



Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia (Qld) Inc.
Conservation and Wildlife Management Division
"Preserving Australia's Heritage"

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CONSERVATION & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (Qld) NEWS

March 2016

Message from the CWM President

Minimum calibres for CWM projects

We are often asked how we've arrived at our minimum calibres for projects. Now, for those that have opened the "which calibre is best" can of worms, you know that it's a discussion that can go round and round for hours and hours! Obviously, minimum calibre/s required depends on the target species so it's best to check with the Project Leader and/or Team Leader for the project that you are planning to attend.

When CWM was asked to control feral pigs on selected government properties some 10 years ago we had to use suitable calibres to be sure that any pest animals were culled in a humane manner. It's good to see that since then a whole raft of [Standard Operating Procedures \(ie PIG003: Ground shooting of feral pigs\)](#) have been researched, developed and written by scientists that back up exactly the conclusion that we arrived at.

Ten years ago our government partner's protocols for humane destruction required a .30 calibre round to be used on pigs and similar sized animals. This was due to the fact that the firearms that they had in their safes across the state were generally 7.62x39 semi auto's.

CWM proposed that a good hunting projectile in 6mm calibre of at least 80grains be allowed when culling feral pigs etc when we were operating on their estates. Our reasoning was that the 6mm 80gr+ round

had considerably more energy than a typical factory 7.62x39 round.

The tables below (from Gundata.org website) show the energy imparted by both a 6mm (we used the .243 as it's the most popular 6mm round) and a 7.62x39 round.

The 85grain projectile in *Table 1* below has and retains considerably more energy at all ranges. In fact from 50 yards to 200 yards the .243 round has between 41% & 58% more energy.

A **A** .243 Winchester, Federal Sierra GameKing BTHP, 85gr

B **B** 7.62x39mm Russian, Winchester Soft Point, 123gr

Range	Drop (inches)		Velocity		Energy	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
0	-1.4946	-1.4918	3299	2364	2054	1526
50	-0.3031	0.1588	3137	2195	1857	1316
100	0.0045	0.0014	2981	2033	1677	1129
150	-0.6670	-2.2648	2830	1878	1511	963
200	-2.4248	-7.0026	2685	1731	1360	818
250	-5.3899	-14.6495	2544	1593	1221	693
300	-9.6999	-25.7302	2407	1465	1093	586
350	-15.5119	-40.8681	2274	1349	976	497

Table 1

A	A	.243 Winchester, Federal Speer Hot-Cor, 80gr				
B	B	.243 Winchester, Federal Sierra GameKing BTSP, 100gr				
Range	Drop (inches)		Velocity		Energy	
	A	B	A	B	A	B
0	-1.4947	-1.4940	3330	2960	1969	1945
50	-0.3205	-0.2111	3188	2849	1805	1802
100	-0.0019	0.0006	3052	2742	1654	1669
150	-0.6172	-0.9447	2920	2637	1514	1544
200	-2.2527	-3.1410	2792	2534	1384	1426
250	-5.0043	-6.6917	2667	2434	1263	1315
300	-8.9788	-11.7107	2546	2336	1151	1211
350	-14.2952	-18.3242	2428	2240	1047	1114

Table 2

The 80gr and the 100gr projectiles shown in the *Table 2* have less muzzle energy however both retain more energy at longer ranges.

Damien Ferguson
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Improving our projects

One of the things I always look at when I am on a project is how can I make the project better. Everything from putting in towel rails to fixing up door latches. I have seen members bring out replacement step treads they had picked up on a kerb side clean up. They were not the new but were way better than what was in place.

By taking some ownership of the places we stay at, we not only make the place better for ourselves, but the property owners are grateful for our input.

They are busy running the property and often do not have the time for the little jobs. If the many hands that go to these projects put in an hour or two, it helps, especially considering the range of skills our members have.

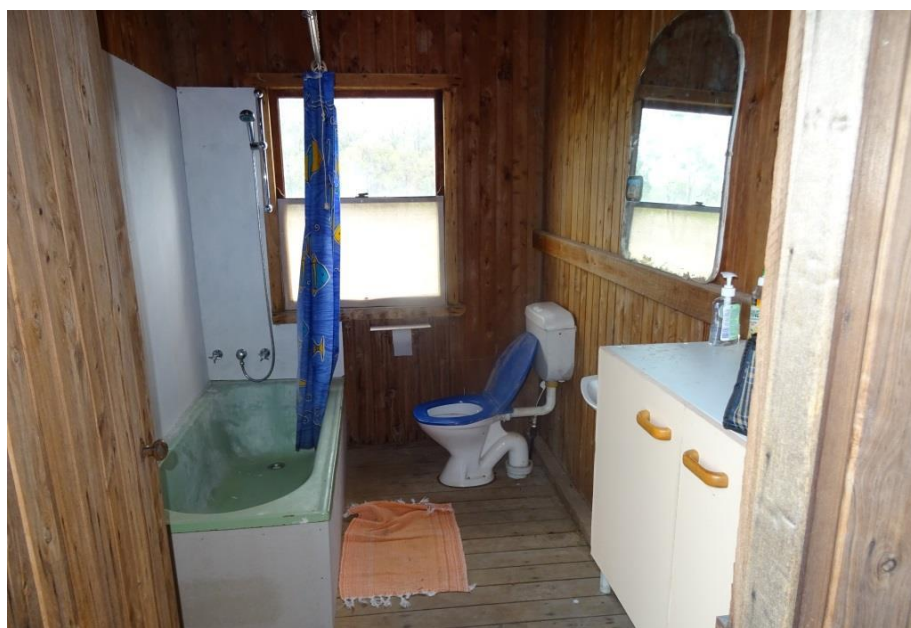
As an example, a fridge had stopped working in a cottage we always use on a private

property I have been going to since 1976. Our family threw in \$60 and bought a replacement second hand fridge and also ran a working bee on the cottage. This was a small price to pay for free use of the cottage, the electricity, the run of the property and being able to go there whenever we wanted.

Lending a hand develops better relationship develops between us and the property manager or owner. We are seen as part of the family and not just users. Sometimes even a small parcel of fruit, a watermelon for the kids or if you are a keen fisherman some fish fillets helps to foster this relationship.

Surprisingly, the things that you or friends were going to throw away may be used to improve a project. I would suggest next time you go on a project or to your own property stand back and see what you can do.

Ken



The old shearers quarters at our Moonie project is being improved with CWM help.

Mackay Report – Belyando Project December 2015

As I hoped and expected, my first project as Team Leader was conducted without incident. The other members present were professional in their knowledge and ability to follow and carry out daily tasks and work within time frames. I would not hesitate to work with these guys again.

It was very hot and dry with waterholes drying up rapidly around the property. Most of the hunting activity on foot was carried out during the early morning and late afternoon hours with activity during the very hot period during the middle of the day restricted to vehicular travel or meal and rest periods. Our water intake was high to remain hydrated under such conditions.

The project commenced at lunchtime on Thursday with an induction from the manager, after which we put the warning signage in place, baited and set some of the pig traps and were given a general tour and overview of the permitted area of operation. Some areas of the property were not available to us on this trip due to cattle being grazed in some sections.



Late in the afternoon we commenced our hunting by conducting a sweep along the creek. Four pigs broke cover with one sow being shot by Rob before the others reached the safety of one of our “no go” zones.

Early Friday morning the three of us checked several of the pig traps and walked an area of creek without any sightings. We continued to check all traps which had been set the previous afternoon without success and then returned to the homestead for lunch and a bit of a camp. Later that evening we all went back to one of the larger waterholes and set ourselves up with spotlighting and night vision equipment. Although we remained there till about 11.00pm no pigs were sighted. One feral cat made a brief appearance however a clear shot didn't present itself.



The waterholes were drying up rapidly

Early Saturday we were up by 7.00am and out walking a different section of the main creek. Rob managed to secure another sow but that was the sum total of our success for that morning. Again we set ourselves up with the spotlights and night vision equipment, this time overlooking the main creek bed. No activity at all was seen and we headed off home a little after 9.00pm.

The conditions during this trip were extremely dry and hot and even the wallabies around the homestead didn't move from the shade during the middle of the day. It was very noticeable how much the waterholes and creeks had receded since our previous CWM visit in late September. At one stage we managed to call in a wild dog to within about 20 metres of the vehicle but it was only shot with a camera at the property owners stipulation.

Up at 3.00am on Sunday we were off spotlighting in one of the vehicles around the designated property tracks.



One large boar was seen in the light just as it disappeared into the scrub. No shot was taken. We arrived back at camp around mid-morning after opening and un-setting all the

traps. All the warning signage was taken down and the homestead cleaned before our departure on Sunday afternoon.

Marcus.



A wild dog was called in to within 20 metres of the vehicle

Bowen/Whitsundays Report

We have had a reasonable month with a few members doing their fair share of "Farmer Assist" projects mostly in the Hughenden area, getting good support from farmers and doing what we enjoy.

We have several projects in the pipeline that have yet to be fully developed and signed off.

A CWM accreditation course was run at SSAA Bowen range on February 13th and a much needed working bee on the 20th. We were pleasantly surprised when we had 15 members turn up and a huge amount of work was completed. It was hot and humid but everyone completed the tasks allotted - well done lads.

Peter Hannah

Things you find in the dark

When out on a walk on the last Moonie trip we came upon a small Death Adder on one of the tracks. It was no more than 200mm long but fairly docile. We left it alone and it crawled slowly away. It is always a good



This Death Adder was seen at our Moonie project

idea to wear good footwear even around camp as you never know what is on the move. Many times while driving around spotlighting I have seen snakes on the tracks.

Ken Payne

First Aide for Snake Bites

In Australia there are about 3,000 snake bites per year. On average one or two will prove fatal. About half the deaths are due to bites from the brown snake; the rest mostly from tiger snake, taipan and death adder.

Do NOT wash the area of the bite or try to suck out the venom!

It is extremely important to retain traces of venom for use with venom identification kits.

Do NOT incise or cut the bite, or apply a high tourniquet!

Cutting or incising the bite won't help. High tourniquets are ineffective and can be fatal if released.

Stop lymphatic spread - bandage firmly, splint and immobilise!

The lymphatic system is responsible for systemic spread of most venoms. This can be reduced by the application of a firm bandage (as firm as you would put on a sprained ankle) over a folded pad placed over the bitten area. While firm, it should not be so tight that it stops blood flow to the limb or to congests the veins. Start bandaging directly over the bitten area, ensuring that the pressure over the bite is firm and even. If you have enough bandage you can extend towards more central parts of the body, to delay spread of any venom that has already started to move centrally. A pressure dressing should be applied even if the bite is on the victims trunk or torso.

Immobility is best attained by application of a splint or sling, using a bandage or whatever to hand to absolutely minimise all limb movement, reassurance and immobilisation (eg, putting the patient on a stretcher). Where possible, bring transportation to the patient (rather than vice versa). Don't allow the victim to walk or move a limb. Walking should be prevented.

The pressure-immobilisation approach is simple, safe and will not cause iatrogenic tissue damage (i.e. from incision, injection, freezing or arterial tourniquets - all of which are ineffective).

Extract from -

<http://www.anaesthesia.med.usyd.edu.au/resources/venom/snakebite.html>

Upcoming Activity Dates

Our calendar of activity dates is now published on our web site. Please go to:

<http://cwm.ssaaqld.org.au/2013/index.php/calendar/2016-calendar>

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