

# ***Pest Management Activities***



**maranoa**

REGIONAL COUNCIL

# Pest Animals and Plants

Pest animals and plants are reported by the Department of Natural Resources & Mines (2004) as costing Queensland over \$600 million annually in lost production and control costs. Effective pest management helps protect the urban and agricultural industries upon which the Maranoa Regional Council area relies, as well as, protect the environment and human health.

- Pest animals have the potential to alter ecosystems, reduce primary industry productivity and profitability, seriously limit the long-term viability of natural and agricultural landscapes and can impact on human and animal health. A holistic approach must be adopted to achieve a harmonious balance.
- Pest plants compete with pasture species to reduce available grazing, plants may be toxic to stock (such as Mother-of-Millions), compete with crops for space, water and nutrients and in the case of aquatic pest plants can affect water quality and biodiversity within streams and wetlands. Pest plants also degrade natural vegetation and impact on biodiversity. Social impacts include effects on human health, recreation, safety and aesthetics.

# Pest Management Plan 2012-2016

Maranoa Regional Council's ***Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*** has been developed through the review of past Council Pest Plans and in conjunction with a local community working group. It integrates with the Maranoa **Community Plan, Council's Corporate and Operational Plans**, State management strategies for pest animals and weeds, State guidelines, plans and other relevant environmental legislation.



# Coordinated Baiting Campaign – March/April 2014

Maranoa Regional Council run two coordinated baiting campaigns annually.

- The April 2014 baiting program commenced in Mitchell on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March and was concluded in Surat on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of April.
- Meat was supplied from Latimers in Amby and Warroo Game Meats located in Surat, combined they provided 10,700kgs of bait. This was broken up into 1,360kgs of Pig baits and 9,340kgs of Dog baits.
- In addition 735kgs of Dog baits, 202kgs of Pig baits and 175kgs of grain was supplied by landholders for treatment.
- Furthermore 4,600 Factory baits were supplied through Animal Control Technologies Australia (ACTA).
- These baits covered approximately 2,250,000 hectares and were distributed to 35 separate bait stations in the Maranoa Shire.
- The complete cost for meat supplied came to \$35,308.00.

# Landholder Participation

A total of 400 properties throughout the Maranoa region were involved in the baiting program with 270 participants (forms submitted).

○ These are divided into,

○ Mitchell 112

○ Surat 53

○ Roma 49

○ Yuleba 12

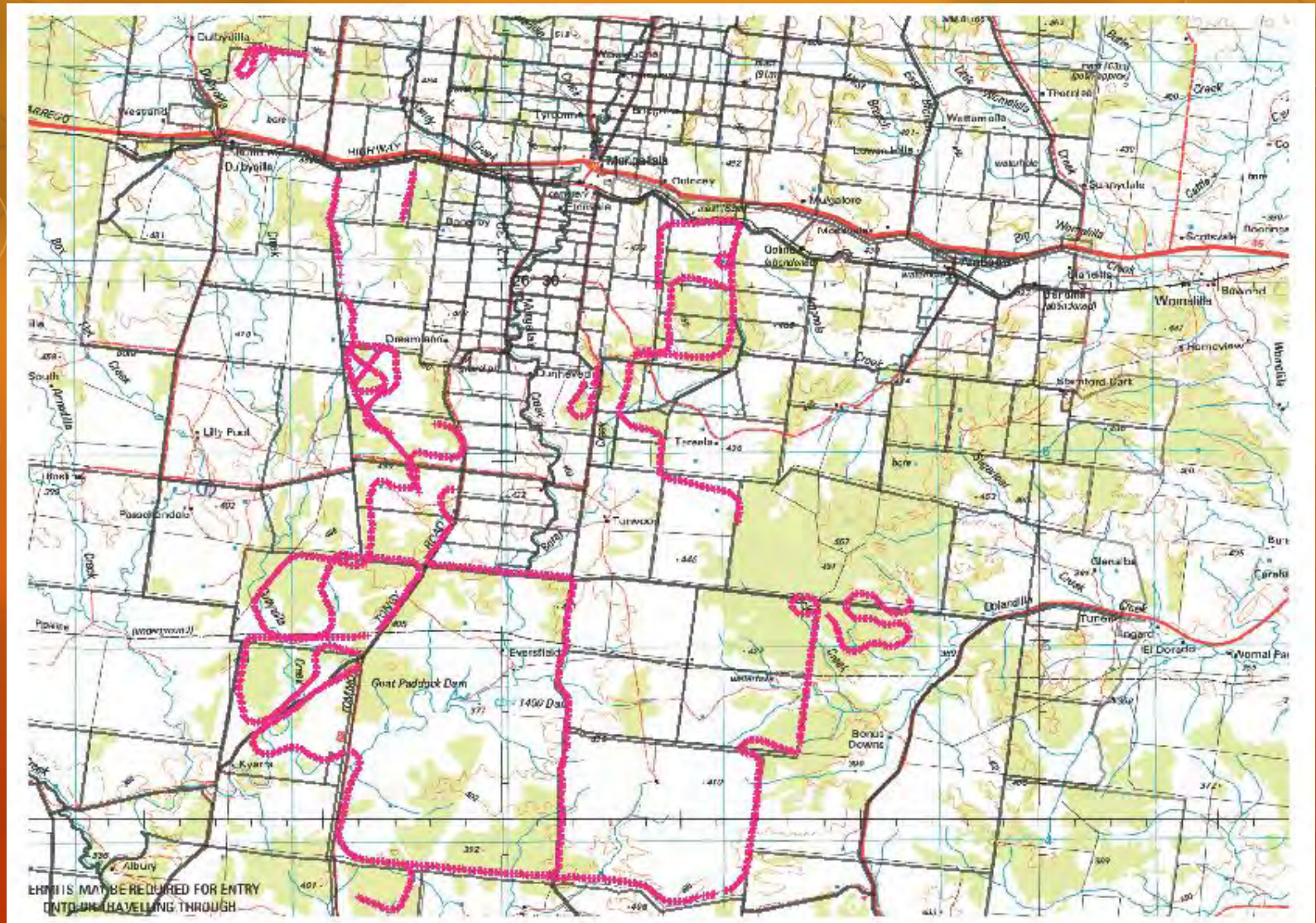
○ Wallumbilla 7

○ These numbers are somewhat higher than that of the 2013 baiting program.





# Mungallala Aerial Baiting – April 2014



# Landholder Feedback

Council received some feedback from producers regarding the effectiveness of the baiting campaign. It was reported to council that there have been findings of dead dogs in the Mitchell area, and a significant decline in sightings and attacks on stock. However it is difficult to measure the amount of pest reduction due to minimal feedback received. A number of landholders did comment on the efficiency of the preparation and organisation of the campaign itself.





# Coordinated Baiting Campaign – November 2014

- The next coordinated Baiting Campaign is to run from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2014.
- Applications for the supply of meat will be advertised in the following week.
- Landholder Order Forms will be sent out via email to those who participated in the last campaign. New participants must contact the Maranoa Regional Council to obtain a Baiting Order form before close of business 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.



# Ad Hoc Baiting

- Council continue to carry out Ad Hoc baiting outside the organised campaigns.
- This year to date the following quantities have been treated for landholders;
  - Dog/Pig – 2,830kg Meat
  - Pig Grain – 1,423.75kg Grain
  - Factory – 1,306 Baits

# Claim for Additional Bonus Payment

In an effort to encourage landholders to practice wild dog control and to further support landholders to meet their requirements under the legislation, Maranoa Regional Council provides a wild dog bonus payment.

- The wild dog bonus payment is \$50.00 per scalp, caught / destroyed inside or outside the Wild Dog Barrier Fence, within the Maranoa Region.
- Any person that presents 50 scalps will collect a further \$500.00 per 50 scalps commencing from 1 July 2014.

# Scalp Numbers

Maranoa Regional Council has seen a substantial increase in the number of scalps submitted for payment in the last financial year.

- 2013-2014 Financial Year;
  - Male: 890
  - Female: 642
  - Pups: 436
  - Total: 1968





# Wild Dog Advisory Group

A wild dog advisory group has been formed within the Region to provide leadership, and drive effective, efficient programs/actions that will integrate with neighbouring local governments.

The aim of the group is;

- Develop new initiatives and strategies
- Set direction for Council wild dog programs and expenditure
- Work with other land owners and representatives from across the region
- Identify and target problem areas
- Educate and inform
- Achieve key outcomes for your community

# Weed Control

The Maranoa Regional Council carries out spraying throughout the year, in known target areas and through customer reports. Our main focus plants are as follows:

- Mitchell - Parthenium, African Boxthorn, Harrisia Cactus
- Roma - Parthenium
- Injune - Parthenium
- Surat – Parthenium
- Jackson – African Lovegrass

# State Road Spraying

In an effort to reduce the spread of weeds throughout the region, Council received \$56,100 in funding from the State Government to spray certain weeds on State Controlled roads. Council focused our efforts on high priority weeds such as Parthenium, Mother of Millions, Harrisia Cactus and African Lovegrass.

In total around 700 hours and 300L of poison were used to control these weeds.

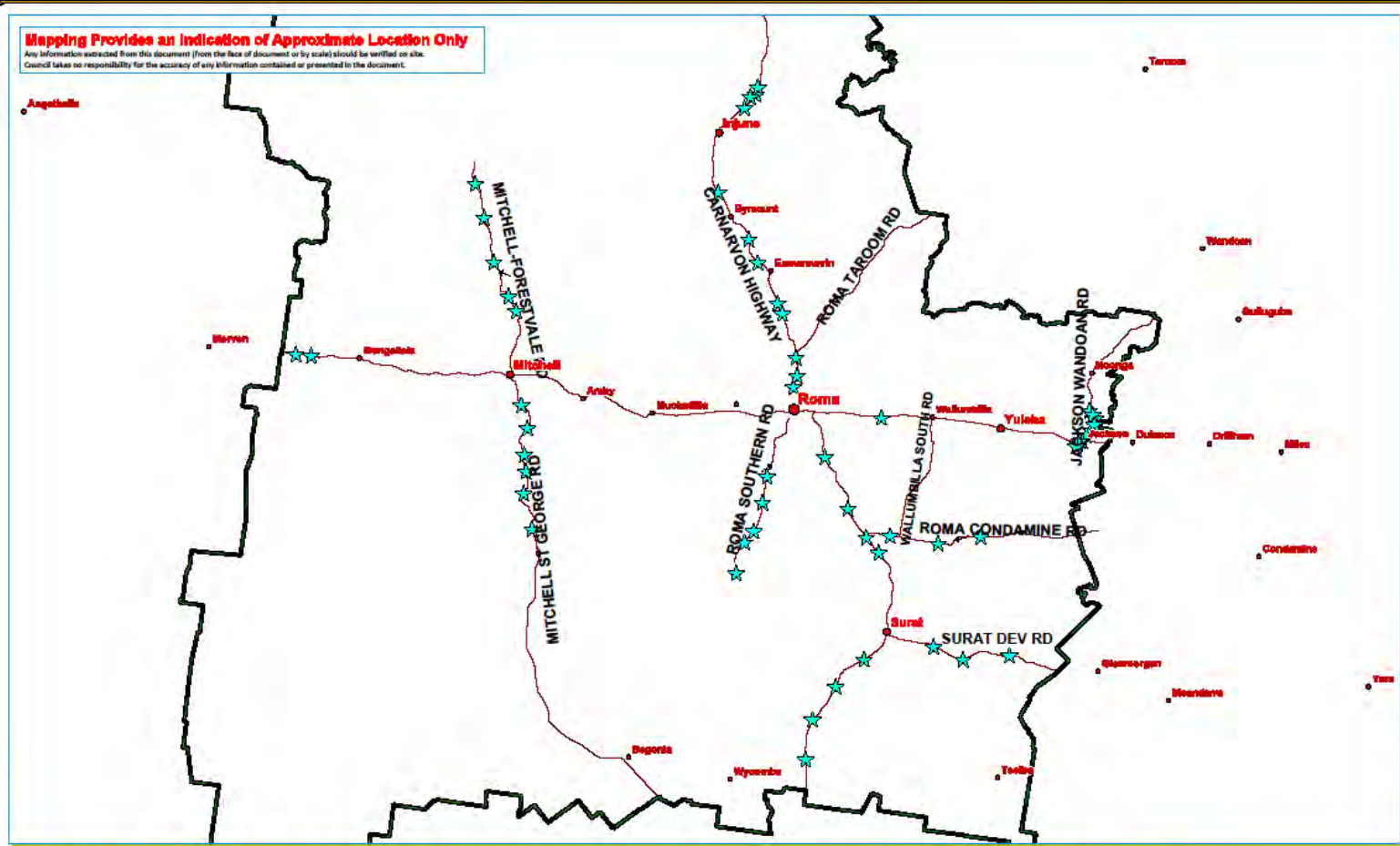


Parthenium Weed





# State Sprayed Roads

**Mapping Provides an Indication of Approximate Location Only**  
Any information extracted from this document (from the face of document or by scale) should be verified on the ground. Council takes no responsibility for the accuracy of any information contained or presented to the document.



## STATE SPRAYED PLANTS

 Sprayed Plants



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Projection: MGA84 Zone 55



# Responsibility

**Individual landholders** have the responsibility of stopping the spread of weeds on their land, minimising the introduction of new pests, monitoring pest species and their distribution, and observing hygiene measures and regulations. Landholders must also take reasonable steps to keep their land free of class 1 and class 2 pests **where “their” land includes;**

- unfenced land comprising part of a road or stock route that adjoins **or is within the owner’s land**
- other land that is fenced in with the owners land
- **the bed, banks and water of a watercourse on the owner’s land,** unless the owner holds a declared pest permit
- the bed, banks and water to the centre-line of a watercourse forming a boundary, or part of a boundary, of the owners land.

The Department of Environment Resource Management and local government provide practical skill and technical information to assist.



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