

**MEEKATHARRA RANGELANDS BIOSECURITY
ASSOCIATION INC**

STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 - 2022

INTRODUCTION

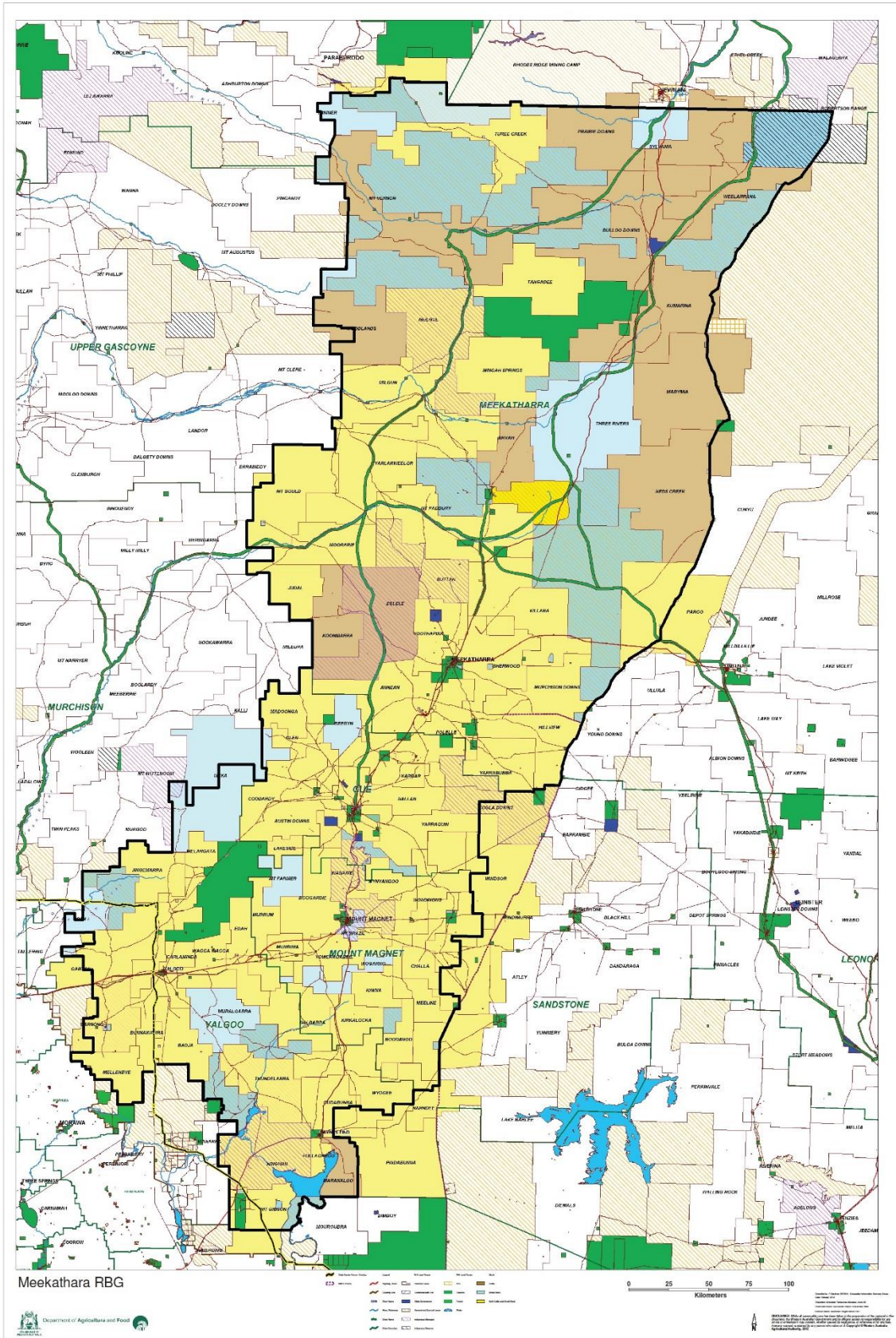
The Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association Inc (MRBA) is an industry body with a membership of all pastoralists in the Shires of Yalgoo, Mount Magnet, Cue, and Meekatharra. There are also a small number of pastoral properties in the northern sections of Mount Marshall and Perenjori Shires that are members of the MRBA. The Association has been established under the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act 2007 with a charter to manage and control declared pests, both animal and plant.

The MRBA is an incorporated body set up in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2015. The constitution of the MRBA provides for a Management Committee, of up to eleven members, with responsibility of for overseeing the operation of the Association.

MRBA operations are funded from annual declared pest rates paid by pastoralists which are matched by the State Government and also one off grants from State and Federal NRM programs, Royalties for Regions and other sources.

The MRBA area covers approximately 184,000 square kilometres and incorporates 93 pastoral properties. Of these 93 pastoral properties, there is a mix of tenure ranging from pastoral lease, to mining leases, unallocated crown land (UCL), national reserve and indigenous managed pastoral leases.

The following map shows the extent of the MRBA area.



MEEKATHARRA RBG

VISION

For the Meekatharra Rangelands Biosecurity Association to provide leadership and implement programs to support and promote a viable livestock industry in the Southern Rangelands.

MISSION

To work with landholders, government agencies and regional communities in the control of plant and animal pests thus enhancing livestock productivity and helping protect the natural resources of the Southern Rangelands.

VALUES

Service

To strive to provide an efficient and cost effective service for the benefit of Members.

Responsiveness

To be responsive to the needs of Members, government agencies and Rangelands communities.

Communication and Involvement

To provide avenues of participation and be accessible to Members, government agencies and Rangelands communities. To communicate regularly with Members.

Responsibility

To act with integrity and in a financially responsible, sustainable manner in the interests of Members.

Accountability

To make decisions on behalf of Members in an open and accountable way.

GOALS

Wild Dogs

To encourage and assist landholder in the control of wild dogs using best practise procedures with the aim being to reduce the level of predation to that which ensures the viability of livestock production throughout the MRBA area.

Large Feral Herbivores

To work with government agencies in the control large feral herbivores in the northern section of the MRBA area with the aim being to reduce total grazing pressure and enhance livestock production.

Weeds

To seek additional funding by way of grants and other opportunities to treat declared weed infestations on pastoral leases within the MRBA area with the aim being to protect biodiversity and the environment generally.

Murchison Region Vermin Cell

To strongly advocate the need for completion of the Murchison Region Vermin Cell within government and the community generally with the aim being to establish an area where wild dogs can be excluded from entry and eradicated from within.

WA and National Wild Dog Action Plans

To seek on all occasions to play a leadership role in implementation of State and National Wild Dog Action Plans.

To strongly argue the need for long sustainable term funding for wild dog control in WA, beyond that currently provided by Royalties for Regions.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Community Bait Rack Program

To support the seven community bait racks in the MRBA area and to coordinate the program.

Employment of Pest Management Technicians

To employ Licenced Pest Management Technicians (doggers) on a contract basis to assist landholders in control of wild dogs by baiting, trapping and shooting.

Control of Large Feral Herbivores (LFH)

To make an annual financial provision for a contracted, LHF aerial culling program to be conducted every three years in the north of the MRBA area.

Natural Resource Management

To seek supplementary grant funding under both State and Federal Natural Resource Management Programs for the control of declared

plant and animal pests and other activities that will enhance biodiversity and the environment.

Interaction with Governments, Industry and the Community

To work productively with Government, Industry bodies and the community generally to enhance biosecurity outcomes in the Southern Rangelands.

To seek out opportunities for workshops and educational forums that would benefit members in the operation of their livestock businesses.

MONITORING AND UPDATING

MRBA programs and activities will be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure they are effective and that funds invested are well spent. The results of this ongoing monitoring will be reported to Members via newsletters and the MRBA Annual report.

This Strategic Plan will be reviewed and updated annually.