

Declared Pest Rate 2023-2024

DPRFS Final Report 2023-24 (Version 2 of 2)

Application No. RBG-DPR23-17 From Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association

Form Submitted 6 Jan 2025, 1:48PM AWST

DPRFS Final Report Purpose

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The purpose of this Final Report is to summarise the Recognised Biosecurity Group's (RBG) achievements during 2023-24, including the activities undertaken and funding expended for purposes as detailed in the RBG's Funding Agreement.

Reporting submitted to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), pursuant to section 170 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*, must be published on DPIRD's electronic website. For enquiries regarding this report, please contact the Funding Schemes Team on talkingrbg@dpiird.wa.gov.au.

Consent Privacy

Privacy Statement

Information provided by Recipients or collected by DPIRD in relation to the project, may be used in the administration of this Funding Scheme and in the acceptance of this report.

Any information provided (personal, financial or otherwise) will be solely used for this purpose of this Funding Scheme.

DPIRD will adhere to the legislative requirements of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*, and the *Privacy Act 1988* (cth) when storing information provided by Recipients or collected by DPIRD in relation to this Final Report.

DPIRD is also subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* and documents in our possession are subject to these provisions.

I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Statement and I consent to and authorise such uses and disclosures *

☒ Yes

Recipient Details

*** indicates a required field**

RBG Name

Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association

This question is read only.

Contact Name *

Miss Margi Weir

Position *

Executive Officer

Phone Number *

0408 210 285

Must be an Australian phone number.

Form Submitted 6 Jan 2025, 1:48PM AWST

Must be an email address.

*** indicates a required field**

If you have undertaken additional activities or had a variation approved for revised funded activities, please add rows as required.

Activity	Activity Measure	Final Activity Update
Name of program, e.g. Wild Dog Program. What activities will be undertaken, e.g. trapping, baiting, aerial culls.	How will success of the activity be measured, e.g. an increased survival rate of calves.	e.g. how many baiting days were completed, how many baits or traps laid, number of dogs destroyed.
Communication & Community Engagement	Activities including Annual General Meeting, quarterly Newsletter, website updates as required, and landholder information and training sessions.	<p>The Annual General Meeting was held in Meekatharra on Tuesday 17th October 2023. Ten people were in attendance, and twelve lodged apologies.</p> <p>On the same day, the Committee of Management also held their meeting.</p> <p>The following February the MRBA held their second Committee of Management meeting for the 2023/2024 financial year. This was on Tuesday 12th February.</p>

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Wild Dog Program	<p>Activities include ground and aerial baiting, trapping, and shooting.</p> <p>Measures include the number of traps and baits laid, areas in which baits are laid and animals culled, and feedback received from Licensed Pest Management Technicians and landholders.</p>	<p>Two bait rack programs were conducted during 2023/2024. The first was in Spring 2023 and saw 12.94 tonnes of bait meat processed at 7 bait rack days across the MRBA region.</p> <p>The second was in Autumn 2024 when 9.94 tonnes of bait meat was processed and distributed at 6 bait rack days.</p> <p>The MRBA employs 8 contract LPMTs who cover 10 contracts across the region. A total of 251 wild dogs were destroyed under this program in the 2023/2024 year. The attached file (Compiled Dogger Reports Yearly Totals) shows the breakdown of dogs and other vermin destroyed by our LPMTs. Note that this file also shows additional figures from LPMTs who are employed under the Wild Dog Action Plan funding program.</p>
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Large Feral Herbivore Program	<p>Pests including feral camels, donkeys and horses.</p> <p>Activities include aerial shooting.</p> <p>Measures include the number of shoots per annum and animals culled, and feedback received from landholders.</p>	<p>In October 2023 the MRBA contracted DPIRD's Invasive Species staff to conduct an aerial cull of Large Feral Herbivores in the northern part of the MRBA. Over 4.5 days they destroyed 1,648 donkeys, 90 camels and 186 wild horses.</p> <p>This was the first aerial cull since 2019, as internal DPIRD issues prevented a cull from being conducted as planned in 2022. This meant a lapse of 4 years between culls, during which time LFH populations had built up significantly.</p> <p>Following the Oct 2023 cull, landholders reported that there were still very large LFH populations in the area, indicating that there is definite need for a subsequent follow-up cull in 2024.</p>
Plant Pest Program	<p>Plant pests including Parkinsonia, Mesquite, and Cactus.</p> <p>Activities include providing information to landholders about plant pests and methods of control and eradication.</p> <p>Measures include feedback from landholders.</p>	<p>The MRBA does not have any funds available for the control of declared pest plants.</p> <p>A report from a member of the public citing a population of <i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i> var <i>mamillata</i> near Mt Magnet was subsequently found to be under the jurisdiction of Main Roads. Despite repeated attempts to engage with Main Roads on this, that department remained uncooperative.</p> <p>A member of MRBA reported a population of cactus at the Mt Seabrook mine site. Information on managing cactus was provided to that member.</p>

Please upload any relevant documents to support the achievement of Funded Activities

Filename: 2023 2024 Compiled Dogger Reports Yearly Totals.pdf
File size: 130.2 kB

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Including minutes from meetings, photographs, social media posts etc. Please note the Annual Report upload is requested below.

Budget (GST Exclusive)

The table below details the anticipated expenditure included in the budget section of your DPRFS Application Form.

Please complete the **Actual Expenditure** column to detail the actual values which have been expended on funded activities.

Please only include funding from the Declared Pest Rate and State matched funding.

All amounts should be GST exclusive.

Please **do not add commas** to figures – e.g., type \$1000 not \$1,000 – this will ensure your figures for each table total correctly.

Funded Activity	Anticipated Expenditure (Ex GST)	Actual Expenditure (Ex GST)
Name of program, e.g. Wild Dog Program.	Must be a dollar amount.	Must be a dollar amount.
Wild Dog Program	\$514,309.00	\$431,676.55
Large Feral Herbivore Program	\$61,026.00	\$67,448.25
Administration & Governance	\$75,000.00	\$42,449.37

Budget Totals

The values below are auto calculated based on the values entered in the Budget Table.

Anticipated Expenditure Total (ex GST)	\$650,335.00	Actual Expenditure Total (ex GST)	\$541,574.17
	This number/amount is calculated.		This number/amount is calculated.

Variations

Did you request a variation for delivery of your 2023-24 funded activities? *

- ☐ Yes
☒ No

Annual Report & Independent Financial Audit

The provision of an Annual Report is necessary to meet the legislative requirements under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*.

The provision of an Independently Audited Financial Report is necessary to meet the legislative requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015* and the DPRFS Funding Agreement.

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The financial statement of income and expenditure in relation to the Funding, certified by an Independent Financial Auditor and completed to Australian Accounting Standards, including but not limited to the following:

- the total Declared Pest Account (DPA) Funding received for the financial year.
- any balance brought forward from the previous reporting year, including the intended purpose for those funds.
- the amount of interest earned by the Recipient on the DPA Funding for the financial year (if any)
- the amount of DPA Funding spent and unspent in respect of the Funded Activities.

Please upload your 2023-24 Annual Report and Independent Financial Audit using the appropriate upload options below.

Please upload your 2023-24 Annual Report

Filename: MRBA Annual Report 2023 - 2024.pdf
File size: 799.5 kB

Please upload your 2023-24 Independently Audited Financial Report

Filename: 20241112_MRBA_DeclaredPestAccount_Acquittal_SIGNED.pdf
File size: 279.3 kB

Please upload your combined 2023-24 Annual Report & Independently Audited Financial Report

No files have been uploaded

Unspent DPR Funding

Please provide information about any unspent funding in 2023-24.

Unspent funding includes funds which have been transferred to RBGs which have not been expended in the financial year they were transferred. Unspent funds can be allocated or unallocated.

The value detailed, should be the same as what is reported in your Independently Audited Financial Report.

What, if any, was the value of unspent DPR funding from 2023-24 *

\$112,837.75

Must be a dollar amount.

Is the unspent value allocated or unallocated? *

- ☒ Allocated
☐ Unallocated
☐ No unspent funds to report

Please note: Allocated unspent funding is funding held by RBGs in their bank account from the prior financial year which has been allocated to an activity or program. Unallocated unspent funding is funding held by RBGs in their bank account from the prior financial year which has not been allocated to an activity or program.

Please provide information about what operational activities the unspent funds have been allocated to within 2024-25.

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Unspent funds from the 2023-24 budget will be allocated to the following operations in 2024-25:

- (a) Large Feral Herbivore aerial cull. Note: this will be an expanded version of the cull conducted last year, as we need to focus on the Cue region as well as the Meekatharra-Newman region. We are expecting this cull to cost up to \$100,000.
- (b) Bait Rack Program. Note: As bait meat and the freight required to transport it gets more expensive, we anticipate greater expenditure for this program. The remaining unspent DPR funding from 2023-24 of \$12,837.75 will be allocated to the Bait Rack Program.

Certification Declaration

*** indicates a required field**

Declaration

This section must be completed by the Chairperson, or appropriate delegate, on behalf of the Recipient organisation.

Once this form is submitted via SmartyGrants, it will be deemed as authorised by the below signatory, despite no signature provided.

By submitting this application, I acknowledge that:

- The information provided in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and complete.
- If any personal details of a third party are included, the third party has been made aware of, and given their permission for, those details to appear in this Final Report.

I Agree *

☒ Yes

Name *

Miss Margi Weir

Position *

Executive Officer

Phone Number *

0408 210 285

Must be an Australian phone number.

Email

eo@mrba.asn.au

Must be an email address.

Date *

04/10/2024

Must be a date.