

# PIRSA

## Dog Fence Board Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

28 September to 20 December 2020



# Dog Fence Board - Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

Information current as of 20 December 2020

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# Contents

Objective.....	4
Key activities.....	4
Dog Fence Board .....	4
Inspections & patrols .....	5
Dog Fence Board .....	5
Local Dog Fence Boards & private owner.....	13
Dog Fence Rebuild.....	15
Contractors .....	15
Conclusion.....	16

# Objective

This report, prepared by the Dog Fence Board, provides Dog Fence stakeholders with a quarterly report summarising Board and staff activities, and Dog Fence maintenance and repair activities undertaken by Local Dog Fence Boards and the private owner.

## Key activities

### Dog Fence Board

During the reporting period:

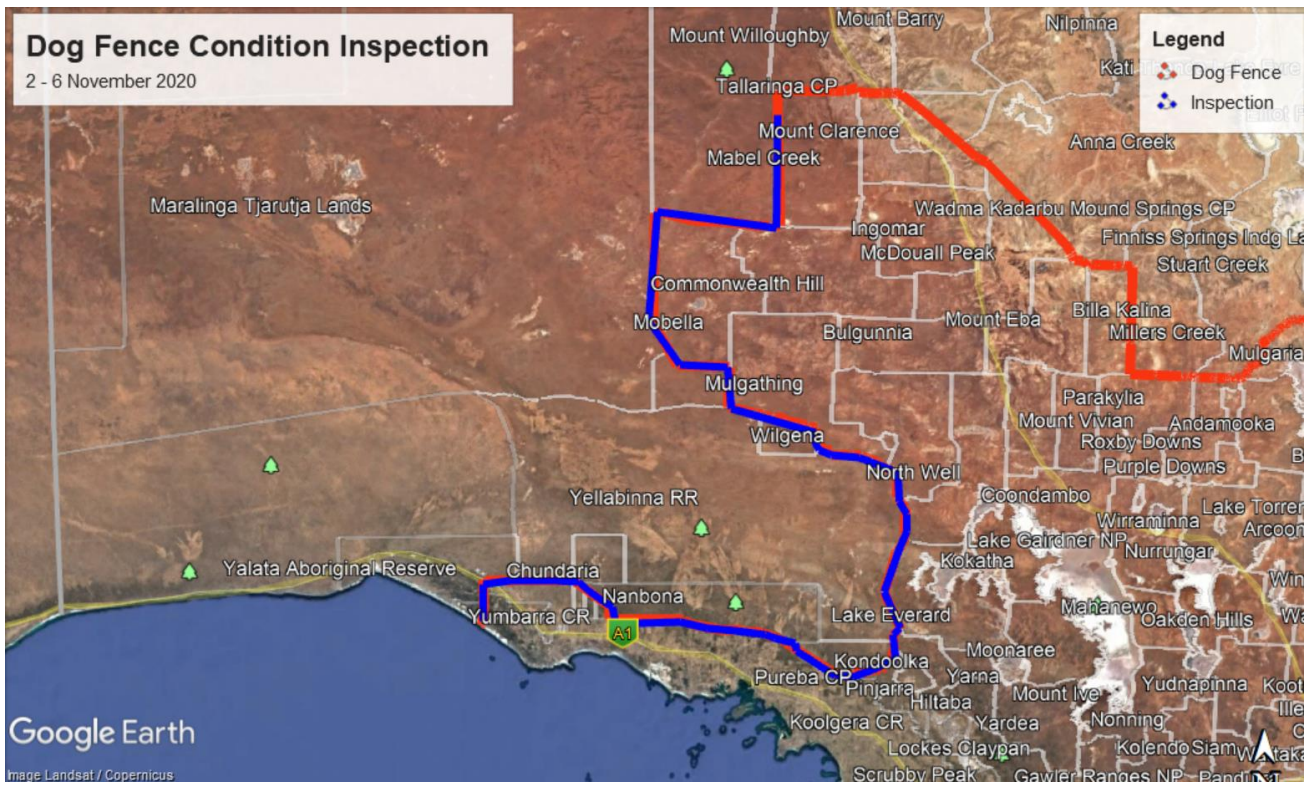
- Rates database was updated with current SAILIS information prior to rates notices being created.
- Rates notices were sent out 29/10/30. Total of 568 sent.
- Receipting of Rates notices is ongoing, majority have paid. Outstanding accounts received a reminder notice in November and will receive a 10% fine if unpaid by late December.
- Financial Audit was conducted for all Local Dog Fence Boards and the Far West Dog Fence Association individually by Galpins.
- 3 fence inspections have been conducted for inspection of fence condition and rebuild mapping.
- The Central West Patrolman resigned for personal reasons and a tender process was undertaken by the Central Local Dog Fence Board to replace the Patrolman. Central East Patrolman was successful in Central West tender and now patrols the entire Central Local Dog Fence Board managed fence.
- The previous Central West Patrolman's fencing material from Coober Pedy has been relocated to the Lyndhurst Depot for redistribution.
- Pallet racking and fencing material was delivered to Terowie for later delivery to Lyndhurst.
- The Board distributed a total of 1440 manufactured 1080 baits to patrolmen for deployment along fence.
- 5 Advance Communications Wild Dog Beeper units have been assembled for installation on Dog Fence grids/ramps and rail crossings. Modifications have been added to original version. These are a revised front screen for improved motion sensor coverage and a kill switch fitted to siren to make maintenance safer.
- A Work Health and Safety risk assessment was carried out on the Wild Dog Beeper units. Signage to be installed on dog fence to notify patrolmen and others travelling the fence of the noise hazard as they approach grids.

# Inspections & patrols

## Dog Fence Board

During the reporting period the Dog Fence Board undertook the following inspections:

Dog Fence Condition inspection 1	
Date	2 - 6 November 2020
Section/s	Penong, North East Private, Central
Location description	Fowlers Bay to Coober Pedy – approx. 1,005kms
Inspected by	Dog Fence Inspector
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspected western half of Dog Fence.</li> <li>• Inspected fence maintenance works.</li> <li>• Condition scored all fence sections within new rebuild/maintenance prioritisation template framework.</li> <li>• Inspected new grid alarms installed in Penong LDFB section.</li> <li>• Delivered Herbicide for trial plots, and discussed with Penong LDFB Patrolman.</li> <li>• Fowlers Bay, Penong, Pureba Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Curling of lap was noted in areas. Wombats have been causing significant issues along this fence. Some wild dog activity observed.</li> <li>• 4 sections stood out as requiring full rebuild, previously burnt section in Pureba as a high priority</li> <li>• Lake Everard and Wilgena Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Vegetation is an issue in this fence. The maintenance track will require attention to maintain its condition. Very soft sand and corrugated in places.</li> <li>• North West Private Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Vegetation is an issue in sections. This fence is under camel pressure, with camel activity noted at times along this fence section.</li> <li>• Mabel Creek Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Recent rain has increased vegetation.</li> </ul>
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetation is an issue along various sections. All patrolman to continue with management.</li> <li>• Utilise rebuild/maintenance prioritisation template. Use this to help guide fence maintenance and rebuild process to a consistent standard. Section condition assessment report has been produced grading assessed Dog Fence from AS NEW to REPLACEMENT REQUIRED. Each section has been graded regarding fence height, and overall score of droppers, posts, netting, lap and pegging.</li> </ul>



Burnt dropper and brittle wire in a high priority section of Pureba



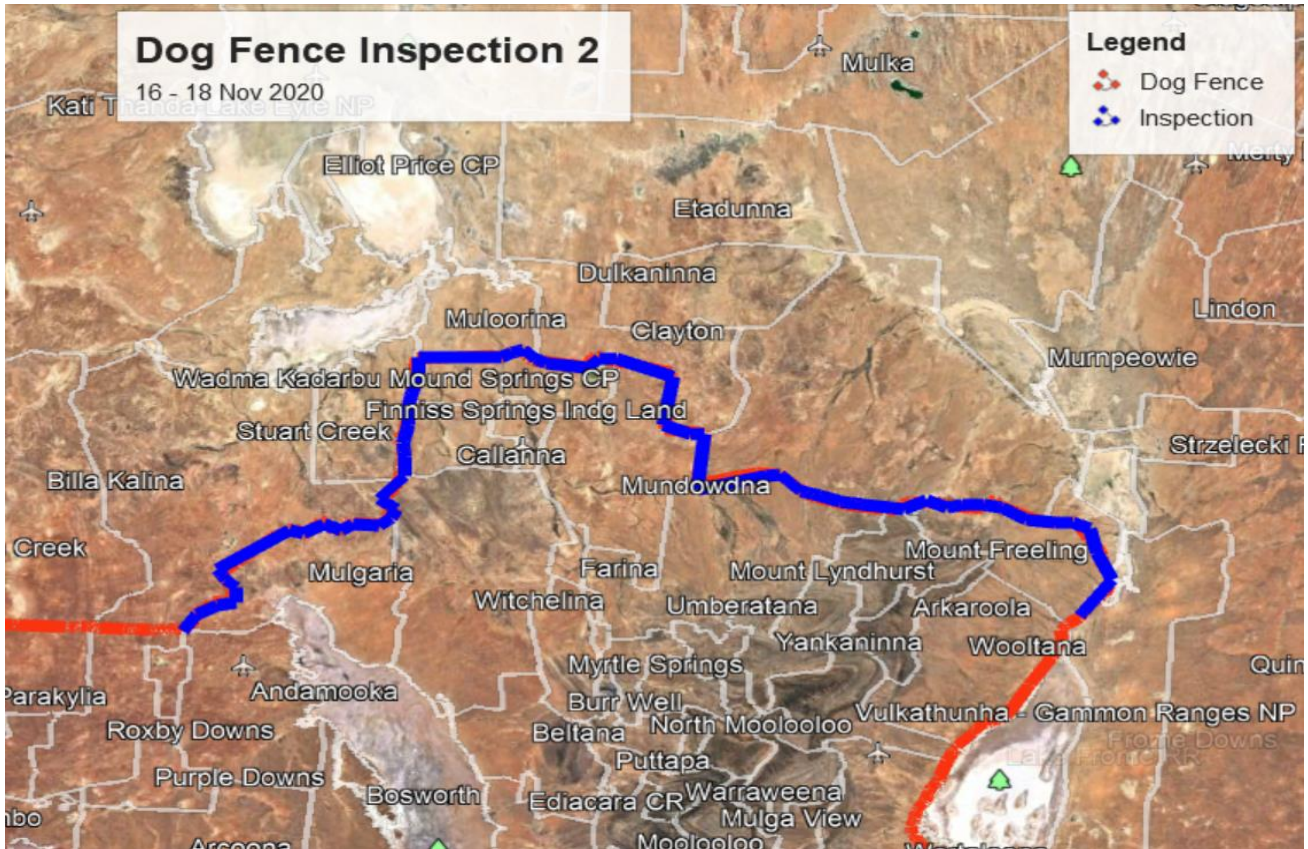


Vegetation in and along fence

## Dog Fence Inspection 2

Date	16 – 18 Nov 2020
Section/s	Central, Marree ,Frome
Location description	Roxby Downs to Moolawatana – approx. 463km
Inspected by	Dog Fence Inspector
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This trip was cut short due to state COVID-19 lockdown</li> <li>• Inspected eastern sections of Dog Fence.</li> <li>• Inspected fence maintenance works.</li> <li>• Fence in a dog-proof condition.</li> <li>• Mulgaria fence has sections with quite a lot of vegetation growing, and other areas where sand drift is occurring from lack of vegetation. Some curling noted at eastern end of fence. Track was generally ok.</li> <li>• Witchelina fence is quite poor in sections due to age. It is dog proof but will need rebuilding. The track will need attention soon at creek crossings and in the hills halfway along this fence section.</li> <li>• Callanna and Muloorina had areas of scattered vegetation. Some flood gates on Muloorina are around 1200mm. The track on the western side of Muloorina was recently graded.</li> <li>• Clayton track starts out good but at the change in fence turns very poor. Lots of curling in the lap after the Birdsville track. The fence is old and in poor condition. The track is very poor with erosion issues.</li> <li>• Mundowdna fence is in poor condition. The track also has significant erosion issues.</li> <li>• Wilpoorinna has a lot of vegetation in the fence. The track is ok.</li> <li>• Mt Lyndhurst has a lot of vegetation in the fence.</li> <li>• Mt Freeling and Moolawatana are dog proof. The creeks that have flowed up there recently have shifted large amounts of debris and sand. The patrolmen have done a great job in flood repair work.</li> </ul>
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sections of this run are marked for rebuild. Most of the track issues and fence will be fixed with the rebuild.</li> <li>• Monitor track issues on this run and put a track maintenance program in place before track reaches current condition</li> <li>• Vegetation control will need to be a priority as rebuild continues.</li> </ul>



















### Dog Fence Mapping Inspection 3

Date	Late Nov 2020
Section/s	Frome
Location description	Wertaloona
Inspected by	Dog Fence Rebuild Inspector,
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping and recording of all fence features for rebuild material requirements – fence type changes, direction changes, box frames, gates, wash outs and flood gates</li> <li>• Approximately 80 kms inspected</li> </ul>



### Local Dog Fence Boards & private owner

During the reporting period:

- The entire length of the fence was inspected at a minimum of every 14 days by the Patrolmen.
- All Patrolmen baited at a rate of 1 bait per 500m.
- Patrolmen reported wild dog activity occasionally on both sides of the fence.
- Significant rainfall created some large sections of flood damage. Central, Marree and Frome LDFB all had floodgates down or sections of fence washed away or inaccessible. Frome LDFB section received the most damage. All required additional support to manage the

repairs, and for additional safety as vehicles bogging was a constant issue. All patrolmen responded quickly and efficiently to achieve dog proof repairs.

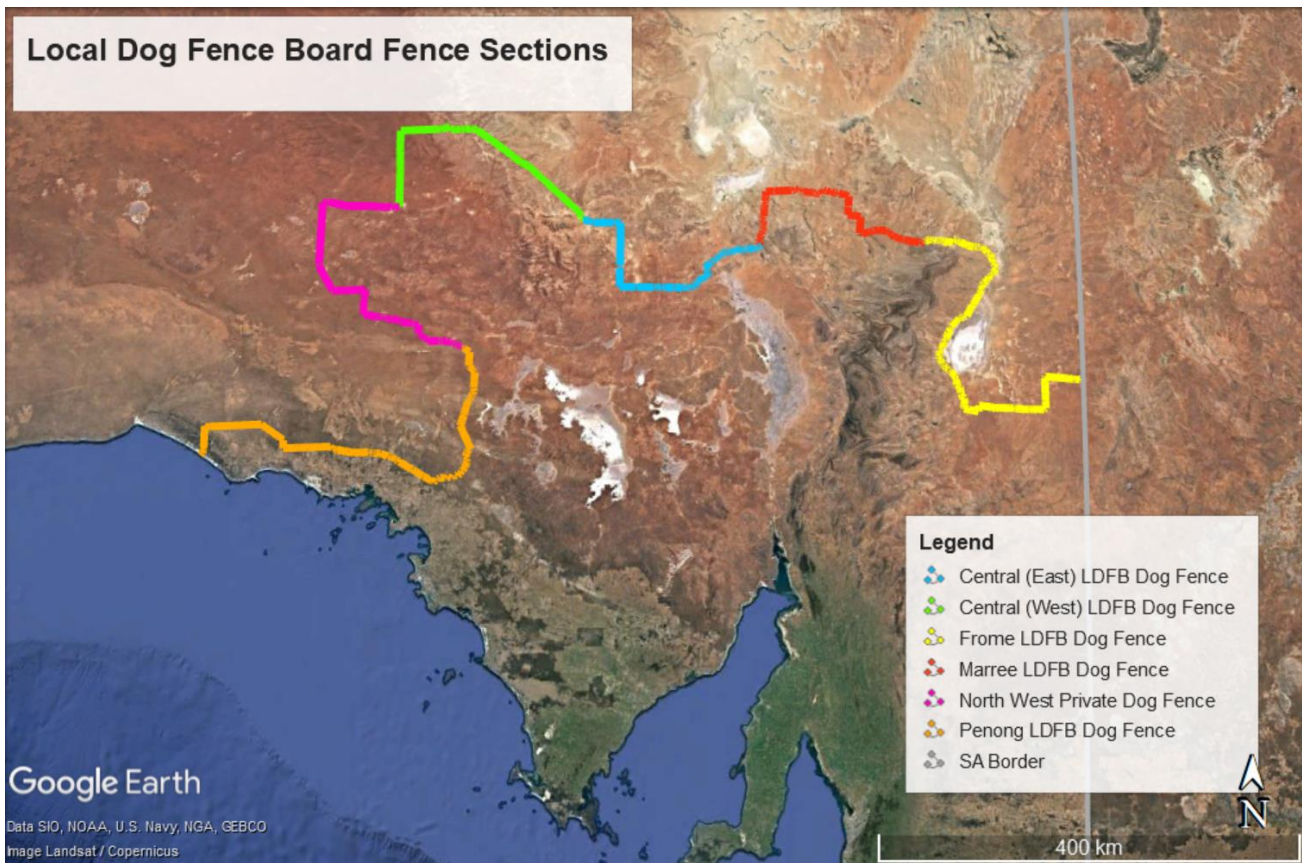
- Reports in the Frome section of high Kangaroo numbers around the time of the flooding.
- Central LDFB patrolman resigned from doing central west run.
- The position was advertised and received 4 tender applications.
- The position was filled with current patrolman now doing the entire Central section.
- Camel issues still being reported in NW Private Section.



Flooding in the Marree LDFB section







## Dog Fence Rebuild

All material has been delivered for the 115km Billeroo West – Mulyungarie section. There has been significant problems with trucks becoming bogged when delivering materials. The rebuild began in early November, with 10.5km completed as of 17/12/20.

The first load for the Marree section was delivered 17/12/20.

## Contractors

Significant damage occurred at the Lyndhurst Depot colour bond fence. High winds caused the north and south fences on the property to collapse. Temporary repairs were done by a community member, however the fence requires reposting. A local contractor has been sourced and repairs are aimed to be completed before Christmas. Approximately 80m of fence will be rebuilt, and an additional 40m of wire fence will be installed across the front of the property to increase depot security.



## Conclusion

The Dog Fence Board will focus efforts in coming months on:

- Seeking endorsement of their Long Term Investment Plan from Livestock SA and the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.
- Updating the Dog Fence rates database
- Following up on outstanding rates notices.
- Implement Herbicide trial on far west coast.
- Installing new alarms on grids/ramps.
- Completing fencing repairs at the Lyndhurst depot.
- Implement components of Work, Health and Safety improvement plan for the Lyndhurst Depot, as per timeline.
- Introducing improved Bait production methods and a baiting plan.
- Dog Fence Inspector to do complete fence inspection during early 2021.



