

PIRSA

Dog Fence Board Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

8 May 2022 to 16 August 2022



Dog Fence Board - Activity, Inspection & Condition Report

Information current as of 16 August 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

Dog Fence Board

During the reporting period:

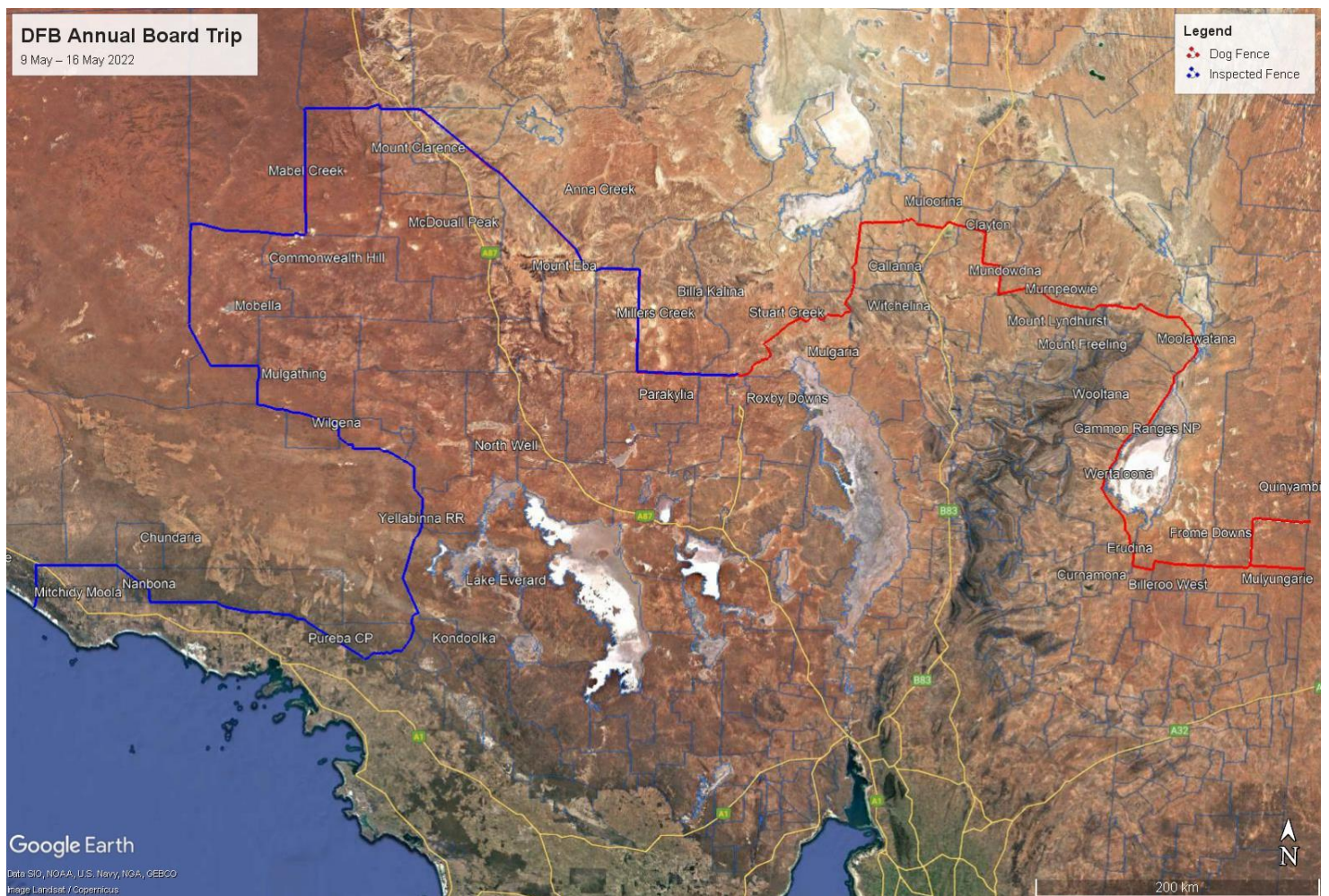
- Patrolmen deployed approximately 2870 baits along the fence.
- Continued procurement of 2 species recognition machine learning camera systems to trial on stock grids, triggered only by wild dogs.
- The Board manufactured 8408 meat baits for distribution to Local Boards.
- Completed installation of replacement grid for Balcanoona.
- Continued herbicide project, large scale application trials to commence.
- Completed procurement of replacement fence material borrowed from the Rebuild Committee during flood repairs.
- Undertook floodway surveys through Marree and Frome LDFB with Dog Fence Rebuild Inspector and LDFB Members.
- Commenced procurement for floodway repair/replacement materials.
- Continued asset disposal the Board's tractor + attachments.

Inspections & patrols

Dog Fence Board

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

Annual Board Trip (West) – May 2022
9 May – 16 May 2022
Penong, Northwest Private, Central – 1405km approx.
Wahgunyah Conservation Park – Borefield Road (Roxby)
Dog Fence Board, Dog Fence Program Manager, Dog Fence Inspector
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Inspected rebuild works in Penong LDFB, met with contractors and the Patrolman.Inspected flood repairs completed by Figure 8 and Mt Charlotte Contractors and Central Patrolman.



East Fence Inspection – June 2022

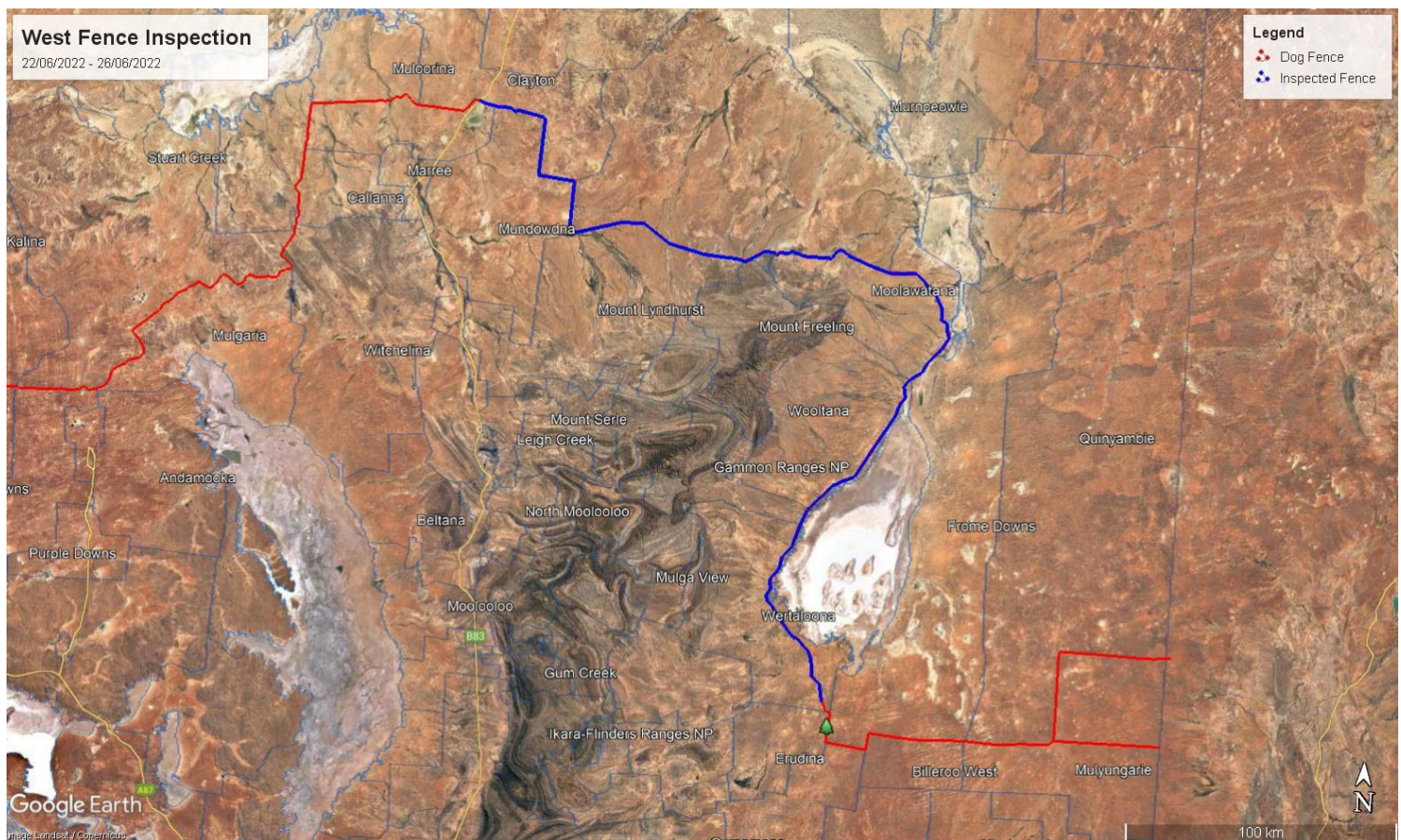
22 June – 26 June 2022

Marree, Frome – 420km approx.

Birdsville Track (Clayton/Muloorina) – Wertaloona

Dog Fence Inspector & Dog Fence Rebuild Inspector

- Inspected rebuild works, met with contractors to discuss future floodgate installation and earthworks with Marree LDFB.
- Inspected and surveyed floodways and sacrificial fences for replacement.
- Inspected replaced grid at Balcanooka.
- Annual inventory audit at Lyndhurst.
- Depot cleaned, maintained and performed stocktake of materials.





Marree LDFB floodway survey meeting



Balcanoona grid replacement



Sturt's Desert Pea (*Swainsona formosa*) - Moolawatana

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 rain events.

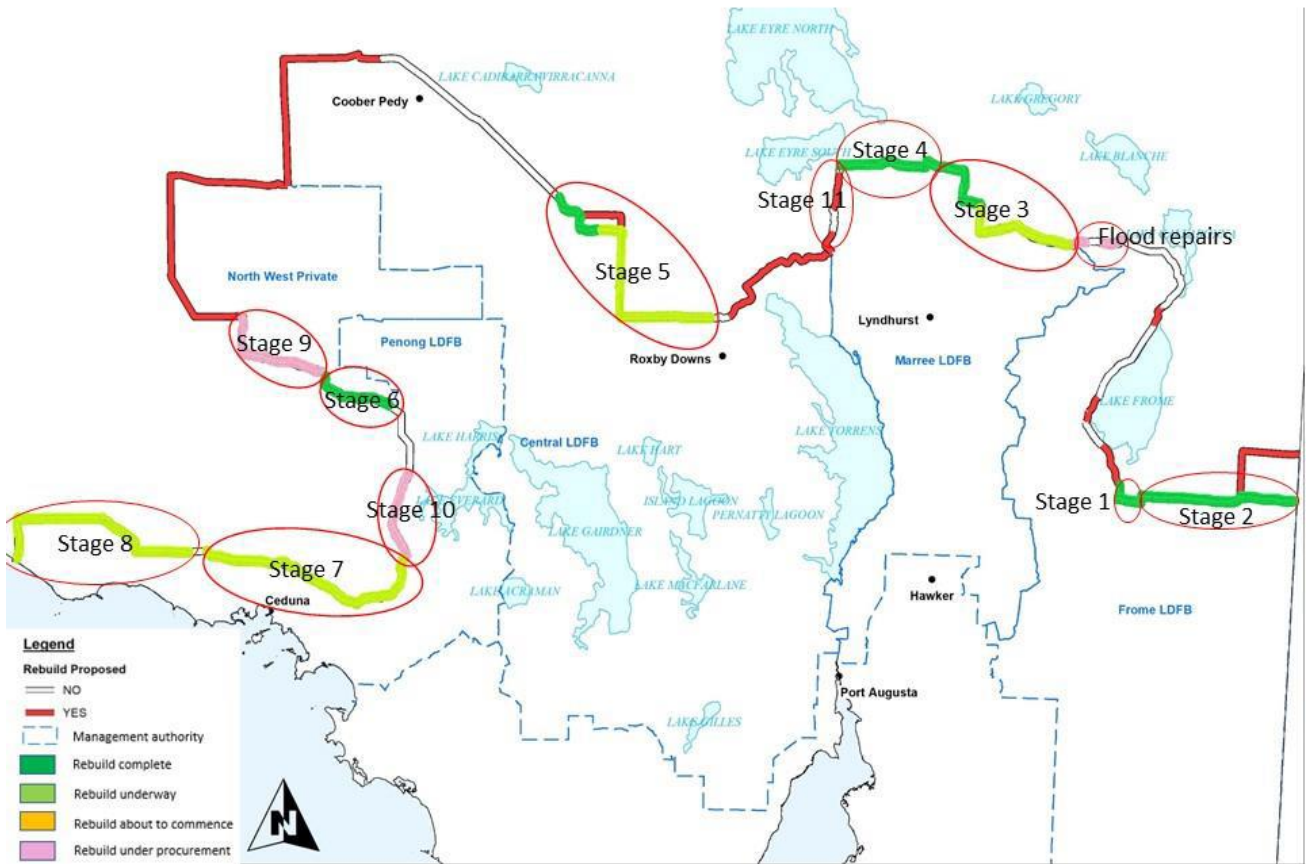
Dog Fence Rebuild

To date, 444 km of fence rebuild has been completed (28%) and the rebuild of 456km of fence is underway.

- Rebuild of the third, fifth, seven and eighth stages of fence continues (74 km of posts installed)
- Supplier appointed to supply materials for the twelfth stage.
- Delivery of materials for the ninth stage completed.
- Offers to rebuild the twelfth stage are being evaluated

The Fencing contractors typically build the new fence before removing the old fence, to minimise any risk of wild dogs getting through the fence during the rebuild. There are some locations where this method is not practical – here, fencing contractors remove small lengths of fence, then rebuild the new fence. Baits are also laid as an added precaution.

The rebuild of the Dog Fence is important to sheep farmers, and a high-profile project for all stakeholders. Since the project began in 2019, the rebuild has featured or been mentioned in more than 70 media stories (print, on-line, radio), newsletters or publications, including a story in the current edition of The Outback Magazine.



Rebuild progress map

Conclusion

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

- R&D on a granulated herbicide applicator
- Continue herbicide trials with more broad scale applications and also a further focus on controlling *Triodia* grass impacting the fence (Penong LDFB)
- Disposal of wooden posts and surplus material (Lyndhurst depot)
- Continuation of Dog Fence Rebuild.
- Relocate leftover flood repair materials to containers along fence
- Commence floodway repair/replacement (Marree/Frome LDFB)
- Assess material storage options on/near the fence in Coober Pedy area

