



Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association Inc

20/21

Annual Report



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Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association
PO Box 204, Mukinbudin WA 6479
M: 0473 163 050
E: eocwba@outlook.com
W: www.cwba.org.au

1.0 CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The 2020/21 financial year has again produced excellent results for the CWBA. The main focus of our efforts has been reducing stock attacks by wild dogs and the results speak for themselves. Feral pigs have also become an increasing issue which we are learning to deal with.

This has been our third year with a Declared Pest Rate and although we endured another rate rise, I feel we still have overwhelming support within the CWBA area. The system of using a DPR to control declared pests may not be perfect, but it's the fairest and most equitable way to control pests which roam free and don't respect property boundaries. It ensures that every landholder contributes to the effort. I'm pleased to report that 80% of our expenditure was on-ground work and only 20% for admin and communications.

The CWBA continues to explore all outside funding sources and once again we have been successful here. This outside funding helps to minimize the landholder contribution.

Our Wild dog control efforts have seen a continued downward trend in stock losses, now totaling a reduction of 92% over 4 years. We are now on top of the problem but we mustn't become complacent.

Feral pigs are an emerging issue, mainly in the Morawa Shire for CWBA. We are working in a formal partnership with the Midlands Biosecurity Group to control pigs in the Morawa/Mingenew area. Whilst we are getting good results, it's fair to say that the pig numbers are persistently higher than landholders would like. We are just starting to appreciate the size of the task ahead.

Relationships with DBCA have improved but unfortunately our aerial wild dog baiting program in their area was stopped by a stalemate in access negotiations. This has now been temporarily resolved, albeit too late to aerial bait in 2020/21.

Our relationship with DPIRD has generally been productive although there have been frustrations in the administration of the DPR and the constant structural changes within the Office of RBGs. We were disappointed about the removal of the DPIRD RBG liaison officer and that no DPIRD staff are now permitted to attend our Board meetings. Considerable time has been spent by our Executive Officer in trying to resolve administrative issues and at times this becomes a distraction to the good work achieved by our Board and EO. We are fully committed to working positively with DPIRD.

CWBA continue to have a good working relationship with our neighboring RBGs in the agricultural areas. I would like to thank the respective members of the Northern Biosecurity Group, the Midlands Biosecurity Group and the Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group.

Our LPMTs are working together as a great team and we appreciate their willingness and flexibility to tackle issues as they arise. We have a regular crew of Graeme Newton, Pat Darling and Jeff Taylor, along with their coordinator Russell McPherson. We also have Paul Pitaro working on feral pigs near Morawa.

I would like to thank our Board members for their continued support to the work of the CWBA. Unfortunately, Rod Desmond retired at the 2020 AGM due to becoming ineligible to be a member. The remainder of our Board are ongoing, for which I am grateful.

The exceptional work of our EO Linda Vernon makes it easy for our Board. I would like to record my appreciation for the work done by Linda, both for CWBA and also the wider RBG system across WA. With her professionalism in governance and communication Linda has ensured that CWBA is a widely respected group.

I believe the CWBA can continue our good work and we have a very positive future. I encourage every landholder and member to become involved at any level of commitment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Patmore', is written over a faint, light blue grid background.

Chris Patmore

Chairman CWBA

M: 0427 552 018

2.0 OVERVIEW

The CWBA has been operating as a Recognised Biosecurity Group since 2017 and aspires to most effectively use the group's resources to manage priority declared pests and to assist the group to meet its responsibilities under the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 (BAM Act).

It has a Strategic Plan and Annual Operational plans that outline a collaborative, multi-stakeholder approach to invasive species management that will enhance the coordination of:

- On-ground activities to manage priority biosecurity threats;
- Training, education and awareness raising opportunities; and
- Collaborative arrangements with government and non-government stakeholders to identify, manage and mitigate high priority feral pest threats.

Board of Management

The CWBA Constitution provides for a Board of Management who are responsible for overseeing the affairs of the Association. The Board of Management consists of a Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; Secretary and Treasurer and no less than 3 and no more than 7 other members. Directors terms of appointment are for a three-year period.

As at 30 June 2021 the CWBA Board of Management consists of:

Position	Member	Term Expires
Chairman	Chris Patmore	2023
Deputy Chairman	Peter North	2021
Secretary and Treasurer	Executive Officer	
Director	Carl Forward	2021
Director	Ashley Sanderson	2022
Director	Henry Gratte	2022
Director	Mark Sutton	2023
Director	Doug Cail	2023
Director	Brad Collins	2023
Director	Vacant	

At the 2020 AGM we thanked and farewelled Rodney Desmond as a Director as his situation had changed and he no longer met the requirements for membership.

Dogger Coordinator

Russell MacPherson has remained as the CWBA Dogger Coordinator as a contracted position for the CWBA. We are extremely lucky to have Russell to continue to be involved in our organization and his long-term knowledge of the region and relationship with landholders is invaluable. He continues to be the first point of contact for all stock attacks to be reported by landholders in the region. Russell then provides this information to the relevant Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) and directs their activities as necessary. Russell continues to work with the Executive Officer and Board of Management to ensure that all stock attacks, dog sightings and any other information provided by landholders or LPMTs are recorded so that the group have a clear understanding of what activity is going on with Wild Dog presence/sightings and good data is recorded within the region.

Executive Officer

The CWBA continue to employ a part-time Executive Officer in Linda Vernon who is responsible for the day to day management of the Association including providing executive support to the Board of Management, administration and financial duties, overseeing the implementation of the Operational Plan, design and delivery of community engagement activities and the development of governance and strategic planning activities for the Association.

The Association's financial management is overseen by the Board and the Executive Officer who is supported by the services of a Bookkeeper, Anne Richardson from Scindian Accounting Services.

3.0 CWBA AIMS & OBJECTIVES

3.1 Our Aim

Effective management of feral pests in the Central Wheatbelt.

3.2 Our Objectives

The objectives of the CWBA cover three core themes:

- Management
- Engagement and Collaboration
- Measurement.

Management

- a. Develop and implement proactive, best practice strategies to reduce the effects of declared pests (wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and rabbits) on private and public lands

Engagement and collaboration

- b. Increase stakeholder participation and encourage landholders and the broader community to adopt sound biosecurity practices
- c. Provide members with a mechanism to exchange information, advice and assistance where appropriate
- d. Encourage and support collaboration for declared pest management in adjacent shires and regions

Measurement

- e. Observe, assess, and report on the progress concerning the reduction of negative impacts of declared pests.

4.0 2020-2021 OPERATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

4.1 DECLARED PEST RATE

For 2020-2021 the CWBA requested the Minister for Agriculture and Food to approve a Declared Pest Rate (DPR) in the Shires of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori of:

- 0.0384 cents in the dollar on the unimproved value on land in the local government districts of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori, that is:
- identified as freehold on the rural valuation roll maintained under the Valuation of Land Act 1978; and
- no less than 100 hectares in area; and
- a minimum amount of \$80.00.

The Minister undertook consultation and approved the CWBA 2020/21 Operational Plan to control declared pests. On the 24th July 2020 the Minister prescribed the 2020-2021 Declared Pest Rate as recommended by the CWBA raising an estimated \$156,250.00. These funds raised in 2019-2020 were matched dollar for dollar by the Western Australian State Government to an estimated total value of \$312,500.00 available to the Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association Inc (CWBA).

The money must only be used to implement the CWBA's Operational Plan with total planned expenditure of \$493,371.43 in the prescribed local government district/s of Dalwallinu, Koorda, Morawa and Perenjori.

As at 30 June 2021 the CWBA has a total value of unpaid rates at \$7,191.00. DPIRD were unable to provide data on how many of the remaining unpaid rates were from the 2020-2021 financial year.

The process of setting a rate and raising funds through the implementation of the Declared Pest Rate has continued to be challenge that the Board continue to tackle and ensure that stakeholders are rated fairly and that the pest control programs are adequately funded to make an impact.

This is the CWBA's third year in raising a Declared Pest Rate the administration of this rate has continued to be a task that is at times onerous and unclear. The CWBA continues to raise with DPIRD a range of concerns that were identified in 2019-2020 to see how both parties can look to improve this process. Not much progress was made over the last 12 months, but we look forward to working through their new project "***Strengthening Community Action to Manage Declared Pests***" and providing feedback through the BAM Act 2007 review processes to look to resolve some of the identified concerns in the implementation of a Declared Pest Rate.

Concern	Summary on 2019-20 Concern	Progress 2020-21
Documented Declared Pest Rate Process.	There is no clear, documented DPR process for both DPIRD and RBGs with timelines and dates.	A guidance document was developed by DPIRD and provided to RBGs, but there still remains “grey” areas.
Incorrect Information	There are consistently incorrect information and/or errors in both the consultation and invoicing process – of which one of the phone numbers to call about is the RBG who usually has little to do with either process.	This remains an issue.
Communication.	There is often poor, short-notice communication between DPIRD and RBGs on DPR activities including the issuing of rate notices and issuing of reminder notices.	This remains an issue.
Inadequate Modelling	The CWBA has lack of confidence in the BRAMS declared pest rate modelling provided due to past experience of errors in modelling and not a clear understanding of the modelling process. This has also led to questions about the ability to have differential rating processes and look at the RBG prescribed boundaries in relation to the actual on-ground operational activities.	This remains an issue.
Ratepayer Data	Lack of confidence that some or the right landholders are receiving a declared pest notice.	Inefficient process and data sharing issues remain
Declared Pest Account Statements and Invoicing	There have been instances where the release of funds and financial statements have been delayed. The CWBA needs access to this information to make	The guidance document originally stated that DPA statements would be received within 21 days. This was not happening and when queried the

	timely and effective decisions regarding our control programs.	guidance document was amended to
Carry Over/Contingency	This is not understood, is unclear and not documented between DPIRD and the CWBA other than a statement in this year's Directions Notices which is rather broad "Additionally, the second payment will be made less any residual funding from the 2019/20 financial year that has not been allocated for expenditure."	This remains an issue and has been identified as critical and if not resolved places RBGs in a position of trading whilst insolvent.

Overall, the CWBA Board of Management have been very pleased by the on-going support of landholders within the region for the implementation of the Declared Pest Rate, as without access to this form of long-term sustainable funding the CWBA would not be able to implement effective control programs for Declared Pests.

4.2 FUNDING & GRANTS

ROYALTIES FOR REGIONS PROGRAM – WILD DOG MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The CWBA continue to be supported through a twelve-month extension of financial assistance from the Royalties for Regions Program – Wild Dog Management Program to employ one half-time (0.5FTE) Licensed Pest Management Technician to reduce the number of Wild Dogs on government managed lands and adjoining agricultural land. Funding of \$66, 875 was received for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

SHEEP/GOAT INDUSTRY FUNDING SCHEME WILD DOG GRANTS – CWBA WILD DOG MANAGEMENT – CONTROLLING THE GAPS

The CWBA successfully applied for \$180,000 of funding over three years from 1 July 2019 from the Sheep/Goat Industry Funding Scheme Wild Dog Grants to better target Wild Dog control activities in identified “gap” areas in our region by providing additional funding support to the CWBA LPMT Program allocating additional LPMT days to targeting identified “gap” properties in partnership with the Northern Biosecurity Group. This has allowed us to have LPMTs on the ground on the pastoral properties of Mellenbye and Bunawarra – key properties inside the State Barrier Fence, but outside the CWBA designated area for Wild Dog control. This funding is also used to support the CWBA Aerial Baiting Program targeting Wild Dogs on Unallocated Crown Land (UCL), Salt lakes, Conservation Estates and pastoral properties inside the State Barrier Fence once a year for three years in partnership with the Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group.

4.3 PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS

DEPARTMENT OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND ATTRACTIONS

Our relationship with DBCA continues to be a complex one. The structure of DBCA provides many challenges for us to easily take steps forward in the direction that the CWBA Board would like. The CWBA has a relationship with two DBCA regions, Mid-West Region and Wheatbelt Region. What has made this relationship perplexing is the different experiences of working with both regions.

The DBCA Wheatbelt Region successfully committed to and signed off on a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the CWBA for a period 30 June 2022, this document outlines common understandings and roles and responsibility for Wild Dog control on identified DBCA managed lands in their region by the CWBA.

The CWBA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Geraldton (Midwest Region) of the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) expired at 30 June 2019. This agreement was not able to be successfully re-negotiated in 2020-2021 primarily due to being unable to resolve issues around Restricted Chemical Product Permits for the DBCA managed lands in the Mid-West region. This disappointingly resulted in the 2020 Aerial Baiting Program not being implemented on DBCA managed lands in the CWBA area. After much discussions and negotiation, the DBCA Mid-West region did finally provide permission to the CWBA on the 4th December 2020 for the continuation of wild dog control activities undertaken by the CWBA under RCP Permit 20190625-00019636 (ex-Kadji Kadji Conservation Area), until further advice is provided from DBCA and RCP Permit issues are resolved.

Concerns remain about the MOU template presented by DBCA of which key areas were:

1. Leg-hold trapping on CALM Act Lands. DBCA do not support leg hold trapping on CALM Act lands. With the State government initiative to increase the area of National Park in Western Australia and the implementation of the Badamia Conservation Reserves under this plan, this is an issue for CWBA to implement effective control activities for Wild Dogs.
2. RCP Permits – CWBA are not prepared to take on the responsibility or be the named legal entity for RCP Permits for DBCA managed lands for Wild Dog Control.
3. Signage – CWBA are not prepared to be responsible for 1080 warning signage if DBCA do not have the funds to have appropriate signage on DBCA managed lands.

Appreciation and acknowledgement are again extended to Adrian Chesson, District Wildlife Officer DBCA Wheatbelt, John Coetsee, Operations Officer - Conservation and Michael Raykos, Conservation Officer from the Mid-West DBCA Office, for their continued support of working with the CWBA.

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The CWBA have continued to work closely with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development Biosecurity team to implement our third Declared Pest Rate and meet all our reporting obligations as a Recognised Biosecurity Group under the BAM Act 2007. The DPIRD relationship has continued to be challenging as many of the roles and responsibilities remain unclear between both parties.

This year saw the DPIRD RBG Project Support Office's Kim Haywood support us with working with the Department until it was withdrawn in June 2021 by the Department's decision to support the improvement projects and to simplify the roles across the Department. This news was to the great disappointment of the CWBA as the role has continued to provide an important consistent communication and information link, liaison and support between the Department and CWBA.

The CWBA continue working in partnership on research projects with Tracey Kreplins, Research Scientist, Invasive Species, Sustainability and Biosecurity which now include:

- collecting DNA samples from Wild Dogs as a part of her DNA and kin relationship of Wild Dogs;
- trialling the use of the Eradicat® Bait for Feral Cats as well as Wild Dogs and Foxes; and
- establishing a landscape scale wild dog and feral pig monitoring network to improve delivery of coordinated and effective pest management.

Upgrade and maintenance activities continue along the State Barrier Fence which is managed by DPIRD with a significant area of fence from Mongers Lake to the Great Northern Highway in the CWBA area having been upgraded or replaced in this period. The State Barrier Fence continues to be the number one tool in managing declared pests and stopping them entering the CWBA region from the rangelands. This infrastructure and its maintenance are vital in ensuring effective control activities can be implemented in the CWBA region.

AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE CONSERVANCY – MT GIBSON

The CWBA continues to work proactively with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy – Mt Gibson Sanctuary staff to have a positive stakeholder relationship.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL INNOVATION (AWI)

After four and a half years of supporting and funding the Wild Dog Control Coordinator, Meja Aldrich in Western Australia, Australian Wool Innovation made the decision to close the position as at 1 September 2020. The CWBA received \$38,571.43 from the remainder of the funds allocated to WA from AWI for the Wild Dog Control Coordinator position under a grant administered by DPIRD called the Australian Wool Innovation Wild Dog, Feral Pig and Fox control training for the benefit of wool and sheep producers in Western Australia 2020-2022. This funding is for the purpose of; increase the knowledge of, and skills in, the control of Wild Dogs, Feral Pigs and Foxes in WA; increase the number of producers who participate in Wild Dog, Feral Pig and Fox control in WA; decrease the impacts of Wild Dogs, Feral Pigs and Foxes on wool and sheep production in WA; increase the kg of wool produced in WA; increase the mental wellbeing of woolgrowers in WA; and increase the anecdotal reports of native wildlife return in WA.

LIEBE GROUP

The CWBA have continued developing a partnership with the Liebe Group to utilize their communication networks, resources and facilities to improve and increase landholder engagement in the CWBA region. We also supported the Liebe Group with their successful MLA producer demonstration site program. An activity that is to be conducted as a part of this program is a survey of our region to gather baseline livestock data to show current livestock numbers, practices and priorities. This activity was supported by both the Midlands Biosecurity Group and CWBA and we will be working together to establish an efficient plan to get the most benefit out of the survey for all parties.

4.3 LPMT (DOGGER) PROGRAM

The CWBA are please to report that we have continued to contract the services of the following Licensed Pest Management Technicians for a third successive year;

	LPMT Name	Area Covered
LPMT 1	Graeme Newton	Dalwallinu & Koorda
LPMT 2	Jeff Taylor	Perenjori
LPMT 3	Pat Darling	Morawa

They worked a total of 331.5 days across the region undertaking control activities of baiting, trapping (at any one time there was an average of 175 traps in the ground across the region) and shooting on both public and private land primarily targeting wild dogs, foxes and rabbits. This is the third year in a row where the CWBA have been able to deliver over 300 days of consistent LPMT control activities.

The CWBA LPMTs utilized the national database and reporting program Feral Scan to record all of their control activity and observations in 2020-2021 in line with an agreement held by the CWBA with the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development. All three LPMT are contracted to 30 June 2022 and again have worked exceptionally well as a team – they are a great asset to our association.

4.4 COMMUNITY BAIT RACK PROGRAM - FOX & WILD DOG BAITING

The CWBA has five bait racks located in the region which has local landholders as their Coordinators. These are for the purpose of making 1080 dried meat baits for targeted fox and wild dog control. This year coordinated baiting programs were organized for September 2020 and April 2021. Landholders were provided with access to a total of 24,000 dried meat baits. 2,000 1080 warning signs were also purchased and supplied at the bait racks for landholders to use. Coordinated baiting is promoted at these two identified times to landholders, but landholders are also encouraged to implement a targeted baiting program on their property all year round.

Table 3: CWBA Bait Rack Data 2020-2021

Bait Rack	Coordinator	September 2020	April 2021
Morawa Bait Rack	Glen Tapscott	5000	0
Perenjori Bait Rack	Glen Solomon	5000	5000
Mongers Lake Bait Rack	Clayton Nankivell	2000	0
Goodlands Bait Rack	Ashley Sanderson	2000	3000
Koorda Bait Rack	Carl Fuchsbichler	2000	0
Totals		16,000	8,000

4.5 CWBA ANNUAL AERIAL BAITING PROGRAM FOR WILD DOGS

With the funding received from the Sheep/Goat Industry Funding Scheme Wild Dog Grants the Aerial Baiting Program for Wild Dog Control was planned and implemented for a third year in the CWBA. It was delayed until mid-October as we attempted to work through issues of RCP Permits for DBCA managed lands in the Mid-West region (Shires of Morawa and Perenjori). Unfortunately, we were unable to resolve these in time for this control activity and therefore DBCA managed lands were not included as a part of the 2020-2021 Aerial Baiting Program. For 2020-2021 the CWBA together with the Eastern Wheatbelt Biosecurity Group we were able to contract the services of JL Taylor and Desert Eagle Helicopters to coordinate a targeted aerial baiting program by helicopter for two days in the CWBA region. 5,000 1080 dried meat baits were laid at a range of identified locations across the region that had been identified as inaccessible by vehicle, with the majority of this occurring on the pastoral properties of Warrara, Perangery, Mellenbye and Bunawarra and we were able to bait some areas of DBCA managed land in the Shires of Koorda and Dalwallinu as well as some unallocated crown land and saltlakes.

4.6 COMMUNITY RABBIT CONTROL PROGRAM - RABBIT BAITING

The CWBA allocated and promoted the opportunity for landholders across the region to participate in a coordinated rabbit control program in February-March 2020 with access to free 1080 Rabbit Oat Bait Mixing days to landholders. Again, we experienced poor uptake of this program with only 12 landholders expressing an interest in participating in this activity. We had pre-purchased 140 packets of 1080 One Shot to ensure that we had adequate supply of poison on hand for this activity. The region then experienced significant rain events over the summer resulting in significant green feed on hand and a decision was made with the support of the Board upon recommendation from DPIRD Biosecurity Officers and the Executive Officer to not proceed with the control program as it had a high likelihood of not being effective and to reduce the amount of 1080 Oats likely to be stored on farms across the region. This resource is currently stored at a Bait Rack in the region to be used at a later date.

Rabbit numbers were reported to significantly be increasing in numbers across the region at May and June 2021, and the CWBA looked to purchase vials of Calicivirus RHDV1 K5 strain to be released and monitored at identified sites across the region.

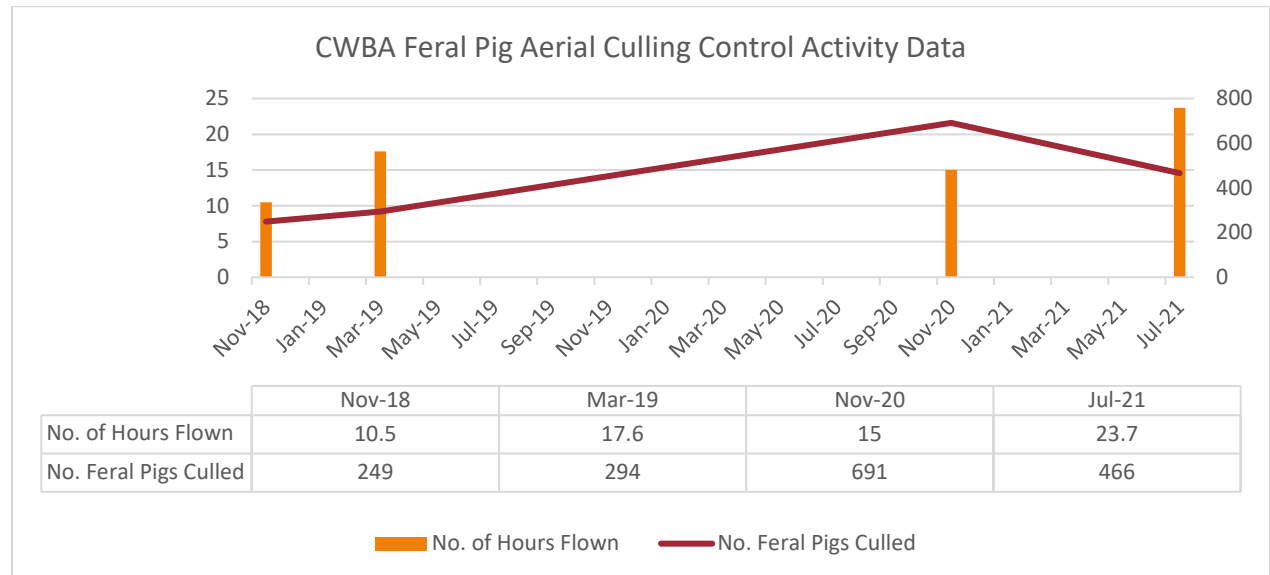
4.7 FERAL PIG CONTROL

The CWBA entered into a partnership agreement with the Midlands Biosecurity Group for 2020-2021 to work jointly for an initial twelve months to provide deliver a co-ordinated and collaborative response to the issue of feral pigs, a declared pest, in the Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association (CWBA) and Midlands Biosecurity Group (MBG) region of Western Australia. The project involved co-ordinated baiting, monitoring and education programs across land tenures. Feral pigs have a destructive impact on landscapes in the region. It was identified that Feral Pigs were impacting on soil and water quality, destroying native flora and fauna including threatened species, flattening crops and preying on lambs. The aims of this joint project over the 12 months were to:

- a. Build relationships with land managers and provide coordination and mentoring for the control activities of baiting and trapping programs around known feral pig 'hot spots' in the CWBA & MBG on private property.

- b. Collect information about feral pig activity (damage, numbers and locations) and 'ground-truth' the Draft WA Feral Pig Distribution map, utilising local knowledge and through linkage with Northern Biosecurity Group Monitoring project on both public and private lands.
- c. Encourage all landholders to become active participants in their Recognised Biosecurity Group and in the control of declared pests.

LPMT Paul Pitaro was contracted for a period of 100 days over 11 months to specifically provide on-ground support for Feral Pig monitoring, surveillance and control activities. Also in November 2020, landholders' self-funded an aerial control activity to cull a significant number Feral Pigs identified in the region.



4.8 RESTRICTED CHEMICAL PRODUCT PERMITS

The CWBA offer to pay for and provide assistance to landholders to submit applications to obtaining Restricted Chemical Product (RCP) Permits so that they themselves and the CWBA employed LPMTs could access their properties to undertake control activities. A total of 23 landholders were provided with assistance to complete RCP permits or permit amendments.

The process of Restricted Chemical Product Permits which is administered by DPIRD continues to be an issue over the last twelve months and it has been identified that the issue goes back to the Code of Practice for 1080 and Strychnine which is administered by the Department of Health (DoH). The issues of RCPs are now being discussed with three government departments in DPIRD, DBCA and DoH and are a common issue that impact all RBGs. No solutions have been provided to date.

4.9 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The CWBA have been proactive and continue to engage with the community about Declared Pests, control activities and the incoming Declared Pest Rate. Below is an outline of key community engagement activities undertaken by the Association over the last twelve months.

Table 4: CWBA Community Engagement Activities 2020-2021

Month	Activity Type	Details
All Year Round	CWBA Website All information about the CWBA can be found here and is current.	www.cwba.org.au
	Social Media CWBA have a Facebook Page which appropriate relevant information is posted to all year round.	https://www.facebook.com/CentralWheatbeltBA/
July 2020	Email to CWBA Local Governments Email sent to all four CWBA Local Governments informing them of the successful DPR outcome and offering to come and present to Council.	
September 2020	AGM Notice to Members Notice of AGM and setting of DPR for 21-22.	
October 2020	Annual General Meeting CWBA Annual General Meeting, adoption of annual report and setting of the 21-21 DPR.	9 October 2019
	October E-news and Local Papers Update on the activities of the Association.	
November 2020	2019-2020 Annual Report Distributed to members and to key stakeholders by email and hard copy.	Hard copy by post.
February 2021	February E-news and Local Papers. Update on the activities of the Association	
March 2021	Local Government Letter A direct letter to the President, Councilors and CEO was emailed updating them on the CWBA activities and the incoming DPR and ask for financial assistance.	
April 2021	April E-news and Local Papers. Update on the activities of the Association	
May 2021	Ministerial Consultation Ministerial Public Consultation Letter direct to all CWBA Ratepayers. Contact details from all Local Government's Rate role.	

5.0 WILD DOG ACTIVITY AND STOCK LOSSES

The CWBA LPMTs trapped a total of 25 Wild Dogs for 2020-2021 and further 3 were shot by landholders. Only 5 Wild Dog sightings were reported to the CWBA.

A total of 35 stock (sheep and goats) losses were report by landholders to the CWBA. This is a decrease of 73% compared to the previous 12 months and we are overwhelmingly pleased with the significant decline in stock attacks over this 12-month period, but we do believe that this is the minimum number of stock losses as it is likely to be more with some landholders still not reporting. The CWBA responds immediately when landholders report stock losses and Wild Dog sightings to the Dogger Coordinator and send a LPMT out to the area as soon as possible.

Table 5: Summary of LPMT Reported Data 2017-2021

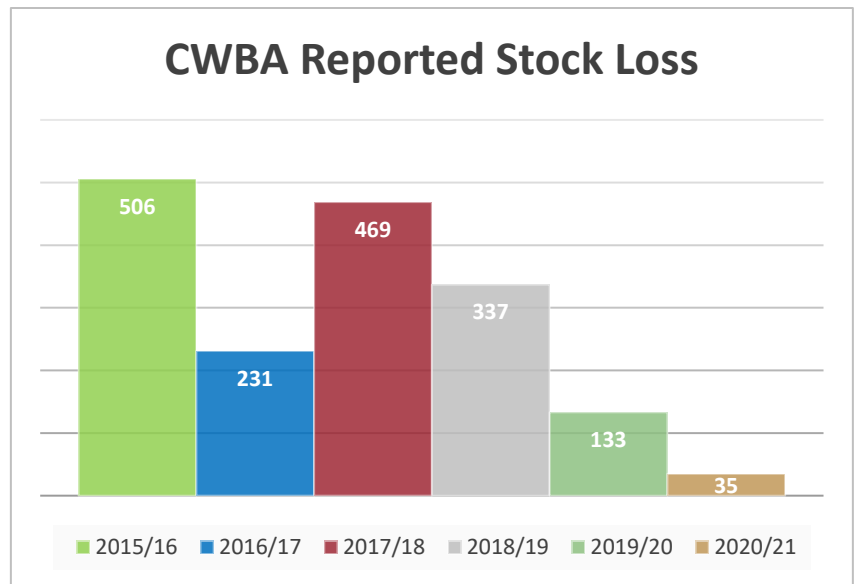
End of Year LPMT Statistics Summary	1 July 2017-30 June 2018	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020	1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021
LPMT Days Worked	187	344	340	331.5
Baits Laid by LPMTs	12,814	7,700	9,880	8,300
Wild Dogs Trapped	25	67	38	25

Table 6: Summary of Reporting by Landholders 2017-2021

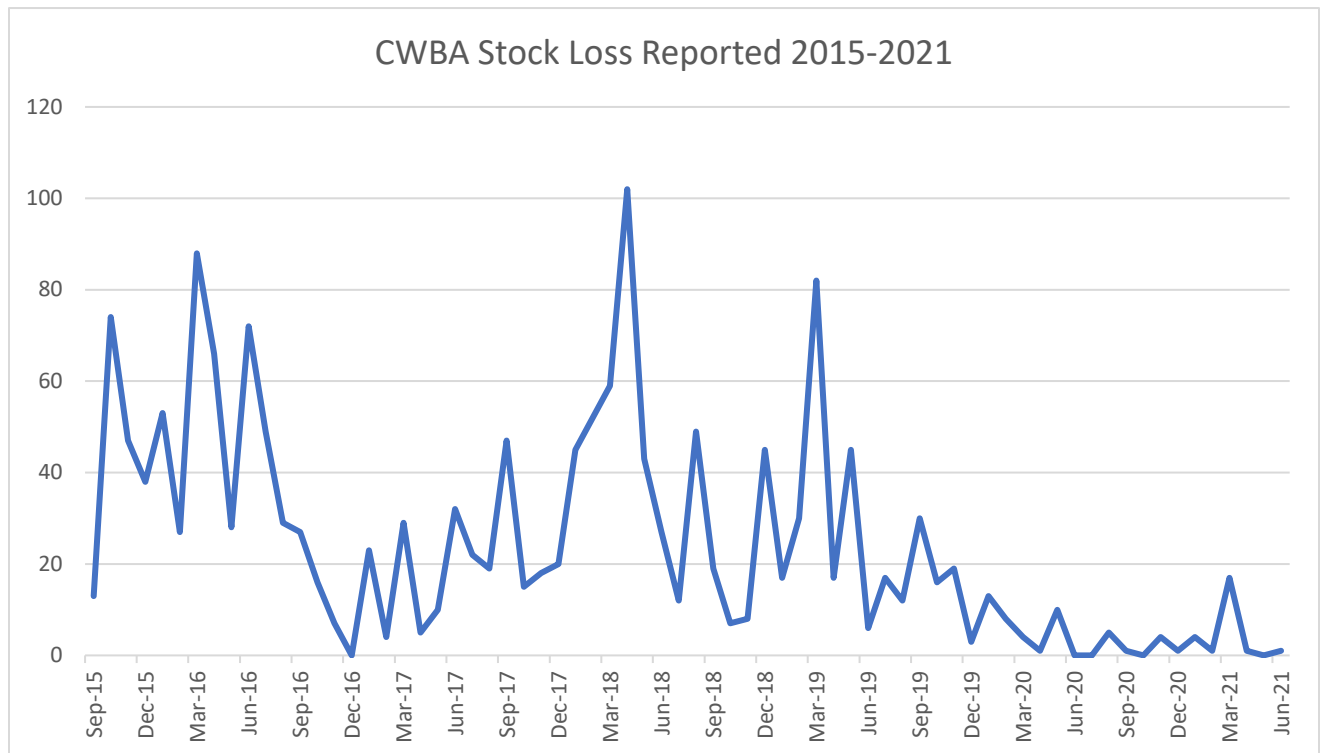
Landholder Reports	1 July 2017-30 June 2018	1 July 2018 - 30 June 2019	1 July 2019 - 30 June 2020	1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021
Wild Dogs Shot by landholders	12	7	16	3
Reported Wild Dog Sightings	51	20	20	5
Stock Loss Reports	469	337	133	35

Table 7: Monthly Summary of Stock Loss/Stock Attacks Reported to CWBA

Month	No. Stock killed
July 2020	0
August 2020	5
September 2020	1
October 2020	0
November 2020	4
December 2020	1
January 2021	4
February 2021	1
March 2021	17
April 2021	1
May 2021	0
June 2021	1
TOTAL	35



Graph 1: Summary of CWBA Stock Loss Reported 2015-2021



6.0 SUMMARY

The CWBA has effectively seen the implementation of its third Declared Pest Rate in 2020-2021. The community as a whole has generally continued to be supportive and this then enables the Board of Management to focus its direction on improving the decision making, governance and administration around the Declared Pest Rate and annual Operational Plans.

The continuity of the CWBA team in its third year of Russell Macpherson, Patrick Darling, Graeme Newton and Jeff Taylor in the delivery of on-ground activities has been significant in delivering successful outcomes as outlined in the Operational Plan. We have employed the three Licensed Pest Management Technicians (LPMTs) for 331.5 days who trapped or shot 25 Wild Dogs, had throughout the year each had between 22 and 113 traps in the ground at any one time and laid 13,300 baits across the region through ground and aerial baiting. 24,000 dried meat baits were made by the CWBA to be used by landholders free of charge in coordinated community baiting programs in September 2020 and April 2021. We held 7 bait days for landholders to access baits for the control of wild dogs, feral pigs, foxes and rabbits and assisted 23 landholders to obtain Restricted Chemical Product Permits or Permit amendments.

35 stock losses/attacks were reported to the CWBA during this period, this is a 73% decrease from the 2019-2020 year and 92% decrease over the last 4 years. Key hot spots are still in the east of the area's region on agricultural land adjacent to the State Barrier Fence. Around 80% of LPMTs time is spent on government managed lands.

The CWBA took the initiative to join forces with the Midlands Biosecurity Group to jointly tackle the Feral Pig problem in the Shires of Mingenew and Morawa. We welcomed Paul Pitaro to the team who spent 100 days in the region seeking to better understand and assist landholders with control activities. We believe that we now have more knowledge and can better comprehend the scale of the Feral Pig issue and are looking at how to structure control programs and provide adequate support at the landscape scale going forward.

Anecdotally, rabbit numbers across the region were reported to be significantly increased around May - June 2021 but we feel the past apathy of landholders to undertaking regular and consistent control programs to better manage rabbits in the landscape is limiting our ability to effectively implement landscape scale control programs for rabbits at this present time.

As always, the pressure on available finances to implement effective control programs and the ability of the CWBA to successfully secure external funds to assist with on-ground activities is at the core decision making process of the Board of Management to ensure that the Declared Pest Rate remains as low as possible for landholders.

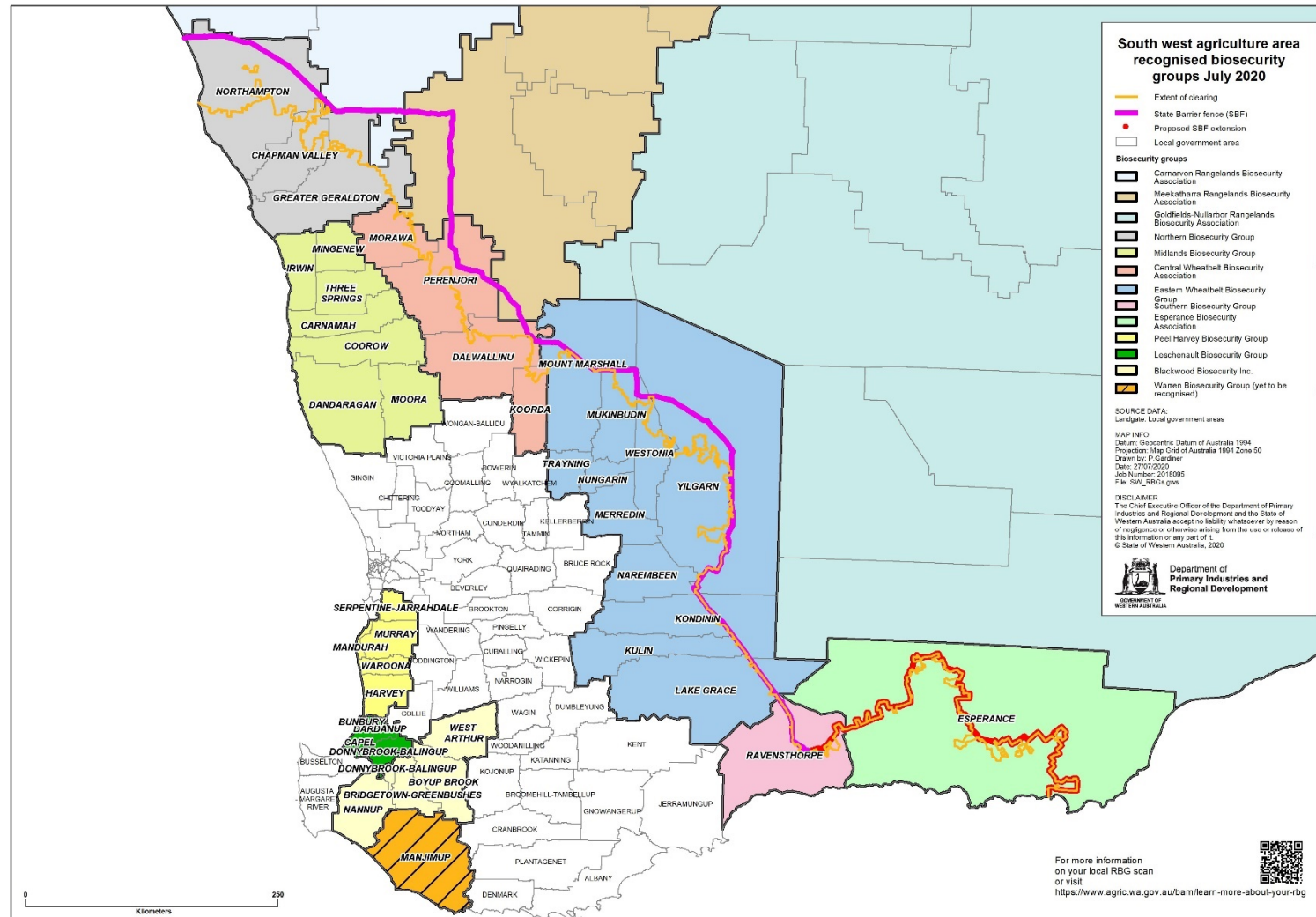
The pain points apart from finances for the Association is that expectations of community often go well beyond our scope as an RBG and government expectations go well beyond the capacity of an RBG. Some key opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for the Association include:

1. Government relationships with RBGs.
2. Work Health and Safety Legislation 2020
3. Royalties for Regions Funding for Wild Dog Control
4. Sheep and Goat Industry Funding Scheme – Wild Dog Grants
5. Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 review process

6. State Barrier Fence access and maintenance
7. Declared Species for RBGs to manage
8. Indigenous engagement and Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs)

As always, the mantra of our association is local people, making local decisions about local pests and that Biosecurity is as much about prevention as it is about control.

APPENDICES 1: AREA OF OPERATION



APPENDICES 2 FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

CWBA Financials

For the period July 2020 to June 2021

Opening Balance 1 July 2020		<u><u>\$267,651.33</u></u>
Bank Accounts		
DPIRD Bridging Funds Account	28,618.57	
CWBA Own Funds	96,119.14	
AWI Funds	-	
DPR Funds	142,544.42	
Debit Card Account	369.20	
Plus Income		
R4R Wild Dog Funding Grant	66,875.00	
R4R Capacity Building Project	-	
AWI Grant Funding	98,571.43	
DPR Rate Match Fund	342,453.00	
Shire Annual Contributions	-	
Interest Received on all Accounts	331.63	
Other Income	11,544.00	
		<u>519,775.06</u>
Less Expenses		
LPMT	245,881.45	
Project Management	75,667.05	
Community Engagement	2,011.14	
Projects / Baiting	93,727.05	
Other Expense	13,937.87	
		<u>431,224.56</u>
Less Asset		
Plant & Equipment	4,400.00	
		<u>4,400.00</u>
Plus GST Movement		
GST Collected	20,699.80	
GST Paid	-16,912.50	
		<u>3,787.30</u>

Closing Cashbook	\$355,589.13
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Outstanding Transactions

Less Income	-
Plus Expenses	-
	<hr/>
	<u><u>\$355,589.13</u></u>

Balance of Bank Accounts @ 30 June 2021

DPIRD Bridging Funds	36,213.75
CWBA Own Funds	96,203.14
AWI Funds	-
DPR Funds	222,654.33
Debit Card Account	517.91
	<hr/>
	<u><u>\$355,589.13</u></u>

APPENDICES 3: AUDITORS REPORT

17 September 2021

Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association
58 Johnston Street
Dalwallinu WA 6609

Dear Committee

Financial Report Audit for the Year Ended 30 June 2021

We have completed the audit of your Association's accounts for the year ended 30 June 2021.

We direct your attention to the fact that the responsibility for the preparation of the financial statements and adequate disclosure is that of the Committee. This includes the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls, the selection and application of accounting policies, and the safeguarding of monies of the Association.

The purpose of our audit of the financial report is to express an opinion on that report, and this report on management issues includes only matters that come to our attention during the conduct of our work and, therefore, should not be regarded as a comprehensive statement of management issues that may exist.

Our audit procedures highlighted the following items; corrections have been made as required to ensure the accuracy of the financial statements.

Accountant / Bookkeeping Fees

We noted an invoice for accountant / bookkeeping services provided in 2020/21 financial year was recorded in the previous financial year in error. Therefore, we have made the adjustment to record this transaction in the appropriate year the services were rendered and paid.

We noted no other significant matters that should be raised or brought to the attention of the Management Committee.

We thank you for the kind assistance provided during the audit. If you wish to discuss any of the above items or require any further information, please contact us immediately.

Yours sincerely

LEANNE K OLIVER CPA RCA
Director

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

Audited Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

CONTENT
Statement by Members of the Committee
Balance Sheet
Income Statement
Statement of Change in Equity
Statement of Cash Flow
Notes to the Financial Statements
Independent Audit Report

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

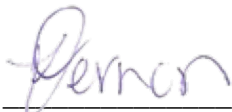
1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



CHAIRPERSON

Name: Christopher Patmore



TREASURER

Name: Linda Vernon

Dated this

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2021

Income	2021	2020
DPR Rate/Matching	342,453	240,246
Grant Funding	98,571	6,580
R4R Wild Dog Funding	66,875	40,313
Total Income	507,899	287,139

Expenses

Accountant / Bookkeeping Fees	4,866	3,785
Administration Exp	3,063	3,395
Advertising / Signage	668	2,799
Aerial Baiting	23,445	19,980
Baiting Racks Gen Exp	3,990	5,880
Bank Fees	32	32
Board of Management Fees	51	-
Chemical	-	542
CWBA Meeting Exp	2,328	2,397
Dogger Co-Ordinator	5,400	5,555
Executive Officer	39,662	50,417
Executive Officer - Travel & Accommoda	3,103	2,561
Feral Pig Control	37,704	9,000
Freight	610	731
Goodlands Bait Rack	1,500	-
Insurance	17,837	26,021
LPMT - General Exp	236	-
LPMT - Jeff Taylor	107,100	102,050
LPMT - Pat Darling	109,500	111,000
LPMT 2 - Gareme Newton	23,645	20,400
Monger Land Bait Rack	1,500	1,500
Monitoring Expenses	17,528	8,144
Morowa Bait Rack	1,500	1,500
Other Expenses	13,938	-
Partners Community Engagement	1,098	1,000
Perenjori Bait Rack	6,000	4,700
Rabbit Control	1,800	3,450
RCR Permit	-	1,139
Superannuation Expense	2,696	1,653
Website	195	470
Workshops	50	-

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2021 (cont)

Expenses	2021	2020
Depreciation	1,382	1,106
Total Expenses	432,426	391,204
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	75,473	(104,065)
Other Income		
Interest Income	332	860
Other Income	11,071	3,846
Total Other Income	11,403	4,706
Net Surplus (Deficit)	86,876	(99,359)

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

Assets	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Accounts receivable	-	520
CWBA Debit Card Account	518	369
CWBA Own Funds	96,203	96,119
DPIRD Bridging Funds	36,214	28,619
DPR Rate Funding	222,654	142,544
	<u>355,589</u>	<u>268,171</u>
Non Current Assets		
Plant & Equipment	15,474	11,074
Acc Depreciation - Plant & Equipment	(2,850)	(1,467)
	<u>12,624</u>	<u>9,607</u>
Total Assets	<u>368,213</u>	<u>277,778</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	2,243	2,250
GST collected	31,422	10,770
GST paid	(31,276)	(14,190)
	<u>2,389</u>	<u>(1,170)</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>2,389</u>	<u>(1,170)</u>
Net Assets	<u>365,824</u>	<u>278,948</u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	278,948	378,307
Net Surplus (Deficit)	86,876	(99,359)
Total Equity	<u>365,824</u>	<u>278,948</u>

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Retained Profits	Total
Opening balance 1/07/2019	378,307	378,307
Net result for the year	(99,359)	(99,359)
Closing balance 30/06/2020	<u>278,948</u>	<u>278,948</u>
Opening Balance 1/07/2020	278,948	278,948
Net result for the year	86,876	86,876
Closing balance 30/06/2021	<u>365,824</u>	<u>365,824</u>

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Cash Flow From Operating Activities			
Receipts from customers		519,823	291,323
Payments to suppliers and employees		(427,485)	(430,905)
Interest received		-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u>92,338</u>	<u>(139,582)</u>
Cash Flow From Investing Activities			
Equipment purchased during the year		(4,400)	(110)
		<u>(4,400)</u>	<u>(110)</u>
Cash Flow From Financing Activities			
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		87,938	(139,692)
Cash at the beginning of the year		267,651	407,343
Cash at the end of the year		<u>355,589</u>	<u>267,651</u>

CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
ABN 46 359 975 258
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (WA) and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 112 Income Taxes

AASB 110 Events after the Balance Sheet Date

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

a) Income Tax

The Association is a non-profit organisation and thus exempted from income tax liability by virtue of section 23(3) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

b) Goods & Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

c) Plant & Equipment

Plant and equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, and accumulated depreciation. The depreciable amount of all plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
CENTRAL WHEATBELT BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION.**

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2021, and the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Auditors Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Central Wheatbelt Biosecurity Association as of 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

The financial report is prepared in accordance with a special purpose framework and accordingly may not be suitable for other purposes. The opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

LEANNE K OLIVER CPA RCA
Director

AUDIT PARTNERS AUSTRALIA
EAST VICTORIA PARK WA

Dated at Perth, Western Australia this 17th September 2021