectations of changes in livestock numbers after fencing. Note this will take several years to realise with variable seasons and re-stocking. Over time this can be correlated with total sheep numbers in the relevant shires from ABS Commodity data.

11. Producers survey evidence of reproductive rates before fencing.
12. Producers expectations of improved reproductive rates after fencing. Some evidence is starting to come through from applicants survey data of improved reproductive performance in fenced areas.
13. All participating landholders have prepared a Pest Management Plan. A total of 31 pest management plans completed.
14. The expected Benefit/Cost ratio for exclusion fencing for Round 1 is \$3.11 per dollar of Government funding spent. See Attachment 3, Round 2 Benefit Cost.
15. The value of sheep production from AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES–Australia, States and Territories and ASGS regions–2015-16 for Barcaldine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach was \$33,829,912 for the 2015/16 year. See Attachment 4 for a map of the relevant regions. This value can be measured and compared in future MERI Reporting.
16. The long term objective of the RAPAD program is that it acts as a catalyst for change in the region. This has already commenced with the Longreach Regional Council Special Rate fencing program that will see another 1,250km fenced. With Round 2 and the EOI and further privately funded fencing it is expected that the total km fenced will increase to around 6,000km by year 5 and potentially 15,000km by year 10. If this is the case the original QFPI project will have had approximately 9 times leverage.
17. The area of the ASGS regions, Barcaldine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach (excluding Diamantina) is approximately 23,000,000ha. Therefore the fenced area of Round 1 and Round 2 is approximately 7.5% of this total area. The expectation of the RAPAD QFPI program is that it will act as a catalyst resulting in approximately 50% of this region becoming fenced over time. This would equate to approximately 10,000,000ha.
18. Sheep numbers in the ASGS areas of Barcaldine/Blackall, Longreach, Far Central West (excluding Diamantina) were 465,858 in 2016. This was compared to 1,429,370 in 2011. Sheep numbers in the area can be tracked at each Ag Census date and recorded against the MERI plan as confirmation of the change occurring in the region.

		2016	2011
	Area	Sheep	Sheep
Barcaldine, Blackall/Tar	6,960,913	182,345	396,624
Longreach	3,164,837	136,753	287,128
Far Central West	22,280,958	146,759	745,618
Diamantina	- 9,482,300		
		22,924,408	1,429,370

19. Total employment by LGA area including Barcaldine, Longreach, Blackall/Tambo, Barcoo and Winton was 5,881 in 2016.
20. Employment in Agriculture for the same region was 1,255 in 2016. The expectation over 10 years is that agricultural employment will increase by 220 jobs and that this will lead to a similar improvement in non-agricultural jobs. Therefore a total improvement in jobs in the region of 440.
21. Population in the above region in 2016 was 9,988 people. With increased employment this is expected to increase to 11,748 in 10 years.
22. Attached are the results from the Completion survey by applicants.

## 5.0 Preliminary indications of Level 3 data indicators

The MERI program logic spans a time period of 10 years in terms of the aspirational goals of the project, however the initial reporting period is within 1.5 years of the commencement of the project. Therefore many of the longer term impacts of the project will not be visible within this reporting period. As part of this MERI process, applicants were asked a number of questions about their expectations of change relating more to the Level 3 or 5 year outcomes. The full transcripts of these responses are included at Attachment 6. A summary is included below.

### General comments

- Security, peace of mind
- Smaller clusters re better, 4-5 properties maximum
- Now considering internally fencing off properties within the cluster to give more control
- Opportunity to increase productivity
- More enterprise choices now with goats, dorper or other animals.
- Stocking rates can now be what they should be rather than being dictated to by dogs
- We now have the ability to spell country by controlling grazing pressure
- Dogs impact on grazing pressure, forcing sheep to graze in certain areas, sheep are now more relaxed and spread out
- Increasing the capital value of the property
- Bio-security advantages of being able to control sheep and cattle within the boundary area and be able to get clean musters
- Once the season changes and people get busy they will need labour
- Fencing = full control of your business
- We will get our money back that, no question
- Initial capital outlay was \$11/acre and we got that back in year 1
- Better able to match stocking rates with season and have control over grass
- Opportunities for more employment in surrounding communities
- Lambing percentage now back to around 80%
- Before fencing our lambmarking would have been around 40%, we are now up around 80%
- Reduced livestock losses due to dogs
- Have done 10 days shearing this year with 10 staff (100 mandays) where previously I was down to 1 day of shearing
- No fence, no sheep, no wages. One of the best schemes the Government has come up with which has meant that people have spent the money in the local community, its real regional economic stimulus.
- We have put sheep in a paddock that we have not been able to use for sheep for 40 years.
- More sheep, more people to do the work and dollars flowing into the community.
- I can now go to bed at night knowing nothing is being attacked
- Husbands are more relaxed, much better long term outlook, has a huge flow on effect through the community and the entire family, social cohesion of families and mens mental health.

## 6.0 Improvement

### Completion Survey

- Completion surveys were received from the 7 clusters in relation to the following 6 questions. Responses are shown at Appendix 5.
  1. I believe that the way RAPAD managed the project was practical and useful
  2. Information on what we were required to do was clear and understandable
  3. Communications with RAPAD throughout the project were timely and informative
  4. The finished fence has met all my expectations
  5. The amount of communication I now have with other cluster members has increased
  6. Overall I'd rate the project as successful
- The sample size is only small, however all responses were generally positive with most responses rated as 6 or 7 (out of 7).

**Attachment 1**  
**Program Logic RAPAD**  
**QFPI Cluster Fencing**

Logic Hierarchy Level	Project Outcomes	Link to State Outcomes	Targets	Measurements
<p><b>LEVEL 5.</b> <b>Aspirational goals</b> (10 years' time)</p>	<p>That the RAPAD QFPI Project is the catalyst for achieving significant improvement in profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.</p>	<p>The economic, social and environmental risks associated with priority weeds and pests are managed.</p>	<p>50% of the rural properties within the RAPAD QFPI region are fenced with pest exclusion fencing.</p> <p>20% increase in the regional domestic product. (Regional GDP).</p> <p>20% increase in employment in the region</p> <p>1,000,000 sheep in the RAPAD QFPI region.</p> <p>Local Government expenditure on Dog control has reduced by \$500,000 per year.</p> <p>Population in the RAPAD QFPI has increased by 10%.</p> <p>Wild dog count in the RAPAD QFPI region has decreased by 50%.</p> <p>Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.</p>	<p>Hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)</p> <p>MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.</p> <p>Accumulated capital cost of fencing</p> <p>Livestock numbers within the fenced area</p> <p>Livestock numbers outside fenced area</p> <p>Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep</p> <p>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</p> <p>Regional GDP</p> <p>Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit</p> <p>Cost of Dog control by Regional Councils and Landowners</p> <p>Population</p> <p>Count of wild dogs</p> <p>Landholder attitudinal survey</p>

Logic Hierarchy Level	Project Outcomes	Link to State Outcomes	Targets	Measurements
<b>LEVEL 4.</b> <b>Long-term outcomes</b> (5 years' time)	<p>That the RAPAD QFPI Project has been successful in demonstrating the economic, social and environmental benefits of cluster fencing.</p>	<p>The preparedness and resilience of communities (including community organisations, Indigenous groups, industry, Landcare, landholders, land and water managers, local government and volunteers) is improved.</p> <p>Priority landscapes have improved resilience to weed and pest impacts.</p>	<p>The area fenced is now greater than 3 times the initial RAPAD cluster group representing 3,000,000ha.</p> <p>20% of the rural properties within the RAPAD QFPI region are fenced with pest exclusion fencing.</p> <p>10% increase in employment in the region</p> <p>300,000 sheep in the RAPAD QFPI region.</p> <p>Wild dog count in the RAPAD QFPI region has decreased by 25%.</p> <p>Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.</p>	<p>Hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)</p> <p>MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.</p> <p>Accumulated capital cost of fencing</p> <p>Livestock numbers within the fenced area</p> <p>Livestock numbers outside fenced area</p> <p>Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep</p> <p>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</p> <p>Regional GDP</p> <p>Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit</p> <p>Cost of Dog control by Regional Councils and Landowners</p> <p>Population</p> <p>Count of wild dogs</p> <p>Landholder attitudinal survey</p>



Logic Hierarchy Level	Project Outcomes	Link to State Outcomes	Targets	Measurements
<b>LEVEL 3.</b> <b>Intermediate</b> <b>outcomes</b> (3 yrs)	Continued positive change to cluster and local communities' profitability and environmental management through an: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase in business profitability;</li> <li>• increase in reproduction rates (e.g. lambing rates);</li> <li>• increase in sheep numbers (as a percentage of stock numbers in the cluster);</li> <li>• increase in stock numbers;</li> <li>• increase in carrying capacity;</li> </ul>	The detrimental economic, social and environmental impacts from weeds and pests are reduced.	The area fenced is now greater than twice the initial RAPAD cluster group representing 2,000,000ha.  10% of the rural properties within the RAPAD QFPI region are fenced with pest exclusion fencing.  5% increase in employment in the region  200,000 sheep in the RAPAD QFPI region.  Wild dog count in the RAPAD QFPI region has decreased by 10%.  Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.	Hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)  MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.  Accumulated capital cost of fencing  Livestock numbers within the fenced area  Livestock numbers outside fenced area  Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep  Reproduction rates within the fenced area  Regional GDP  Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit  Cost of Dog control by Regional Councils and Landowners  Count of wild dogs  Landholder attitudinal survey

Logic Hierarchy Level	Project Outcomes	Link to State Outcomes	Targets	Measurements
<b>LEVEL 2.</b> <b>Immediate outcomes</b> (i.e. within 12 months)	Fence erection and a positive change to clusters' profitability and environmental management due to cluster fencing and the reduction of wild dogs through the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of individual and cluster pest management plans;</li> <li>• Training of landholders in monitoring;</li> <li>• Significant proportion of cluster's fencing constructed;</li> <li>• Implementation of pest management activities</li> <li>• Current snapshot of the impact of wild dogs on clusters' economic and environmental wellbeing through:</li> <li>• Development of legal and governance arrangements with clusters.</li> </ul>	Activities undertaken towards preventing and/or managing populations of emerging weeds and pests.  Communities (including community organisations, Indigenous groups, industry, Landcare, landholders, land and water managers, local government and volunteers) have the skills, knowledge and capacity to participate and engage in natural resource management.  Activities undertaken to protect priority ecosystems or agricultural undertakings from further damage from weeds and pests.  Targeted weeds and pests are controlled as appropriate.	The area of the RAPAD QFPI cluster fencing is now complete.  Wild dog numbers have been reduced.  Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.	Hectares and Kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)  MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.  Accumulated capital cost of fencing  Livestock numbers within the fenced area  Livestock numbers outside fenced area  Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep  Reproduction rates within the fenced area  Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit based on forecast economic benefits  Count of wild dogs  Landholder attitudinal survey

Logic Hierarchy Level	Project Outcomes	Link to State Outcomes	Targets	Measurements
<b>LEVEL 1. Foundations</b>	<p>Current snapshot of the impact of wild dogs on clusters' economic and environmental wellbeing through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of legal and governance arrangements with clusters; and</li> <li>• Validation of current pest, economic and environmental data.</li> </ul>	<p>Activities are undertaken towards preventing and/or managing populations of emerging weeds and pests.</p> <p>Partnerships with key stakeholders (e.g. Landcare, industry) are established and/or maintained, and engagement activities are undertaken</p> <p>Activities are undertaken to protect priority ecosystems or agricultural undertakings from further damage from weeds and pests.</p> <p>Activities are undertaken with key stakeholders to develop knowledge of priority NRM issues (e.g. mapping, monitoring studies, case studies, etc.)</p>		<p>Planned hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD QFPI)</p> <p>MAP showing planned area to be fenced with RAPAD QFPI.</p> <p>Planned accumulated capital cost of fencing</p> <p>Current livestock numbers within the fenced area</p> <p>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</p> <p>Annual cost of wild dogs to enterprises within the fenced area</p> <p>Planned cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit based on forecast economic benefits</p> <p>Current count of wild dogs on properties to be fenced</p> <p>Landholder baseline attitudinal survey</p>

**Attachment 2**  
**Map of Cluster groups**



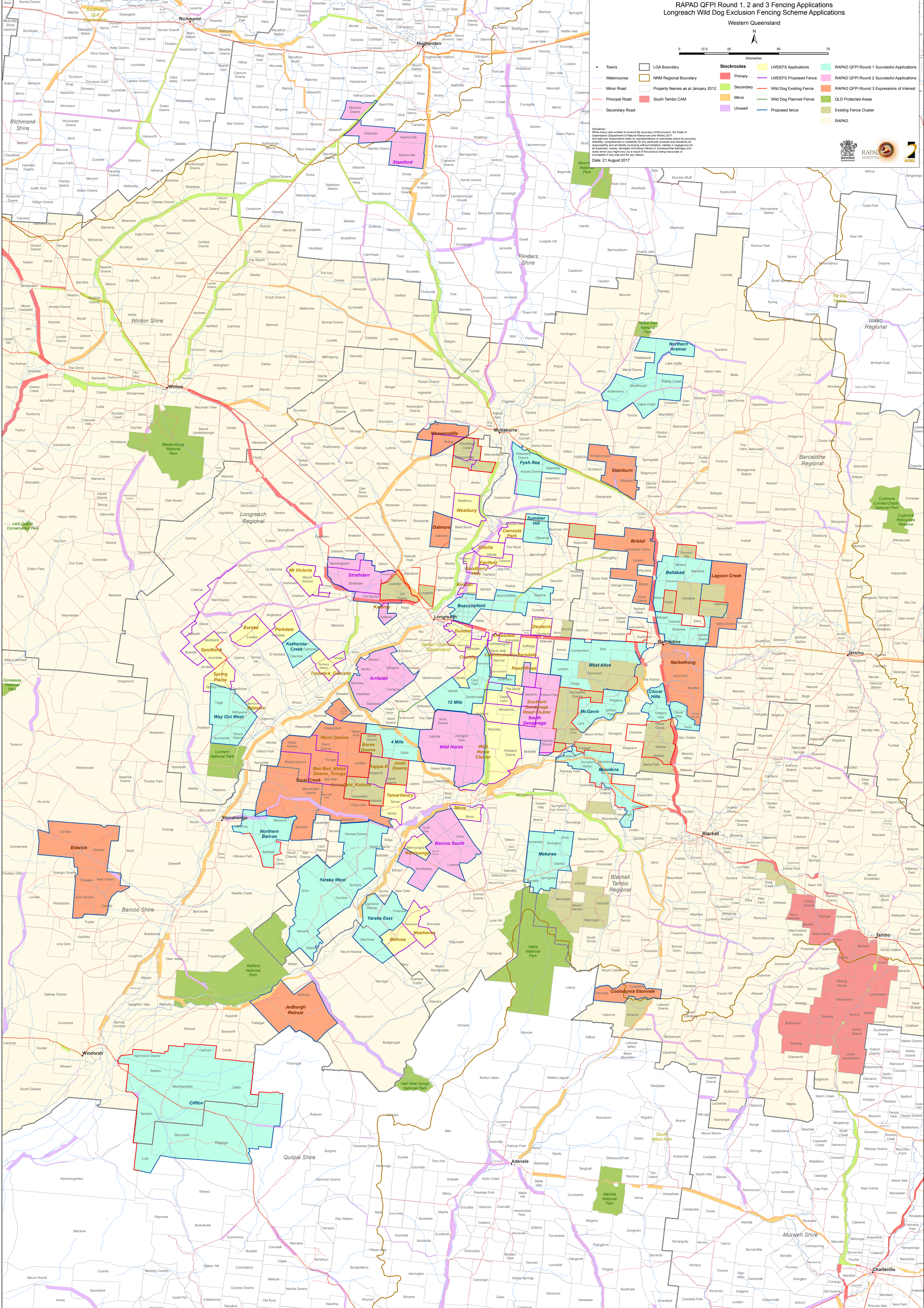
# RAPAD QFPI Round 1, 2 & 3 Fencing Applications Longreach Wild Dog Exclusion Fencing Scheme Applications

Western Queensland



- Towns
- LGA Boundary
- Stockroutes
- Watercourse
- Minor Road
- Principal Road
- Secondary Road
- NRM Regional Boundary
- Property Names as at January 2012
- South Tambo CAM
- LWDEFS Applications
- LWDEFS Proposed Fence
- Wild Dog Existing Fence
- Wild Dog Planned Fence
- Proposed fence
- RAPAD QFPI Round 1 Successful Applications
- RAPAD QFPI Round 2 Successful Applications
- RAPAD QFPI Round 3 Expressions of Interest
- QLD Protected Areas
- Existing Fence Cluster
- RAPAD

Disclaimer:  
While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this product, the State of Queensland (Government of Natural Resources and Mines 2017) and the Longreach Wild Dog Exclusion Fencing Scheme 2017 are not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this product. The user of this product is advised to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this product for their own purposes. The user of this product is advised to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this product for their own purposes. The user of this product is advised to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this product for their own purposes.  
Date: 21 August 2017





**Attachment 3  
Round 2 Benefit Cost  
Calculations**

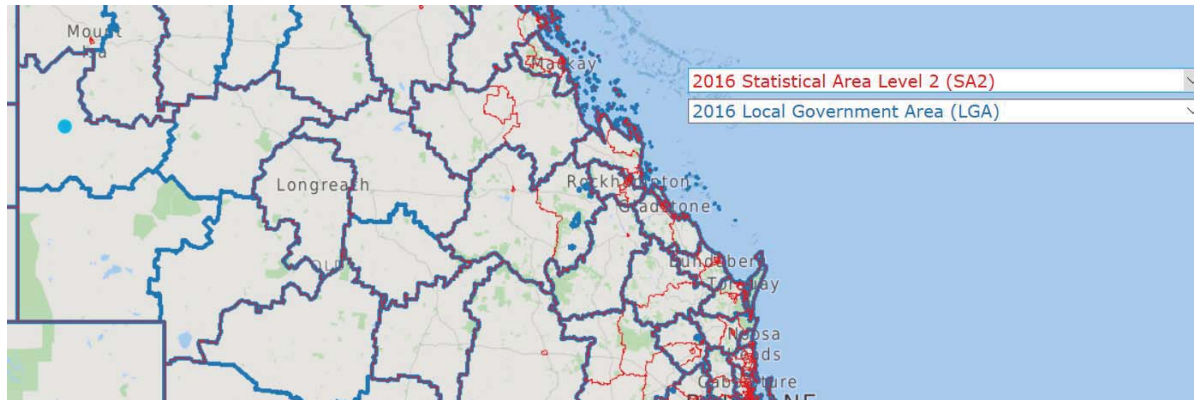
**RAPAD Round 2 data**

	Before	After	Change
Sheep Numbers	103,551	239,129	135,578 As per QFPI sheet
Sheep Variable Labour required	1,242,612	2,869,548	1,626,936 At \$12/sheep
Variable FTE	22	51	29 Variable FTE calculated at \$35/hour
Cattle Numbers	15,896	8,317	(7,579) As per QFPI sheet
Cattle variable Labour required	8	4	(4) Cattle variable FTE calculated at 1FTE/1,000 AE
Net Increase in Jobs	30	55	25 Calculation
Sheep GM	22.24	34.63	12.39 LPM 2013 Wild Dog Check Fence Feasibility Study
Increased Sheep Gross Margin	2,302,974	8,281,037	5,978,063 Calculation
Cattle GM	250	255	5.00 Based on DPI Gross Margins (average across enterprise type)
Reduced Cattle Gross Margin	3,974,000	2,120,835	(1,853,165) Calculation
Increased Regional Gross Margin	6,276,974	10,401,872	4,124,898
Number properties	31	31	As per QFPI sheet
Labour per property	0.97	1.79	0.81
Sheep per property	3,340	7,714	4,373
Cattle per property	513	268	(244)
DSE per property	9,494	10,933	1,440
Total area fenced	401,933	401,933	
Ha per property	12,966	12,966	0
GM/Property	202,483	335,544	133,061
Gross income sheep	4,142,040	13,630,353	9,488,313 LPM 2013 Wild Dog Check Fence Feasibility Study
Gross income cattle	9,537,600	5,156,540	(4,381,060) Based on DPI Gross Margins (average across enterprise type)
Increase in gross income	13,679,640	18,786,893	5,107,253
Add Increased variable labour			1,414,724 56,000
Total Annual Regional Benefit			6,521,977
Government Expenditure on Fencing			2,100,000
Annualised multiplier based on one off expenditure			\$ 3.11 per year every year from \$1 government spend
Proponents Expenditure on Fencing			3,900,000
Increased Annual Gross Margin			4,124,898
Proponents Return on Capital (Increased Gross Margin/CAPEX)			\$ 1.06 \$1.06 increased GM for every \$1 spent on the fence

**Attachment 4**  
**Map of the ASGS region**  
**Barcladine/Blackall, Far**  
**Central West and**  
**Longreach**



## SA2 and LGA areas



The ABS data is extracted from both SA2 and LGA areas.

A summary of these areas is shown in the table below.

SA2	LGA
Barcaldine/Blackall	Barcaldine Blackall/Tambo
Longreach	Longreach
Far Central West	Boulia Diamantina Barcoo Winton

The seven LGA areas are included in the RAPAD area, however what RAPAD describe as the QFPI area does not include Boulia and Diamantina.

**Attachment 5**  
**Completion survey**  
**results**

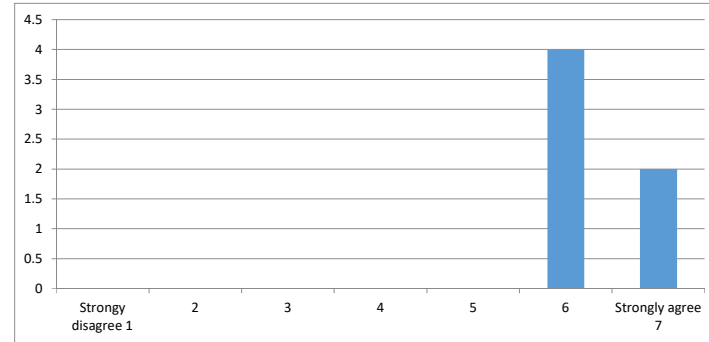
RAPAD Cluster Fence completion survey results

Strongly disagree 1      2      3      4      5      6      Strongly agree 7

1. I believe that the way RAPAD managed the project was practical and useful

					4	2
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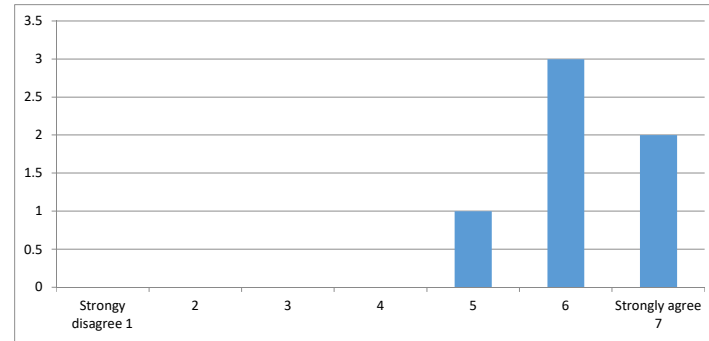
Small response however general agreement on this issue.



2. Information on what we were required to do was clear and understandable

					1	3	2
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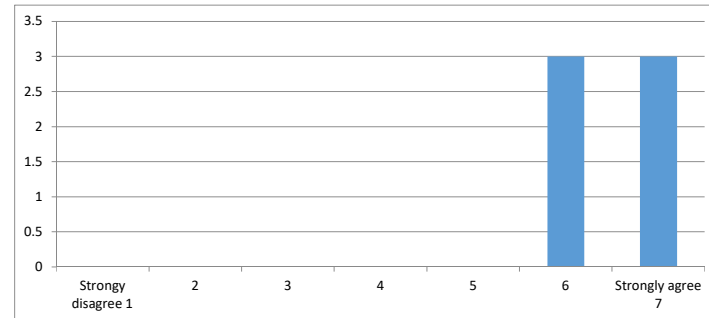
Small response however general agreement on this issue.



3. Communications with RAPAD throughout the project were timely and informative

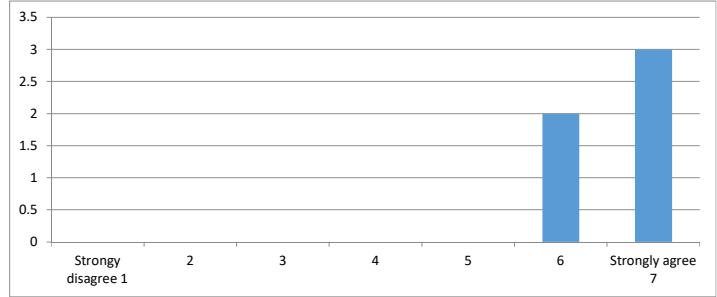
					3	3
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Small response however general agreement on this issue.



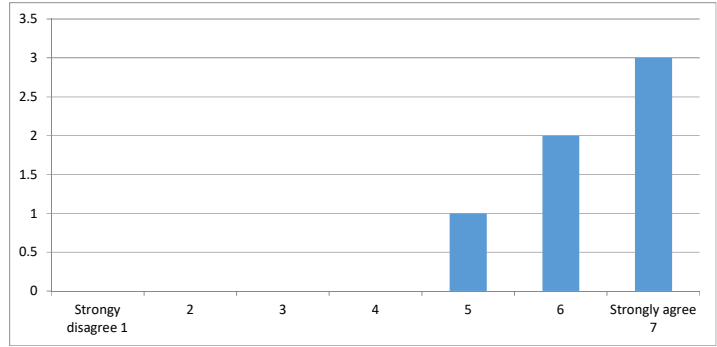
4. The finished fence has met all my expectations 2 3

Small resposne however general agreement on this issue.



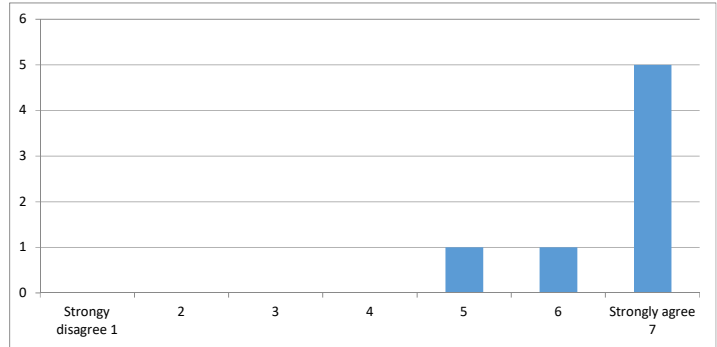
5. The amount of communication I now have with other cluster members has increased 1 2 3

Small resposne however general agreement on this issue.



6. Overall I'd rate the project as successful 1 1 5

Small resposne however general agreement on this issue.



**Attachment 6**  
**Logic Level 3 Data**  
**Indicators Summary**

# RAPAD QFPI ROUND 2

## M&E Cluster Interviews October 8-10, 2018

*Interviews held in Barcaldine and Ilfracombe  
35 people participated representing 14 clusters  
Focus is on MERI data collection.*

*Purpose is to add value to the analysis and interpretation for the project to show the reality of improvements on-property and in local communities*

- We are looking for any impact data, for those with 2017/18 summer rain they may have measured outputs such as lambs marked or weaned*
- Where that's not the situation, then the focus is probably more relevant to aspects of completing the fence, removing pest animals, effectiveness of the fence as a barrier, any maintenance issues, personal benefits and expectations of what is possible when it rains.*
- In both cases we are seeking benefits and or difficulties experienced as a result of the fencing at a business or family or social nature.*

### **1. Working to get the fence construction happening**

Target group – those who have been through the process for funding, purchasing materials, working with fencing contractors etc

Questions:

Tell us about the work involved in getting the funding sorted.

- Cluster formation went well
- We helped each other out
- Working pretty good so far
- Many of us had fenced before so we knew what we were in for from a construction point of view
  
- Has been easy, lucky as only a small cluster, happily do it again, very easy cluster to maintain, people are great, it just works, benefit of small cluster, no angst re 10 to 20 years, happily do it for anyone

Tell us about the work involved in organising fencing materials, contractors, machinery etc

- some used contractors some of us did it ourselves
  - people had a choice
  - we thought availability of contractors would be difficult so we just bought the gear ourselves, we thought it's going to cost the same amount and we would end up with the gear and we can use it to keep improving the place going forward, something like a grader pretty cheap investment to help protect the place into the future
  - It employed people for sure, we hired 2 backpackers for the 3 months it took, we wouldn't have employed anyone at all if it wasn't for the fence
  - Contractors were good, all the clearing etc we did, pretty straight forward
  - More options available now more types, heights, styles
  - Simple to build happens fast
  - Fencing again would you change design – personal preference, ground preparation is the biggest thing, after the wet we will know more
- 
- Anxiety about what to do with the state road, main roads didn't want grids, insisted on removing the grids and making a laneway, opportunity for main roads to get rid of the grids,
  - Steel and wire prices continue to rise priced some this week, risen 40% in 2 years,
  - Ordering material at the start, pretty well knew what we wanted, first load turned up quickly, orders were on time, as one nearly ran out the next turned up, 56km up in 7 months, done more since inside,
  - No issues with materials, council stuff was good, about 4 week lead time, wire left over from council, no issues
  - Wide range of suppliers now, lots of choice
  - AWI machine has been a very useful machine for us, a few issues, without it I don't know how we would have done it, only need 2 people

How significant an achievement is it to get to this stage?

- Real good, security, peace of mind especially up against stock routes and main roads
- Definitely good when we finished, now to have a good boundary is peace of mind
- Really satisfying, we were lucky in that we had a small cluster, number of people, whole process was really amicable between members, from a state govt position, more people = more area but that can grow the animosity and issues of control, essentially the more members the more clashes and potentially less productivity overall as a result, 4 or 5 properties works well I reckon, as the numbers rise it would get more difficult

What is your next step for your sheep production business?

- Exclusion fencing ourselves now internally to gain independence within the cluster is the ultimate goal, we are still part of the cluster it remains the same, cluster still operates but you operate independently within that and more fencing means more checks and more control for us and all the cluster members

- Cluster absolutely gives you the opportunity to increase your productivity
- Fencing internally now will give us even more independence and control, cluster funding was the catalyst it gave us the start and we will use exclusion materials
- No one is putting 6 wire fences up anymore, internally we are doing exclusion as well, means more opportunities and choices for us as a business, could be dorpers, goats etc, more opportunities to run different types of small stock, we had no option before we simply couldn't run them, now we can run a diverse agricultural holding which is better for everyone
- We have just about totally fenced ourselves off from each other in the cluster, big plus as you have total control then of your destiny, helps with managing, control it a lot better in small areas, think you can have too big clusters, people and size, size for management, we came in with the view of fencing ourselves in, cluster was the catalyst, lot more control when you have the area smaller

What does having fencing happening mean for your business and getting it back into sheep and wool production? Are there any lamb marking figures coming through yet?

Is there anything happening on your property yet on the employment front as a result of the fencing?

- The stocking rate can be what its meant to be, not what is dictated to you by dogs
- Given us back the ability to control your pastures, grazing pressures, ability to spell country, in return stocking rates level out, our primary goal is to grow grass and now we have full control
- Means we now have the ability to control the ecosystem within each fenced paddock, I reckon we will now have less woody weeds as well, wild dogs directly impact on grazing pressure, they push stock into one corner
- I genuinely think it is increasing the capital value of the place
- Provided us with a huge biosecurity advantage, now can clean muster inside, shouldn't need to spray for lice, that's a cost saving and a better biosecurity outcome
- We've got sheep again, when the dogs came we got out of sheep altogether, fence have meant we have brought sheep back and are breeding sheep again now
- Once the season changes and people get busy they will need labour, that's inevitable
- Cluster gave us a great opportunity financially to get a concept up and running to get our own business model back, get control of their business, clusters a great concept, gets you proactive, gives you an opportunity to do lots of things in your business
- Fencing = full control of your business
- We will get our money back, no question, investment in the future of our business, pure and simple



- No brainer
- Initial capital outlay, cost us \$11 an acre, got it back in the first year, pays for itself in one year, without any capital growth in your asset simply because you can get back control
- Less about running more stock the actual benefit will come from increased wool cuts and lamb growth this will lead to better returns of what you have, turn off capacity increases less supplementation, don't have to lighten off as much in the drier years, better able to match stocking rates, no budgeting power before, couldn't forecast before can now
- Before with the stock route we had no control of what came through, we do now
- Real carrying capacity has been reducing over the last 30 years due to roos, now we are back in control
- Given us back the time and allowing us to improve stock rather than just simply trying to keep them alive, before that's all you do, now you can invest in good genetics and invest in your business knowing you will get a return
- Allows you to intensify your business, I now have the ability to trade cattle due to better pasture, getting busier now thanks to increased opportunities, options for multi enterprises, end goal is to run sheep, first time for us in 10 years, when that occurs workloads double, opportunities for more employment in the surrounding communities
- I am in sheep, there is significant evidence of increased dog numbers right outside my fences so without the fence I would not have remained stocked with sheep. Given the severe drought, if I had cattle I would have destocked 2-3 years ago. This would have reduced my employment of local people by 1.5 man years.
- Our LM ing figures have been great, two years now of marking well over 75% in all mobs. In fact now, you can lock in the fact that you can expect 80 lambs for every 100 ewes lambing down. Prior to fencing, this could not be done and it was sheer luck the years that we got good lambing percentages. Despite the severe drought, the good lambings has meant excellent sales of sheep as we have destocked, the extra alive sheep that we sold has put a lot of money in the bank and really helped our financial position.
- As we are running <50% of normal numbers due to drought, there are far less employment opportunities. Nevertheless if we had been forced out of sheep, we would have reduced our employment of (day workers, shearers, contractors, etc) by 70%.
- I got back into them , numbers have been maintained , I buy 1000 and now when I come to sell there will be 1000 in there not 500
- Have done 10 days shearing this financial year employing 10 staff, the previous 2 years I have shorn for only 1 day
- We have fenced ourselves off for more independence
- We've only just finished so not sure but expectation is it will give us more control over your management, bigger incentive to maintain this than a 6 wire fence in the past as it will deliver so much more than a traditional fence

- We haven't had a dog attack in the cluster since the fence, has greatly reduced the area of danger to stock, we may have a dog in the other half of the place, know not to put stock in that area until we eliminate it
- Expectation for your business now the fence is up, being able to run stock safely, hope to see more grass and feed, controlling grazing pressure as well
- We've seen it already, we wouldn't be running sheep without the fence, dog attacks were getting very frequent, this isn't happening now, no dogs and no pigs, stock are working the country much more evenly than before, from an economic point of view, we've shawn 22000 sheep this financial year, all those wages are going back into Longreach, if we didn't have the fence there wouldn't be 1 sheep at home and the wages wouldn't have been spent in the local town, I reckon I have paid more in wages than I received in govt funding for the fence which is great, no fence no sheep no wages, one of the best schemes the govt has come up with , meant people have spent money in the local community , it's real regional economic stimulus, we would have had to go out of sheep without the fence no question
- Before fencing for the last 5 years we have averaged lambing of less than 40%, thanks to the fence its over 80% now, last year we got 26 dogs this year with the fence we have got one dog and I think we fenced him in
- Weaning percentage so much better with the fence, this year thanks to the fence we only marked 20 less lambs before the fence we were usually 300 down, huge difference
- Stock seem so much more settled now
- 60% average across the flock would be the best historically, never really got to the lows as we caught the dogs just in time, fence was a massive preventative measure, its given us more control and we are hitting 80% thanks to the fence, also more confident now and happy to invest in better practices and things are really jumping along all thanks to the fence
- Pigs have been a big problem, fence will help eliminate them now
- Amazing the amount of pigs trying to get into our cluster but can't get in thanks to the fence
- We are about to lambmark sheep in a paddock we haven't been able to run sheep in for 40 years, it was cattle country before that, couldn't put sheep in there, thanks to the fence sheep can go in and they have done really well, really looking forward to the results
- We are now finally progressing towards what the investment was about, more sheep and more people to do the work and dollars flowing into the community
- This fence should become the norm of this style of fence on the boundary
- Catalyst for us to keep fencing internally, place is worth more, get more control, no lice, no strays, more control over external parasites,
- Unintended outcome has been the additional biosecurity control, lice, weeds
- You can choose what stock you want to run, as opposed to dogs dictating what you run
- I can now keep stock separated bulls and cows, haven't had a bull breach the fence yet, place that's not fenced shot 3 dogs last week,

- Everything we predicted would happen thanks to the fence has with additional benefits, we originally said it would take 3 years to pay for itself, it hasn't taken that long
- Fence is a really exciting thing even with the tough dry times we can be proactive and positive for the long term and build our business, not be as reactive, before you would go mustering and see dogs so you would spend days after that searching for them, now we don't have to it's a wonderful thing for our businesses when most other things have been really challenging, this project has given us a focus, it will save us time and has allowed us to focus on the future, focus on productivity
- Employment we created whilst we were building it so it's making a positive now and a good time to have it when things were dry and no one was employing anyone, so benefits are happening now as well as into the future
- Seeing the green shoots of potential right now as a result of the project, benefits aren't just long term they are happening now, they started when the fencing started

#### Social impacts, how you are feeling thanks to the fence

- Easier to go away, get off the place, now that makes a big difference to your mental health
- Peace of mind
- Nice to go out and not see sheep left to die after dog attacks
- Huge benefits now
- Was getting to me, seeing something you have invested in torn to pieces,
- Life has certainly improved, confidence that we will be in sheep so I have continued in investing in equipment and technologies to making my sheep operation effectant and up to date. Some examples include DNA genomics in our breeding flock, new sheep handling equipment and new marketing strategies for our unmulesed wool including a relationship with the NZ firm called ICEBREAKER
- Relaxed regarding no dogs killing sheep, I can now go to bed at night knowing nothing is going to get torn apart
- A lot less stress of seeing the cruelty dogs were doing, from here on in we look forward to being viable again
- Peace of mind
- It's funny the stress of trying to look after my old boundary fences which were in terrible shape has all gone with new fences
- So much time saved, all the traps are in the shed now, haven't needed them thanks to the fence,
- Husbands are now much more relaxed, much better long term outlook, has a huge flow on through the community and the entire family, social cohesion of families, essential to men's health

- Makes the old fences look insignificant, new ones look better, makes me feel better
- For peace of mind and security I would rather do exclusion fencing than conventional, so much better, proof is there as soon as you put it up, easier fencing
- When we do laneways and holding paddocks we will use exclusion fencing rather than traditional/conventional, better use of equipment and capital on the place, makes you more proud of the fence and keener to keep it in the best shape as you know the job its doing

## **2. Working to remove pest animals**

Target group – those with fences finished and are in or have done removal activities.

Questions:

- How long ago was the boundary completed?
  - What targets do you have for numbers of pest animals inside the boundary?
  - What actions have you taken to remove pest animals?
  - Tell us about the level of success or otherwise, in reaching your pest animal target so far?
  - What hasn't worked for you in removing pest animals?
  - In what ways has your workload changed?
  - What has it been like for you personally since the fences went up? As a family? Some people have said to us that they have more peace of mind as the fence goes up. Anything like that for you?
- 
- It takes a while I didn't know how many we had before we fenced
  - We see pigs on the outside trying to get in put none have made it in yet, this makes a big difference as pigs bloody love lambs nearly as much as dogs
  - Aim is zero or no point doing it, we couldn't come close before, we are at zero now thanks to the fence
  - Currently I've probably only got 1 or 2 pigs left inside, big campaign to eradicate and you can now with the fence, no pigs coming in now, great help overall to production and biosecurity
  - People who haven't fenced are copping the pests
- 
- Need to keep vigilant and maintain it,
  - Before without the fence if you saw a dog or pig there was a chance he could get away, now with the fence he can't get away,

### **3. Fence maintenance**

Target group – those with fences finished and pest animals removed

Questions:

- Overall, how effective would you say the fence is as a barrier to keep pests out?
- What are you doing to keep a check on how the fence is going? How often?
- What are you seeing happen in how the finished fence is keeping animals out? (e.g. breaches or holes from pests or damage following rain etc)
- In what ways has your workload changed?
- Tell us about the level of success in reaching your target for pest animals so far?
  
- We had had couple of breaches in one sandy section but I found the holes and just added extra footer to it and its good as gold now
- Everyone in the cluster is committed to the fence
- Fence holding up well
- Some hotspots, sandy country, add a footer on the other side, easy fix, expected it
- After 10 days dogs no they cant get through, go somewhere else
  
- Fence has been very very effective
  
- Fence won't stop everything, maintenance is really important, if you don't do your bit you let everyone else down, we are all in it as one, everyone has to work together to make that cluster work

### **4. Unfenced neighbours**

- What comments are you hearing from any unfenced neighbours – good or bad?
- What do you think might help remove any bad effects and/or ensure good effects continue?
  
- Neighbours keen to join up in round 3, we don't have any objections, more the merrier, will mean happy days for all of us, we all get control of our destiny, one outside neighbor sold since the fence went up and the new owner has now fenced and joined up to us aswell, 2 in 12 months have added onto it, and that's good for everyone
- When we first stated looking for cluster members we had 10 people keen, when crunch came left to 3, all the others (that didn't join) can now see what is going on and the benefits, the pasture situation, it's really exciting for us and they are kicking themselves

- Some are fencing as a result
  - Definitely I am waiting for neighbours to be fenced and take advantage
  - They make their choices, they live with it
- Since we started all the neighbours who didn't want a bar of it have all fenced, flow on effect of the program, it's great, both did council schemes as well

### **5. Individual owners' current pasture situation**

Target group – those with fences finished, pest animals reduced/removed

Questions:

- When did you reach your pest animal target?
  - Have you had any rain since completing your fence?
  - What are you seeing happen with your pasture?
  - What are you seeing happen with your stock or is it too soon to tell?
  - Is all this telling you anything practical about future pasture or animal production?
- Hasn't rained enough yet really but I reckon it will be great
  - In my experience of fencing my other place the buffel grass has gone gangbusters and is taking over from bare paddock spots, ring of bulldust are turning into buffel grass
  - Will help remove what used to be woody weeds and replacing it will grass
  - Feed will last longer
- More control, weaning rates up, not the same losses as before, due to predators and control the grazing of your pasture
  - Sheep now getting a go at better pasture, growth we got was phenomenal so late in the growing season with the little bit of rain we got, stock look really well, grass held on thanks to the fence, we now get a say in who's feeding on the grass
  - 1100 weaned lambs in the paddock, keep going ahead, feed just keeps lasting and lasting thanks to the fence, don't need any lick yet, herbage has come up and is holding on much better
  - We are going to see pastures we have never seen before

### **5. Your thinking of the current climate situation**

- What do you make of the current climate conditions?
- Based on the of the fence I can run the place on 6 inches, if I can get that I know I am going to be ok because now I can feed budget so much more accurately, know the ewes I put in there are all going to be there at the end, I know my lambing rates are going to be back up and even better know weaning rates will be too, give me a 6 inch year any day and that's all we need now thanks to the fence

## 6. Other questions

- Do you have a pest management plan?
- In what ways is it practical for your cluster situation?
- In what ways isn't it practical for your cluster situation?
- What happens in your cluster group since working together to get the fence sorted and up?
- Final comments
- As soon as you see how many pests you see over the fence, kangaroos and no grass as far as you can see, you will fence
- No one wants to be first, advantage of the program is it allowed people to kick this off and show the benefits
- I know one fenced block near me was recently sold to a NSW sheep producer who paid a premium and his number one priority was a fence, very rare you get NSW sheep producers looking to invest in western Queensland but we are seeing it now and the main lure is the fences
- Weed eradication application as a group rather than individuals, keen to look at more stuff going forward
- With smaller closer clusters I reckon this will work much better
- If the govt got money we are keen to get it as a cluster, use the association we already have
- Coop mentality is certainly got opportunities, offers economy of scale, vehicles, poly pipe, consignment of cattle going to one processor/market, simple as being transparent as a cluster, easier to do this in a small cluster, certainly room and opportunity for it
- Opportunity though I think to start with the simple things first, easier now to pick up the phone and have the opportunity
- AWI opportunity to get wifi project, do it together, apply for this as a cluster, wifi towers across the cluster and use it together
- One cluster member sold since we did it, went through pretty easy, didn't seem to change anything, AGM with new cluster members, for anyone that has to face that all went smoothly, I am sure they could sell more readily, saw the benefits and sold quickly with the fence, before the fence it was on the market for a while
- Lack of shearers will be a challenge

- Need to reinvest back into shearing shed get it up to date
- Cheaper to pay the travel and have them stay in town, puts more money into those businesses

### **Lessons for RAPAD to take away for Round 3**

- Single payment would be better than staggered as everyone is buying materials at the beginning not in stages, needs additional checks and balances, people were hanging out for the last payment
- No dramas or issues
- Process is fairly easy, understand why a process is needed, once you get your head around this its easy to conform, process straight forward
- It took a little while to get the contracts sorted and took a while to get the final conditions, based on the problems with round 1 contract, frustrating but we got their in the end
- Good at the beginning Morgan told us what you needed at the beginning with invoices, what we have to keep record or otherwise 6 months later its really difficult, right at the beginning made it so much easier
- Negative for us was after we finally got our cluster together and where we were going to fence, the goalposts changed from 10 years to 20 years, very stressful,
- why we needed insurance when we already had it, not sure why we need both really, then again once you finished building still need the insurance not sure why,
- Joining up some clusters rather than setting up new ones, individual should be looked at not enough scope there,
- Keep advocating won't stop at round 3 asking govt for funding, we will handle the maintenance, overall meaning as to why we are doing this is so compelling, lifted the innovation, significantly increase the productivity and profitability of producers which will directly result in increasing the profitability of the communities in the region they support



# The fence that's saving the outback



**The challenge**

**The solution**

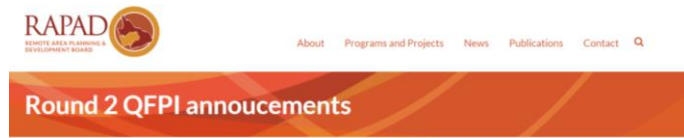
**Where we are now**

**How it changed  
our lives**



# Media Examples

The project attracted media across all platforms – TV, Radio and social media regionally, statewide and nationally



Home > News > Media Releases > Round 2 QFPI announcements

Posted in Media Release, Tagged QFPI, Posted 5 months ago

## Successful RAPAD Round 2 Cluster Fencing Applicants Announced

The RAPAD Board have unanimously supported the recommendations of the independent technical committee, and approved funding to seven clusters across the Central and North West designated priority one areas. The seven successful clusters are Way out West, Barcoo South, Southern Dangara Road, Artilah, Stamford, Strathdarr with Wild Horse cluster to be part funded. The clusters are made up of:

- 31 producers;
- Will fence 7744km and protect 396 473 ha from wild dogs;
- Will see a \$6.42m private contribution or a 293% ROI for government;
- Will see sheep numbers grow from 505 552 to an expected 239 129, an expected increase of 135 576;

<http://www.rapad.com.au/news/blog/round-2-qfpi-announcements/>



## Hopeful cluster fencing groups in the Remote Area Planning and Development Board have applied for \$3m from a \$2m bucket



Sally Cripps  
@sallyQCL

20 Feb 2017, 5:30 p.m.

News



<http://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/4479048/central-west-fencers-ask-for-3m-from-2m-bucket/>



## Some 31 extra properties to be protected under release of latest cluster fence approvals by RAPAD



Sally Cripps  
@sallyQCL

16 Mar 2017, 3:22 p.m.



Longreach's Duncan and Liz Emmott were one of 31 enterprises happy to hear they had been successful in seeking funding for exclusion fencing when the



<http://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/4532858/more-cluster-fences-approved-in-central-west/>

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## Lamb boom signals the start of outback towns' revival in western Queensland

ABC Western Qld, By Nicole Bond  
Posted Sat at 5:08am



<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-21/lamb-boom-could-be-outback-community-savior/9677882>

### Wanted: Next generation of wool workers as sheep production springs back to life

ABC RURAL - BY MELANIE GROVES  
MON 2 OCT 2017, 3:08 PM AEDT



PHOTO As the wool industry makes a comeback, the next generation of workers is needed.  
ABC RURAL: MELANIE GROVES

For the first time in its 50-year history, the Longreach Pastoral College is offering a



<http://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2017-10-02/wool-skills-shortage-leads-to-new-training/8892580>

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NEWS BEEF SHEEP CROPPING MULTIMEDIA WEATHER CLASSIFIEDS SEND US YOUR

## Longreach technology startup alerting landholders to wild dog breaches at creek crossings

Sally Cripps  
@sallyQCL  
12 Apr 2018, 5 a.m.

<https://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/5332285/virtual-fences-to-detect-wild-dogs/>

### Call for straight fences to be included in government funding criteria

Sally Cripps @sallycripps  
 10 Apr 2018, 5:30 a.m.

In a break with current funding philosophies, the Remote Area Planning and Development Board would like to see future exclusion fence funding guidelines expanded to incorporate linkages between



<https://www.queenslandcountrylife.com.au/story/5332565/rapad-calls-for-link-fences-to-be-funded/>

### Wild dog fencing bringing back livelihoods

26th Mar 2018 1:40 PM



<https://www.ruralweekly.com.au/news/wild-dog-fencing-bringing-back-livelihoods/3372122/>

**RAPAD** shared a link.  
 12 April at 08:35



**RAPAD calls for link fences to be funded**  
 The Remote Area Planning and Development Board would I...  
 stockjournal.com.au

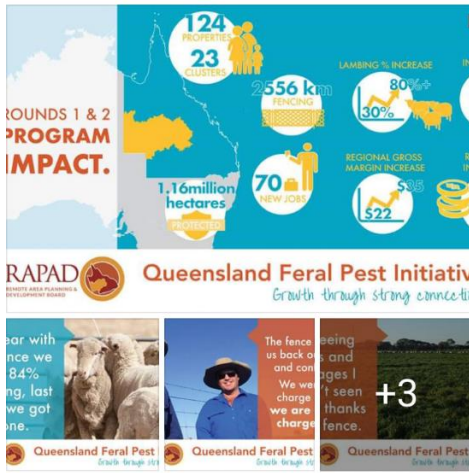
**RAPAD CWQ** @RAPADCWQ · Mar 28  
 Wild dog fencing bringing back livelihoods



Wild dog fencing bringing back livelihoods  
 ruralweekly.com.au

1 3

**Rapad shared PestSmart's post.**  
RAPAD 30 March at 07:32 · 🌐



**PestSmart added 6 new photos.** 29 March at 19:15 ·

Cluster fencing in Western QLD has been rebuilding communities, enhancing production and keeping #wilddogs at bay.

What has been the impact of this program? Check out these great testimonials developed through Rapad and the QLD Feral Pest Initiative.

Greg Mifsud, the National Wild Dog Management Coordinator said:

"The development of the cluster fencing program acts to reduce the area and limit the pathways by which wild dogs can travel throughout the region, so with some careful planning and review of the current baiting programs these movement corridors can be better targeted. Applying the same level of control over reduced areas and exposing wild dogs to baits due to reduced ability to move across open landscapes should generate a further reduction in wild dog populations and impacts on livestock producers outside of the cluster fences."

Queensland Farmers' Federation Queensland Agriculture AgForce Queensland David Littleproud MP





# Dog Fence: A predator proof exclusion fence helping graziers against wild-dogs

Posted Sat at 3:33pm

Control methods such as baiting, trapping and shooting have failed to make a significant dent in wild dog numbers, but a predator proof exclusion fencing program could be giving graziers the upper-hand at last.

Pip Courtney

Source: [Landline](#) | Duration: 21min

**Topics:** [pest-management](#), [rural](#), [depression](#), [barcaldine-4725](#)

# New predator-proof fences bring hope to Queensland graziers crippled by wild dogs

Landline By Pip Courtney

Posted Tue at 5:06am



PHOTO: Graziers say the predator-proof fence has given them back control over their stock. (ABC News: Pip Courtney)

**A million more merinos will be grazing in Queensland's Central West by 2025, bringing much needed jobs back to the region.**

That's the prediction of Morgan Gronold, senior regional development manager at the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD), which represents the Central West's seven councils and covers 396,000 square kilometres, or nearly a quarter of Queensland.

"I see no reason why we can't be a wool powerhouse again," Mr Gronold said.

"There's still plenty of infrastructure out there that just needs a bit of a tidy up, a bit of WD-40 and [the shearing sheds] will go again."

His confidence is based on a wild dog fencing program RAPAD is overseeing on behalf of the Federal and State Governments.

To qualify, neighbouring farmers join together to form a cluster and exclusion fence their combined boundary.



# New fences save sheep future

BY KYLIE NICHOLLS

THE successful rollout of wild dog exclusion fencing and strong commodity prices has given Queensland producers renewed confidence in the sheep and wool industry, despite the continuing dry.

So far, federal and state funding, along with local government initiatives, has enabled 2556 kilometres of dog-proof fencing to be built in 23 clusters on 124 properties across central western Qld. These fences now protect more than one million hectares of grazing land.

Morgan Gronold from the Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) is responsible for the rollout of the wild dog exclusion fencing across seven outback councils.

"For producers involved in the program, the exclusion fencing has delivered control of their properties and operations," Mr Gronold said.

"The funding is about more than just a fence, it has created jobs and prosperity in-



**RENEWED CONFIDENCE:** More than 2556 kilometres of wild dog exclusion fencing has now been built on 124 properties across central western Qld, boosting grazier interest in returning to sheep and wool production.

regional communities and enabled producers to become better equipped to manage their total grazing pressure and withstand drought."

RAPAD has applied for further funding which, if

successful, will ensure more exclusion fences are built in 2019.

Mr Gronold said the funding is forecast to enable the rebuilding of the central west's flock to more than

one million sheep and will mean two million ha of land is fenced from wild dogs.

Goodiwindi farmer Alan Rae has just started his second two-year term as Ag-Force Sheep and Wool pres-

ident and believes exclusion fencing will be a key driver in rebuilding sheep numbers.

"Without the fences we wouldn't have any sheep at all, once the drought conditions turn around, the sheep industry is in a great position to rebuild very quickly," he said.

"Since this drought, people have realised that a lot of our country is more suited to sheep.

"In good seasons it is great to have cattle, but sheep are easier to manage in long, dry spells."

Mr Rae said AgForce, in collaboration with government, financiers and producers, is currently developing a blueprint for the revitalisation of Qld's sheep and wool industry.

"We would like to see the investment in exclusion fencing continue and we also want to encourage new entrants into sheep and wool production and investigate how these ventures can be financed," he said.

After erecting 42km of exclusion fencing, the Nunn family, Sunnyside, south west of Longreach, will take

delivery of 690 Merino ewes this week, the first sheep on their property in more than 12 years.

Jim and Leonie Nunn, along with their son Cameron, participated in the RAPAD program in a cluster with four neighbours. They have spent the past 18 months building exclusion fences on 60pc of their 32,000ha property.

"This property was traditionally sheep country, but with the drought and wild dogs we have run cattle," Mrs Nunn said.

"We have always baited for wild dogs but over the years as people have got out of sheep, they have stopped baiting and I think that's why dog numbers have built up.

"A couple of years ago, when it was really dry and cattle prices were terrible, it made us realise we needed to diversify our operation.

"But without the exclusion fence we wouldn't consider going back into sheep."

She said fence maintenance was vital and they will also continue baiting and trapping to control any wild dogs found inside the fences.





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## INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE NEWS



### **New predator-proof fences bring hope to Queensland graziers crippled by wild dogs**

A sneak peak at an upcoming ABC Landline segment (to air this Sunday), looking at the benefits to the wool production industry from the Government funding cluster fencing initiative. The region has the goal of a million more merinos grazing in Queensland's Central West by 2025, bringing jobs back to the region.

[Read more via ABC News](#)

# RAPAD Queensland Feral Pest Initiative STRATEGIC CLUSTER FENCING APPLICATION FORM

CLOSING DATE FRIDAY APRIL 29TH 2016

The Central Western Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPAD) is now calling for applications from eligible groups of landholders for funds to build strategic cluster fences.

RAPAD has successfully obtained funding from the Queensland and Australian Governments for the progression of strategic cluster fencing in the local government areas of Barcaldine, Longreach, Blackall-Tambo, Winton, Barcoo and Flinders.

This funding has been obtained via the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative. The Queensland Feral Pest Initiative has received funding through the Queensland Government to support the growth of a productive and prosperous food and fibre sector in Queensland. Funding has also been provided through the Australian Government Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the Australian Government's plan for stronger farms and a stronger economy.

Please note:

- One (1) application form only is to be completed per cluster.
- A maximum of \$2700 / km GST exclusive is available to successful clusters.
- Any cluster who provided an EOI to RAPAD in 2015 must complete this application to be considered for funding. EOIs provided in 2015 were used to demonstrate a need to Government and enabled the securing of this funding only.
- A goal of the funding is to also provide significant public benefit through training and employment Cluster's would be encouraged to use RESQ Community Development Program clients to support and assist in building and maintaining the fences.
- Maximum of 500 words per section.
- Applications are to be sent in digital format only. A digital copy of your clusters map must be included. If any files are too large to email please contact RA AD.

## Timeline

- Applications open Monday March 21 2016.
- Applications close 5:30pm Friday April 29 2016.
- Technical committee provides recommendations to the RAPAD Board by May 20 2016. The technical committee may contact clusters for clarification and/or more information during this period
- RAPAD Board makes final decision on successful applicants by June 3 2016. The RAPAD Board may contact clusters for clarification and/or more information during this period
- Successful applicants notified by June 10 2016
- Progress payment schedule to successful applicants (please note these percentages are indicative only and final percentages will be negotiated with successful applicants)
  - 50% upon signing of contract with RAPAD;
  - 20% upon completion of associated milestones;
  - 20% upon completion of associated milestones; and
  - 10% upon completion and full acquittal.

## Contact Details for questions related to the application process

Morgan Gronold  
RAPAD  
0448739759  
m Gronold@rapad.com.au



## Eligibility Criteria

To be considered eligible the following minimum criteria apply. Due to the competitiveness of this project, failure to provide all required information may result in the submission being rejected. PLEASE ensure all items on the following checklist are completed. Answering no to any of the below questions may deem your cluster ineligible.

YES NO

1. Does the proposed cluster consist of multiple properties? Please note multiple titles or leases within an individual property does not constitute a cluster.
2. Does the proposed cluster consist of multiple owners?
3. Do all landholders agree to supply individual property animal management plans within two (2) months of contract execution if successful?
4. Do all landholders agree to supply a cluster pest animal management plan within two (2) months of contract execution if successful?
5. Have you provided a map of the proposed cluster that meets requirements as outlined in Appendix 1?
6. Have you read the minimum fencing requirements as outlined in Appendix 2 and is your fence design drawing included?
7. Have you provided a budget for the proposed cluster fence as per the template in Appendix 3?
8. Are all landholders proposing the cluster aware a maximum of \$2700/km GST exclusive per kilometer is available only?
9. Have the landholders participating in this proposed cluster indicated an estimated start and finish date for fencing if successful?
10. Are all landholders proposing the cluster aware the proposed fence must be completed no later than 30 September 2017?
11. Do all landholders proposing the cluster understand that if successful, they must form a single legal entity to progress a contract with RAPAD, and remain in that legal arrangement for a period of at least 10 years? Please note the cluster's legal entity will require public liability insurance, individual property public liability insurance will not suffice.
12. Do all landholders proposing the cluster understand that if successful they must supply evidence of a legal entity, and sound governance structures for their cluster within one (1) month of being formally notified?
13. Have all landholders proposing the cluster sought their own financial and legal advice from a suitably qualified professional?
14. Are the landholders aware that funding will not be provided retrospectively? i.e. Funding cannot be used to pay for fencing already constructed.
15. Are all landholders proposing the cluster prepared to allow RAPAD and/or its nominees to visit their properties for project review, to capture audio/visual footage, monitoring and evaluation, acquittal and research purposes in the event the proposed cluster is successful?
16. Are all landholders proposing the cluster prepared to allow Community Development Program (Work for the Dole) clients participation in fence construction, maintenance, and related training activities under appropriate supervision?

**Section I: Cluster Summary**

<b>Name of cluster</b>					
<b>Primary cluster contact details</b>					
<b>Phone</b>			<b>Email</b>		
<b>Postal address</b>					
<b>Secondary cluster contact details</b>					
<b>Phone</b>			<b>Email</b>		
<b>Postal address</b>					
<b>Cluster's total area to be fenced (ha) and total fence length (km)</b> <i>(figures to be taken from section 2 table)</i>					
<b>Cluster's <u>current</u> total carrying capacity (total AE number)</b> <i>(figures to be taken from section 2 table)</i>					
<b>Cattle</b>		<b>Sheep</b>		<b>Goats</b>	
<b>Cluster's <u>potential</u> animal types as percentage of total after fencing</b> <i>(figures to be taken from Section 5 table)</i>					
<b>Cattle</b>		<b>%</b>	<b>Sheep</b>		<b>%</b>
<b>Goats</b>		<b>%</b>			
<b>Cluster's total funding request (GST exc)</b> <i>(to be taken from your budget by adding 2016 and 2017 figures)</i>				<b>\$</b>	
<b>Cluster's total contribution (GST exc)</b> <i>(to be taken from your budget by adding 2016 and 2017 figures)</i>				<b>\$</b>	
<b>Cluster's fence cost per km</b> <i>(to be taken from your budget by adding 2016 and 2017 figures)</i>				<b>\$</b>	
<b>Cluster's fence cost per ha</b> <i>(to be taken from your budget by adding 2016 and 2017 figures)</i>				<b>\$</b>	
<b>Cluster's expected start date for fencing</b>			<b>Cluster's expected finish date for fencing</b>		

## Section 2: Cluster participant details and average stocking history<sup>1</sup>

An example of a completed table, the definition of an AE, and DSE to AE conversion table appears in Appendix 4. One unit of measurement only (AE) is being used so all applications can be compared equally, no other unit of measurement will be assessed.

Owner	Property name	Local Govt Area, Lot & Plan No	Area fenced (ha) & total length (km)	Stock numbers as AE <sup>1</sup>	Animal type as % of total	Total Carrying Capacity (total AE)	AE/ha
Cluster Total							

<sup>1</sup> We understand the drought has impacted significantly on your stocking history and applicants should answer based on their average season carrying capacity over the 3 years prior to the drought

**Section3: Cluster's grazing history** (maximum 500 words)

Describe the past and current impact of wild dog populations on:

- The cluster's sheep, cattle and goats; and
- The cluster's grazing ability (e.g. land management, grazing pressure, paddock spelling) within the proposed fence area.

## Section 4: Cluster's wild dog management history. (maximum 500 words)

- Describe past and current wild dog management efforts inside the proposed fenced area. Where possible place dollar values on time, equipment and materials employed to reduce wild dog impacts on livestock productivity.
- Where possible provide examples of industry best practice/industry professional development activities cluster members have been involved in over the last 4 years? e.g. leading sheep seminars, fence tours etc.
- Where possible, include references from local government/wild dog syndicate groups verifying cluster member's participation in coordinated wild dog control programs.
- If any landholders in your proposed cluster have a current Property Pest Management Plan please include them (please note this is not essential and is not an eligibility criteria).
- Where possible indicate the number of wild dogs controlled/amount of control measures used in the proposed fence area over the past 4 years in the table below:

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of wild dogs killed by trapping and/or shooting				
Number of council / wild dog syndicate baiting programs conducted				
Number of privately conducted baiting programs conducted				
Other				

**Section 5: Describe the expected benefit to cluster members in the type of livestock they can potentially now run and their livestock productivity after fencing. (maximum 500 words)**

- Describe and quantify the expected increase in the type of livestock cluster members' can potentially now run and their productivity within the fenced area.
- Outline how this fencing will aid cluster members grazing ability (e.g. land management, grazing pressure, paddock spelling) within the proposed fence area.
- Where possible indicate what is the likelihood of cluster members staying in and/or increasing sheep numbers and the amount of labour potentially employed as a result of fencing.
- Where possible complete the below table:

Cluster numbers BEFORE FENCING (figures to be taken from Section 2 table)				Likely change if any to cluster animal numbers and animal types AFTER FENCING			
<i>Total cluster stock numbers as AE</i>		<i>Total cluster animal type as % of total number</i>		<i>Total Cluster stock numbers as AE</i>		<i>Total cluster animal type as % of total number</i>	
Cattle		Cattle	%	Cattle		Cattle	%
Sheep		Sheep	%	Sheep		Sheep	%
Goats		Goats	%	Goats		Goats	%



**Section 6: Describe the expected benefit in decreased time and money cluster members will need for wild dog management after fencing. (maximum 500 words)**

- Outline the change in time, equipment and materials employed to manage wild dog impacts after fencing.

## **Section 7: Fence design (maximum 500 words)**

- Please note minimum fencing requirements in Appendix 2.
- Describe in detail the specification of the proposed fence, including a drawing, and netting details (e.g. 12/15/115 Stocksafe T with Footer), netting height, total height and post spacing.
- If looking to retrofit a fence as part of the cluster fence e.g. adding netting to an existing fence please outline details of this fence including age, structure and photos to clearly demonstrate its integrity and why this is your most preferred option.

## Section 8: Cluster legal arrangement.<sup>2</sup> (maximum 500 words)

- Describe, in detail, the legal arrangement the proposed cluster will enter into including:
  - the type of legal entity you are forming;
  - the entities governance structure;
  - how ongoing fence maintenance, wild dog and other pest animal control will be undertaken and funded for a period of 10 years;
  - other covenants such as, but not limited to, departure of cluster members through such things as sale, change of ownership.

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<sup>2</sup> Please note if your cluster is successful you will be required to supply evidence your cluster has formed a legal entity within one (1) month of being formally notified of your success.

## Section 9: Conservation and land management training.

- Training opportunities in a Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management for landholders, employees, contractors and or CDP clients is encouraged under the funding guidelines.

How many people in your cluster would be prepared to undertake a Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management

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<sup>3</sup> Training and Recognised Prior Learning for eligible clients is available at a subsidised maximum of \$110 for eligible clients under Certificate III guarantee funding.

## Section 10: Cluster member acknowledgements related to the application.

The applicants acknowledge the following conditions:

- The location of proposed, and completed, fencing will be mapped and recorded on a publicly available geographic database.
- A contract between the proposed cluster and the Central Western Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board will be the legal instrument by which funds are made available. That contract will outline the rights and responsibilities of each party
- An authorising signature of a representative of each participating business must be recorded.

<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>
<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>
<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>
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<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>
<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>

## Section 10 continued: Cluster member acknowledgements related to the application.

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<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>
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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<i>Business entity &amp; ABN</i>	<i>Name of authorised representative</i>	<i>Signature</i>

## APPENDIX

### Appendix I: Mapping requirements

To be eligible your map must meet the requirements outlined below. RAPAD strongly encourages all clusters to engage a professional mapping service/provider. Any cost in producing this map is borne by the applicant. Map must indicate clearly the clusters total fence length in kilometers and the clusters total area in hectares.

- One spatial object/map must be provided for each cluster and must:
  - Represent the location of the activity;
  - Have polygon geometry type. Fences can be linear geometry;
  - Be provided in a shape file (shp) file format; a
  - Be stored in GDA 94 geographical coordinates.

The following attributes are the minimum attributes required for each special object:

Field Name	Field Description	Field Values	Field Types
OBJECTID	Autogenerated		
A_NAME	Activity Name	Text name of Activity	Text (250 characters)
PROPONENT	Activity Proponent	Text name of the Proponent e.g regional natural resource management body, local government	Text (50 characters)
Activity Type	Type of Activity	Fence construction Weed destruction Pest Animal Management	Text (30 characters)
A_VALUE	The total value of the project (in A\$)	Number	Long integer (require minimum precision of 7 and scale of 0)
A_STATUS	Current status of the project	In progress Completed	Text (10 characters )
A_START	Date of project commencement	DD/MM/YYYY	Date
A_EXP_END	Date of expected completion	DD/MM/YYYY	Date
PRO_WEB	Web link for proponent website (if available)		Hyperlink
CAPTURE	How the polygon/polyline was define	Drawn; GPS; DGPS; Other	Text (5 characters)
QUALITY	Spatial quality of the map base used to define polygon/polyline	If 'drawn' then imagery <5m pixel (I10M); imagery 5-20m pixel (I20P); imagery 20-50m pixel (I50P); imagery > 50m pixel (I60P); cadastre (CADA).  If 'GPS' then 5-10m (510m) or 'other'.  If 'DGPS' then <1m (LE1M); <0.5m (LEOM) or 'other'  If 'other' then 'other'.	Text (5 characters)

## Appendix 2: Minimum fencing requirements

- The minimum mesh height of the fence shall be 1.5m;
- The apron should be at least 300mm. As a minimum it should be strained if not sprung;
- The distance between uprights should be no more than eight metres;
- Mesh size shall be suitable enough to stop the movement of wild dogs;
- The recipient must be satisfied that the fence can withstand storm/wind/fire damage and corrosion
- The recipient must comply with any obligations under the *Neighbourhood Disputes (Dividing Fences and Trees) Act 2011*;
- Where the recipient undertakes to engage an organisation to build fencing as part of the activity the recipient will ensure it is satisfied as to the materials used to construct the fence and the method of construction of the fence; and
- In, but not limited to, creeks, gullies, public lands and road crossings it is recognised these fencing requirements may not be appropriate and alternative methods used to prevent the movement of wild dogs will need to be outlined.

Please note where the recipient considers a fence design other than that containing the above minimum fencing requirements is more appropriate, the recipient and RAPAD may negotiate and agree upon an alternate fence design that:

- Prevents the movement of wild dogs; and
- Contains suitable materials and methods of construction.



### Appendix 3: Budget

Please note this is an overarching budget for the entire cluster’s fencing request not an individual property fencing budget. One budget is to be compiled per cluster only. Applicants must use the below template.

	2016		2017	
	GST exc	GST inc	GST Exc	GST Inc
<b>COSTS (Cluster contribution)</b>				
Clearing				
Grading				
Labour – Landholder				
Labour – Landholder employee				
Labour - external if used				
Materials				
Equipment				
Significant Othe				
<b>Total Costs</b> ( <i>cluster’s total contribution</i> )	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Total Costs per km</b> ( <i>cluster’s total costs divided by total km</i> )	\$ per km	\$ per km	\$ per km	\$ per km
<b>Total costs per ha</b> ( <i>cluster’s total costs divided by total ha</i> )	\$ per ha	\$ per ha	\$ per ha	\$ per ha
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$2700 per km GST exc</b>			
<b>Total Revenue</b> ( <i>Total funding requested</i> )	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Overall Project Costs</b> ( <i>Total costs minus Total revenue</i> )				
<b>Overall project costs per km</b> ( <i>Total Costs per km minus Revenue of \$2700 GST exc per km</i> )	\$ per km	\$ per km	\$ per km	\$ per km

**Appendix 4: Completed table (example) and AE definition**

Owner	Property name	Local Govt Area, Lot & Plan No	Area fenced (ha) & total length (km)	Stock numbers as AE <sup>1</sup>	Animal type as % of total	Total Carrying Capacity (total AE)	AE/ha
<i>Pete Smith</i>	<i>The Ranch</i>	<i>Barcaldine Lot 1 RV99</i>	<i>10000ha 40km</i>	<i>Cattle 500 Sheep 1000 Goats 500</i>	<i>Cattle 25% Sheep 50% Goats 25%</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>1AE:5ha</i>
<i>Bill Jones</i>	<i>The Palace</i>	<i>Barcaldine Lot 5 RV55</i>	<i>5000ha 20km</i>	<i>Cattle 100 Sheep 400</i>	<i>Cattle 20% Sheep 80%</i>	<i>500</i>	<i>1AE:10ha</i>
<i>Margaret Hill</i>	<i>Our Place</i>	<i>Barcaldine Lot5 RV60</i>	<i>7500ha 30km</i>	<i>Cattle 200 Sheep 1600 Goats 200</i>	<i>Cattle 10% Sheep 80% Goats 10%</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>1AE:3.75ha</i>
<b>Cluster Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22500ha</b>	<b>Cattle 800 Sheep 3000 Goats 700</b>	<b>Cattle 18% Sheep 68% Goats 16%</b>	<b>4500</b>	<b>1AE:5ha</b>

Category	Adult Equivalent (AE) rating	Dry Sheep Equivalent (DSE)
Weaner sheep	0.09	0.8
Adult wethers (50 kg)	0.11	1
Breeding ewes	0.15	1.4
Rams	0.22	2
Goats	0.11	1
Adult Equivalent	1	9
Bulls	1.5	13.5
Horses	1.2	10.8
Kangaroos	0.04	0.35

Dry stock liveweight (kg)	AE Rating
100	0.32
150	0.44
200	0.54
250	0.64
300	0.74
350	0.83
400	0.92
450	1.00
500	1.08
550	1.16
600	1.24
650	1.32
700	1.39
750	1.47
800	1.54
850	1.61
900	1.68

AE and DSE ratings for different livestock classes.  
 \*\*Data has been taken from current GLM Workshop material. For more information or clarification please contact Jenny Milson or Kirri Broad QDAF Longreach 4650 1200

\*For breeding females, add 0.3 AE to their liveweight AE to calculate the average AE over a year.

# **RAPAD**

## **Property Pest Animal Management Plan**

### **September 2016 – October 2017**

**Property ...  
Cluster ...**

 (07) 4652 5600

 [info@rapad.com.au](mailto:info@rapad.com.au)

 117 Eagle Street | PO Box 592  
Longreach Q 4730

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## Area covered by plan (use information from you application)

Property Name:	Lot on Plan/s:	Total Property Area:

## Purpose

This document will act as a plan to identify and manage the issues and risks associated with pest animals on the property. The plan is based on the Queensland Government's "Landholders' guidelines to property pest management plans".

## Objectives

The key objectives of this plan are to:

- Identify, record, and prioritise pest animal species located within the property or surrounding area, and link pests to effective management strategies;
- Implement best practice management strategies to prevent the introduction of any new pest species on the property or new infestations of existing species in clean areas;
- Reduce priority pests within the property and/or reduce in density of current infestations;
- Improve the protection of environmentally significant areas identified within the property area;
- Integrate with the overarching Cluster Pest Management Plan this property is part of to provide holistic and strategic pest management to the total cluster area;
- Comply with pest management statutory obligations in the current legislation including:
  - *Biosecurity Act 2014 (Qld)*;
  - *Land Act 1994 (Qld)*; and
  - *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*.
- Implement best practice pest management strategies consistent with:
  - Queensland Weeds and Pest Animals Strategy; and
  - The Australian Pest Animal Strategy.

## Pest prioritisation

For each pest their declaration status, current level of impact, control information, distribution and density should be identified and considered to determine an appropriate priority rating.

Using a matrix methodology each pest can be assigned a priority rating based on the potential detrimental impact to the property if nothing was done to control the pest and the likely impact gained by doing something or spending money now.

Potential detrimental impact to the Shire of not doing anything to control the pest		<i>Likely impact gained by doing something/spending money now</i>			
		<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Very High</b>
	<b>Low</b>	Very low	Low	Low	Low
	<b>Moderate</b>	Low	Low	Moderate	High
	<b>High</b>	Low	Moderate	High	Very high
<b>Very High</b>	Low	High	Very high	Extreme	

## Pest classification

A number of pest animals are restricted matter under the Biosecurity Act 2014.

Under this Act a General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO) means that a landholder must take all reasonable steps to ensure they do not spread a pest and must take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk that the pest may pose.

# Pest animal identification

Pest	Current Situation	Potential/Actual Level & cost of impact	Distribution and Density:	Priority:
<i>Wild Dog</i>	<i>Dogs outside fence, 1 dog inside fence</i>	<i>5 sheep a night (\$1000 night), less sleep, killing, harassing &amp; maiming livestock, carrier of disease</i>	<i>Northern timbered country spreading throughout property.</i>	<i>Extreme</i>



### Annual Baiting program

Please indicate the how often you intend to bait on the property in the next 12 months either individually, as a cluster or with the local government coordinated program. Cluster fence participants are encouraged to undertake baiting at regular intervals in order to manage feral animal populations and implement other control tools with baiting programs in order to reduce overall feral animal populations. See Pestsmart Wild dog and fox baiting guide

Please indicate the type of bait which you intend to use and how they will be deployed e.g. Ground baiting with meat for wild dogs on property using bait stations identified on property map or baiting for wild dogs with local government wild dog program using a combination of aerial baiting and bait stations as identified on the property map.

Date Baiting to begin	Date baiting to end	Target Species	Program type (shire, cluster, property)	Product to be used (meat, doggone, DK-9 Hoggone or CPE)	Method	Area to be baited	No. Baits	Interval for bait replacement
<i>1/6/16</i>	<i>30/6/16</i>	<i>Dog/fox</i>	<i>Property</i>	<i>Meat</i>	<i>Bait station</i>	<i>15,000ha</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>1/10/16</i>	<i>31/10/16</i>	<i>Dog/fox</i>	<i>Shire</i>	<i>Meat</i>	<i>Aerial and Bait station</i>	<i>15,000ha</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>15/9/16</i>	<i>20/9/16</i>	<i>Pig</i>	<i>Cluster</i>	<i>Meat</i>	<i>Bait station</i>	<i>15,000ha</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>1</i>

### Trapping Program

Planned Trapping Program	Target Species	Program type (contractor, owner)	Area to be Trapped	No. Traps	Duration of program (weeks/Months/ongoing)
<i>April</i>	<i>Dog/fox</i>	<i>Contractor</i>	<i>15,000ha</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>2 weeks</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>Pig</i>	<i>Owner</i>	<i>15,000ha</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1 month</i>

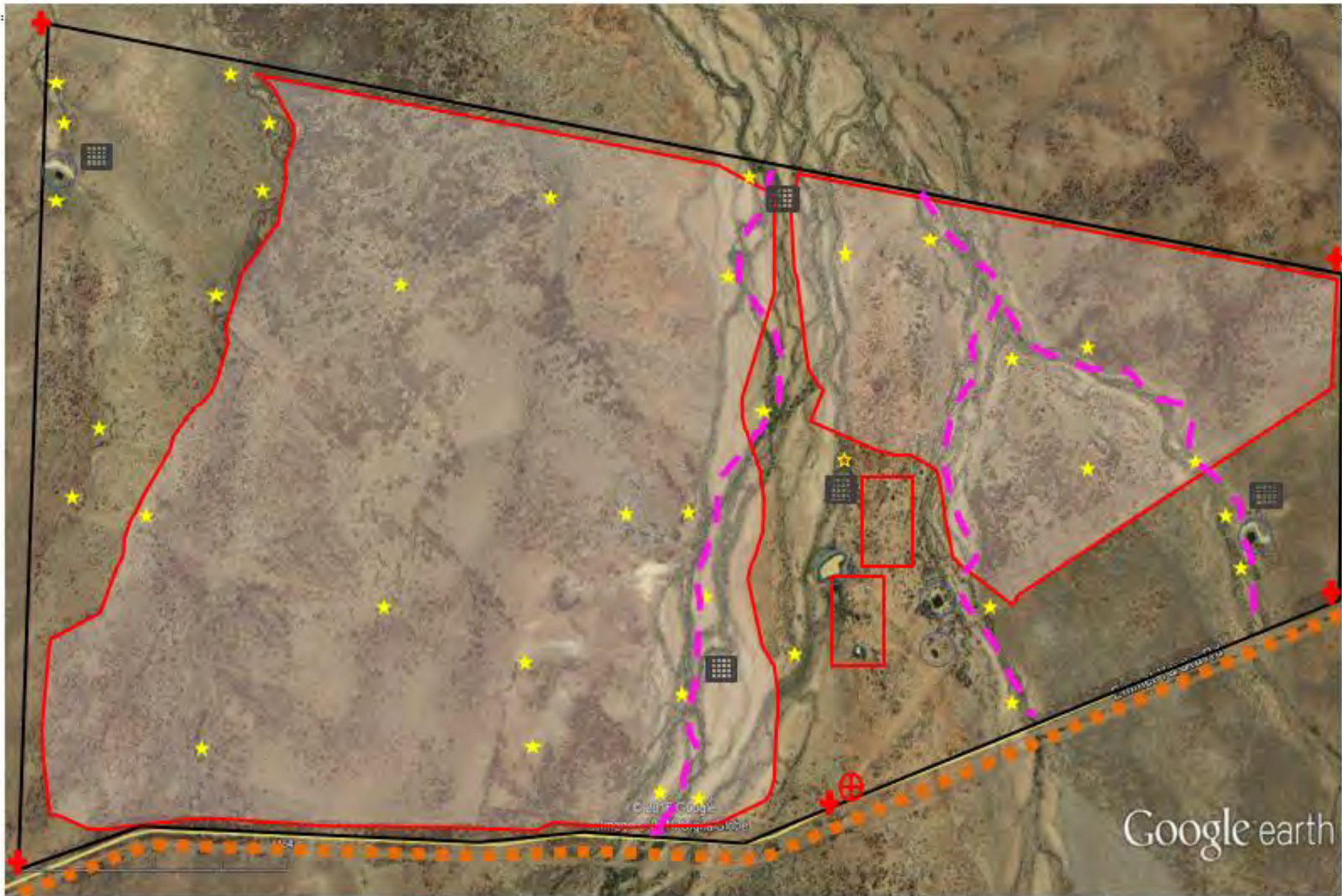
## SECTION C: PROPERTY MAP

Please attach a property map indicating the following:

- Dwelling – All dwellings on the property
- Dwelling – Adjacent and other ownership
- † Location of 1080 Warning Signs
- ⊕ Public Access Points to Property
- Watering points, water bodies including dams and bores, etc

### Stock Routes

- Watercourses to be marked with a blue line
- Property boundaries
- Roads adjoining boundary
- Area to be baited to be indicated by outlining the area.
- Internal Roads and tracks (indicating those to be used for bait distribution)
- Aerial tracks for bait distribution



- Bait station or CPE location
  Homestead and dwellings
  Dams or water points
 + 1080 Warning Signs
- + Public Access Points
  Aerial Bait lines
  1080 Baiting Area
  Pig Traps
  Road and stock

## **CLUSTER FENCE DATA**

**Sept 2016 – Oct 2017**

**Current Livestock: (Please circle)**      Sheep      Cattle      Goat      (other)

<b>Did you bait using 1080 or PAPP this period</b> (if yes, how many times did you bait in the period)	Y		N
<b>If yes above, did some or any of your neighbours participate with you in baiting</b>	Y		N
<b>Did you use Canid Pest Ejectors in this period</b> (if yes how many days were CPE's in the ground)	Y	Days	N
<b>Did you set traps in this period</b> (if yes how many days were traps in the ground)	Y	Days	N
<b>Number of <i>dead</i> livestock found/missing due to suspected wild dog attacks</b>			
<b>Number of livestock found <i>attacked</i> by wild dogs</b> (bite marks etc) <b>Of these how many needed to be <i>destroyed</i></b>	Attacked	Destroyed	
<b>Number of wild dogs shot, trapped or taken in this period</b>			
<b>How many man days in this period would you have spent on controlling wild dogs</b>			

**Additional information:**



7 January 2018

RAPAD  
PO Box 592  
LONGREACH QLD 4730

Dear Sir

**RE: RAPAD WILD DOG FENCING ROUND 2  
AUDIT**

We enclose the auditor's report and a copy of the audited financial statement for the RAPAD Cluster Fence Project – Round 2 for the 2018 and 2019 year.

No material issues were noted in the course of our audit.

If you have any queries in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to contact Bill Ringrose at our office.

Yours faithfully



Bill Ringrose  
**RINGROSE BUTTON**

Enc





## AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**Project Title:** Department of Agriculture & Fisheries  
Queensland Feral Pest Initiative

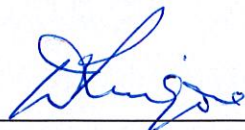
**Project ID:** RAPAD Cluster Fence Project

	Grantee Funds	Collaborating Partner Funds	Grant Funds	Total Funds
<b>Revenue</b>				
Granted	-	-	2,350,000.00	2,350,000.00
Revenue Receive to date	-	-	2,115,000.00	2,115,000.00
<b>Expenses</b>				
Cluster Payments	-	-	2,095,470.00	2,095,470.00
Employee Related Expenses	-	2,771,995.00	169,747.03	2,941,742.03
Capital items	-	5,643,920.38	-	5,643,920.38
Depreciation for capital equipment	-	-	-	-
Operating Expenses	-	1,228,770.00	15,930.92	1,244,700.92
Supplies	-	-	2,482.13	2,482.13
Grants and Subsidies	-	-	-	-
<i>Other Expenses</i>				
Accounting	-	-	8,131.93	8,131.93
Staff Training	-	-	-	-
Legal	-	-	4,263.60	4,263.60
Telephone & IT	-	-	8,009.52	8,009.52
Rego & Sundry	-	-	1,462.24	1,462.24
Vehicle	-	-	19,406.16	19,406.16
Travel, Accom & Meals	-	-	8,147.13	8,147.13
<b>Total Expenses</b>	-	9,644,685.38	2,333,050.66	11,977,736.04
<b>Unspent:</b>				
Outstanding Cluster Payments	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	-	<b>9,644,685.38</b>	<b>2,333,050.66</b>	<b>11,977,736.04</b>

I have audited the above Statement of Income & Expenditure for the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries - Queensland Feral Pest Initiative – RAPAD Cluster Fence Project.

In my opinion the Financial Statement for Department of Agriculture & Fisheries Queensland Feral Pest Initiative – RAPAD Cluster Fence Project presents a true and fair view of the project for the period.

I hereby certify that all funds paid under the Funding Agreement have been expended or incurred by way of expenditure solely upon the project and in accordance with the Terms of the Agreement.



William I Ringrose  
Ringrose Button Chartered Accountants  
116 Eagle Street, Longreach, 4730

Member: ICAA

7 January 2019

Partners  
Bill Ringrose Prue Button Elaine Jacobie

116 Eagle St PO Box 446 Longreach Q 4730

Level 1 155 East St PO Box 610 Rockhampton Q 4700

P 07 4658 1377 (Longreach) P 07 4922 8489 (Rockhampton) F 07 4658 2604

www.rbca.com.au

