

Wild Dog Trapping at Mt Tabor

With funding support from South West NRM through the National Landcare Programme, the Aboriginal property of *Mt Tabor* has been employing additional wild dog control measures in the form of trapping. Located in the foothills of the Canarvan National Park north east of Augathella, this beautiful area is a thoroughfare for wild dogs travelling down towards Charleville, so it is essential that trapping is undertaken to reduce the impacts from this pest across the region.

Local trapper Dave has successfully and continually trapped many dogs over a large area of *Mt Tabor*. Mating season has now started for the pest, and just recently another three dogs were added to Dave's trapping tally (see right). It is very important that the trapping of wild dogs continues on *Mt Tabor Station* in order to keep wild dog numbers down, and reduce the impacts to young or sick calves, birthing mothers, and native animals, all of which are common prey for this pest.



Above: Three wild dog scalps recently removed from dogs trapped on *Mt Tabor Station*.

Rural Ambassadors Ready to Represent the South West

Each year at the Royal Queensland Show a small group of young men and women compete to become Queensland's Rural Ambassador. These Awards aim to highlight the importance of the contributions of young people in rural and regional Queensland, particularly through their involvement with local Agricultural Shows. Young Queenslanders who have a passion and strong commitment to rural industries are encouraged to take part in the competition, which offers interstate and international travel and educational opportunities.

This year the town of Mitchell will be hosting the South West Sub Chamber Finals, with entrants from across the region set to compete on 24th June. They will be judged on their personal presentation, agricultural knowledge and local community involvement over the course of two separate interviews. The winner will progress to the State Finals, and then potentially on to the National Finals. The last time a South West Queenslanders won the State Finals was back in 2006, with Rebecca Smith taking home the trophy. Rebecca was also named the 2007 National Rural Ambassador. Other notable entrants from the region include Jessica Kerr who was the South West's representative in 2013. Since taking part in the competition, Jessica has gone on to win the Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network's Young Woman of the Year award for her continued work with Queensland Shows.

We wish all the entrants for 2017 the very best of luck with their endeavours, and have no doubt that this new generation will do their best to represent the views and interests of the South West Region.

(Article contributed by Teri Sommerfield, 2017 Rural Ambassador for Charleville and Districts)