

## CAM - Phase 2

Phase Two of the Collaborative Area Management (CAM) project has received significant interest with 22 formal applications received across the six shires of Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, and Quilpie.

Cluster applications have been evaluated by an assessment panel consisting of South West NRM staff and board members, key representatives from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), Queensland Dog Offensive Group (QDOG), as well as local government. The board of South West NRM are currently reviewing the recommendations of the assessment panel, and it is expected that successful clusters will be notified by the end of June.

On-ground monitoring is continuing in existing clusters under Phase One of the funding. This monitoring includes data collected for wild dogs, kangaroo numbers, pasture condition and economic outcomes through a range of collection techniques. A new edition to the second phase of the project will be training offered to enable landholders to conduct monitoring on their own properties. Training packages are currently being developed by South West NRM and DAF, and these will be rolled out to new clusters in the second half of the year.

As mentioned on page six, South West NRM welcomes a new team member for the Collaborative Area Management project, Simone Richardson. Simone comes to us from Emerald as our new Field Officer. Simone will be collecting and analysing data from the cluster groups and will assist Project Officer, Catherine Crowden, with the delivery of training packages to landholders.

In May, Simone and Catherine headed out to Wyandra, Tomoo Creek and Tambo to collect data from each cluster. South West NRM would like to thank landholders in these clusters for putting our staff up in accommodation while they are out on field work. You can see some of their great wildlife photos on the following page.

The CAM concept is about to be delivered to a much broader audience, with South West NRM staff taking the project to the NRM Knowledge Conference in Coffs Harbour this month and the International Rangelands conference in Canada in July. It's great to see a project that we are so passionate about getting attention on a global scale!



Above: South West NRM Field Officer Simone Richardson ready for a night out - spotlighting that is, in the Wyandra CAM cluster.



# Check Out These Cute CAM Critters!



Above left: A rare (and extremely cute!) photo of a pair of juvenile dragons (species unknown).

Above right: A close up of an echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*).

Left: Tessellated gecko (*Diplodactylus tessellatus*).

Right: Common toadhopper (Genus *Buforania*).

Bottom left: Lined earless dragon (*Tympanocryptis lineata*).

Bottom right: Shingleback (*Tiliqua rugosa*).

