

## Establishing CAM Phase Three:

Following another round of high quality applications from potential cluster groups throughout the region, six groups were notified last month of their successful applications. The groups, who are now beginning the process of forming their legal entities, will protect a further 414,552 hectares with 673 kilometres of exclusion fence.

“Similar to our Phase Two round of funding, the applications received were of an extremely high standard, much to the credit of the committed landholders wanting to tackle the growing pest problem,” said Mark O’Brien, Queensland Government Wild Dog Fence Commissioner and Chair of South West NRM.

“All cluster applications undergo significant analysis and modelling for current and potential economic impacts. It is important that, because these are partly funded using tax payer dollars, we ensure that the best clusters are being chosen to generate the strongest regional and local benefit,” Mark said.

An important part of the project involves establishing the contract between South West NRM and the cluster group (and landholders within) to ensure the fence is constructed to the quality standards, and maintained for 20 years through a maintenance fund. Landholders are also required to develop pest management plans and actively conduct strong pest management to ensure the success of the cluster.

Further information on the location of the new Phase Three clusters will soon be released, following the contracting of the clusters. For information regarding any of the Collaborative Area Management projects, please contact Jon Grant on 0474 761 633 or email [jon.grant@swnrm.org.au](mailto:jon.grant@swnrm.org.au).



Above: Green pick is visible in the protected Coban cluster near Cunnamulla (left hand side of photograph), which has just been completed under Phase Two CAM funding.