

Dog Fence Board

Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

1 December 2025 – 23 February 2026

Dog Fence Board – Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

Information current as of 23 February 2026

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Objective

The purpose of this quarterly report is to provide stakeholders with a clear and comprehensive overview of the Dog Fence Board's activities for the reporting period. It outlines strategic and operational actions undertaken by the Board and staff, and details inspection, maintenance, and repair work delivered by local Dog Fence boards and the private owner. This report aims to keep stakeholders informed of progress, highlight key achievements, and identify any emerging issues or priorities related to the ongoing protection and performance of the Dog Fence.

Key Activities

During the reporting period:

Operational:

- Completed procurement of PVC protective covers to improve weather resistance and extend the service life of herbicide applicators during storage and transport.
- Coordinated an aerial assessment of the Frome and Marree sections following a significant rainfall event to assess fence integrity prior to ground access being restored.
- Procured an additional bait freezer for the Lyndhurst depot to increase bait storage capacity and improve operational readiness for aerial and ground programs.
- Coordinated an emergency aerial baiting run deploying approximately 13,500 baits along the Dog Fence following the February rainfall event.
- Facilitated herbicide application training for Northwest private owners to strengthen local capability and support proactive fence maintenance.
- Evaluated the offers for the supply of materials for the build of the SA-NSW dog fence; supplier recommended, and purchase recommendation drafted.
- Released EOI for fencing contractors to be appointed to a panel to supply fencing services to build the SA-NSW dog fence; EOI closes 24 February 2026.

Recruitment and Staffing:

- Submitted a briefing minute seeking approval to directly appoint a Project Manager for the SA-NSW Dog Fence Project.
- Commenced a review of the Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement (MOAA) between PIRSA and the Dog Fence Board to incorporate provisions supporting delivery of the SA-NSW Dog Fence Project.

Technology and Innovation:

- Initiated trials of thermal ventilation fan systems for energiser boxes to improve aeration and reduce heat build-up during peak summer conditions, with the aim of improving equipment reliability and longevity.

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- Commenced a system upgrade of the Dog Fence rates database and invoicing platform to enhance financial management, data integrity and reporting capability.
- Continued development and refinement of the Dog Fence Patroller App to improve field reporting, data capture and operational visibility.

Collaboration and Capacity Building:

- Undertook stakeholder engagement with affected landholders regarding the proposed alignment, access requirements and construction approach for the SA–NSW border fence extension.
- Met with Riverland and Murraylands National Parks and Wildlife Service to discuss the proposed SA–NSW border fence extension.
- Met with National Parks and Wildlife Service and Landscape Board staff to discuss funding arrangements and operational delivery options for aerial baiting programs.
- Met with Western Australia and Queensland counterparts to discuss ongoing operations, emerging challenges, and potential innovations and collaborative projects.
- Continued negotiations with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport on a cost-sharing arrangement to replace the Muloorina grid

Governance and Reporting:

- Prepared updated budget forecasts reflecting interim wild dog program funding arrangements.
- Progressed review of Dog Fence Board funding model pending long-term industry negotiations.
- Continued development of condition scoring assessments and a prioritised maintenance schedule for fence sections not included in the Rebuild Project. Continued remittance, reconciliation and debt recovery processes for 2025–26 Dog Fence rates.
- Submitted a briefing minute seeking endorsement of the State Government dollar-for-dollar contribution.
- Submitted a briefing minute seeking interim funding to continue wild dog management programs at reduced capacity.
- Submitted quarterly report to NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development on progress for the build of the SA-NSW dog fence (as required by Agreement).

Inspections and Patrols

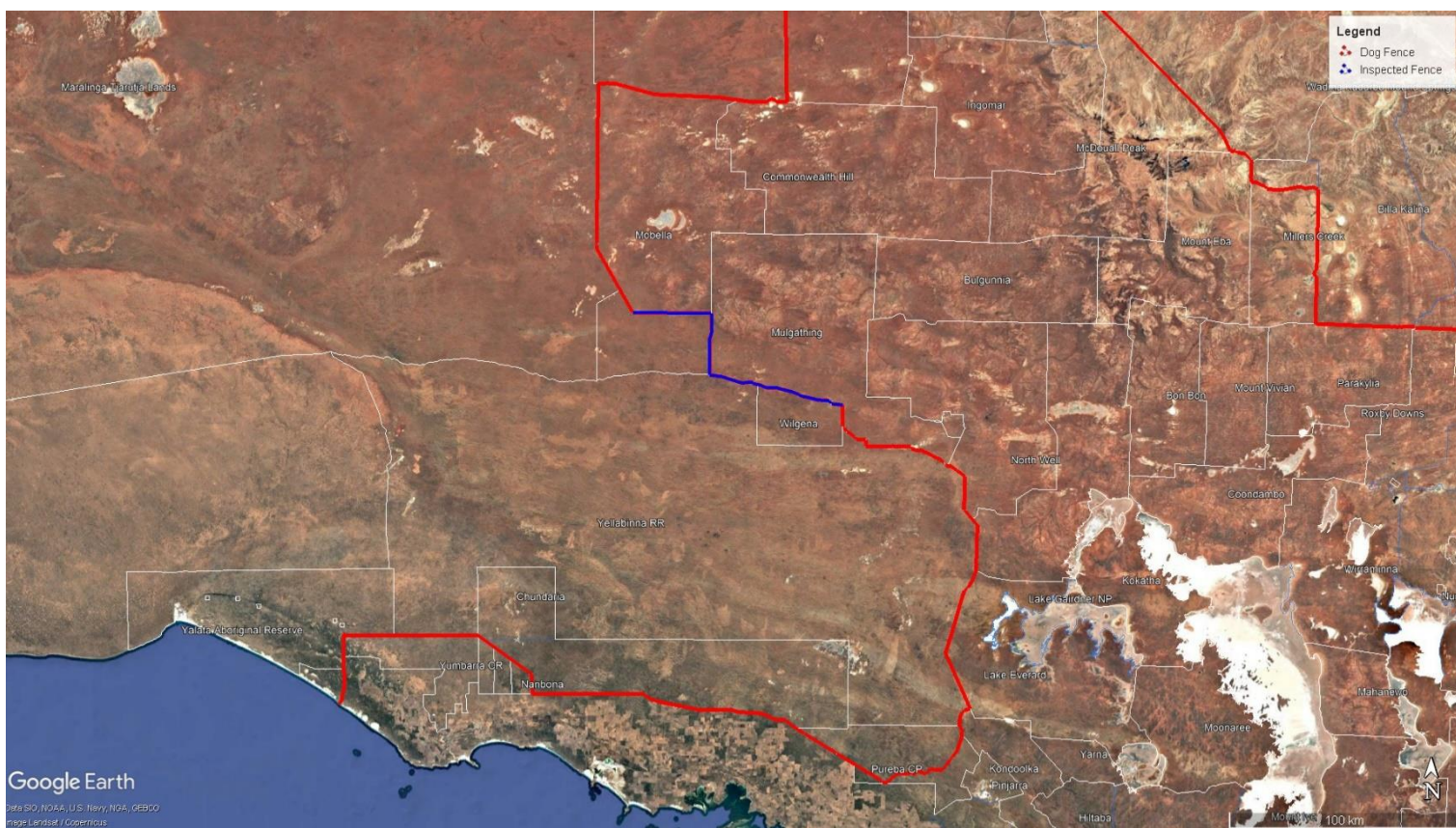
During the reporting period the Dog Fence Board undertook the following inspections:

Western Fence Inspection

Northwest Private [approx. 180 kilometres]

Inspected by: Auditor, Dog Fence Maintenance

- Undertook inspections of the Mulgathing rebuild section
- Inspected the camel wire installation on the Mobella section
- Delivered sheep yard panels procured under the Rebuild Project to provide protective barriers around energiser boxes and solar infrastructure to mitigate camel damage.
- Camel activity has increased across multiple sections of the fence, particularly from the western regions through to the Coober Pedy area, resulting in a heightened risk of infrastructure damage.





Energiser box and solar panels awaiting camel protection



Vent installed in energiser box.



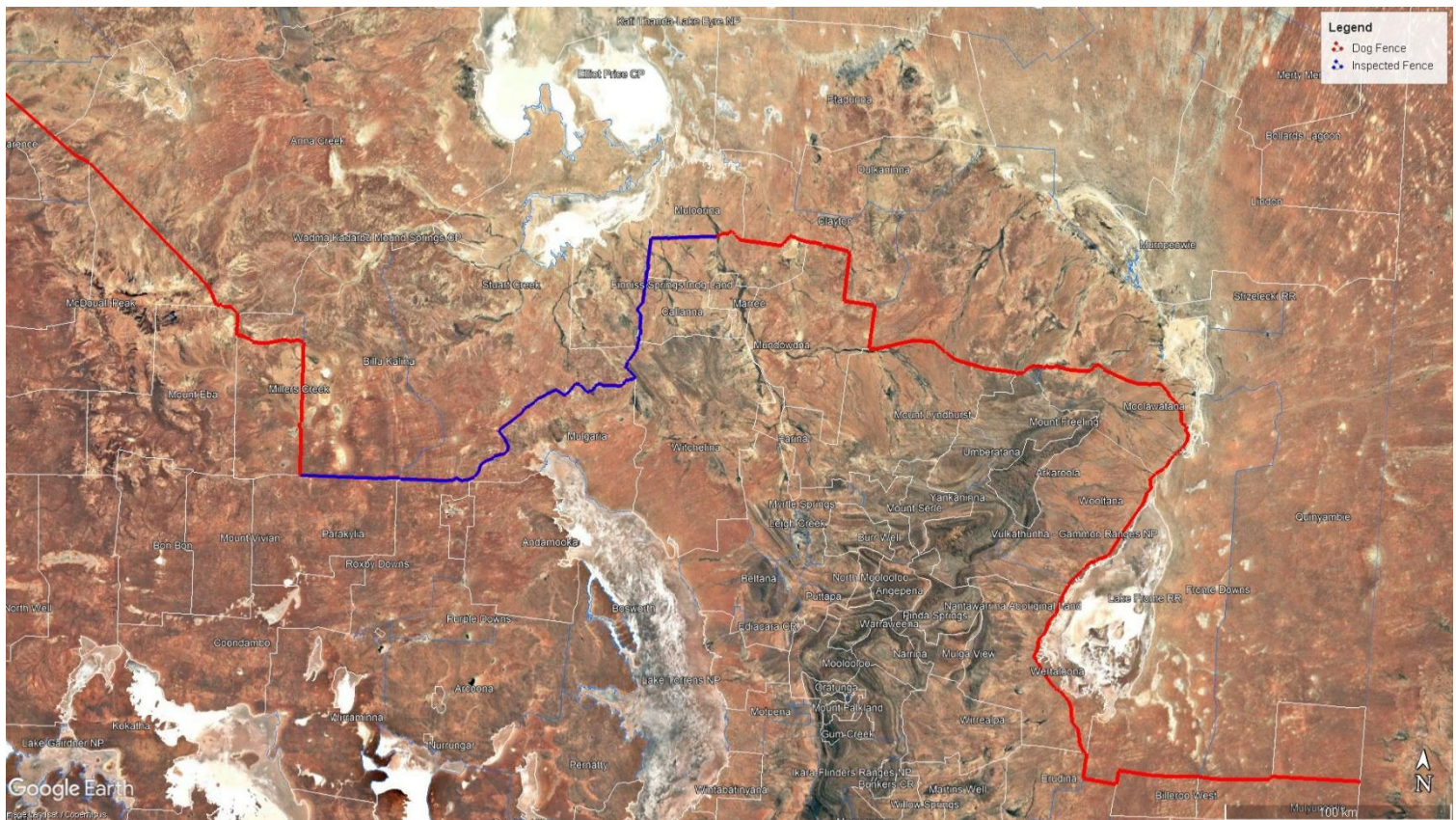
Rebuild progress - Mulgathing

Eastern Fence Inspection

Marree, Central [approx. 280 kilometres]

Inspected by: Auditor, Dog Fence Maintenance

- Condition scoring was undertaken on the fence west of the Muloorina grid, with results recorded for replacement scheduling.
- Inspected recent flood repair works, confirming progress and identifying minor follow up requirements.
- The Mulgaria section has several scours under lap and one floodgate down, Central patroller is currently on site undertaking repairs.
- Assessed the access track to the Mulgaria / Witchelina corner to enable delivery of rebuild materials and improve access.
- Sections of the Roxby Downs fence have been marked for upcoming erosion repair works on the inside alignment.
- Grading works have been completed along the Parakyliya fence, improving access for patrol and maintenance activities.







Local Dog Fence Boards & Private Owner

During the reporting period:

- The fence was inspected a minimum of every 14 days by the Penong, Northwest Private, Central, Marree and Frome patrolmen.
- Patrolmen baited at a rate of 1 bait per 1 kilometre, or 1 bait per 200 metres where there was dog activity.
- Patrolmen reported wild dog activity in all sections.

Dog Fence Rebuild

Progress as of 1 February 2026

Rebuild completed	1,118 kilometres
Rebuild underway	360 kilometres
Rebuild about to commence/contracted	122 kilometres
Rebuild planning/procurement underway	0 kilometres

Frome Local Dog Fence Board area:

- All sections proposed for rebuild in the Frome LDFB have been completed - 239 kilometres of fence built (59 per cent of fence) as part of the rebuild project.

Maree Local Dog Fence Board area:

- 221 kilometres of fence has been completed in the Marree LDFB.
- Part of the fourteenth stage is the rebuild of the fence adjacent to Witchelina (18 kilometres). Contracts have been awarded for the rebuild of the fence, which is expected to commence in early to mid-2026.
- The completion of the fourteenth stage will see 239 kilometres of fence built in the Marree LDFB (85 percent of fence) as part of the rebuild project.

Central Local Dog Fence Board area:

- 157 kilometres of fence has been completed in the Central LDFB
- Part of the fourteenth stage is the rebuild of the fence adjacent to Mulgaria (104 kilometres). Contracts have been awarded for the rebuild of the fence, which is expected to commence in late early-mid 2026.
- Part of the fifteenth stage is the upgrade and installation of electric fence to deter feral camels adjacent to Mabel Creek and Mount Clarence (156 kilometres).
- When completed, 417 kilometres of fence will be built in the Central LDFB (68 per cent of fence) as part of the rebuild project.

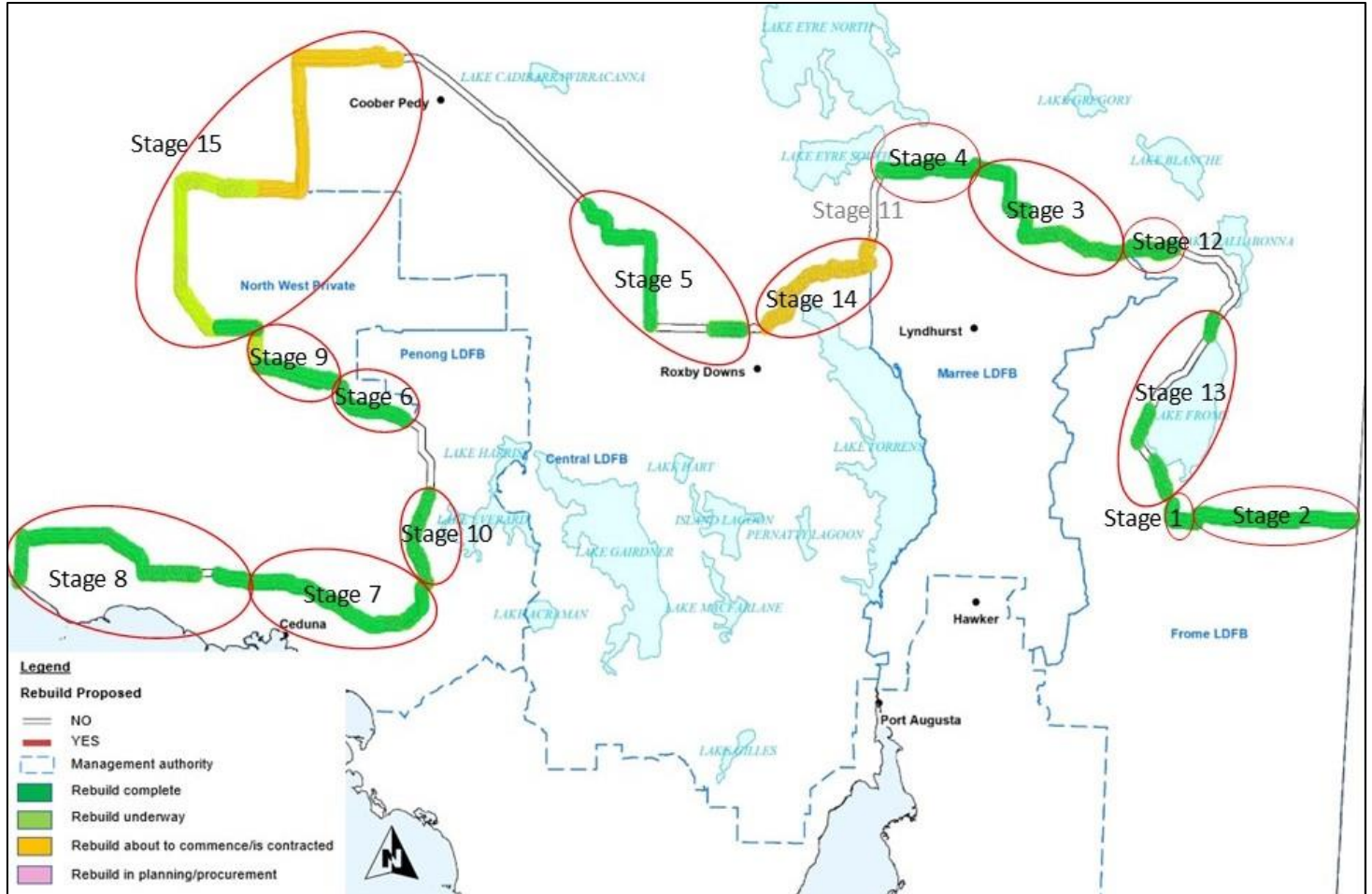
Privately-owned Northwest section:

- 147 kilometres of fence has been completed in the north-west section.
- The ninth stage of the rebuild is 84 kilometres adjacent to Mulgathing. All clearing and grading work has been completed, and there is only 7 kilometres of posting to go; 65 kilometres of fence has been completed.
- Part of the fifteenth stage of the rebuild of the Dog Fence runs adjacent to Mobella (192 kilometres) and Commonwealth Hill (21 kilometres). This rebuild requires installation and upgrade of electric fencing to deter feral camels from damaging the fence. About 21 kilometres of camel wire is completed (active electric fence) and a further 55 kilometres of spacers have been tied to hand-cut posts to support the electric camel wire.
- When completed, 294 kilometres of fence completed in the privately-owned north-west section (82 per cent of fence) as part of the rebuild project.

Penong Local Dog Fence Board area:

- All sections proposed for rebuild in the Penong LDFB have been completed - 349 kilometres of fence built (77 per cent of fence) as part of the rebuild project.

As of 31 January 2026, about \$23.6 million has been spent in the rebuild of the Dog Fence. This is about 81 percent of the total project budget of \$29 million.



SA Trapper Program

The Wild Dog Trapping Program commenced in 2018 and continues to be hailed as a necessary tool in the drive to eradicate wild dogs from inside the SA Dog Fence. Landholders are extremely supportive of the program because trappers can get the wild dogs that landholders have been unable to trap themselves.

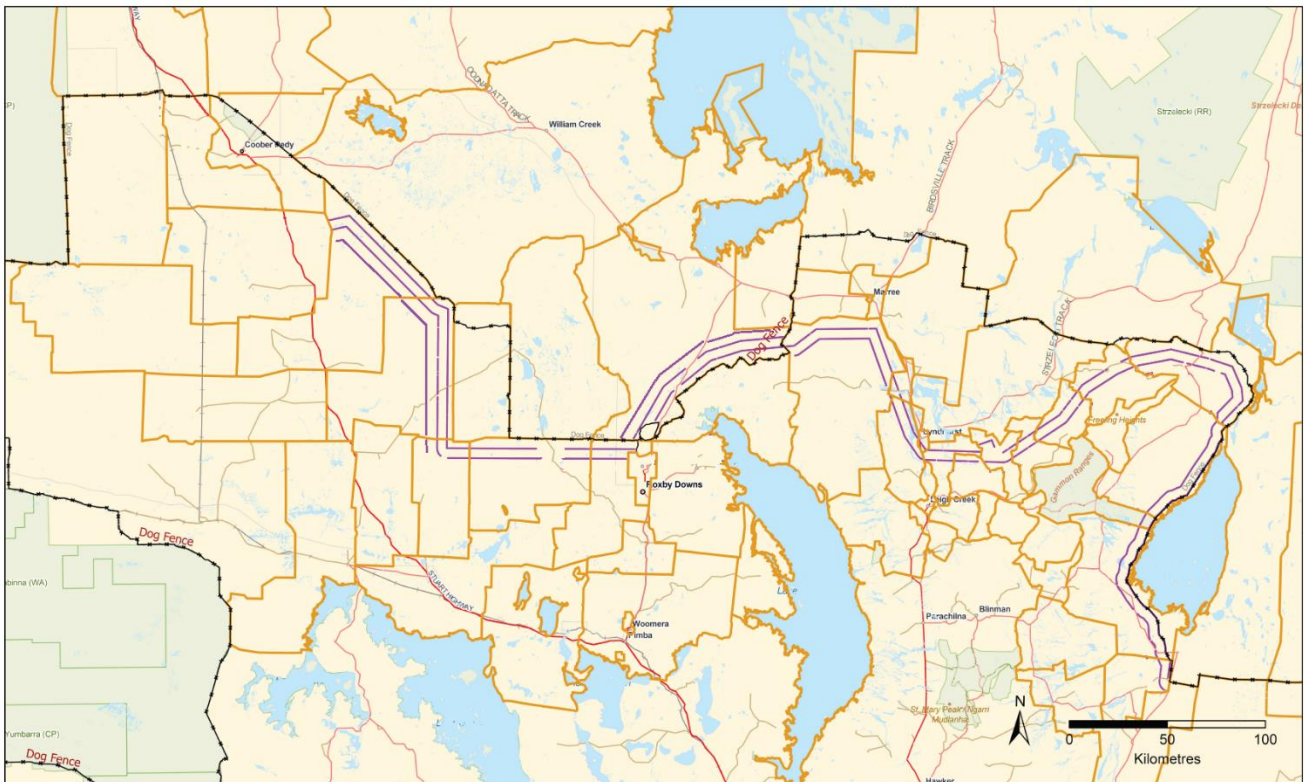
- Since 2018, 937 wild dogs have been removed through the program; most of these have been trapped.
- Thirteen dogs have been removed by trappers in 2026, with a further ten wild dogs removed by land managers working closely with the trapper. All wild dogs removed have been from the Central Local Dog Fence Board area.
- Landholders need to undertake their baiting programs; trappers will not be sent to properties that do not undertake baiting.

The trapper contracts expire 30 June 2026. Trappers will be offered the opportunity to extend the contracts; as in previous contracts there will be no commitment to a minimum number of days of deployment as this is dependent on future funding.

Aerial Baiting Program

The Board, in collaboration with PIRSA, will coordinate and deliver an emergency aerial baiting program in February 2026 following significant rainfall events along the Dog Fence. The rainfall created favourable conditions for increased wild dog movement and breeding activity, necessitating a proactive response.

The operation will cover 25 participating properties and deployed approximately 13,500 dried meat baits along priority sections of the Dog Fence corridor, extending from Lake Frome through to McDouall Peak (see map below). The program was designed to reinforce the fence line and mitigate the risk of wild dog incursions into pastoral areas.



Upcoming Priorities and Key Initiatives

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

- Complete flood damage repairs following the recent rainfall event, including removal of debris to prevent future damage.
- Assess the condition of maintenance tracks after the rainfall event and undertake repairs as required.
- Progress installation of new grids at Muloorina and Mulgathing.
- Progress installation of new double gates on Pipeline Road.
- Trial options to reduce temperatures inside electric fence energiser boxes.

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- Undertake stocktake of materials following fence repairs to maintain adequate inventory levels.
- Roll out herbicide applicators to manage vegetation regrowth following the significant rainfall event.
- Progress replacement of remaining floodgates on the Frome section not completed under previous works.
- Relocate shipping container from Moolawatana to Mulyungarie.
- Continue planning and procurement activities for construction of the SA–NSW Dog Fence.
- Continue debt collection activities for 2025–26 Dog Fence rates.
- Submit quarterly progress report to NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development for the SA–NSW Dog Fence Project (as required under the Agreement).
- Submit funding application to Livestock SA requesting industry contribution for ongoing Dog Fence maintenance.

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