



## Professional Wild Dog Controller program — spring 2020

The Professional Wild Dog Controller program is continuing to provide a great service for landholders wanting to reduce the impacts of wild dogs and other pest animals.

Since the program officially launched in February, six professional wild dog controllers have (as of 15 November):

- controlled 51 wild dogs
- controlled 39 feral pigs
- worked on 33 properties, while many others have signed up to the program.

In addition to controlling pest animals, the controllers have educated landholders in wild dog control techniques. This has included:

- informing landholders how to identify signs and movement of wild dogs
- explain wild dog behaviour
- identify tracks and movement of floodwater
- demonstrate different trapping techniques.

Well done to the landholders already involved in the program. Western Local Land Services and the controllers are looking forward to seeing what results are achieved into next year.

### What is the program and can I be involved?

The program offers all landholders in the Western Local Land Services region the services of professional wild dog controllers to support the control of wild dogs on their property.

Through the program, known hot spots are targeted to reduce the impact of problem dogs on the land, livestock and livelihood of landholders in the Western region.

The program builds on current wild dog control activities undertaken by Western Local Land Services and the 18 pest management and Landcare groups that undertaken two seasonal baiting programs each year.

### What is the cost involved?

The professional wild dog controllers are costed at \$50/hour with Western Local Land Services covering all travel associated costs.

Landholders who are actively controlling wild dogs as financial members of pest management groups receive a 50 per cent subsidy of the hourly rate, making their rate \$25/hour.

### How can I apply and what happens next?

Landholders wanting to get involved or find out more can contact the program's administration officer on 0409 677 891 or [PWDC@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:PWDC@lls.nsw.gov.au).

The administration officer will assist landholders complete a Property Access and Activity Agreement form and coordinate a controller to contact the landholder to get control works underway.

Funding for the program is through the Federal Government's *'Communities Combatting Pest Animals and Weed Impacts During Drought.'*

For any general pest animal advice, landholders can contact a Western Local Land Services Biosecurity Officer on 1300 795 299.

