

Dog Fence Board

Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

17 August – 13 December 2022



Dog Fence Board – Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

Information current as of 13 December 2022

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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

During the reporting period:

- Patrolmen deployed approximately 2,900 baits along the fence.
- Continued procurement of 2 species recognition machine learning camera systems to trial on stock grids, triggered only by wild dogs.
- Continued herbicide project, targeting triodia grasses.
- R&D and procurement of large-scale herbicide applicator, field trials to commence in new year.
- Completed procurement and delivery of fence material used for flood repairs.
- Completed asset disposal of the Board's tractor + attachments
- Commenced plotting sites for baiting exclosures for organic properties adjacent to fence.
- Upgraded lighting and electrical systems at Lyndhurst depot.
- Commenced procurement of a "Back ease" car/trailer crane to be fitted to Board trailer to allow safer and more efficient transport of small batches of fencing materials.
- Collection of Dog Fence rates. Notices for the 2022/23 financial year issued 9 November.
- Completed replacement of Dog Fence vehicle.
- Replacement of one gate with vermin proof grid on pipeline road on Muloorina.

Inspections and Patrols

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

West Trip 25/08/2022 - 02/09/2022

Marree, Central, NW Private, Penong – 1535km approx.

- Delivered floodway materials to Lyndhurst Depot.
- Prepared tractor and attachments for collection by successful bidder.
- Observed Muloorina stock grid installation.
- Set 2 herbicide trial plots targeting Triodia grass to collect data. (Penong)
- Inspected rebuild works in Penong LDFB, met with contractors and the Patrolman
- NW Private section continues to receive minor camel damage to fence.
- Grid alarm at Oodlea Rd (Illuka Mine) repaired and is now operating normally.
- Inspected fence and all sections are dog proof unless stated otherwise, grid alarms operational.



Stock grid installation – Muloorina

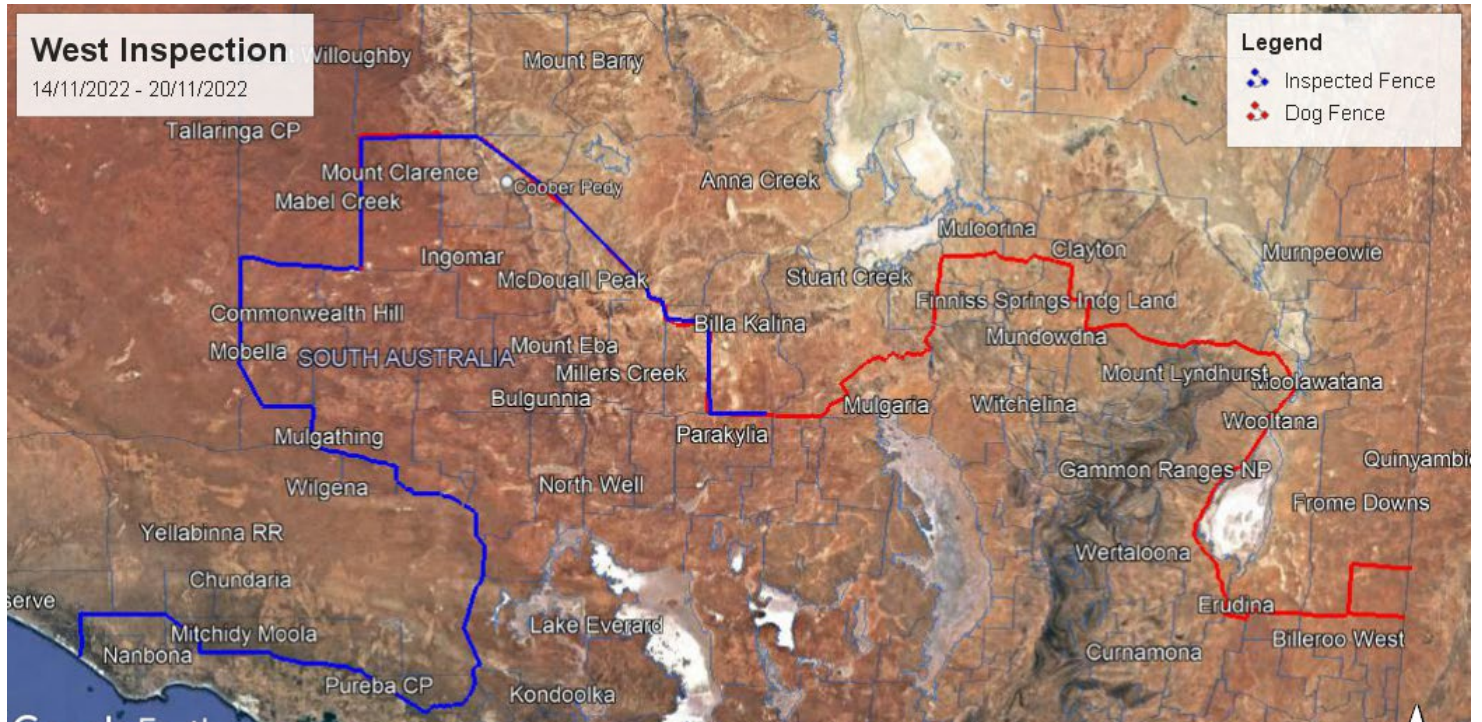


Wombat diggings under fence – Pureba

West Fence Inspection 14/11/2022 - 20/11/2022

Penong, NW Private, Central – 1405km approx.

- Inspected rebuild works on West Coast, met with contractors and Patrolmen.
- Plotted location of gates and detours along the Dog Fence.
- Collected data from Triodia herbicide trials.
- New grid alarms installed and NW Private section.
- All sections of fence are dog proof unless stated otherwise, all grid alarms operational.



Rainwater over track and Fence – Roxby

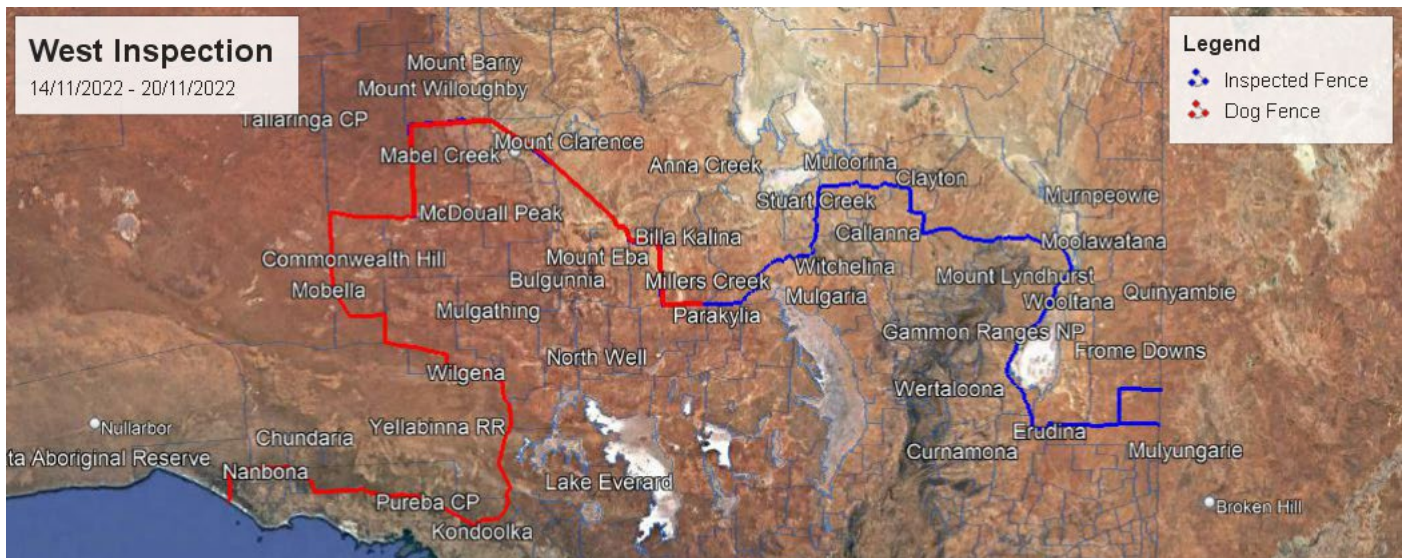


Minor washout next to fence – Mobella (NWP)

East Fence Inspection 2/12/2022 - 9/12/2022

Marree, Frome, Central – 1100km approx.

- Met with Patrolmen and rebuild contractors.
- Delivered remaining floodway material to Lyndhurst Depot
- Depot cleaned and maintained.
- Old Mulyungarie fence to NSW boarder showing increased signs of damage due to age and wildlife activity. Decommissioning of this section estimated for first half of 2023.
- Wertaloona showing increased signs of rusting and due to age and saline ground conditions. This section's rebuild to commence in 2023.
- Marree and Frome sections reporting track damages caused by recent rain events.
- All sections of fence are dog proof unless stated otherwise, all grid alarms operational.



Rust damage to foot netting/strainer wire – Wertaloona



Water damage to track – Mundowdna

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 or 1 bait per 200m where there was dog activity.
- All Patrolmen reported occasional wild dog activity.
- Increased Camel and Kangaroo pressure north of the fence since recent rain events.

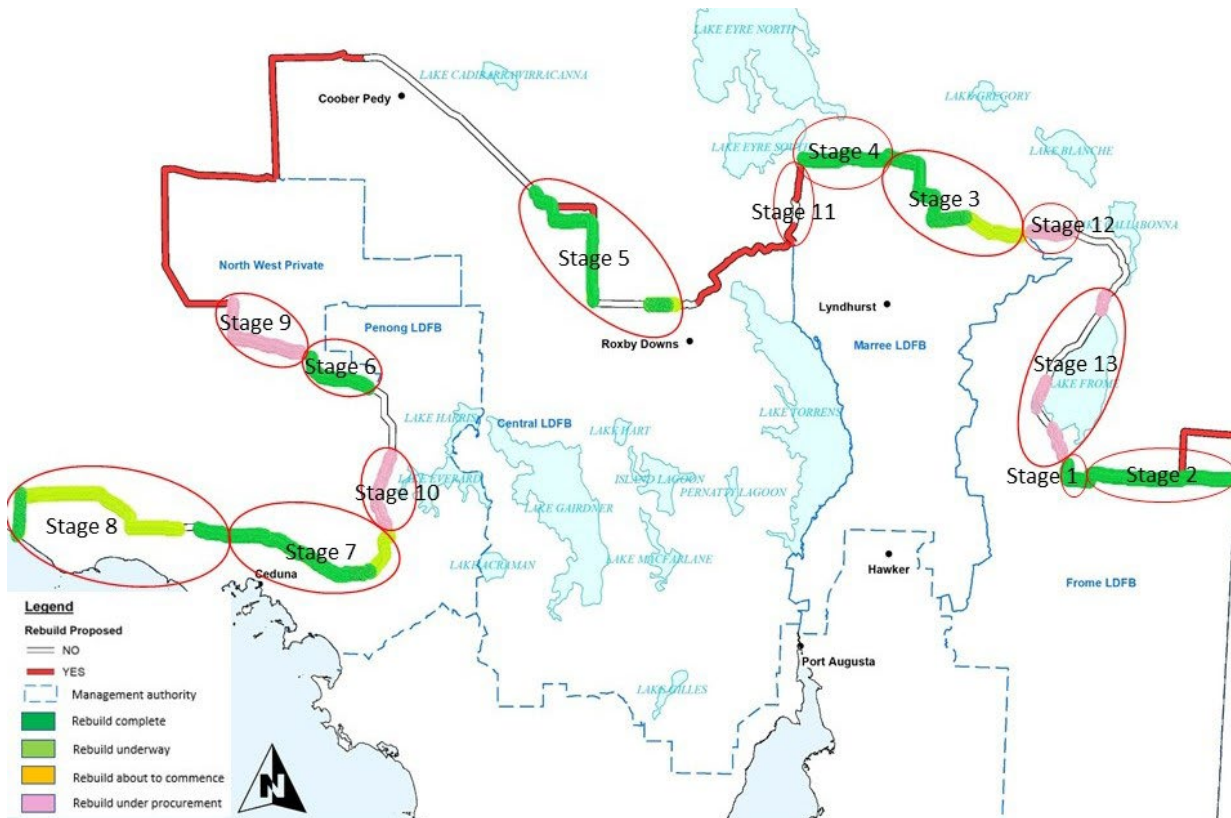
Dog Fence Rebuild

To date, 657 km of fence rebuild has been completed (41%) and the rebuild of 205km of fence is underway.

- Rebuild of the third, fifth, seventh and eighth stages of the Dog Fence continues.
- The delivery of materials for the tenth stage has commenced.
- The supplier of materials for the thirteenth stage has been recommended.
- The RFQ for the supply of fencing services for the thirteenth stage is with the suppliers.

The project expenditure in November 2022 was \$568,532.03 (GST excl.).

The total project expenditure to 30 November 2022 is \$13,926,929.15 (GST excl.) (55.71 per cent of the project budget).



Rebuild progress map

Conclusion

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

- Commence broad scale herbicide applicator trials.
- Continuation of Dog Fence Rebuild.
- Relocate leftover flood repair materials to containers along fence.
- Organise grading of damaged tracks along DF (Marree + Frome).
- Investigate options for a second material storage location (Cooper Pedy).
- Install E-Vorta cameras on Trans-Australian Railway and Oldea Road for testing.
- Install organic exclosures on selected properties.
- Continued collection of 2022/23 Dog Fence rates.



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