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# South West NRM Three Rivers. Three Creeks.

## Reducing the Carp Menace

**HOLY CARP:** South West NRM's Ric Newson examines this mighty carp haul from one of the traps he set at Yowah Creek. This result was after only 48 hours! Ric has been targeting the local creeks and waterholes of the Paroo catchment, pulling out several tonnes of this freshwater fish, which is considered to be Australia's worst pest fish. Each carp haul is buried.



South West NRM Ltd  
Achieving sustainable landscapes  
for rural communities

### Contact Us

**Charleville Office**  
66 Galatea Street  
Charleville QLD 4470  
PH: 07 4656 8500  
FAX: 07 4654 1600  
admin@swnrm.org.au

**Quilpie Office**  
3 Buln Buln Street  
Quilpie QLD 4480  
PH: 07 4656 1055  
quilpie@swnrm.org.au

**Bollon Office**  
George Street  
Bollon QLD 4488  
PH: 07 4656 8542  
bollon@swnrm.org.au

**Cunnamulla Office**  
26 Stockyard Street  
Cunnamulla QLD 4490  
PH: 07 4656 8540  
cunnamulla@swnrm.org.au

# Water Quality Testing in the South West

South West Natural Resource Management joins other Queensland NRM organisations to collect water quality data as part of the state government funded Surat and Galilee Basins Water Quality Monitoring Program.

The purpose of the six month project is to strengthen regional water quality guidelines and provide baseline information across key geological basins. Nominated sampling sites in the south west region are Wallam Creek at Bollon, Nebine Creek at Murra Murra, the Warrego River at Cunnamulla, Paroo River at Eulo, Bulloo River at Quilpie, Paroo River at Yarronvale and the Warrego River at Caroline Crossing north of Augathella.

South West NRM selected these sample sites in consultation with the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines. Some of the local benefits for collecting this data are its use to inform projects that promote biodiversity, improved habitat quality of native fish communities, management of pest fish populations in inland waters, improved native vegetation cover as well as future implementation of catchment management and waterway restoration plans.

South West NRM CEO, Neil Judd said, "The project will help to establish important baseline information to assist regional land managers track water quality changes over time".



**DON'T MESS WITH MY PROCESSES:** South West NRM's GIS and Property Officer, Daniel Wingett uses a Nalgene filtering kit at one of the testing sites for chlorophyll A analysis of the water sample.

Sampling in the region began in December 2012 and will continue at approximately 2 to 3 week intervals. Eight sampling rounds are to be completed by the end of May. Each time samples are collected they are chilled or frozen and packed in ice and couriered to Brisbane for analysis at the Chemistry Centre at the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts.

South West NRM's GIS and Property Officer, Daniel Wingett, is responsible for completing the sampling at each of the eight sites and Senior Project Officer, Leanne Day is managing the project. Prior to the commencement of sampling, Daniel and Leanne attended an information session at Toowoomba.

## Lights, Camera, Snap... Wild dogs!

**Infra-red night vision photos light up community awareness on nocturnal activities of invasive animals in south west Queensland.**

South West NRM has been equipping various investment projects throughout the region with remote infra-red cameras to help 'tell the story' about what is going on at project sites when we are not there to see it. The data capture of nocturnal activities of vertebrate feral pests, native animals and grazing animals has provided the means for better project risk management. It has also been useful for informing partnership direction.

Quilpie Shire Rural Lands Officer, Damien McNair is also benefiting from their use. South West NRM has loaned him a camera

to use while undertaking wild dog baiting and trapping in the Quilpie shire. The camera's non-invasive presence makes it particularly suited to the study of animals that are difficult to observe due to cryptic or aggressive behaviour. Through viewing the data capture and conducting follow-up discussions, Mr McNair has been able to increase his expertise even more and hone his wild dog trapping strategies.

More information about the use of remote cameras may be found at <http://www.feral.org.au/pestsmart/monitoring>



**NIGHTWATCH:** This wild dog was photographed at a trap station north of Quilpie by one of South West NRM's infra-red cameras.

# Kullilli burial grounds at 'Thargomindah Station'

**An Aboriginal burial ground located on a sand dune on the outskirts of Thargomindah is now protected by fencing and in 'sign-off' stage of being recognised as a significant Aboriginal place to be managed for long term conservation.**

Negotiations began 5 years ago when Kullilli Traditional Owners, Norman 'Eric' Hood (now deceased) and Daniel Gray approached South West NRM's Aboriginal Support Officer, Mick McNiven, to coordinate the Kullilli Burial Ground project. Mick was a likely person for the job because of his 25 years' knowledge of the site.

The Kullilli people were concerned about erosive activities at the burial site, which is located on a sand dune on 'Thargomindah

Station' 3.5 km from Thargomindah. A later archaeological assessment report prepared by Dr Anthony Simmons identified high density stone artefact scatter and several eroded fire hearths at the site.

The sand dune where the burial site is located, was bisected by the Thargomindah to Hungerford road. There was also a series of Ergon power poles running parallel to the road on the northwest side. Between the powerline and the road was a Telstra underground phone/data cable. On the north-east face of the dune was evidence of past sand extraction.

Mick said, "The aim of the Kullilli people was to seek protection of the site by fencing to exclude access, while maintaining an amicable relationship with the proponents:

Bulloo Shire Council, Ergon Energy, and landowner of 'Thargomindah Station', Ian Dicker".

After discussions with Mick and Kullilli Traditional Owners, Mr Dicker offered his full support to South West NRM to go ahead and lead the conservation project.

South West NRM was successful in its bid to secure funding from the Indigenous Heritage Program 2010-2011. It also obtained funding from Ergon Energy and Epic Energy as well as in-kind support from the Bulloo Shire Council.

The Traditional Owner Cultural Heritage Officers on site were Ron Watson and Ron Saltner and the fencing contractor was Greg Dax.



**READY FOR ACTION:** Kullilli Elder, Eric Hood (now deceased) preparing to unload the mule for the cultural heritage survey of the burial ground in this sand dune on 'Thargomindah Station'. (Permission to reproduce this photo kindly provided by Mr Hood's niece, Hazel Wharton.)

# 'Understanding and Improving Your Grazing System' - workshops with Jim Gerrish

South West NRM sponsors internationally renowned grazing lands consultant, Jim Gerrish, to guest speak at workshops conducted throughout the south west Queensland region.

6 x 2-day workshops were held during February at Charleville/Morven/Augathella; Quilpie/Adavale; Bollon; Cunnamulla/Eulo; and Toompine/Thargomindah areas. They were conducted on-property to ensure land managers received relevant and practical learning relating to local conditions and issues.

Jim discussed his methodologies for increasing carrying capacities through paying more attention to soil and pasture health as well as intensive, but intermittent grazing practices. His 3 critical concepts are: Grass feeds the grass, grass feeds the soil, and grass feeds the livestock.

South West NRM's Programme Manager, Craig Alison said, "Grasses grow the same all the world over and looking out 'on the fringes' of our comfort zone can lead to 'ah-ha!' moments and having ideas that are worth exploring for adaptation in our own rangelands; with consideration given to how we can manage them sustainably with better forage production and ultimately better production values."

While Jim and Dawn came from the mountainous, cold, semi-arid rangelands of Idaho, there were some notable commonalities with south west Queensland. The first was that both rangelands are in the 200mm rainfall range with approximately 65 days growing period for the forage. While south west Queensland's growing period was constrained by heat, theirs is constrained by cold.

Workshop discussions over the two days focussed on broad principles of the local environment, including rainfall history, landscape soils and stocking rates, while more in-depth conversations delved into principles of pasture production; overgrazing and the damages caused by returning stock to paddocks before plants reach positive Carbon Hydrogen Oxygen (CHO) status; some of the reasons for deterioration of productive land; and, depending on season, which stock (sheep or cattle) should be

moved to pasture first. Options for cost effective fencing were also discussed.

Local issues, environmental conditions and circumstances offered points of interest and context for discussion during the course of the workshops.

## 'Amaroo'

Richard and Jenny Keogh provided the venue for the workshop at, 'Amaroo', set in the panoramic Listowel Valley near Adavale.

'Amaroo' runs the Terrick Merino Stud, and has established a history of renowned genetics. Following the lead of their neighbours, the Bredhauer family of 'Lambert Station', Richard and Jenny are planning to take on additional infrastructure costs when they embark on an exclusion fencing project to protect their flocks against increasing incidences of feral dog and pig damage. Their fencing project will also address total grazing pressure caused by 'out of equilibrium'

**GOOD FENCES, GOOD BUSINESS:** During the field trip at the 'Amaroo' workshop, attendees discuss landscape soils, stocking rates as well as water and fencing infrastructure for managing intensive grazing and exclusion fencing for predator control.

macropod numbers.

Discussion centred on development of water and fencing infrastructure for managed intensive grazing; exclusion fencing for predator control; as well as managing escalating macropod numbers to achieve better grazing pressure control.

Hosts, Jenny and Richard Keogh said, "We both really enjoyed the company of Jim and Dawn and more importantly, I guess, feel that the workshop had lots of points of interest and opportunity for us and those who attended".

Among the 14 attendees who rolled up to this workshop were Peter Klem who is DNRM's Senior Lands Officer (Stock Routes) in Longreach, and Allan Lanfranchi from 'Warialda Station' at Langlo Crossing near Charleville. In typical bushie style, Peter and Allan brought their swags to camp over and attend both days of the workshop.



*Continued from page 4.*

### **'Boran'**

Andrew and Cathy Truss hosted 16 people from the Toompine/Thargomindah area at their property, 'Boran', which offers a fine example of true mulga country typical of Queensland's western semi-arid zone. All attendees at this workshop were landholders and they were all operating in similar country with extremely variable, low median rainfall that requires careful management to keep sustainable. 75% of the group comprised 3rd and 4th generation 'land' families with deep roots in the landscape. A number of them were already practitioners of managed grazing and exclusion fencing and were extremely eager to share their experiences and learn about new ideas.

Of particular interest to this group were the spreadsheets Jim shared with them that contained embedded formulas to assist with calculating forage loads to units of production and matching proposed infrastructure costs to hectare production values for viability options.

The group went into the mulga for their onsite excursion to examine the difference in moisture retention between 'run on' and 'run off' zones; 'bare' areas vs areas with good groundcover; and the fence line effects resulting from seasonal 'mosaic' burning. Strong perennial grass plants were carefully removed to examine the difference in moisture retention, root biomass production and the effects of graze timing on the grass plant. Additional discussion was held on the effect of insect activity and tree/grass/shrub balance in the overall pasture health and production.

### **'Adgingbong'**

Roderick Taylor and his daughter, Indi, hosted 13 people at their shearing shed at 'Adgingbong Station', which is situated east of Cunnamulla. The property's mixture of red and black soils and land types and Roderick's involvement in the GABSI piping scheme lent to discussions about costing variations between America and Australia for pumping water and other discussions about soil quality and make-up. The group that attended this workshop comprised land managers, land owners and other visitors.

The on-site excursion went to several landscapes including a burnt out section, where the impact of fire on ground-covers and soils was examined and discussed.

### **'Hortonvale'**

The Dunstan partnership who run the 'Hortonvale' property north of Cunnamulla on the Charleville Road, hosted 8 participants. These property managers refer to themselves as opportunist farmers, because what they decide to grow depends on the current industry supply and demand.

The onsite property excursion took in existing irrigation systems in place at 'Hortonvale' and led to discussions about other options for its use, including for stock rather than cropping.

### **'Victoria Downs'**

Will and Narda Roberts hosted 27 people from the Morven, Mungallala and Augathella areas at their property, 'Victoria Downs'. Included among the attendees were representatives from DAFF and Agforce.

The onsite excursion around 'Victoria Downs' provided participants with an opportunity to examine the pastures and soils and learn from Will about the management strategies that he and Narda have put in place to improve their landscape.

South West NRM's Biodiversity Officer, Julie Frousheger said, "Will spoke with enthusiasm about the improvement in ground cover, pasture quality and the resulting increase in productivity that they have achieved over time".

**GRASSED UP:** Attendees at Boran workshop have a closer look at the roots of perennial grass to examine the difference in moisture retention, root biomass production and the effects of graze timing on the plant.



**INCREASING CARRYING CAPACITY:** Internationally renowned grazing lands consultant, Jim Gerrish discusses his methodologies with attendees at 'Victoria Downs' for increasing carrying capacities by paying more attention to soil and pasture health as well as intensive, but intermittent grazing practices.

*Continued from page 5.*

### 'Dingwall'

John and Lauren Frith hosted a group of 9 people from the Bollon area at 'Dingwall'. John and Lauren have already begun implementing a controlled grazing program on their property, though not on the scale of Jim and Dawn's project in Pahsimeroi Valley, Idaho. 'Dingwall' offered the perfect opportunity for an on-site excursion to view how John divided two paddocks into four and used electric fences and a series of gates to control access to the water trough. The group also discussed pasture composition and general phases of growth.

South West NRM's Bollon District Coordinator, Amy Steer said, "There was a lot of positive feedback from attendees, including comments on the importance of protecting pasture integrity to ensure longevity".

Landholder attendee, Raymond Bolam recognised that while the system that Jim has in place is not something he could achieve financially in the short term, implementing a property plan that includes strategic watering points and improved fencing would assist him in gradually improving the power he has in controlling grazing pressure".

### Informal dinner discussions

After the first day of each of the workshops, attendees were invited to join Jim for a relaxing evening dinner to continue discussion about issues and topics raised during the day. Thargomindah District NRM Coordinator, Toni Willmott said, "The social aspects of these workshops were a highlight. We enjoyed exchanges about culture, information and life".

One participant commented that, "People



**CONTROLLED GRAZING:** Attendees at 'Dingwall' discuss the benefits of strategic watering points.

are so busy these days and opportunities are rare to sit and have a conversation in a relaxed manner without time constraints."

Cunnamulla District NRM Coordinator, Victoria Haig, said, "It was also good to discuss the differences between Australian and American government approaches to agriculture –particularly water costings".

At 'Boran' a long table that seated 15 people was set up on the spacious lawns creating the perfect atmosphere for robust dinner debate and discussion about topics such as US and UN Laws , feral dog/pig control vs wolf/grizzly , world economies and the effects of prolonged wars in the Middle East on the Global economy . An unexpected visit from a 2m Mulga snake provided excitement to the evening's entertainment.

Perhaps the last word belongs to South West NRM Programme Manager, Craig Alison who said, "Often times those organising events such as these are pre-occupied with maximising the amount of knowledge that is imparted, yet it is the informal interaction that can have the most profound effect through the building of networks and the sharing of ideas and experiences."

*South West NRM would like to thank Richard and Jenny Keogh, Andrew and Cathy Truss, Roderick and Indi Taylor, the Dunstan partnership, Will and Narda Roberts and John and Lauren Frith for their hospitality in hosting these workshops.*



# Return On Investment: Fact or Fantasy

**South West NRM assesses progress on trials established to provide productive, profitable and environmentally sustainable grazing enterprises in the south west.**

Almost a year has passed since South West NRM launched an ambitious program to gauge the ability of the south west to provide productive, profitable and environmentally sustainable grazing enterprises on trial properties in Adavale, Charleville, Cunnamulla and Bollon districts.

An example case study is Curly and Annie Liston's property, 'Rhondavale Station'. Here are some updates on their progress:

In June 2012, Curly and Annie Liston entered into a partnership with South West NRM to investigate whether a rotational grazing system could improve business and/or environmental outcomes in the southwest of Queensland.

The project proposed subdividing 3,587ha into six smaller paddocks suitable for rotational grazing of a single breeder herd comprising 80 Live Stock Units (LSUs) with an anticipated increase to 160 LSUs within 36 months.

The anticipated rotation for the herd was on a 72 day rotation during growing season and a 144 day rotation during winter season, allowing 60 days spell and 120 days spell respectively. The trial area is predominately soft mulga and sandy loam/belah land types.

As mulga vegetation had thickened considerably over 60% of the proposed subdivision, the objective of moving into a



**CURLY AND ANNIE LISTON'S 'RHONDAVALE':** This is a typical view of the present state of pasture composition on the trial site. Currently there are limited grasses, isolated burr, extensive 'turkey bush', Mulga regrowth and significant bare ground. Current stocking rate 1 LSU per 45 hectares.

provide annual and perennial native grass species a better chance of colonising and competing with regrowth and woody weed encroachment. An additional strategy was to use goats to graze across the whole area.

To manage total grazing pressure the entire boundary had to be fenced using total exclusion netting. The intention of this was to limit unwanted domestic and feral animal incursions onto the pastures by using 3 strand barbed wire on internal fencing, leaving enough clearance for goats to pass easily between paddocks. Watering points were then established in each paddock.

Fencing and watering point infrastructure has been installed and the rotational grazing system has commenced.

The next stage is to implement the monitoring system developed for this project. It is anticipated that the project will provide valuable data indicating whether: total exclusion fencing is cost effective for feral animal control and reduction of total grazing pressure; strategic installation of watering points to reduce stock walking distance to water is cost effective; the introduction of rotational grazing will give an increase in carrying capacity; if there is a corresponding improvement in environmental health; and, if the period of time to see financial 'pay back' is decreased.

Regular updates will be provided to keep everyone informed of progress, so South West NRM invites you to 'Watch this space'!

# Collaborative Area Management EOI - well received!

**The number of high quality Expressions of Interest received for the 'Collaborative Area Management Cluster' project overwhelms South West NRM staff and board members.**

EOI's have now closed and South West NRM expects successful cluster groups will be notified within the next few weeks.

South West NRM Resource Economist, Jon Grant said, "This funding represents a real opportunity for landholders to take control of grazing pressure on their properties, and the competitiveness of applications will prove a difficult task when time comes for assessing and selecting successful projects".

The organisation has received a number of applications throughout the region from potential 'clusters' in the Morven, Augathella, Mungallala, Tambo, Bollon and Cunnamulla districts. "The diverse range of applications received has given South West NRM a strong ability to focus on multiple landscapes and grazing systems. Applications include enterprises of both cattle and sheep across different land types, ensuring data collected and presented to government and industry will represent a large proportion of the

region's environment and operations," Mr Grant said.

"Whilst the private benefits from total grazing pressure fencing are very clear, it has been fantastic to hear stories from landholders about native flora and fauna such as the

Squatter Pigeon (*Geohaps scripta scripta*), which may recover following the implementation of the project. These stories demonstrate that environmental and productive outcomes can occur simultaneously and this is a strong vision of the organisation," he said.



**OVERWHELMING INTEREST:** Land Managers engage with the concept of 'Cluster Area Management' after discussions held during the last round of South West NRM Forum Members meetings.

## The Battle Rages: NRM groups collaborate to control Class 1 & 2 cacti species weeds

**South West NRM collaborates with Desert Channels and Southern Gulf NRM groups to control cacti in known locations across the south west of Queensland.**

Spraying equipment and chemical allocations have been supplied to properties as part of the first stage of the 5 year Biodiversity Cacti Control Program.

South West NRM District Coordinator, Toni Willmott said, "South West NRM is progressing an area management plan for the Quilpie Shire that is focussing on identifying core infestations of opuntia sub species such as coral and harrisia cacti, mapping properties with outlier infestations and instigating surveillance of those properties that adjoin known sites".

Landholders at 'Norley', 'Werewilka' (Bulloo Shire) and 'Lambert' (Murweh Shire) have been busily conducting extensive treatments of individual infestations and will continue receiving support from South West NRM, local government and local Biosecurity Officers throughout the eradication program.

The fund also includes assistance to properties such as 'Ray', 'Bunginderry' and 'Canaway' stations. Although these properties are in the neighbouring Desert Channels NRM region, distance dictates common sense in the provision of support to these landholders through the Quilpie office of South West NRM.

Further investment and support will be provided throughout 2013 to proactive landholders to address class 1 and 2 cacti

infestations, which have a legislative control requirement. Funding priority will be given to landholders who adopt a collaborative approach to contain this invasive weed.

For more information please contact the Quilpie office of South West NRM on 07 4656 8541.



**PRICKLY CUSTOMER:** *Harrisia cactus* (*Harrisia* spp.) now a Class 1 declared weed, was introduced into Queensland in the 1890s as a pot plant.



# Prevention – Better than Cure

**South west Queensland receives welcome rain in recent weeks – but with the rain comes WEEDS!**

Numerous weeds have already established in south west Queensland and the potential exists for invasion from other species. Although difficult, stopping their spread and eradicating new infestations is still one of the most cost-effective ways to control weeds. Seeds of weeds have the capacity to spread very easily from wind and water, attaching to clothing as well as shoes, vehicles, machinery, pets, wildlife and livestock. They can also be introduced into new areas through mulch, water, soil, stock feeds and faeces. With over 90 species of weeds already declared under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*, South West NRM, local shire councils and landmanagers need to continue to be vigilant to prevent these numbers from expanding.

Under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* there are three classes of weeds:

**Class 1** weeds have the potential to become a very serious pest in Queensland in the future. The introduction, possession and sale of these species must be prevented so that they can't escape to become pests. All landholders are required by law to keep their land free of Class 1 pest weeds. Class 1 weeds in the South West Qld area include Mesquite, some Prickly Pears and some species of *Harrisia* cactus. It is a serious offence to introduce, keep, release or sell Class 1 weeds without a permit.

**Class 2** weeds are those that have already spread over significant areas of Queensland and are causing severe impacts. Control of the weed must be undertaken to avoid further spread onto properties that are still free of the pest. Water lettuce, *Parkinsonia*, *Parthenium*, *Prickly Acacia*, *Coral Cactus* and *Mother of Millions* are some of the Class 2 pest weeds that exist in the south west Queensland region. By law, all landholders must try to keep their land free of Class 2 pests and it is an offence to possess, sell or release these pests without a permit.

A **Class 3** weed is one that is commonly established in parts of Queensland, however its control by landowners is required only when the plant is impacting, or has the potential



**ON GROUND WORKS:** Tim Shillingsworth of the Mardigan people tags a monitoring site for Mesquite and undertakes Mesquite control spraying within the Bulloo Catchment.

to impact, on a nearby 'environmentally significant area' (e.g. a national park). These pest weeds include pencil willow, torture willow, athel pine, camphor laurel, cat's claw and asparagus fern. It is an offence to sell, introduce, release or supply a Class 3 pest.

At a national level, the National Weeds Strategy has identified 20 introduced plants as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS). National management strategies have been published for all of these species to try to manage these weeds. The WoNS known to

be occurring in south west Queensland are *Parthenium* weed, *Athel Pine*, *Parkinsonia*, *Mesquite* and *Rubber Vine*. Species not declared under the *Land Protection (Pests and Stock Route Management) Act 2002* may still be declared at a local government level under local laws.

The introduction of a new weed and the spread of existing weeds can seriously impact on the productivity of grazing lands, threaten biodiversity, disrupt waterways and affect our enjoyment of the outdoors.



**HARD AT IT:** Quilpie Shire Council staff, Viv Byrnes and 'Bung' Hall eradicating Mesquite at North Comongin.

# Feral pig trapping in the Warrego, Paroo and Bulloo

**South West NRM implements a suite of trapping activities to assist land managers control feral pig numbers and reduce impacts of these pests on properties.**

South West NRM's Programme Manager, Craig Alison said, "These activities have attracted widespread interest, resulting in the formation of 3 large groups of land managers working collaboratively to reduce pig numbers across approximately 1.5 million hectares of land in south west Queensland. This collaborative workforce has over 30 land managers in the mid and lower Warrego regions and another 30 in the lower Bulloo and Paroo regions."

Cunnamulla District NRM Coordinator, Victoria Haig said, "We received a phenomenal response from landholders at all of our meetings. People are jumping on board to participate. They see the value in working collaboratively across a larger scale rather than individual properties".

In Queensland, feral pigs are declared pests under the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 and this legislation places responsibility for their control onto every landholder.

"This investment has been driven by stakeholder comments and requirements and is using funding from the Caring For Our Country Open Call pest eradication investment as well as a Community Action Grant," said Mr Alison.

"Landholders commonly report annual reoccurrences of pig activity, particularly along riparian wetland fringes and creeks. These pests are difficult to control due to their intelligence, nocturnal feeding habits and cautious behaviour. They are also adaptive to various food sources and are known to cover large ranges following seasonal feeding patterns," said Mr Alison.

"South West NRM is encouraging and facilitating the establishment of more cluster groups in the region in an holistic management approach to ferals within the entire region," Victoria said.

A snap shot success story of how a simple process can return great results, occurred after Quilpie Shire Council's Regional Liaison



**PIG TRAP:** These horse stables near the railway line just a stone's throw from Quilpie's main street was converted into a highly efficient pig trap by using a roll of mesh and a few bags of fermented grain for pig attractant.

Officer, Viv Byrnes called in to see Craig Alison about pigs that were getting into the horse stables adjacent to the Quilpie railway line:

**Day 1:** South West NRM provided Viv with financial support to purchase a roll of mesh and 5 bags of grain. The trap was created by wrapping mesh around the horse stable fence to become a meshed-in enclosure. Grain was soaked to ferment and produce a smelly pig attractant, then placed inside the trap. The gate was left open.

**Day 2:** The previous night's allocation of fermented grain was eaten and more was put into the trap enclosure.

**Day 3:** Pre-feeding continued. Signs of pig activity indicated high traffic and an increase in numbers. This time the trap was set: the one-way gate was left down to lock pigs in after entering.

**Day 4:** By early morning 14 feral pigs of various sizes were captured. These were dispatched by the assigned Quilpie RLO.

There were no more signs of feral pig activity

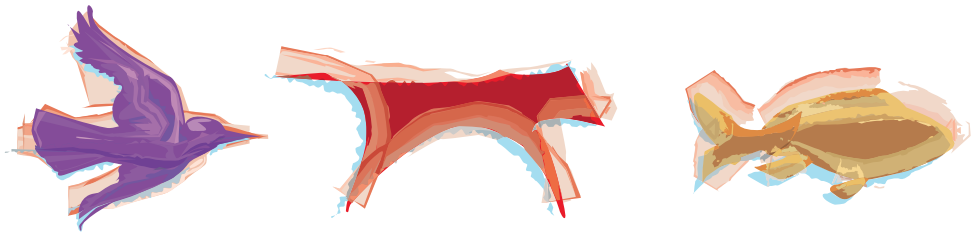
at that location, but as expected, there were sightings at other areas immediately adjacent to the Quilpie township. It was a case of, 'up-tools', roll out the mesh, soak that grain— and do it all over again at the next spot!

# Invasive Animals CRC – update

The Invasive Animals CRC (IA CRC) has recently embarked on an additional five years of work under the Commonwealth Government's Cooperative Research Centres program. They will be continuing their investigation into new methods of detection and management of the impacts of Australia's key vertebrate pest species such as rabbits, wild dogs and carp.

The IA CRC also has a national NRM facilitation and engagement project that helps deliver this research and knowledge to on ground practitioners and land managers through all the NRM agencies. The NRM facilitation and engagement team can also offer technical advice regarding regional vertebrate pest strategies and facilitate coordinated group management across various land tenure.

In the last few months, some new PestSmart resources have been finalised and are now available on the web at [www.feral.org.au/pestsmart](http://www.feral.org.au/pestsmart). Some examples of the new products include the glovebox guide



## Invasive Animals CRC

for managing rabbits, the working plan to manage wild dogs, guidelines for preparing a working plan to manage wild dogs, guidelines for planning carp fishing competitions, and many more.

Additionally, the 2012 'Feral Photos' competition was a great success with many entries being received. They can be viewed online at [www.feral.org.au](http://www.feral.org.au). There will be another competition this year and organisers are asking everyone to make sure you get out there and take some photos of those feral animals in your area!

Subscribe to Invasive Animals CRC newsletters:

'NRM Notes' by emailing:  
[jessica.marsh@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jessica.marsh@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

'FeralFlyer' at:  
<http://www.invasiveanimals.com/media-centre/subscribe/>

Image copyright Ben Allen. Taken from <http://www.feral.org.au>



May 16th, 17th & 18th

## The Charleville & District Show Society

will celebrate 100 years in 2013.

We are looking to make it the *greatest* ever!

We need your support by making entries bigger than ever, especially in our:

### Cattle Judging

Chief Steward: Darryl Hurley (0417 623 478, 0417 623 478)

Assistant Stewards: Brock Hindmarch (4654 0192) and David Sargood (0427 546 055)

Store section to be judged on confirmation, quality and evenness of Pen.

#### Store Cattle Section

1. Pen of Four Heifers 200-300Kg  
(Milk tooth most suitable pen of background heifers).  
*Sponsor: LG & CL Castles Transport.*
2. Pen of Four Steers 200-300Kg  
(Milk tooth most suitable pen for background steers).  
*Sponsor: North Yarrawonga Pastoral Co.*
3. Pen of Three Heifers 300-400Kg  
(Milk and two tooth most suitable pen of domestic feeders).  
*Sponsor: Condon Treasure.*
4. Pen of Three Steers 300-400Kg  
(Milk and two tooth most suitable pen of domestic feeders).  
*Sponsor: AgForce*
5. Pen of Three Steers 400-500Kg  
(Milk and two tooth most suitable pen of export feeder steers).  
*Sponsor: Carra Shorthorn Stud.*

#### Prime Cattle Section

1. Pen of Two Prime Cows  
(Most suitable for Slaughter).  
*Sponsor: Elders.*
2. Pen of Two Heifers 350Kg & Over  
(Most suitable for domestic butcher trade).  
*Sponsor: Landmark.*
3. Pen of Two Steers 350Kg & Over  
(Most suitable for domestic butcher trade).  
*Sponsor: R & T Arden.*
4. Prime Ox Class 500Kg & Over  
(Prime bullock most suitable for export bullocks).  
*Sponsor: Ard-Na-Ree.*

Our conditions haven't been great, but your help to make it a successful show will be most welcome. Call if you have any questions.

Show schedules listing all sections including stud cattle and bulls, stud sheep and wool, horse and dog events and much more, will be available around town or with Secretary, Emma Liston.

**Let's make it a great 100th year event to remember!**