



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Qld) Inc.

Conservation and Wildlife Management Division

"Preserving Australia's Heritage"

SSAA (Qld) Inc Conservation and Wildlife Management Division
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CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (Qld) NEWS

June 2011 Edition

Message from the Committee Chairman

I'd like to sincerely thank all the people (approx 30) that made their way down to the Qld / NSW border and helped the local Landcare group to cleanup many tonnes of irrigation tape that was washed downstream by the recent floods. There is still a mountain of tape to clean up and I'll again send out a request in the near future for volunteers. The clean-up work so far has resulted in many offers to camp and or fish on the local properties and an invite to come down and speak to 30 farmers about feral animal control in the Goondiwindi area. Watch this space for future developments.

New projects

The good rain over the past 1 - 2 years has resulted in further requests from numerous government organisations to help with feral animal issues in various regions stretching from north west of Brisbane up to Rockhampton. Greg DeKoning has been doing a great job

working with the department people in his region and this has lead to more offers to look after further properties. Graham Blines, Rod Costin and Brad Hughes report that the work that has been done by CWM on the property near Dingo will likely result in the addition of another much larger property about 20 kms southwest of Dingo. All things going well we hope to have these new properties on the books by the end of 2011.

Hunter's forum

Mark Woods and I recently attended a forum on hunting attended by the representatives of the various State's Conservation & Wildlife Management groups. Amongst the 30 odd attendees were also a number of scientists from around the country who provided some great input and support. Over the 2 days, there was an open and very beneficial exchange of ideas and information. A highlight was the wealth of experience and knowledge that we can call on from around the country to assist us as we grow

the Qld CWM organisation. The biggest highlight for me was the success of other State's CWM groups to apply for and secure grants from various sources to fund equipment (quad bikes, trailers, fuel, ammo) and staff (both full time and part time).

Townsville & Mackay

We've had a number of members in both Townsville and Mackay put their hands up to grow the organisation and continue to service the projects in their areas. The Project Leaders are as follows: Collinsville – Graham Blines (Mackay), Hughenden – Randle Irvin (Townsville).

Grants

We have a very real chance of securing funds and I would like to thank Pete Dobson for his efforts so far and Mike Farrell and Graham Blines for their offers of help. We have approached various groups and the following have expressed their support for our applications - Landcare, Qld Murray Darling Committee, Qld Govt & University of

Queensland. **In order to get a 'grants team' up and running I would like to hear from any other members (or non members) that either have some experience in applying for grants or are willing to help do research or put some words together. Please call me**

Damien Ferguson
Committee Chairman
Mobile - 0402 424 424, A/H
07 3341 5114 or
damien.ferguson@hotmail.com

SSAA and Australian Deer Assoc shoot off

Each year, on the last Sunday of July, there has been a challenge shoot at Ripley Rifle Range between SSAA and the Australian Deer Association. It is a great fun day and you will get to shoot from a range of distance from 50 yards at a fox to 300 yards at a full sized fallow deer. The minimum calibre for men is 243win and for ladies and juniors is .223rem.

This year the practice and sight-in day has been organised on the Saturday. This will work in with the normal range shooting.

Everyone is encouraged to camp over on the Saturday night. The range has excellent kitchen facilities and it is a good social night that gives you the opportunity to share hunting stories and tips with each other.

Over the last few years the SSAA numbers have been low as it has not been promoted very well. As a consequence 2010 was the first time in ten or so years that we have won it and it would be nice to show

the ADA it was not blind luck that we beat them by 40 points or so. So come on you hunters out there, this is the perfect chance to get some practice in as Some of you have been telling me how well your new rifles are shooting so come and help us outshoot the ADA deer Hunters. Trophies are given out for each yardage winner. A set of rules are available from the Ripley Range.

If you have any other questions please give me a call on 0438 098 469 after hours –
Cheers Mark Woods.

SE Qld Report

With the weather conditions on the improve and colder time of the year almost on us we can look forward to getting out into the field more often. At the March Stewartdale feral control, members that went for the Sunday morning walk where rewarded with 1 piglet for their effort , so with little piglets running around the big one should be close by so check your calendars and we will see you out there on the next feral control date.

The SEQ June Training weekend is on Saturday/Sunday the 18th & 19th.

At the recent Qld Gun Exchange expo, CWM had a stand where members talked to a wide variety of the shooting public and a good number of new member enquires where fielded. I would like to thank the members of CWM that gave up their time to man the stand.

Our next accreditation course will be run on the 9th of July if

you would like to attend please call me.

Owen McIntyre
Sthn Qld Co-ordinator
Stewartdale Project Officer

Central Queensland Report

It's been a slow few months in CQ with only having access to one of our projects. The Gladstone pig project trip for June had to be cancelled because of the wet conditions. It will be very interesting to see how things have changed after all this wet weather.

Calliope pig project while still damp went ahead, but the areas that normally have a lot of activity showed very little sign of pigs. Only one pig was shot over the 3 days, showing that the pigs have moved due to the good conditions.



Only pig for the trip

On the 26th of June we will be running an accreditation course in Gladstone. This is the first time it has been run up here. Thanks to Owen McIntyre for coming to do this.

With a couple of new areas coming available to us soon we will need more members to service them.

Regards Greg de Koning

Second Half Central Queensland Report

Hello everyone as you all are aware, the rains have still been hampering our efforts to attend projects over the last few months. Hopefully they will give us a break over the next few months!

We have managed to find some of the cat cage traps in the long grass on Avocet and moved a couple to where we had been seeing cat tracks. Bingo - two cats at the same time, then a couple of days later - a third. This should make a big dent in that area. For a while now, Hugo has been seeing a few too many dogs so that will need some attention first up. The one thing I do need is a bit of help running the different trips as I can't always be there.

Hugo would like to pass on a personal thanks to Rod Hicks, General Manager of Minerva Mines and Julian Power, Environment Officer, also of Minerva Mines, for all their effort in organising for power to be hooked up to "the Ritz", as well as supply and installation of a large flood light plus lights for each of the shelters. They will also be providing funding in the future for radio tracking collars for the Bridled Nailtail Wallabies, amongst other things. We will also be working closely with Minerva Mines on some other feral control issues.

A representative from CWM Committee will be at Avocet from 14 - 17 July. On Saturday night 16th July we will be having a BBQ to both celebrate the works that have been carried out on the Avocet Camp area and to talk to everyone about what is happening in the State as well as what is the direction we will be taking in the future. I encourage members from Emerald and surrounds to attend as we want to hear your ideas and points of view as

well. A flyer will be emailed with times and details closer to the date.

Happy Hunting
Brad Hughes

UHF Radios

UHF radios are an essential tool for projects members. As well as handheld radios required for operation while on foot, many of us have units in out vehicles as well.

Recently on a project we went to change channel on our UHF CB's as we were interfering with a local farmer's mustering operations. Changing up to channel 22, I was surprised to find my radio wouldn't allow me to use that channel.

On return home and some quick Google searching I discovered why on <http://www.exploroz.com/Vehicle/Accessories/UHFRadio.aspx> Some of that information is reproduced below.

UHF Radio Channel Allocation

Below you will find a list of UHF Radio channel allocations. There are many channels that have been established by law including the Emergency channel 5 and the data transmission channels 22 and 23.

- 1 to 8 - These channels, which are established by law, can be used when sending a signal to a repeater which will help increase the communication distance
- 5 - This channel, which is established by law, can be used by anyone but only in an emergency situation
- 9 - Used for conversations
- 10 - Used by 4WD enthusiasts, clubs, convoys

and in national parks

- 11 - Calling channel. This channel, which is established by law, is used to call or locate another station. Parties will then switch to another channel to continue with their conversation
- 12 to 17 - Used for conversations
- 18 - Holiday maker's communication channel (e.g. when in a convoy)
- 19 to 21 - Used for conversations
- 22 and 23 - These two channels are used for data transmissions and is established by law. Voice transmissions are not allowed on these two channels
- 24 to 30 - Used for conversations
- 29 - Highway Communications which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users
- 31 to 38 - These channels, which are established by law, are received by a repeater and re-transmitted on channels 1 to 8 to help increase the communication distance
- 35 - Can be used in case of Emergencies also
- 39 - Used for conversations
- 40 - Highway Communications which are mainly used by truck drivers and other highway users

Repeaters

UHF repeaters are special transmitting/receiving stations that are usually located in high areas to allow extended coverage. These stations, which are usually owned by businesses, farmers and clubs, allow UHF users to use them to re-transmit their signal. It works when you press your microphone button with the

“Duplex or Repeater” button selected also. You must transmit between channels 1 to 8 because the “Duplex or Repeater” selection will add 30 channels and will now transmit to channels 31 to 38 on the repeater. The repeater, which previously collected the signal on 31 to 38, then switches to its output channel 1 to 8 to transmit simultaneously to say another radio user on the other side of the hill.

Therefore, you should not transmit to a repeater on channels 31 to 38. Please respect the fact that repeaters are erected and maintained by private individuals and you should keep the usage relatively short.

See the UHF Repeater Search for an Australia-wide map of repeater locations.

The following was listed on the Aust Government’s Web site, http://www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD/pc=PC_1265

Emergencies

There are specific channels in the two CB radio bands available for use in an emergency. These are channels 5 and 35 in the UHF band.

These channels are designated for emergency messages only and, under the class licence, must not be used for other purposes.

Although the ACMA does not monitor these emergency channels, there are organisations that do so voluntarily - but not on a full time basis, nor Australia wide. These organisations can assist in contacting the appropriate emergency service.

In an emergency, any CB frequency may be used to attract attention. “

Cheers Pete Dobson

A NON Shooting Weekend

In our house spare time is an extremely rare thing, so if something comes up that we feel is important, or needs to be done, it takes a lot of juggling to make it happen. When we saw the request come through C W M from Rebecca Morrissy Waggamba Landcare and the QMDC Group for help to clean up some plastic irrigation tape that had been washed down the Dumaresq River during the recent floods we thought it a worthy cause and set about freeing up a weekend to go and give them a hand. A weekend away together would be nice as well. Oh, what a shock we were in for!



Estimated weight 750kg to 1000kg

We had helped with the Brisbane flood efforts and thought that we had seen it all - how hard could it be to pick up a bit of plastic irrigation tape here and there? You can see from the photos how wrong we were.



Alex standing on some of the irrigation tape that has been removed so far.

Waggamba Landcare and QMDC organised shearers quarters for us to stay in and provided our meals as well. The quarters were on Moorabinda station, East of Bonshaw nestled between the Dumaresq River and the edge of the Reedy Creek Valley. Being a family weekend it was a great opportunity for our partners to meet everyone, as well as being able to be part of the clean up. Our group had 12 people with a mix of all age groups which made for some great camaraderie over the weekend.

Arriving on Friday night, we were up on Saturday morning for 6:00 a.m. to meet Bec from Waggamba Landcare and then head out to the section of river bank that we would be working on for the day. After our introduction and induction we started to work our way along the bank finding small bits and pieces here and there. “Easy”, I thought. Then as we started to get into some heavy timber we hit the mother load!



We cut, we pulled, we chopped and dragged, we laughed, sweated and egged each other on to pull out some huge clumps of irrigation tape.

It was dirty and hard work



but the group made it fun and at the end of the day the picturesque views to be had from the veranda of the shearers' quarters while partaking in a few well earned ales and cooking the BBQ made it all worthwhile.



A beautiful sunset to end a great day

As we spoke to Bec and the other helpers from Waggamba Landcare throughout the weekend we all started to realise how devastating the floods had been to our rural sector. In the Goondiwindi to Moonie to Stanthorpe Landcare area alone there is over 70,000 km of boundary fencing to be replaced after being washed away. And that's not counting the internal fences that were lost as well! The irrigation tape project alone covered some 20km of the Dumaresq River System.

I would like to say thanks to Phil and Julia Harpham for letting us all stay at their beautiful shearers quarters, not to forget Rebecca Morrissy Waggamba Landcare and

QMDC for organising everything for us.

QMDC and Landcare have set up some volunteer programs to help the farmers recover and rebuild in the coming months. I believe that CWM will be looking for members to come and help and I think that this is a great way for hunters to show that we are more than just hunters.



THE TEAM

Cheers Mark Woods

CWM Contacts

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Our Supporters

The businesses listed below support us in different ways, whether it is through direct discounts to members, donations to the Christmas Shoot, or items loaned for field use.

When purchasing items from these businesses please be sure to mention you are a Hunting & Conservation member for discounts where applicable.

Barclay Transport

Ph: 0412 764 000

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Emails: btranspt@bigpond.net.au

Creek Marine

Ph: 3354 1475

Fax: 3354 1455

Mercury Marine

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Fax: 3393 0711

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Queensland Shooters Supplies

Ph: 3202 2111

Fax: 3812 8071

Emails: sales@gss.org.au

Or for the indoor range: sales@qir.org.au

Rebel Gun Works

Ph: 3391 6744

Fax: 3391 8835

Upcoming Activity Dates – 2011

Be sure to mark the dates below in your diary and plan to come along. You never know – you might just be free on that date. We have kept this page separate so you can put it up on the fridge too!

Hunting Activities - Attendance at activities **must** be arranged with the Team Leader (Contact) as most activities will have a safe operating limit.

June			
10 th – 13 th	Hughenden	Northern	Randle Irvin
18 th -19 th	Southern Training Weekend	Southern	Brett Marais
18 th – 19 th	Avocet: Emerald	Central	Brad Hughes
18 th -25 th Cancelled	Gladstone Pig Project Cancelled	Central Cancelled	Greg de Koning Cancelled
26 th	Gladstone Accreditation Course	Gladstone	Greg de Koning
July			
9 th	Southern Accreditation Course	Southern	Owen McIntyre
15 th – 18 th	Collinsville	Northern	Graham Blines
16 th -17 th	Stewartdale – Ripley	Southern	Owen McIntyre
16 th – 17 th	Dingo Cat & Dog Project	Central	Rod Costin
16 th – 23 rd	Calliope Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
August			
12-15 th	Hughenden	Northern	Randle Irvin
13 th – 20 th	Gladstone Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
20 th – 21 st	Stewartdale – Ripley	Southern	Owen McIntyre
20 th – 21 st	Avocet: Emerald	Central	Brad Hughes
September			
9 th – 12 th	Collinsville	Northern	Graham Blines
10 th – 17 th	Calliope Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
17 th – 18 th	Southern Training Weekend	Southern	Brett Marais
17 th – 18 th	Dingo Cat & Dog Project	Central	Rod Costin
October			
7 th – 10 th	Hughenden	Northern	Randle Irvin
8 th – 15 th	Gladstone Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
15 th – 16 th	Stewartdale – Ripley	Southern	Owen McIntyre
15 th – 16 th	Avocet: Emerald	Central	Brad Hughes
November			
11 th – 14 th	Collinsville	Northern	Graham Blines
19 th – 20 th	Southern Training Weekend	Southern	Brett Marais
19 th – 20 th	Dingo Cat & Dog Project	Central	Rod Costin
19 th – 26 th	Calliope Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
December			
3 rd – 10 th	Gladstone Pig Project	Central	Greg de Koning
17 th – 18 th	Stewartdale – Ripley	Southern	Owen McIntyre
17 th – 18 th	Avocet: Emerald	Central	Brad Hughes

Project Target Species

Avocet – Primary – Foxes, Cats, Dogs. Secondary – Rabbits, Pigs

Collinsville - Primary – Pigs

Hughenden – Primary – Dogs. Secondary - Pigs

Stewartdale - Primary - Hares, foxes, cats, dogs. Secondary – Pigs