



Your strong and independent  
voice for livestock producers

20L050

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Revised Declared Animal Policy  
Wild Dog consultation  
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### **Revised Wild Dog Management Policy**

Livestock SA supports the revised wild dog management policy. The whole of landscape approach proposed is necessary to control wild dogs in South Australia.

We know that dogs are moving south, and it will not be long before they will move into mixed farming areas causing further predation if additional, stricter and more comprehensive measures are not put in place. Even once the dog fence is rebuilt, there will continue to be incursions, particularly when the fence is damaged by flood, fire or sand drift.

Stringent measures are required if there is to be any chance of eradicating wild dogs inside (south of) the dog fence. The measures currently in place together with those proposed will need to be well-policed and enforced, with strict penalties applied to those land managers who ignore their responsibility to destroy every wild dog on their properties.

A concern to Livestock SA is the lack of measures to control wild dogs outside the dog fence. The proposed policy clearly states that it is about managing “wild dog populations across South Australia” with one of the three objectives being to “minimise the impacts of wild dogs on cattle outside the dog fence.” While there are some changes in the policy that will assist such as ‘allowing aerial baiting of wild dogs in all NRM regions’, more and perhaps stricter measures are required.

It is accurate for the proposed policy to state that the impacts of dingoes on cattle “have been excessive” however there needs to be more put in place than just informing land managers of their options. Livestock SA does not believe that pastoralists outside the fence can wait for a further review in 2024 on whether the livestock industries have been adequately protected and supported.

Where dogs are thick, calf losses can be between 10 and 15% with another 8% downgraded at meat works due to carcass damage. The catch cry used to be that when predation got to the stage where it was no longer viable to run sheep, cattle were the answer. But we now know that dogs also attack cattle.

The prescribed manner and specified treatment for wild dog control needs to be expanded from just the five regions listed in the policy to also include all pastoral lands outside the dog fence. Consideration in the first instance could be given to expanding Region 2 to cover all pastoral leases outside the dog fence.

The prescribed manner and specified treatment for wild dog control detailed in the policy allows for the use of 1080 as the poison in the dog baits. Livestock SA supports the use of 1080 as it is a registered poison.

Livestock SA believes that there is the need for an effective body to coordinate the management of wild dogs in this State. Consideration should be given to combining the efforts of the SA Wild Dog Advisory Group and the SA Dog Fence Board. While both bodies are doing a good job, both are involved in the management of wild dogs and there is already some common membership. The SA coordinating body also needs a strong, close link to the National Wild Dog Action Plan and its Coordination Committee.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Keynes', written in a cursive style.

Joe Keynes  
**President**