



# **Wild Dog Management Plan**

## **2019-2022**

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Objectives</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Strategies and Actions</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>CWBA Area</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>CWBA Stakeholders</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>CWBA Minimum Standards for Wild Dog Management</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>CWBA Roles and Responsibilities for Wild Dog Management</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>CWBA Annual Community Aerial Baiting Program</b> .....	<b>13</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>CWBA Community Bait Rack Program</b> .....	<b>13</b>
	<b>Bait Rack Location and Coordinator Details</b> .....	<b>14</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Program</b> .....	<b>15</b>
	<b>Stock Loss/Wild Dog Attack Reporting Structure</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Compliance</b> .....	<b>17</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Membership, Administration and Reporting</b> .....	<b>18</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Further Information</b> .....	<b>18</b>



## 1 Introduction

The Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association (CWBA) Wild Dog Management Plan, details the Association's objectives and actions towards wild dog management for the local government areas of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori.

The impact of Wild Dogs in the CWBA area has been of great concern for many years. Wild Dog attacks on livestock and sightings have over time become more frequent on both pastoral and agricultural lands. In some cases, it has made livestock production enterprises in parts of the region unsustainable. Whilst reductions in wild dog populations has occurred at times through the activities of the CWBA, ongoing work is essential to keep populations at a level that will enable ongoing, profitable livestock operations across the region.

The CWBA has evolved from the Central Wheatbelt Declared Species Group which was formed in 2012 covering the Shires of Dalwallinu, Koorda and Perenjori to start working collaboratively across land tenures on Wild Dog Control activities. Traditional wild dog management methods have been used and have had varied success in local areas for varying lengths of time.

Wild Dogs are a major problem in the region to livestock production, attacking sheep, goats and juvenile cattle. Not only causing immediate losses by direct killing of animals, Wild Dogs also injure and harass stock which in turn causes significant stress to the animals and lost production as well as the socio-economic impacts that have long term effects on the community in general. The threat to the region's biodiversity by predation and harassment of native animal's by Wild Dogs is unknown but is likely to be having a negative impact also.

The CWBA covers the Shires of Koorda, Dalwallinu, Morawa and Perenjori and its role is to assist landholders to manage declared pests across its operational area including Wild Dogs. The CWBA Wild Dog Management Plan covers how Wild Dogs will be managed in the Central Wheatbelt including; implementation of on-ground activities, compliance, administration, finances and stakeholders.

It is recognised that Wild Dogs need to be managed on all land, to ensure impacts are minimised on agricultural production properties.

## 2 Objectives

The objectives of the CWBA Wild Dog Management Plan cover three core themes:

- Management
- Engagement and Collaboration
- Measurement.

### *Management*

- a. Develop and implement proactive, best practice strategies to reduce the effects of Wild Dogs on private and public lands, so that wild dog predation has minimal economic impact on the livestock industry and biodiversity values of the region.

### *Engagement and collaboration*

- b. Increase stakeholder participation and encourage landholders and the broader community to adopt sound biosecurity practices for wild dog management.
- c. Provide members with a mechanism to exchange information, advice and assistance where appropriate for wild dog management.
- d. Encourage and support collaboration for wild dog management in adjacent shires and regions.

### *Measurement*

- e. Observe, assess, and report on the progress concerning the reduction of negative impacts of Wild Dogs in the Central Wheatbelt region.

### 3 Strategies and Actions

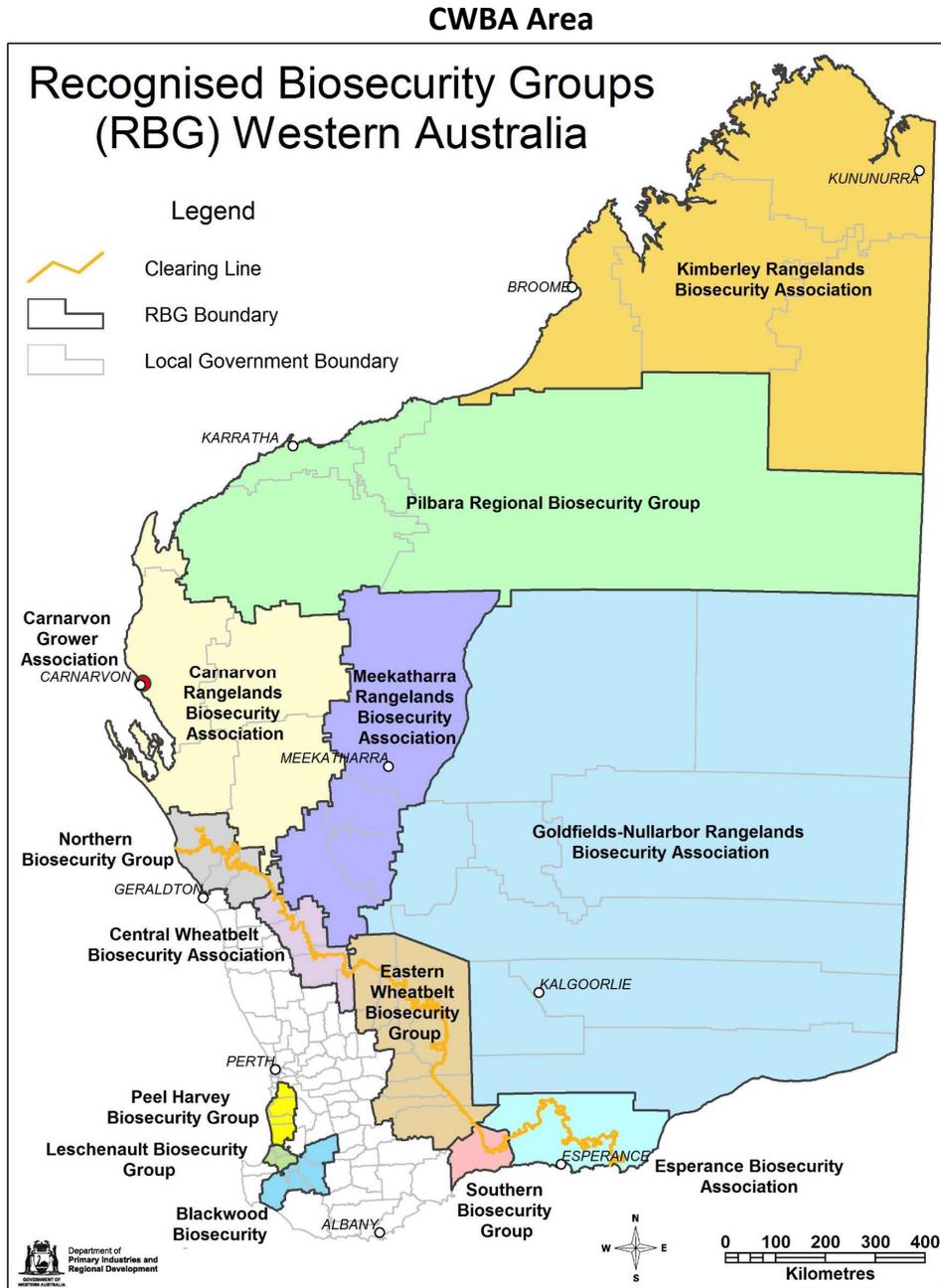
The CWBA has a Strategic Plan which has identified a range of strategies, actions and measures of success that will meet our identified objectives for Wild Dog control.

Strategy	Action	Measures of Success
1. Reduce wild dog and fox numbers to reduce stock losses.	Ongoing engagement and resourcing of LPMTs and Coordinators.	Increased productivity within member's businesses (e.g. increased lambing percentages; decreased stock losses; reduced dog numbers) attributed to wild dog and fox management.
	Community bait days in autumn and spring.	
2. Undertake targeted stakeholder consultation re the Declared Pest Rate (DPR).	Produce and directly distribute a flier outlining the DPR process and benefits to all key stakeholders across the four shires.	DPR is supported across the four shires.
	Develop a more detailed information kit, including online video and FAQs to be available via email and download from the CWBA website. Promote via the CWBA Facebook page and Twitter.	
	Address stakeholder meetings (e.g. Shires, NRM and grower groups) and workshops re the DPR.	
	Promote the DPR through advertising and articles in all local newsletters and newspapers. Offer radio interviews.	
3. Encourage a 'best practice' approach to management and control.	Promote a consistent approach to the planning process for the management of Wild Dogs and foxes.	Wild Dogs are controlled humanely.
	Promote the development of plans that minimise Wild Dog control impacts on non-target species.	
	Develop a Wild Dog management plan for the region with the community.	
4. Tailor information to different needs of stakeholders.	Identify key stakeholders that CWBA needs to keep informed and level of engagement needed.	Information pack produced and utilised.
	Tailor information provided to the needs/concerns identified.	
	Produce quarterly newsletter includes summary of data re wild dog activities and impacts from LPMTs and Coordinator.	
	Map showing LPMT activity	

	updated each year.	
<b>5.</b> Use Bait Rack days and workshops to promote value of involvement in Wild Dog management.	Use multi-media promotion of permit and Bait Rack days.	Increased participation in Bait Rack days. Landholders control Wild Dogs on own land.
	Use neighbours and CWBA Executive Officer to enlist non-active growers.	
<b>6.</b> Target key groups to leverage good Wild Dog management outcomes.	Work with biosecurity groups such as NBG, Meekatharra and EWBG re boundary issues, contributions and management plans.	Agreement on responsibilities for Wild Dog control across group boundaries/tenure.
	Work with DBCA to verify MOU.	
	Work with NRM and Grower groups and agencies to leverage resources.	
<b>7.</b> Maintain strong working relationship with DPIRD.	Utilise DPIRD resources (e.g. biosecurity officers, financial planning and mapping).	Support from DPIRD maintained.
	Maintain reporting and meet DPR requirements.	
	Provide an avenue for feedback to community and DPIRD on key Wild Dog management issues.	
	Identify the resources (e.g. data base) that would be of benefit to DPIRD.	
<b>8.</b> Dogs and foxes - collect usable data.	Data collection from LPMTs is consistent and current across areas they cover.	Consistent and accurate data is gathered and used for decision making.
	Landholder data collection occurs through LPMT Dogger Coordinator.	
	Sheep losses via quarterly data collection from core group of growers across four shires.	
	Use data in reporting impact to stakeholders.	
	Information reporting used in proof of value	
	Data gathered used in future planning and resource allocation.	
	Identify what other groups (e.g. NACC, Wheatbelt NRM, Bush Heritage, Mt Gibson) are doing re data collection and how CWBA can access or utilise it.	
	Encourage growers to utilise Feralscan	

## 4 CWBA Area

The CWBA area covers approximately 21,901 square kilometres and includes the local government areas of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori.



## 5 CWBA Stakeholders

Stakeholders of the CWBA include, but not limited to:

- Local Landholders in the Shires of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Perenjori and Morawa
- Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (Formally DPAW)
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Formally DAFWA)
- Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
- Alterra Ltd (Formally Carbon Conscious)
- Shire of Dalwallinu
- Shire of Koorda
- Shire of Perenjori
- Shire of Morawa
- Adjacent Shires (Wongan Ballidu, Moora, Coorow, Yalgoo, Mount Marshall, Trayning, Wyalkatchem, Carnamah, Three Springs)
- Australian Wool Innovation Limited
- Meat and Livestock Australia
- Livestock firms (e.g. West Coast Livestock, Paul Gatti, Stan Hathway, Elders, Landmark, wool agencies)
- Australian Wildlife Conservancy - Mt Gibson Sanctuary
- Bush Heritage Australia - Charles Darwin Reserve
- Gindalbie Metals Badja Station.

## 6 CWBA Minimum Standards for Wild Dog Management

In line with the above Acts and Agreements, the roles and responsibilities of key project stakeholders are outlined below.

Entity	Roles and responsibilities
CWBA	Provide leadership in management of Wild Dogs in the region.
	Collaborate with landholders and government agencies to develop and implement strategic, landscape-wide management programs for Wild Dogs.
	Participate in coordinated, targeted Wild Dog control activities with relevant agencies.
Private land occupiers, owners and managers (also termed as landholders)	Control Wild Dogs on their own landholdings.
	Participate in CWBA and RBG programs and initiatives.
Community groups including regional NRM groups, Grower groups and biosecurity groups	Provide services in Wild Dog management in line with funded programs.
Utilities and government authorities	Manage Wild Dogs on land held by utilities (e.g. Water Corporation) and government authorities.

The CWBA Board has endorsed a set of minimum standards for wild dog management that are in line with prescribed control requirements detailed in the BAM Act 2007.

This minimum standard is agreed by the CWBA Board of Management to be fair and equitable to all land owners and occupiers. All land owners and occupiers within the CWBA region are expected to adhere to these standards.

1. Under section 30 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007, all land owners and occupiers have an obligation to control declared pests on their property, to mitigate impacts on all properties in the area. The CWBA strongly recommends that owners and occupiers undertake the following to manage the impact of Wild Dogs on their land.
  - a. Have a wild dog control plan for the property.
  - b. Have a valid Restricted Chemical Product Permit to use 1080 and strychnine for wild dog control on the property.

- c. Attend co-ordinated control meetings to understand what levels of control are needed and where control needs to be applied.
- d. Participate in the CWBA community bait rack program.
- e. In areas of wild dog activity, lay and maintain 1080 baits and/or traps while Wild Dogs are active; or
- f. Provide access to and liaise with/support CWBA contracted Licenced Pest Management Technicians.

Where the above measures are proven insufficient and/or ineffective, the land owner/occupier may discuss alternative options for control with the CWBA and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) to arrive at a mutually agreed level of control.

2. If, during an inspection by an Inspector appointed under the under BAM Act 2007, the owner / occupier of the wild dog infested property is not able to demonstrate that they have initiated any effective control measures, a Pest Control Notice may be issued by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to the land owner / occupier under section 31 of the Act.
3. The Pest Control Notice may require any of the following actions as described in section 1 of this standard.
  - a. Have a wild dog control plan for the property, approved by DPIRD.
  - b. Have a valid Restricted Chemical Permit to use 1080 and strychnine for wild dog control on the property.
  - c. Participate in co-ordinated baiting in areas of wild dog activity:
  - d. Lay and maintain 1080 baits and traps at all times while Wild Dogs are active; or
  - e. Employ a contractor to carry out wild dog control.
4. In strategic locations, an Inspector may exercise discretion to determine a specified date for a control program to be conducted.
5. Land owners and occupiers who have been served with a pest control notice in relation to Wild Dogs and have been required by the Inspector to prepare a Property Pest Management Plan and implement it, will then be required to provide evidence of implementation.
6. If a land owner / occupier does not comply with a Pest Control Notice, DPIRD may take action under the provisions of the BAM Act 2007 section 32(a), section 33.

## 7 CWBA Roles and Responsibilities for Wild Dog Management

The CWBA will:

- Provide leadership in management of declared species in the region.
- Collaborate with landholders and government agencies to develop and implement strategic, landscape-wide management programs for invasive species.
- Participate in coordinated, targeted Wild Dog control activities with relevant agencies.

The CWBA Board of Management is responsible for determining an annual budget and Operational Plan outlining activities with the focus being the control of Wild Dogs. The CWBA annual budget includes as revenue a Declared Pest Rate that, once approved by the Minister for Agriculture, is payable by all landowners in the CWBA region. This rate is matched on a dollar for dollar basis by the Western Australia Government.

Key wild dog management activities will be determined on an annual basis but generally include:

- Coordination of the CWBA Community Bait Rack Program. Utilising five bait racks located throughout the CWBA area. This program involves the preparation and distribution of baits twice per year requiring the annual provision of approximately 30,000-40,000 1080 Dried Meat Baits which are made available to CWBA landholders and contracted LPMTs, these baits will be provided free of charge or on a cost recovery basis dependant on the CWBA ability to access funds. Provision in the CWBA budget is also made for aerial baiting where ground access is not possible and funds allow.
- Coordination of the CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Program. This involves the engagement of contracted Licenced Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) to assist landholders, including the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, in the control of Wild Dogs by trapping and baiting. Assisting with the provision of equipment (traps and poisons), training, permits (Restricted Chemical Product Permits) and resources to ensure that both landholders and LPMTs are equipped to undertake effective Wild Dog control activities.

The CWBAs roles and responsibilities for Wild Dog Control is to be seen as on top of (not instead of!) the landholder's responsibilities. Firstly, landholders should be undertaking reasonable control activities themselves as stated in the BAM act - all land owners and occupiers have an obligation to control declared pests on their property, to mitigate impacts on all properties in the area.

## 8 CWBA Annual Community Aerial Baiting Program

Subject to funds being available the CWBA may provide an aerial baiting service to landholders to deliver wild dog baits to inaccessible areas not able to be reached by vehicle. Forward planning is required and requests for aircraft must be submitted in time for consideration by the Board of Management at their October meeting, when the budget for the following year is determined and adopted.

## 9 CWBA Community Bait Rack Program

The CWBA will provide meat, 1080 concentrate, baiting supplies, the services of a Licenced Pest Management Technician and PPE to all bait preparation rack locations up to two times per year – generally March/April and September/October.

To ensure a coordinated approach to wild dog control it is important that all land managers take part in the CWBA Community Bait Rack Program.

Bait Rack Coordinators are appointed by the CWBA Board of Management to:

- Arrange collection of the meat and oversee the bait preparation process.
- Store baits in freezers located at the Bait Racks on behalf of landowners who have RCP Permits.
- Distribute baits. Are responsible for all records in relation to distribution of baits as per the Code of Practice. A register must be kept of all baits in and out. Records of supply to a Receiver or Approved User must include the identification number of the Permit issued by the Authorised Department and must be signed by the person supplying the 1080, PAPP or Strychnine and the person receiving these pesticide products.

Bait Rack locations including contact details for coordinators are listed below:

### Bait Rack Location and Coordinator Details

Location	Bait Rack Coordinator	Phone	Email
Goodlands Bait Rack	Ashley Sanderson	0459 663 008	sanderson255@bigpond.com
Perenjori Bait Rack	Glen Solomon	0428 731 162	perangery@bigpond.com
Koorda Bait Rack	Carl Fuschbishler	0429 651 081	endomoorefarms@westnet.com.au
Mongers Lake Bait Rack	Russell Macpherson	0428 641 067	Miljanna.grazing@gmail.com
Morawa Bait Rack	Glen Tapscott	0427 715 048	Taps47@bigpond.com

## 10 CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Program

Annually the CWBA Board of Management will review the CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Program and contract a sufficient number of LPMTs to effectively manage Wild Dogs in the CWBA region and assist landholders experiencing wild dog predation within the agricultural region to reduce the financial impacts of stock attacks. The CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Program is supported by the CWBA Dogger Coordinator who oversees the day to day implementation of this program.

The CWBA LPMT (Dogger) Coordinator will:

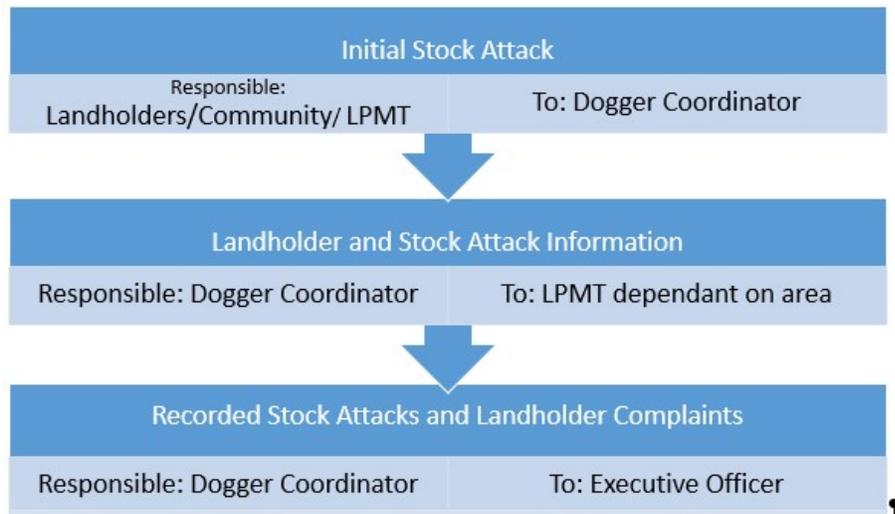
- be the community/landholder's first point of contact to report wild dog sightings and stock attacks.
- Record stock attacks and any landholder complaints in regards to LPMTs.
- Communicate wild dog sightings and stock attacks to relevant LPMTs.
- Direct LPMTs to attend properties with stock attacks within a timeframe or other areas as required.
- Be informed of LPMT activities and movements (LPMTs to notify Dogger Coordinator when they are working in the region and for how long) and direct LPMT activities and provide guidance as required.
- Liaise with the Executive Officer as to landholder reports, LPMT activities and any other matters as they arise.
- Provide Board of Management with reports as to wild activity in the region.

The CWBA LPMTs will:

- Carry out surveillance activities and undertake reporting in the CWBA with regard to the presence of Wild Dogs and, to the best of their ability, advise the CWBA of estimated wild dog (or other identified declared pests) numbers, population trends and wild dog movements.
- Implement co-ordinated control activities for Wild Dogs on all classes of land as directed by the CWBA Dogger Coordinator. First priority is to provide additional assistance to affected landholders experiencing Wild Dog predation, using all possible and practicable wild dog control tools not limited to: baiting, trapping, shooting, canid pest injectors, motion activated cameras and GPS technologies.
- Carry out ground baiting as part of their daily activities.
- Assist the CWBA to coordinate and plan ground and aerial wild dog, control activities and assistance in the delivery of surveillance and baits by air as required.
- Participate in CWBA Community Bait rack as directed by the CWBA Dogger Coordinator by attending and assisting with meat bait preparation and injection.
- Advise landholders in the CWBA on management of, and control techniques for Wild Dogs.
- Carry out work on all classes of land within the CWBA area of operations as directed by the CWBA Dogger Coordinator.
- The CWBA Dogger Coordinator as the authorised representative of the CWBA will coordinate and delegate the LPMTs duties.

### Stock Loss/Wild Dog Attack Reporting Structure

Information	Person Responsible	To send to:
*Initial Stock Attacks/ Dog Sightings	Landholders/ LPMTS/ Community	Dogger Coordinator
*Stock Attacks/ Dog Sightings received	Dogger Coordinator	LPMT
Any other relevant information	LPMT	Dogger Coordinator
Permit Processes	LPMT – when applicable/ Landholders	Executive Officer



## 11 Compliance

The Biosecurity and Agriculture Management (BAM) Act 2007 provides the legislative framework to provide effective biosecurity and agriculture management for the State. The main purposes of the BAM Act and its regulations are to:

- Prevent new animal and plant pests (vermin and weeds) and diseases from entering Western Australia.
- Manage the impact and spread of those pests already present in the state.
- Safely manage the use of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.
- Increase control over the sale of agricultural products that contain violative chemical residues.

The use of 1080 and strychnine in Western Australia is governed by the Poisons Act 1964 and codes of practise developed by the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA). It is a legal requirement that land managers hold a current Restricted Chemical Product Permit (RCP) where baiting with 1080 or trapping using strychnine is carried out on their property and that the permit correctly lists receivers and users.

The codes of practise relating to the use of 1080 and Strychnine and RCP requirements are available on the DAFWA web site – [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au).

The CWBA will assist landholders in obtaining valid RCP Permits.

## 12 Membership, Administration and Reporting

The CWBA aspires to most effectively use the group's resources to manage priority declared pests and to assist the group to meet its responsibilities under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 (BAMA).

It has a Strategic Plan and Annual Operational plans that outline a collaborative, multi-stakeholder approach to invasive species management that will enhance the coordination Wild Dogs.

The CWBA Constitution provides for a Board of Management who are responsible for overseeing the affairs of the Association. The Board of Management consists of a Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; Secretary and Treasurer and no less than 3 and no more than 7 other members. Directors terms of appointment are for a three-year period.

Membership of the CWBA is open to:

**Full Member** being any natural person who owns or occupies at least one hundred (100) hectares of land within the Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association area having, or likely to have, a Pest Management Notice, or responsibility to manage pests; and

**Associate Member** being any Legal Organisation that is responsible for the care, control or management of land within the Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association area, or that are conducting significant activities on land within this region, represented by a Member Authorised Nominee.

As an incorporated Association the CWBA is responsible for its own administration. It employs a part-time Executive Officer to undertake all the administration and reporting requirements of the Association including Annual Reports to the Minister for Agriculture outlining its activities.

## 13 Further Information

For further information about the CWBA, Wild Dog control, assistance and compliance contact:

CWBA Executive Officer  
Linda Vernon  
Mobile 0473 163 050  
Email [eocwba@outlook.com](mailto:eocwba@outlook.com)  
Website: [www.cwba.org.au](http://www.cwba.org.au)