

GUIDELINES

COMMUNITY WILD DOG CONTROL INITIATIVE II – CWDCI II

The CWDCI II is focused on assisting woolgrowers and other livestock producers in the area to reduce Wild Dog (WD) predation on their sheep and other livestock. Reducing WD numbers has also been associated with increasing numbers and diversity of native wildlife.

AWI has a primary focus on assisting our Woolgrower levy payers to improve their profitability. Wild Dog control – in particular – has a unequivocal need for a much broader across tenure approach. Effective WD control must also involve other tenure managers such as National Parks, Forestry – both private and public, Mining and other leaseholds, as well as Crown Lands.

“Community Group” refers to any association of land managers – of all tenures – who want to cooperatively and collectively work together to reduce the effects of wild dog predation on livestock and wildlife. **AWI does not support individual landholders –** regardless of area of holding – under the CWDCI.

Increasingly groups are enclosing part or all of the area covered with “wild dog exclusion fencing”. Sometimes referred to as “Clusters” or “combined area management fencing”, these groups are also eligible for AWI’s CWDCI II support. Provided “once the fence is up”, such funding is usually provided to assist the “cluster” to “clean-out” the remaining WD within a limited (and short !) period of time, allowing a rapid return to productive and profitable wool growing enterprises.

PRIORITIES FOR ASSISTANCE

1. Capital items to establish and support long term on-going WD control through planned broad scale and strategic baiting programs.
 - a. E.g. Freezers, cool rooms, bait drying racks, bait preparation facilities, and associated equipment for the preparation, storage and distribution of semi-dried fresh meat baits.
 - b. Purchase of prepared baits – may be supported – but is of lower priority than assisting the group to establish their unassisted capacity to conduct baiting in the future.
 - c. Labour to lay baits – commonly accepted as “in-kind” from group members to meet levy matching requirement. May be provided by independent person/contractor e.g. “dogger” provided best practice is followed.

NOTE: Other support – below – is dependent on a minimum level of strategic baiting (e.g. autumn and spring baiting) which is > 70% of private landholdings and an equivalent level of baiting in those areas where it is allowed on public lands.

2. Purchase of WD traps and associated necessary trapping equipment; Canid Pest Ejectors (CPE's), and other “operating capital” items; for use by either individuals within the group or by employee's or contractors of/to the group.
 - a. Employment of Trappers – ONLY on a “day rate” – not “scalp” based – lower priority !
3. Aerial baiting – aircraft and crew hire – principal priority in this project.
 - a. Purchase of baits – lower priority !
4. TRAINING – usually organised by or in conjunction with one of AWI’s State & Regional WD Coordinator/Facilitators, and has included:
 - a. Wild dog awareness.
 - b. Trapping and other lethal control.
 - c. FeralScan / WildDogScan use for individuals and groups.
 - d. Motion activated cameras – a tool for WD control.
 - e. Firearms – long-range sighting-in and shooting – UNDER DEVELOPMENT.
 - f. Firearms – sighting-in, usage and safety for women – UNDER DEVELOPMENT.
 - g. OTHER – innovative skills and knowledge development courses directly relevant to on-ground WD control.
5. OTHER: AWI welcomes applications which contain new, innovative and effective potential solutions to the WD control problems.

ITEMS & ACTIVITIES PARTIALLY SUPPORTED

AWI will consider providing partial support for some items and activities.

Examples include:

1. Operating capital items – such as Canid Pest Ejectors (CPE's) and rubber jawed foot-hold traps for WD. These are items which require considerable attention to detail in both their usage and maintenance. Hence it is usually preferable that an individual within the group is given this responsibility.

AWI has previously provided assistance up to 50% for this type of items.

2. Major capital items – AWI is currently piloting the provision of funding to purchase a major capital item for use in WD control activities: the Exclusion Fence Construction Unit in partnership with Longreach Regional Council. AWI retains full equity in the equipment, and the partner is responsible for all operational and maintenance requirements. At the conclusion of the agreement, residual equity value will be returned to AWI Ltd on liquidation of the equipment.
3. OTHER – AWI welcomes innovative project proposals which aim to progress WD control by any reasonable and legal means. All proposals will be assessed on their merits. External (to AWI Ltd) expert advice may be used in the assessment process.

ITEMS & ACTIVITIES NOT SUPPORTED

AWI does not provide funding – on the recommendation of the AWI Wild Dog Advisory Group and endorsed by the AWI Board – for:

1. WD Scalp payments.
2. Payment of Doggers/Trappers/Pest Management Technicians/ etc PAID per Scalp or Dog.
3. Firearms and/or ammunition and accessories.
4. Wild Dog Exclusion Fencing – “posts and wires” – AWI simply cannot afford to provide assistance for fencing in this way.
5. Administration costs associated with running the proposed program(s).

COMPLETING YOUR CWDCI II APPLICATION FORM

Incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant.

Please be succinct and to the point – dot points are appreciated.

ABOUT THE GROUP

- Is the detail required to establish a formal agreement/contract so that AWI can provide funding under the CWDCI II.
- NAME OF THE GROUP must be (exactly) that which is on the group's ABN (or ACN) registration details. This is the “recognisable legal entity” with whom AWI Ltd will contract via an agreement.
- Two (2) contact people are required to ensure continuity of contact and to assist within group communications.
- If the Group does NOT have an ABN – is not a recognisable legal entity – AWI cannot contract with the group. A common alternative is for a body which has an ABN or ACN to contract with AWI on behalf of the WD group. E.g. Landcare group, Local Lands Services, Shire or Local Council, Progress Association, etc – almost any incorporated body who is willing to take responsibility.

YOUR PROJECT

WHAT IS/ARE THE PROBLEM(S) THAT THE AWI MONEY WILL OVERCOME?

Outline the specific problem or part(s) of a problem on which you plan to spend the money you are asking AWI to provide.

HOW WILL YOU SPEND THE AWI MONEY TO FIX THE PROBLEM(S) – DESCRIBE THE ACTIVITIES ?

Clearly describe what you are going to spend the requested support on, to address the PROBLEMS outlined above.

HOW DO THESE ACTIVITIES FIT INTO THE BROADER LOCAL WILD DOG / PEST ANIMAL PLAN(S) OF THE GROUP? – ATTACH COPY OF YOUR GROUP OR LOCAL WILD DOG/PEST ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN – SEE BELOW.

- #1 You will need to have and attach a copy of your groups WD or Pest Animal management plan. Then,
- Explain how the activities described above fit in with / contribute to this plan.

WHEN DO YOU FIRST NEED THE FUNDS TO BE AVAILABLE#:

Allow 4 – 6 weeks for project assessment – contract drafting and execution – and group to provide the first milestone – contact and enterprise details.

BY WHAT DATE WILL YOU BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT – CONDUCT THE FINAL SURVEY – AND PROVIDE THE SURVERY RESULTS AND FINAL REPORT TO AWI LTD:

Self-explanatory.

PLEASE NOTE: AWI's CWDCI assistance is available to groups for up to 3 years or 36 months total elapsed contracted time. We "start" the clock on contract execution and "stop" it when the final report is received. Acceptable reports on completed work may be submitted prior to the "Milestone Due Date" and may "save" the group a valuable month or few for further support at a later stage.

**WHAT IS THE TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED FROM AWI?
– ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR PROJECT BUDGET – SEE BELOW.**

Coming from the project budget – What is the total amount requested in the application – *NOTE:* All AWI funding is provided **Ex. GST.**

You will need to have completed a budget for the project plan which shows all projected income and expenses.

You can use this budget to demonstrate leverage \$'s – both cash and in-kind.

If the tick box () is not ticked and the budget attached, your application is incomplete and will be returned..

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE ACTIVITY[IES] ?

Usually the #1 Contact Person: as they are the person AWI will look to for reporting on the project progress.

OTHER INFORMATON:

Any other information which you consider directly relevant to the assessment of the merit of your proposed project.

In addition to this complete application form, please provide the following as electronic attachments to your email!

Attachments:

1. Community Wild Dog Control Initiative – II – CWDCI II application form.
2. Local WD, Pest Animal Management or other plan as relevant to the group situation.
3. Map (or maps) which shows location of group, individual property boundaries within group and (equally critically) any properties WITHIN the group who are non-participants.
4. Proposed project budget.

NOTE: these attachments should be in electronic format and will be attached to the initial submission or following emails.

Assistance with "electronic" mapping may be available through your local Landcare group, Department of Agriculture or Primary Industries, Local Lands Services, etc.