

Queensland wild dog management strategy

2021–2026

Wild dogs are cooperatively managed to reduce their negative impacts on the economy, the environment and social amenity



Queensland
Government

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Summary

The Queensland Wild Dog Management Strategy provides state-wide coordination and direction to wild dog management. Wild dogs can have negative impacts on agricultural production, human health and native fauna. Land managers, government and the community have a shared responsibility to manage wild dogs and should apply a cooperative, nil-tenure approach at a landscape scale.

The strategy is underpinned by four themes: governance and leadership; awareness and participation; implementation of wild dog control; and monitoring, evaluation and reporting. Progress under the strategy measured against key performance indicators.

The Queensland Dog Offensive Group (QDOG) is responsible for leading, facilitating, monitoring and reporting on progress under the strategy.

Vision

Wild dogs are cooperatively managed to reduce their negative impacts on the economy, the environment, and social amenity.

Mission

Stakeholders work together to deliver effective, coordinated and humane management of wild dogs.

Disclaimer by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

While endorsed by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, for landscape scale activity by groups of persons, the Strategy does not include reference to all possible activities that a person may do individually to discharge their obligations under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

The absence of mention in this strategy of the Wild Dog Barrier Fence or the Queensland Government's considerable investment in exclusion fencing should not be construed as the Queensland Government not supporting future investment in fencing as a reasonable and practical alternative measure for some agricultural business.

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1 Background

1.1 Purpose and scope

The strategy provides a state-level strategic view to guide the local-level management of wild dogs. The focus is on removing barriers to local implementation, while taking into account that the level and nature of wild dog activity varies across the state and over time.

The Queensland Wild Dog Management Strategy has been developed by QDOG in consultation with stakeholders and replaces the former Queensland Wild Dog Management Strategy 2011-2016.

The strategy is complementary to the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030, which guides the implementation of a nationally agreed framework for wild dog management. Coordination among jurisdictions and consistency at a national level is important because of shared borders and the widespread, mobile nature of wild dogs. The strategy reflects the guiding principles and themes in the Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2019-2024 and alignment with the themes of the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2018-2023.

In Queensland, wild dogs are category 3, 4 and 6 restricted invasive animals under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (The Act). All Queenslanders have a general biosecurity obligation under The Act to manage biosecurity risks and threats under their control that they know about or that they are reasonably expected to know about. The *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* allows for pests, such as wild dogs, to be controlled if it is done in a way that causes the animal as little pain as is reasonable.

For the purpose of the strategy, wild dogs are referred to as all wild-living dogs, including purebred dingoes, dingo/dog hybrids and dogs that are not owned by a person. The conservation of dingoes in protected areas under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* is outside of the scope of the strategy. The management of owned dogs regulated by the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* and local laws is also out of scope of this strategy.

Cooperative management to minimise negative impacts of wild dogs is the focus for the strategy because eradication is not feasible. Cooperative management is achieved through establishing partnership arrangements and sharing data and knowledge among the various stakeholders who have a shared responsibility in wild dog management.

1.2 Wild dog management in Queensland

1.2.1 Impacts

Wild dogs can have negative impacts on agricultural production, human health and native fauna. Wild dogs are present in all areas of Queensland with an ability to adapt to different environments. Wild dog abundance and density can vary over time and is difficult to quantify due to their highly mobile nature.

Production losses are due to loss of livestock, harassment of livestock, disease, cost of control and changes in production methods. It is estimated that wild dogs cost the sheep and beef industries

between \$64 million to \$111 million annually.¹ In 2009, estimates of production losses caused by wild dogs in Queensland were \$24.9 million to the cattle industry; \$16.9 million to the sheep and goat industries; \$5.2 million associated with livestock disease management; and \$19.9 million in associated management costs.²

Wild dogs spread endemic diseases and parasites to animals and humans, such as *Neospora caninum* and hydatid disease.³ Hydatid disease is a zoonotic disease caused by tapeworm cysts.

Wild dogs can become a nuisance and at risk of threatening human safety in areas where they are habituated and have been socialised. Loss and injury of livestock and companion animals is distressing, which can affect mental health and cause stress for owners.

Wild dogs have an ecological role in native ecosystems. However, wild dogs also predate on small native fauna and can have negative impacts on threatened species such as koalas and bridled nail-tail wallabies. Their impacts can vary across different landscapes, such as rangeland areas of western Queensland to peri-urban areas of the eastern seaboard. The predation by wild dogs is not fully understood and further assessment of their abundance, density, and behaviour across a range of environments is needed.

1.2.2 Challenges in wild dog management

The challenges to the effective management of wild dog impacts in Queensland are significant. Some key challenges are;

- Lack of commitment and cooperation of land managers and other stakeholders in wild dog management and coordinated control.
- Leadership fatigue and lack of succession planning in wild dog management and coordinated control.
- Land managers may not recognise the value of coordinated control to their operations.
- Land managers may have limited understanding of effective use of control methods and best practice.
- Stakeholders may have competing priorities and resources and may place less importance on wild dog management.
- Changes in land use, rural enterprises and social demographics, including absentee landholders and variability in land managers in peri-urban areas.
- Limited availability of funding and resources, including personnel.
- Difficulties in measuring the effectiveness of control methods.
- Negative perceptions of methods used in coordinated control.

1.2.3 Shared responsibility of management

Although the management of wild dogs is primarily the responsibility of the owner or occupier of the land, the management of wild dogs is also a shared responsibility involving government and the community. A cooperative, nil-tenure approach ⁴ that engages all stakeholders is best practice. In this approach, control methods are applied in a cooperative and coordinated manner across all land tenures by all stakeholders at a landscape scale rather than at a property scale.

¹ Hewitt 2009

² NSW Natural Resources Commission

³ Grainger 1996

⁴ Saunders & McLeod 2007

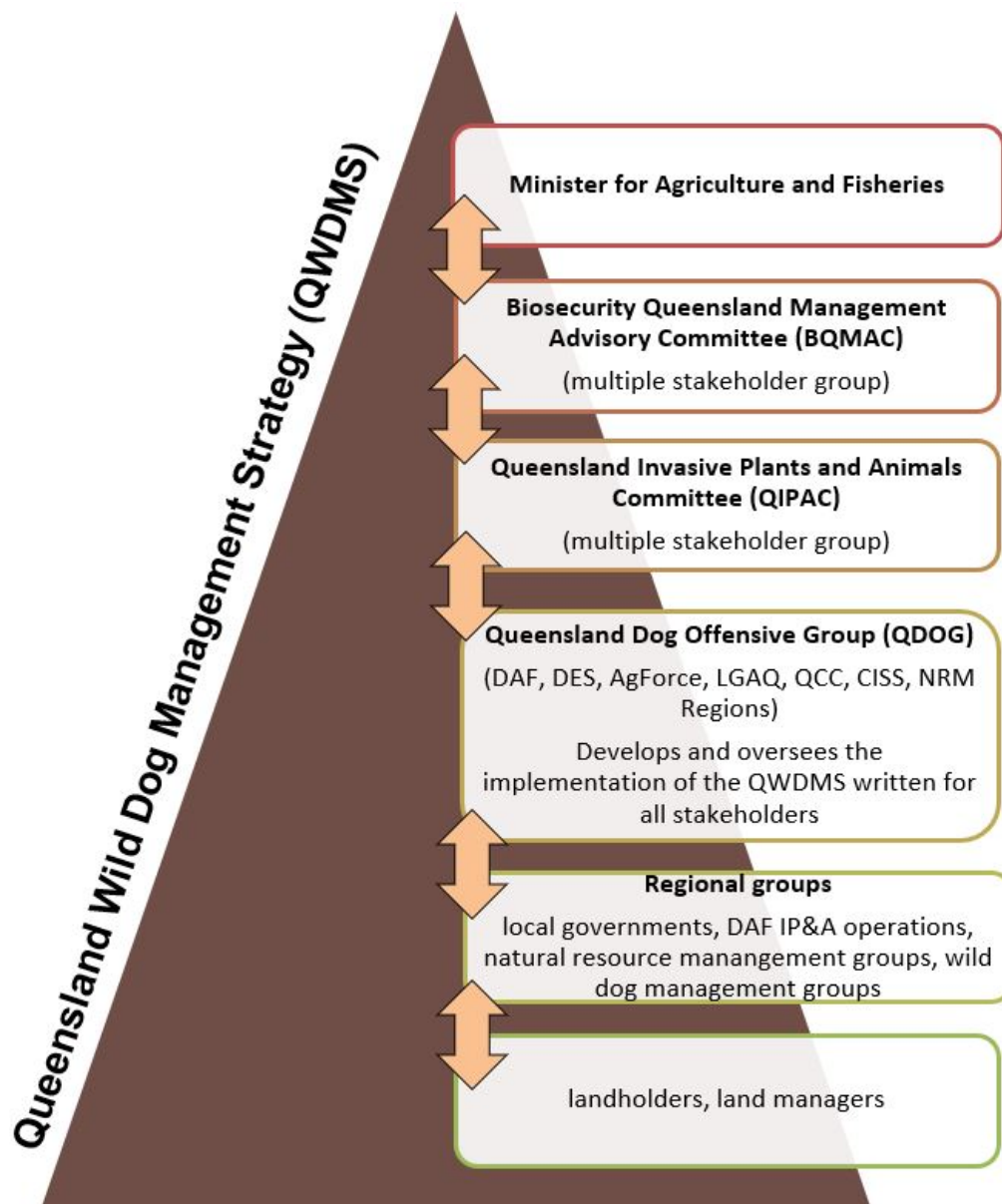
Effective leadership is a key component for a successful nil-tenure approach. Motivated leaders are needed to develop a long-term vision for landscape management, to encourage ongoing participation of land managers and to build strong partnerships with stakeholders.

2 Strategy governance

2.1 Queensland Dog Offensive Group

QDOG is responsible for leading, facilitating, monitoring and reporting on priorities under the Strategy.

2.1.1 Figure: QDOG Influence



QDOG fosters stakeholder commitment to wild dog management through the strategy, including the collection and provision of data. QDOG oversees the collation and analysis of data to support the strategy's key performance indicators.

QDOG is led by an independent chair and is supported by a Biosecurity Queensland secretariat. Key stakeholder groups are represented on QDOG, including: AgForce Queensland Farmers Ltd; Centre

for Invasive Species Solutions; Queensland Conservation Council; Natural Resource Management groups; Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF); Department of Environment and Science; and local government.

QDOG's main function is to provide current, high level, independent and strategic advice to the Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Committee, DAF, and key stakeholders regarding strategic wild dog management issues as they relate to biosecurity considerations across Queensland.

The other functions of QDOG include:

- Building and maintaining relationships between the DAF, industry and local governments and other relevant entities to support a collaborative approach to wild dog management.
- Providing advice on wild dog management in accordance with the Queensland Wild Dog Management Strategy.
- Identifying and promoting opportunities for improved investment in wild dog management and cooperation between key stakeholders.
- Promoting the development of communication networks between wild dog management groups, land managers and researchers across Queensland and nationally through the development and implementation of a formal communications plan.

2.2 Strategy review

The strategy has a five-year lifespan and will be evaluated three years after commencement to allow time for the strategy to be adapted and revised before it expires. The review will be based on annual monitoring against the key performance indicators.

2.3 Stakeholder roles in management

Stakeholders can play certain roles in wild dog management (table 2.3.1). These roles can vary depending on the circumstances and many stakeholders work beyond the roles outlined in Table 2.3.1.

2.3.1 Table: Management roles by stakeholder

Stakeholder	Management roles
Australian Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National framework through the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030
Queensland Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative, policy and strategic framework in Queensland Extension and education Research and development to inform and improve best practice management of wild dogs Management and on-ground control on state land
Local governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management and on-ground control on local government land Set policy through local government biosecurity plans Compliance and enforcement by authorised persons Coordinate local control programs Land manager engagement, extension and education
Land managers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land managers have a general biosecurity obligation under the Act to take all reasonable and practical measures to manage biosecurity risks posed by wild dogs on their land Property management and on-ground control Participation in local wild dog groups/committees Develop and implement property biosecurity plans
Industry groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land manager engagement, extension and education Provide input into legislation and policy Research and development to inform and improve best practice management of wild dogs Leadership in best management practice
Research institutions or centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and development to inform and improve best practice management of wild dogs
NRM groups and community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate and contribute to regional management Land manager engagement Extension and education
Wild dog management groups (e.g., local government wild dog management groups, NRM pest management groups, Landcare and wild dog syndicates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate and contribute to regional management Land manager engagement Provide information on wild dog management activities to support evaluation of the strategy as requested by QDOG

3 Strategy themes

Four themes support the vision and the mission of the strategy. The themes are complementary to the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030, Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2019-2024, and the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2018-2023 (table 3.4.1).

3.1 Theme 1: Governance and leadership

The strategy promotes effective governance and leadership through key stakeholders performing roles and responsibilities that are clearly defined. Theme 1 reflects the leadership required to ensure the long-term commitment of key stakeholders to work cooperatively and collaboratively for the management of wild dogs. Leadership is required to drive partnership arrangements among key stakeholders for a nil-tenure approach to management.

3.2 Theme 2: Awareness and participation

Effective communication, education and training increases public, government and community support. The strategy promotes awareness raising and capacity building activities as a way to achieve adoption of appropriate wild dog management practices. These activities ensure key stakeholders pay ongoing and systematic attention to wild dog issues and have the capacity to implement appropriate local management practices.

3.3 Theme 3: Implementation of wild dog control

Implementation of coordinated, efficient and effective wild dog control is essential to reducing wild dog populations across Queensland. However, the effectiveness of a control technique is influenced by the way it is implemented. Best practice controls should be well-planned and coordinated among adjoining properties and local government boundaries. Control techniques can vary across regions, land-uses and agricultural industries.

3.4 Theme 4: Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting underpin the strategy's ongoing performance and accountability. Data collection and reporting needs to be consistent, ongoing and fit for purpose to ensure efficient and effective monitoring and evaluation that demonstrates measurable change.

The strategy will ensure that reporting and data collection activities are useful for monitoring and evaluating wild dog management in Queensland. The strategy aligns with the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030 by supporting data collection and reporting against nationally consistent metrics under the National Plan.

3.4.1 Table: Alignment of themes

This table combines the themes with the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030, Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2019-2024 and the Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2018-2023.

	Queensland Wild Dog Management Strategy 2021-2026			
	Theme 1: Governance and leadership	Theme 2: Awareness and participation	Theme 3: Implementation of wild dog control	Theme 4: Monitoring, evaluation and reporting
National Wild Dog Action Plan	Goal 1 Provide leadership and strategic coordination for the continuing management of wild dogs.	Goal 2 Increase community awareness, understanding and capacity with regard to humane, best practice wild dog management.	Goal 3 Increase adoption of best practice wild dog management.	Goal 1 Provide leadership and strategic coordination for the continuing management of wild dogs (monitoring and reporting component).
Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy*	Theme 5 Strategic planning and management Theme 6 Commitment, roles and responsibilities	Theme 3 Awareness and education	Theme 4 Effective management systems	Theme 2 Monitoring and assessment
Queensland Biosecurity Strategy	Theme 1 Collaborative leadership and governance Theme 2 Every Queenslander plays their part	Theme 3 Empowered to act Theme 5 Valuing and building on our investments	Theme 4 Bright ideas and better way Theme 6 Better intelligence systems	

*Theme 1: Prevention and preparedness is excluded due to the widespread distribution of wild dogs in Queensland

4 Measuring key performance indicators (KPIs)

The strategy's performance under each theme will be managed and measured by key performance indicators (KPIs). The KPIs will measure progress against the strategy at local, regional and state-wide levels (table 4.4.1). The KPIs will be monitored through annual data collection using reporting from and surveys of QDOG, local government and organisations and groups involved in wild dog management. During the first year of the strategy, data collection will be used to establish a baseline.

4.1 Theme 1: Governance and leadership

KPI 1.1 seeks to measure the performance of QDOG as leading, facilitating, monitoring and reporting on the performance of the strategy. It measures a stakeholder reference group understanding of and satisfaction with QDOG's governance and leadership roles.

KPIs 1.2 and 1.3 seek to understand the leadership role of key stakeholders at the local and regional level. KPI 1.2 measures the coverage of organisations and groups undertaking wild dog management. It assumes that coverage is a sign of leadership at regional and local levels. KPI 1.3 measures coordination effort and partnerships at the regional and local levels, which are critical to effective and efficient wild dog control.

4.2 Theme 2: Awareness and participation

KPI 2.1 focuses on the strategy's role in setting state-wide priorities for activities that raise awareness and build capacity at regional and local levels. It measures stakeholder satisfaction with these priorities in driving awareness raising and capacity building activities.

KPI 2.2 measures the growth in awareness, capacity building and training through the activity of local organisations and groups involved in wild dog management. It measures understanding of the importance of wild dog control at local and regional levels across Queensland. It is important to ensure that this understanding is not isolated to particular regions.

KPI 2.3 builds on KPI 2.2 by exploring whether key stakeholders believe that activities raising awareness and building capacity are effective. Analysed together, KPI 2.2 and KPI 2.3 will not only demonstrate a growth in activities raising awareness and building capacity across Queensland, but also demonstrate whether this growth has been effective for key stakeholders at regional and local levels.

4.3 Theme 3: Implementation of wild dog control

Theme 3 seeks to measure the impact of control techniques in terms of stakeholder satisfaction with techniques implemented and reported attacks on livestock. The KPIs are not specific to a certain control technique or region.

KPI 3.1 measures key stakeholder's satisfaction with QDOG's work to reduce barriers and identify risks to the implementation of wild dog control techniques. It will demonstrate if QDOG's role and work in coordination and advocacy for control techniques has been successful in the eyes of stakeholders.

KPI 3.2 measures local level satisfaction with the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation of control techniques.

KPI 3.3 measures the direct impact of wild dog attacks on livestock. It will provide an indication of economic impacts on cattle and sheep industries. Long-term trends are expected to show a decrease in attacks as a result of improved implementation of appropriate control techniques over the course of the strategy. A range of external factors contribute to measures of direct impact on livestock stock, such as seasonal conditions and stock numbers during drought. These factors will need to be taken into consideration when making comparisons between years when measuring the impacts of wild dogs on livestock.

4.4 Theme 4: Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

KPI 4.1 will demonstrate Queensland's contribution to achieving the goals of the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030.

KPI 4.2 measures QDOG's satisfaction with the usefulness of data and reports from local groups and organisations involved in wild dog management for the purpose of monitoring and evaluation under the strategy.

KPI 4.3 measures the level of reporting activity at regional and local scales through organisations and groups involved in wild dog management. It encourages increased activity over time.

KPI 4.4 measures the effectiveness of reporting activity generated under the strategy in the eyes of local groups and organisations involved in wild dog management. These groups need to demonstrate performance and accountability at regional and local scales.

4.4.1 Table: Themes and KPIs at state and regional and local levels

	State	Regional and local
Theme 1 Governance and leadership	KPI 1.1: Stakeholder satisfaction with QDOG's governance and leadership role increases over the strategy's lifetime.	KPI 1.2: Percentage of local government areas where wild dog management groups are operating increases over the Strategy's lifetime. KPI 1.3: Number of wild dog management groups adopting regional coordination approaches increases over the strategy's lifetime.
Theme 2 Awareness, understanding and capacity development	KPI 2.1: Stakeholder satisfaction with awareness raising and capacity development by QDOG increases over the strategy's lifetime.	KPI 2.2: Percentage of wild dog management groups undertaking and participating in awareness raising activities (such as events, community meetings, media releases and promotion) and providing training / capacity development activities increases over the strategy's lifetime. KPI 2.3: Stakeholder satisfaction with the awareness raising and training / capacity development activities by wild dog management groups increases over the strategy's lifetime.
Theme 3 Implementation of wild dog control	KPI 3.1: Stakeholders are satisfied with QDOG's ability to manage risks and barriers, and support stakeholders who implement wild dog control techniques. KPI 3.3: Estimate of wild dog attacks on livestock per year decreases over the strategy's lifetime.	KPI 3.2: Percentage of livestock producers satisfied with the availability and effective delivery of integrated wild dog control activities in regional and local areas improves over the strategy's lifetime.
Theme 4 Monitoring, evaluation and reporting	KPI 4.1: Data collection and reporting activities allow QDOG to effectively monitor progress towards the goals of the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030. KPI 4.2: QDOG's satisfaction with the data collection and reporting activities undertaken by local wild dog management group improves over the strategy's lifetime.	KPI 4.3: Percentage of wild dog management groups reporting on the impact of local wild dog management in their local areas increases over the strategy's lifetime. KPI 4.4: Wild dog management groups' satisfaction with the reporting undertaken at the local level increases over the strategy's lifetime.

4.4.2 Table: Methods of data collection for KPIs

Method	KPI
Survey of QDOG members by external stakeholders	<p>1.1 Stakeholder satisfaction with QDOG's governance and leadership role increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>2.1 Stakeholder satisfaction with awareness raising and capacity development by QDOG increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>4.2 QDOG's satisfaction with the data collection and reporting on wild dog management undertaken by organisations or groups improves over the strategy's lifetime.</p>
Reference Group survey (e.g. comprising NRM, environmental, industry, local government, community /WDMG reps)	<p>1.1 Stakeholder satisfaction with QDOG's governance and leadership role increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>2.1 Stakeholder satisfaction with awareness raising and capacity development by QDOG increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>2.3 Stakeholder satisfaction with the awareness raising and training / capacity development activities by wild dog management groups increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>3.1 Stakeholders are satisfied with QDOG's ability to manage risks and barrier, and support stakeholders who implement wild dog control techniques.</p>
Key stakeholder survey	<p>2.3 Stakeholder satisfaction with the awareness raising and training / capacity development activities by wild dog management groups increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p>
Wild dog management group survey	<p>1.1 Stakeholder satisfaction with QDOG's governance and leadership role increases over the strategy's lifetime</p> <p>1.3 Number of wild dog management groups adopting regional coordination approaches increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>2.2 Percentage of wild dog management groups undertaking and participating in awareness raising activities (such as events, community meetings, media releases and promotion) and providing training / capacity development activities increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>3.2 Percentage of livestock producers satisfied with the availability and effective delivery of integrated wild dog control activities in regional and local areas improves over the strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>4.3 Percentage of wild dog management groups reporting on the impact of local wild dog management in their local areas increases over the Strategy's lifetime.</p> <p>4.4 Wild dog management groups' satisfaction with the reporting undertaken at the local level increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p>
Local government information request	<p>1.2 Percentage of local government areas where wild dog management groups are operating increases over the strategy's lifetime.</p>
Economic data from meat processors about carcasses impacted by dog bites or hydatid disease. Sheep and lamb survival	<p>3.3 Number of wild dog attacks on livestock per year decreases over the strategy's lifetime.</p>
Reporting provided by Queensland jurisdiction under the National Wild	<p>4.1 Data collection and reporting activities allow QDOG to effectively monitor progress towards the goals of the National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030</p>

Method	KPI
Dog Action Plan 2020-2030	

5 Cited References

1. Hewitt, L. (2009) Major economic costs associated with wild dogs in the Queensland grazing industry, Blueprint for the Bush. Queensland State Government, Brisbane QLD.
2. NSW Natural Resources Commission, Cost of Pest Animals in NSW, and Australia 2013-14, report by eSYS Development Pty Ltd.
3. Grainger HJ and Jenkins DJ (1996) Transmission of hydatid disease from wild dogs to sheep in Victoria, Australia. Int J Parasitol
4. Saunders, Glen & McLeod, Lynette. (2007). Improving Fox Management Strategies in Australia. Bureau of Rural Sciences, Canberra.

Appendix 1: Legislative context

Legislation is used in wild dog management at national, state/territory and local government levels. The information provided in this appendix is not exhaustive. Legislative changes may occur over the lifetime of the strategy.

The following topics related to wild dog management are covered by legislation in Queensland:

- Invasive species management
- Supply and use of poisons
- Use of agriculture and veterinary chemicals
- Animal welfare
- Environmental protection and biodiversity conservation
- Animal disease prevention and control
- Workplace health and safety
- Use of firearms
- Aviation

Australian Government

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is the independent statutory authority responsible for assessing and registering pesticides and veterinary medicines proposed for supply in Australia. This includes the poisons and other veterinary products used for wild dog control. The full national framework for the regulation of agricultural and veterinary products can be found at apvma.gov.au.

Queensland Government

Biosecurity Act 2014

Wild dogs (dogs that are not owned) and dingoes are restricted matter. They must not be moved, fed, given away, sold, or released into the environment. Additionally, dingoes cannot be kept. The general biosecurity obligation requires that a person takes all reasonable and practical measures to manage the biosecurity risks posed by wild dogs on their land.

Animal Care and Protection Act 2001

The *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* provides an offence exemption for the killing of a feral animal, that is restricted matter under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, if it is done in a way that causes the animal as little pain as is reasonable. All animal control activities must comply with the *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001*.

Medicines and Poisons Act 2019, Medicines and Poisons (Poisons and Prohibited Substances) Regulation 2021 and associated Queensland Health Departmental Standard Dealing with Restricted S7 poisons for invasive animal control. Among other things, the *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* regulates the supply and use of scheduled poisons used in Queensland to control wild dogs including such poisons as sodium fluoroacetate (1080), para-aminopropiophenone (PAPP) and strychnine.

Nature Conservation Act 1992

Dingoes are 'native wildlife' and are protected under the Act as a cultural and natural resource of protected areas, such as National Parks. It is an offence to feed or disturb dingoes in protected areas.

Local government

A local government may make local law requirements for the management of wild dogs in its area.

Appendix 2: Useful information and resources

National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030

Provides direction for the national management of wild dogs to minimise their negative impacts on agricultural, biodiversity and social assets.

Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2019-2024

Establishes a state-wide strategic planning framework that addresses the impacts of invasive plants and animals.

Queensland Biosecurity Strategy 2018-2023

A five-year plan to build the framework for Queensland's future biosecurity system.

Centre for Invasive Species Solutions

Australia's collaborative research centre focusing on research, development and extension to enhance invasive species management strategies among landholders and land managers. Visit invasives.com.au.

PestSmart

A website managed by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions that provides information about vertebrate pests in Australia. This includes biology, ecology, impacts and best practice management. Operational information includes standard operating procedures, guides and case studies. Visit pestsmart.org.au.

Queensland Government wild dog information

General information about wild dog biology, impacts, control and legislative requirements is available at business.qld.gov.au.

Policies and procedures for Queensland parks and forests

Operational policies for protected areas, marine parks and other Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) managed areas can be found at parks.des.qld.gov.au. Relevant policies include 'management of wild dogs on QPWS estate' and 'good neighbour policy'.