

DPRFS Final Report Purpose

*** indicates a required field**

The purpose of this Final Report is to summarise the Recognised Biosecurity Group's (RBG) achievements during 2024-25, including the activities undertaken and funding expended for purposes as detailed in the RBG's Funding Agreement.

If you received a variation during the 12-month funding period, the associated changes to activities and/or budget have been incorporated into the relevant fields throughout this final report. No separate reporting on variations is required.

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.

By completing this report, the authorised representative consents to the publication of their name, position title, phone number, and email address on the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's website alongside the submitted report.

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

Yes

Funded Activities Budget

*** indicates a required field**

Funded Activities

The table below details the activities outlined in your DPRFS Application Form and/or Funding Agreement.

Please provide an Activity Update and include any additional activities undertaken, which were not detailed in your DPRFS Application Form or Funding Agreement.

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025
2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)
Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck
 Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

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
What are you doing?	What did you measure and how did you measure it?	Final update on activities and outcomes achieved (e.g. number of activities/control measures, number of pests controlled, etc)
Wild Dog Program	<p>Activities including targeting wild dogs, baiting, trapping and shooting.</p> <p>Measures including the number of animals culled and a reduction in livestock losses from wild dog attacks.</p>	<p>LPMT engaged to work autonomously throughout the Esperance Shire in Permitted Nature Reserves, UCL and National Parks.</p> <p>YTD, the LPMT has spent 45 days trapping.</p> <p>Livestock losses have increased during the summer months in the north of Salmon Gums. LPMT is working with landholders as he is limited to working select nature reserves due to Native title restrictions.</p> <p>Some dog activity has been reported in Cascade south of Field Rd where the SBF was incomplete for a length of time.</p>
Feral Animal Program	<p>Feral animals including foxes and rabbits.</p> <p>Activities include providing support for landholders for fox and rabbit control with access to baits, and assistance in permit applications.</p>	<p>Rabbit K5 ordered and offered to Members for release.</p> <p>Rabbits are not currently considered a great issue due to the dry conditions.</p> <p>Will offer ongoing support and best practice advice to growers for control.</p>
Communication & Community Engagement	<p>Activities including field days, meetings and annual general meeting.</p>	<p>EO spoke at Asheep and Beef Field day regarding proposed increase to DPR</p> <p>Newsletter sent out to all members.</p>

Optional - Supporting Information

You may provide supporting information that demonstrates the delivery of funded activities

Filename: 2024 Round up.pdf
 File size: 524.1 kB

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025

2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)

Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck

Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

Filename: Community Engagement and communication.pdf
 File size: 376.4 kB

Filename: Feral Animal Program.pdf
 File size: 89.0 kB

Filename: Wild dog Program 2024-25.pdf
 File size: 554.0 kB

Supporting information may include 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.
Administration & Governance	\$42,500.00	\$21,882.00
Communication & Community Engagement	\$3,000.00	
Wild Dog Program	\$179,000.00	\$74,311.00
Declared Plant Program	\$0.00	
Feral Animal Program	\$6,000.00	\$2,849.00

Budget Totals

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

Anticipated Expenditure Total (ex GST)	\$230,500.00	Actual Expenditure Total (ex GST)	\$99,042.00
	0		This number/ amount is calculated.
	This number/ amount is calculated.		

Annual Report & Independent Financial Audit

The **Final Report** consists of this report as well as the following supporting information:

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025

2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)

Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck

Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

- **Organisation's Annual Report, and**
- **Independently Audited Financial Report**

Refer to your funding agreement or Sections 6-7 of the DPRFS Administrative Guidelines (or successor guidelines) for full requirements.

Provide supporting documents

Filename: EBA Annual DPR report 2024-25.pdf

File size: 235.8 kB

Supporting information Audited Financial Statements

Provide supporting documents

Filename: 2025 RFR DPIRD - Wild Dog - Audit report.pdf

File size: 166.1 kB

Filename: Annual Financial Report - EBA - 30Jun25-edit.pdf

File size: 62.7 kB

Filename: Wild Dogs 24-25 Balance Sheet - DPIRD.xlsx

File size: 10.3 kB

Supporting information Annual Report

Provide supporting documents

Filename: EBA Annual DPR report 2024-25-merged.pdf

File size: 411.6 kB

Further supporting information

RBG Website

<https://www.eba.org.au/documents>

Must be a URL.

Optional - Include link to your website to provide more information on your group's work and broader impact

Unspent DPR Funding

Please provide information about **all** DPA unspent funds your RBG holds as of 30 June 2025.

This includes where indicated:

- Any DPA funds received in 2024-25 that were not expended by year end, and
- Any unspent DPA funds carried forward from previous financial years that remain on hand.

Unspent funding includes any DPA funds held by the RBG which have not been expended. All unspent DPA funds held by the RBG must be classified in the following ways which are applicable:

- Accrued expenses** – funds associated with a cost for goods or services that were provided or delivered **before** 30 June but were not paid before 30 June;
- Planned unspent funds** – funds the RBG knew would remain unspent and were **explicitly** included in the following year's DPRFS application, budget and operational plan;
- Reserved DPA funds** – only to be used where prior approval has been granted by DPIRD for a specific or strategic purpose where funds need to be purposefully carried over

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025
2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)
Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck
Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

multiple years – these funds are intentionally retained for an approved future strategic activity;

(iv) **Unplanned unspent funds** – funds that do not fall into one of the above categories are considered unplanned.

Refer to the most recent DPRFS Administrative Guidelines **Section 1 - Managing Declared Pest Account Funding - Unspent Funds: Categories, Reporting and Use** for full details.

The values reported here must match the amount reported in your Independently Audited Financial Statements and DPA cash reconciliation.

Unspent DPR - Current Year

What, if any, is the total value of CURRENT YEAR unspent DPA funds from 2024-25

*
\$143,041.00

Must be a dollar amount.

This refers only to DPA funds from current year activity as shown on the Income Statement and should not include funds leftover from other sources. If no current year unspent funds, insert \$0.

If applicable, please explain what the current year unspent funds relate to main underspend in Contract LPMT as he was unable to conduct the days due to other commitments and weather constraints.

underspend on Administrative and Governance due to chairman and Sec/treas not applying for expense reimbursements.

Hint: For example, which activities did not proceed or were only partially completed or expenses were accrued

Unspent DPA funds - ACCUMULATED

What, if any, is the total ACCUMULATED amount of Unspent DPA funds your RBG has on hand as at 30 June 2025*

\$143,041.00

Must be a dollar amount.

This should include all unspent DPA funds from 2024-25 plus any DPA funds from prior years that your RBG has on hand. This amount should be equal to or more than the amount listed above and should be clearly identified in the closing DPA cash balance in your financial statements. If no accumulated unspent funds, insert \$0.

BREAKDOWN OF ACCUMULATED UNSPENT DPA FUNDS:

Of the total **ACCUMULATED** unspent DPA funds on hand at 30 June 2025, please show how this amount is split across the categories below. Leave any category blank that does not apply to your RBG:

Accrued Expenses/Accounts Payable

Must be a dollar amount.

DPA expenses incurred before 30 June, but not paid before 30 June

Planned Unspent Funds - included in 2025/26 Application

\$143,041.00

Must be a dollar amount.

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025

2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)

Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck

Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

DPA funds that were explicitly included in your approved 2025/26 DPRFS application budget and operational plan (must equal the amount submitted). Contact DPRFS team if you are unsure whether these funds were included in your submitted budget or the amount included.

Reserved Funds (DPIRD pre-approval required) - Final Reports that classify funds as Reserved without prior DPIRD approval will not be accepted and will be returned for correct classification

Must be a dollar amount.

Must have been discussed and approved by DPIRD before submission of the final report. Reserved funds will not be deducted from the second DPA transfer.

Unplanned Unspent Funds

\$143,041.00

Must be a dollar amount.

Any remaining unplanned unspent funds not classified in the above categories must be reported here.

IMPORTANT:

If an RBG wishes to use **unplanned unspent** DPA funds from 2024-25 in the new financial year for any activities not included in the approved forward-year budget and operational plan, a variation must be submitted and approved by DPIRD before the funds are used.

Refer to the most recent Administrative Guidelines **Section 1** for full details.

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

RBG Name

Esperance Biosecurity Assoc Inc

Name of Entity as listed in official documentation such as ABR, ACNC or ATO

Name *

Ms Veronika Reck

Declared Pest Rate 2024-2025
2024-25 DPRFS Final Report (Version 2 of 2)
Application No. RBG-DPR24-04 From Ms Veronika Reck
Form Submitted 14 Jan 2026, 8:28AM AWST

Position *

Executive Officer

Email

eba.wilddog@outlook.com

Must be an email address.

Date *

28/10/2025

Must be a date.



ANNUAL REPORT
2024-2025

PO Box 1214
Esperance WA 6450
Eba.wilddog@outlook.com

ANNUAL Report 2024- 2025

INTRODUCTION

The Esperance Biosecurity Association Inc. (EBA) was originally formed as the Northern Mallee Declared Species Group Inc. (NMDSG) in 2003, following a community meeting called by concerned farmers, due to the increased livestock attacks by wild dogs within the Esperance Region. The EBA changed to become a Recognised Biosecurity Group in 2017.

The EBA is managed by an active and dedicated voluntary committee comprising of 10 farmers, who engage one Licensed Pest Management Technician (LPMTs) who are procured by the Esperance Shire and an Executive Officer. The EBA Committee meet regularly to ensure efficient management of the group.

EBA work closely with Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD), Esperance Shire and Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), consulting with them regularly and inviting them to attend committee meetings to assist with the management of the group.

The EBA has gained significant experience managing wild dog populations using a variety of best-practice methods throughout the region. It is the responsibility of landholders to control wild dogs on their property, however, EBA were specifically set up to assist with controlling wild dogs within the region. The group's LPMT target his efforts at the interface of agricultural land and the vast areas of woodlands, which provide the source of new wild dogs entering the agricultural land.

The continuing risk that wild dogs pose for livestock farmers, particularly sheep, in the region deters many farmers from investing or re-investing in livestock as wild dog attacks are a continuing concern.

The EBA is the community driver for the construction of an extension to the State Barrier Fence around the Esperance Agricultural area. This is the long-term answer to controlling the wild dog problem. Construction was set to recommence in late 2022 upon completion of ILUA agreement with the Tjaltjraak Native Title Corporation.

An ILUA with the Ngadju Native Title Corporation is currently being negotiated by DPIRD for the construction of the Fence north of Salmon Gums. The EBA will continue to advocate the construction of the Fence with State Government so that there is no possibility of negotiations lagging and construction being postponed indefinitely until agreement can be reached. To this end, the EBA met with the Minister for Agriculture Jackie Jarvis in November 2023 to discuss "Plan B" which would see construction of the SBF on private property boundary fences. The Minister agreed to have this proposal legally and financially assessed so that should negotiations stall, this Plan B would be ready to be implemented.

New Restricted Chemical Permits to Bait and Trap in Nature Reserves, Undeclared Crown Land and National Parks were granted to the EBA after a 4 month pause in April 2023 on Esperance/Tjaltjraak land. The pause was primarily due to policy and procedure incompatibilities between DBCA (access authority giver) and DPIRD (permit giver). The EBA has asked the Minister of Agriculture to encourage a review of these policies and procedures to allow for better procedures to be

developed.

Permission was sought from the Ngadju Native Title Corporation to allow access for these activities in the areas around Salmon Gums. This has been denied. Currently, baiting and trapping in Salmon Gums can only be carried out in freehold/farmland and in DBCA Managed Nature Reserves and Nation Parks.

The EBA has increased its charter to include the monitoring of Rabbits, as the population has increased. Landholders are seeking information, access to baits and the EBA is assisting in these areas.

In 2020, the EBA decreased the Declared Pest Rate in the Esperance shire as it had surplus funding. This surplus has now been utilised as was required and the EBA is seeking to return to the original DPR model to fund current levels of control. This is particularly important as the construction of the SBF along the northern boundary of Salmon Gums will not be completed by 2028 should an ILUA be completed in the next 6 months.

The EBA has raised this increase with Growers/Landholders in Esperance at several forums, including EBAs 20-year Anniversary meeting in Salmon Gums in March 2023, the AGMs in 2023 and 2024, presentations to growers the SEPWA Harvest results in 2023. Growers have been supportive of this increase at all forums.

Additionally, EO spoke to growers at the Asheep and Beef Spring field walk about this in 2025.

Chairman's report (from AGM 13 October 2025)

Welcome all Australians past, present and future. Welcome to our AGM and thanks for coming. I would like to thank our committee, our members, and our sponsors. To our Executive Officer, Veronika, for continuing to do a great job and to Peter Harkness sec/treasurer for your input., thanks. To the Esperance shire for your ongoing support and doing our finances. To the local staff at DPIRD and to Jim Miller, our new Dogger, keep up the good work. Earlier this year, I attended the RBG forum in Perth with Veronika to discuss issues concerning RBGs and us. I went over to Canberra to attend a forum regarding guardian dogs for dingo and dog control. The Wild Dog Action Plan is still to be finalised and should be out by the end of the year.

The State Barrier fence is progressing, albeit slowly. An update is in the agenda. The lack of access to Ngadju land for baiting and trapping is disappointing. Colin De Grussa, on our behalf, met with the Minister with our concerns. His report says that she was hoping for an answer in the next 12 months. It is disappointing but we will keep the pressure on her to either put the fence on private property or negotiate with the Ngadju. Hopefully we will have a good outcome. Thanks for attending the AGM.

Specific Objective	Milestone/Action	Outcomes/Achievement	Analysis	Recommendation
Reduce livestock losses to less than 100 animals per year, with an aim of zero losses	<p>Continue to engage fully qualified LPMTs to implement an integrated tracking, trapping, and baiting wild dog control program for the Esperance Region. In accordance with best pest control practices</p> <p><i>The Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of Strychnine in Western Australia</i> must be adhered to at all times.</p> <p><i>The Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of 1080 in Western Australia</i> must be adhered to at all times</p>	<p>One qualified LPMT were engaged during 23/24 implementing the control program</p> <p>Specific objective of reducing stock losses to less than 100 was achieved.</p> <p>The code of practice for the safe use and management of 1080 and Strychnine in WA were adhered too</p>	<p>5 Wild dogs taken</p> <p>An increase in livestock losses were reported to EBA particularly around Salmon Gums</p>	Continue to engage fully qualified LPMT to implement the wild dog control program
	<p>Hand baiting – this is to be incorporated in the LPMTs integrated control program, abiding by the <i>Code of Practice for the Safe Use and Management of 1080 in Western Australia</i></p>	<p>All positions of baits distributed were logged using data loggers, the data being converted into maps showing the locations.</p> <p>The code of practice for the safe use and management of 1080 in WA was adhered to</p>	1000 of 1080 dry meat baits laid	No changes needed LPMT to continue to determine best placement of baits as needed.
	Aerial baiting	Not needed in 22/23		Reassess annually
	Provide support to Landholders to control declared pests (wild dogs, foxes) on their properties	Provided Wild dog and fox baits to landholders to assist with the control of Foxes on their properties. Correct procedures followed with	2 landholders utilized this service	Continue to promote this service to landholders within the Esperance Region

Specific Objective	Milestone/Action	Outcomes/Achievement	Analysis	Recommendation
		DPIRD handling the distribution of baits	Has become harder as DPIRD staff are less available. 1080 training put on hold as changes in 1080 training and permits are being explored by DPIRD, DoH and DBCA with updated code of practice	Review this annually and run as requested. Continue to assist in preparing 1080 permits for landholders as requested
	Risk Assessments on all localities where wild dog control program is implemented	All Restricted Chemical Permits are current	There has been an increase in dog sightings further south into farmland in Esperance.	Permits were renewed for 3 years. No permits can be issued for UCL north of Salmon Gums on Ngadju native title.
Support the construction of the Esperance Extension to the State Barrier Fence	Liaise with DPIRD for regular updates on the project and assist where possible	Meetings and correspondence with appropriate Ministers and DPIRD staff to get ILUA negotiation and construction back on track	ILUA agreement reached with Tjaltjraak and fence construction re-commenced. Section 1 is finished and section 2 to be finished Sept 24 with some caveats. Contracts to be issued by DPIRD	Continue to advocate the construction of the fence through Minister's office and DPIRD. ILUA Negotiation with Ngadju will be a priority.
Community Engagement	Community Engagement events	Committee meetings AGM	Continue to administer the EBA's charter Great engagement and assistance for landholders.	Continue to engage stakeholders regularly through field days and at stakeholder events. Increase to DPR raised at meeting for 2025/26.

Specific Objective	Milestone/Action	Outcomes/Achievement	Analysis	Recommendation
Efficient Reporting	Report to funding bodies as required in funding agreements	Reporting to funding bodies have been predominantly successful with only some delays due to new Administrator.		
Off Target Deaths – Aim for nil off target deaths	Monitor and record off target deaths	Objective achieved Records kept in minutes of committee meetings	Nil off-target deaths reported	Continue to employ best practice protocols.
Inform stakeholders and landholders about the value of the wild dog control program	Give regular updates of the group's activities via Emails to members EBA Facebook Page Annual General Meeting Farmers meeting e.g., SEPWA updates Radio Interviews EBA Committee Meetings	. Good Facebook engagement particularly of LPMT maps and dog controls Continue to raise that the DPR will be increased to original level for the 25/26 year through every forum available.	ABC Radio Emails to members EBA Facebook page AGM, EBA Committee Meetings	Continue to express the value of the wild dog control program.
Notifying of neighbours regarding use of 1080 and Strychnine	landholders with properties at the interface of the UCL and baited DBAC reserves in the Shire of Esperance will be written to annually – Notifying Neighbours Existing 1080 Signage at entrances to UCL and baited reserves be maintained. New signs added where needed. Under new permit system, DBCA is responsible for signage, however, LPMT will	milestone achieved milestone achieved	letters sent Post on Facebook page particularly around easter when people are more likely to travel into the bush	Continue with annual notification, it is working well with a nil result on off-target deaths

Specific Objective	Milestone/Action	Outcomes/Achievement	Analysis	Recommendation
	advise DBCA if any signs need to be replaced. Include notifications in EBA newsletters, emails to members, at AGM, EBA Facebook page, webpage	milestone achieved.		
Work towards safe work environment	1)Continuing assessing risks throughout the year. Permanent item on meeting agenda 2) regularly assess safety protocols and edit as required.	Risk assessments are reviewed at every committee meeting Protocol guides available to all members, staff and contractors	Continual improvement	Continual improvement
Monitor and assist landholders in Rabbit control	Provide best practice guides to landholders that enquire about rabbit control	5 landholders requested assistance and were provided with guides to rabbit control	Liaise with NSW lab to obtain a bulk batch of RHFV to be able to distribute to landholders in Esperance to as suggested in best practice guidelines for alternative method of rabbit control	Executive Officer distributed to landholders interest, who fulfilled required training and feeding regime.

**ESPERANCE BIOSECURITY ASSOCIATION
WILD DOG CONTROL
SHIRE HELD FUNDS FINANCIAL REPORT 1/07/2024 - 30/06/2025**

Balance as at 1/7/2024 carried forward		(\$11,582)
INCOME RECEIVED 2024/25		
Dept of Primary Industries & Regional Devel - Declared Pest Account	(\$230,500)	
	<hr/>	
Total Income YTD		<u>(\$230,500)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		(\$242,082)
LESS EXPENSES 2024/25		
Contract Doggers	\$74,311	
Insurance	\$2,153	
Bait	\$0	
Audit Fee	\$1,500	
Stationery/IT Equipment/Sundry	\$0	
Administration Costs	\$18,229	
RHDV	\$2,450	
Chemical Permits	\$399	
	<hr/>	
Total DPA Expenses YTD		\$99,041
DPA CASH BALANCE AS AT 30/06/2025		<u><u>(\$143,041)</u></u>

Tamsen Kirby
Accountant
Shire of Esperance