

Dog Fence Board Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

14 February to 13 May 2021







Dog Fence Board - Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

Information current as of 13 May 2021 © Government of South Australia 2021

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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:

- The Dog Fence Board worked with Livestock SA on a review of the Dog Fence rateable area. Consultation will commence shortly on a proposal to extend the rateable area by 2 Hundreds to the South or to any Hundred within 150km of the Dog Fence. If implemented, the proposal would increase Board revenue by around \$350,000 and allow for a fence replacement program.
- Receipting of 2020/21 rates notices continues, 12 remain outstanding.
- Pallet racking installed at Lyndhurst Depot. Complete reorganisation of depot completed.
- Construction completed and audit undertaken of the Penong LDFB Bait injection facility. Facility now meets 1080 storage requirements.
- Training was completed by Dog Fence Inspector for Level 2 1080 bait production accreditation for 3 people. 2 from Penong LDFB and 1 private contractor. This training was completed onsite near Ceduna and at Orraparrina in the Flinders Ranges. All 3 are now formally accredited.
- The Board distributed a total of 600 manufactured 1080 baits and 10,531 1080 injected meat baits to patrolmen for deployment along fence.
- The 10,531 injected meat baits were produced by a contractor and delivered to new freezer storage sites readily accessible by patrolmen. Manufactured meat baits cost \$1.47 each. The meat baits made by the contractor have come in at \$1.42 each (\$0.82 for meat, \$0.43 for bait manufacture, \$0.17 for delivery). While there aren't a lot of savings here, the bait quality and effectiveness will be considerably greater.
- A second granulated herbicide trial site has been setup on the Frome LDFB managed section of fence



Lyndhurst Depot with new racking installed

Inspections & patrols

Dog Fence Board

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

Condition inspection

29 April - 5 May 2021

Penong, North East Private, Central

Fowlers Bay to Mt Eba – 1153km approx.

Inspector, Dog Fence

- Inspected western half of Dog Fence.
- Inspected fence maintenance works.
- Fowlers Bay, Penong, Pureba Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Lap wire along coastal strip has been flagged needing replacement. Burnt section in Pureba is also a priority. Curling of lap was noted in other areas. Wild dog and fox activity regularly observed. New style beeper was working effectively
- Lake Everard and Wilgena Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Vegetation is an issue in this fence. Patrolman is dragging the track to maintain condition. The track requires monitoring to maintain its condition. Very soft sand in places.
- North West Private Fence is in a dog-proof condition.
 The fence is in better condition as you head North. Vegetation is an issue in the southern sections. The track has received some grading and is still very soft in places. The vegetation is crowding the track in places. This fence is under constant camel pressure, with camel activity noted along this fence section.
- Mabel Creek is in dog proof condition. Has had some recent rain in the area. A lot of camel activity noted on Mabel Creek.
- Mount Clarence is in a dog-proof condition. New style beeper was working effectively
- Balta Baltana Fence is in a dog-proof condition. Very dry through here. Some large mobs of kangaroos noted on the fence.
- Mt Eba to Borefield Road not inspected due to WPA closure.





Vegetation in Fence and vegetation starting to encroach on the maintenance track

Local Dog Fence Boards & private owner

During the reporting period:

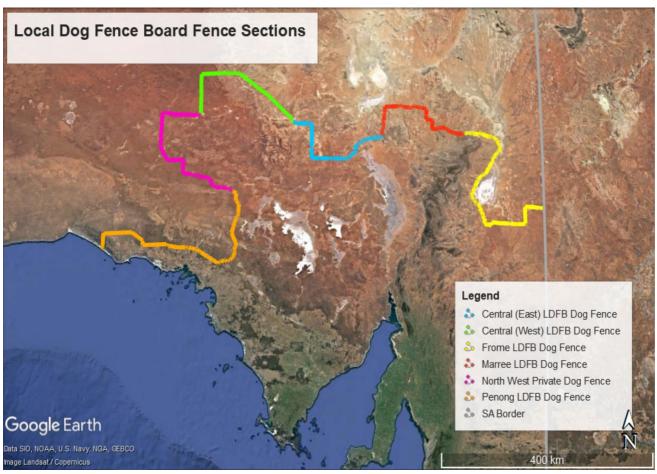
- The entire length of the fence was inspected at a minimum of every 14 days by the Patrolmen.
- All Patrolmen baited at a rate of 1 bait per 1km.
- Patrolmen reported wild dog activity occasionally on both. Penong LDFB reported dogs on most inspection runs and has been trapping them consistently.
- LDFB's have been set up to have 12 months minimum supply of meat baits on hand.
- Penong LDFB have been trained to manage their own baiting requirements
- Penong LDFB have set up their own bait injection compound. This has been audited and meets 1080 storage requirements
- Contractor has been sourced to produce injected meat baits for LDFB supply.
- Herbicide trial has begun on Frome LDFB section. Looking into best application methods for granular herbicide along fence.











Dog Fence Rebuild

Recently the Dog Fence Rebuild Officer has been making trips up to Mulyungarie approximately once a fortnight to inspect the progress of the rebuild to the NSW border.

Posts are set to the Border and the netting is about 20km from the border, the Dog Fence Rebuild Officer will be heading there shortly to check on progress.

The Dog Fence Rebuild Officer has inspected the fence from the coast through the Penong Board area to Wilgena, with the areas identified as rebuild now in the pipeline. The posts that were ordered last year have started arriving.

After many false starts the Mundowdna to Mt Freeling section has now just started

Some wire and the drill rod have been delivered to Muloorina with the droppers hopefully about a week to 10 days away with the rest of the wire. The contractor will be looking to start in about a week or so on the Muloorina section.

The Materials for the Mt. Eba to Roxby section should be ready close to the end of May and the contractor will be ready to start as soon as they arrive.

Conclusion

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

- Dog Fence Board annual half fence inspection (east).
- Consulting on their proposal to expand the rateable area.
- Send outstanding rates notices for debt collection.
- Monitor Herbicide trial on far west coast and Frome.
- Further investigation into most effective herbicide application method
- Tractor disposal progressed



