**Project** | RAPAD QFPI Cluster Fencing Program | **Round 2 Draft Report November 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation name:</th>
<th>RAPAD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Organisation Address: | 117 Eagle Street  
Longreach Queensland  
Australia 4730 |
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Email: mgronold@rapad.com.au |
| MERI Coordinator  
[if different to project manager] | Tel:  
Fax:  
Email: |
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<td>5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1.0 MERI Plan Purpose

The continuous and integrated cycle of monitoring, evaluation, reporting and improvement is referred to as MERI.
A project MERI plan articulates all the different aspects of MERI that will be needed and how they will be implemented over the life of the project.
This project MERI plan:

- Guides MERI for the QFPI Cluster Fencing Project
- Provides a base from which to review the progress the project is making towards the agreed targets and outcomes, and from which to learn about successful implementation strategies and to adapt in response to lessons learnt.

1.1 MERI stages

MERI planning covers the three-phase cycle of preparation, implementation and review:

i. **Preparation** — involved first developing the project Program Logic and using it to develop the MERI Plan. This occurred before project implementation.

ii. **Implementation** — of the plan provides for ongoing monitoring of progress, periodic evaluation of impact and achievements, and reporting to all Stakeholders. The evaluation process has been developed to suit length of the project and provides for progress reporting.

iii. **Review** — of the MERI plan will occur at the end of the project. This will enable: project assumptions to be tested; an assessment of progress in delivering the targets identified in the funding Deed; a review of management and delivery processes/ techniques; identification of recommendations for improvement; and assessment of the effectiveness of the project in delivering against its objectives.
2.0 Scope

The box below contains a brief project description that includes an outline of the QFPI Project and the rationale for investing in the project, and the boundaries of the project.

The long term goal is for this funding to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.

Table 1 shows the primary users or the key people who will use this MERI plan to organise data collection, analysis and reporting. The secondary users are people who may benefit from understanding and being aware of this MERI plan.

Table 1  Key users of this MERI plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary users: who will reflect and adapt</th>
<th>RAPAD Board and management, cluster group participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secondary users: who need to be aware of this plan</td>
<td>Longreach Regional Council,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2.1 Project Timeframe and budget

Year 1 and 2 of the proposed work program is attached here.

#### Table 2  Project work plan summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones for 2017 and 2018</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development of project Monitoring and Evaluation (ME) Plan detailing the projects schedule of activities, mechanisms for monitoring progress and evaluation of outcomes and endorsement sought from Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF).</td>
<td>Within 60 days of agreement</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landholders engaged within the five Central-western Queensland Shire Councils areas and Flinders Shire Council region to establish approximately 7 clusters or linear fence arrangements including set up of appropriate legal structures and agreements with landholders.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Pest Management Plans for enclosed properties compiled in accordance with current best management practice guidelines prior to completion of their respective cluster or linear fences. Development of an overarching Cluster Management Plan for each cluster.</td>
<td>Within 2 months of execution of a contract between the cluster and RAPAD</td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installation of approximately 770kms of strategic fencing aiding land managers to improve land management through controlling total grazing pressure across approximately 7 clusters thereby assisting in the ability to conduct rotational grazing, paddock spelling and reducing predation of livestock.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interim evaluation of project to be completed and submitted to DAF at the end of the third (3rd) quarter after commencement of the project.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments of social and economic impact of fencing and wild dog management conducted and report submitted to DAF.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Complete</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.0 Program Logic

Program logic is a key element of an evaluation process as it shows a series of expected consequences, not just a series of events, at different outcomes levels within the logic. The program logic describes the relationships between activities and desired outcomes.

See Attachment 1 to this document for the program logic for the RAPAD QFPI Program Logic.
# 4.0 MERI Reporting

## Table 3  MERI Summary

That the RAPAD QFPI program funding to be the catalyst for growing jobs and achieving significant improvement in the profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct RAPAD MERI Round 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Metrics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Clusters</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hectares fenced in clusters</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ha</td>
<td>401,933</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>1,900,000</td>
<td>1,900,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kilometres of fencing</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>km</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>2,545</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of properties</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAP showing planned area to be fenced with RAPAD QFPI</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Attached</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned accumulated capital cost of fencing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAPAD (Govt) Funding</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>2,095,470</td>
<td>2,095,470</td>
<td>4,195,470</td>
<td>7,195,470</td>
<td>7,195,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Contribution</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>6,496,614</td>
<td>8,390,940</td>
<td>14,390,940</td>
<td>14,390,940</td>
<td>14,390,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>8,592,084</td>
<td>12,886,410</td>
<td>21,586,410</td>
<td>21,586,410</td>
<td>21,586,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Livestock in RAPAD clusters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>103,551</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>15,896</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td>65,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>239,129</td>
<td>735,000</td>
<td>700,000</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>8,317</td>
<td>37,500</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Before</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>0-30%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>65-90%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>After</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>65-85%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cattle</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>75-90%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All participating landholders have a current Pest Management Plan</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit Cost</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit:cost ratio on Government funding per year every year for $1.00 upfront Government Expenditure</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.11</td>
<td>$5.84</td>
<td>$11.49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RAPAD QFPI Cluster Fencing Program MERI Round 2
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## Table 3 cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Level 2</th>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>Level 4</th>
<th>Level 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
<td>Target</td>
<td>Actual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Impacts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep Income (Gross Value of Production)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>ABS Commodities</td>
<td>33,829,912</td>
<td>50,000,000</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total km of exclusion fencing (all properties, not just QFPI round 2)</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Km of fencing to be constructed</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>3,726</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of RAPAD region protected with exclusion fencing</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>% of RAPAD region with exclusion fencing</td>
<td>3.50%</td>
<td>7.45%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAPAD QFPI is a catalyst for other fencing in the region</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Total area protected by exclusion fencing (ha)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>1,707,694</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>4,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep Numbers</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>ABS Ag Census data Sheep Numbers</td>
<td>465,858</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural employment</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,255</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in population in the region</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,829</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Well Being</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landholder baseline attitudinal survey - see attached</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Survey results attached</td>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>Survey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notes to table for Round 2 results

1. The QFPI cluster fencing application was for 7 clusters.
2. The total area fenced is 401,933ha. With Round 1, the total fenced area will be to 1,250,000 ha and the Expression of Interest round will take the total fenced area to approximately 1,900,000 ha.
3. The QFPI cluster fencing application envisaged 770 km of fencing. The actual result was 776km of fencing.
4. The total number of properties involved in Round 2 was 31. Round 2 will take the total properties up to 118 and the EOI will take the total number up to 168.
5. A map of the cluster areas is attached. (Attachment 2)
6. Round 2 Government funding was $2,095,470 for direct fencing expenses out of a total grant of $2,400,000.
7. Contributions by participants totalled $6,496,614.
8. Total expenditure on fencing is $8,592,084.
9. Sheep and cattle numbers (before fencing) based on applicants data at the time of submitting applications.
10. Producers expectations of changes in livestock numbers after fencing. Note this will take several years to realise with variable seasons and re-stocking. Over time this can be correlated with total sheep numbers in the relevant shires from ABS Commodity data.

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11. Producers survey evidence of reproductive rates before fencing.
12. Producers expectations of improved reproductive rates after fencing. Some evidence is starting to come through from applicants survey data of improved reproductive performance in fenced areas.
13. All participating landholders have prepared a Pest Management Plan. A total of 31 pest management plans completed.
14. The expected Benefit/Cost ratio for exclusion fencing for Round 1 is $3.11 per dollar of Government funding spent. See Attachment 3, Round 2 Benefit Cost.
15. The value of sheep production from AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES–Australia, States and Territories and ASGS regions–2015-16 for Barcaldine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach was $33,829,912 for the 2015/16 year. See Attachment 4 for a map of the relevant regions. This value can be measured and compared in future MERI Reporting.
16. The long term objective of the RAPAD program is that it acts as a catalyst for change in the region. This has already commenced with the Longreach Regional Council Special Rate fencing program that will see another 1,250km fenced. With Round 2 and the EOI and further privately funded fencing it is expected that the total km fenced will increase to around 6,000km by year 5 and potentially 15,000km by year 10. If this is the case the original QFPI project will have had approximately 9 times leverage.
17. The area of the ASGS regions, Barcaldine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach (excluding Diamantina) is approximately 23,000,000ha. Therefore the fenced area of Round 1 and Round 2 is approximately 7.5% of this total area. The expectation of the RAPAD QFPI program is that it will act as a catalyst resulting in approximately 50% of this region becoming fenced over time. This would equate to approximately 10,000,000ha.
18. Sheep numbers in the ASGS areas of Barcaldine/Blackall, Longreach, Far Central West (excluding Diamantina) were 465,858 in 2016. This was compared to 1,429,370 in 2011. Sheep numbers in the area can be tracked at each Ag Census date and recorded against the MERI plan as confirmation of the change occurring in the region.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barcaldine, Blackall/Tambo</td>
<td>6,960,913</td>
<td>182,345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longreach</td>
<td>3,164,837</td>
<td>136,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Central West</td>
<td>22,280,958</td>
<td>146,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamantina</td>
<td>9,482,300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,924,408</td>
<td>465,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,429,370</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Total employment by LGA area including Barcaldine, Longreach, Blackall/Tambo, Barcoo and Winton was 5,881 in 2016.
20. Employment in Agriculture for the same region was 1,255 in 2016. The expectation over 10 years is that agricultural employment will increase by 220 jobs and that this will lead to a similar improvement in non-agricultural jobs. Therefore a total improvement in jobs in the region of 440.
21. Population in the above region in 2016 was 9,988 people. With increased employment this is expected to increase to 11,748 in 10 years.
22. Attached are the results from the Completion survey by applicants.
5.0 Preliminary indications of Level 3 data indicators

The MERI program logic spans a time period of 10 years in terms of the aspirational goals of the project, however the initial reporting period is within 1.5 years of the commencement of the project. Therefore many of the longer term impacts of the project will not be visible within this reporting period. As part of this MERI process, applicants were asked a number of questions about their expectations of change relating more to the Level 3 or 5 year outcomes. The full transcripts of these responses are included at Attachment 6. A summary is included below.

**General comments**
- Security, peace of mind
- Smaller clusters re better, 4-5 properties maximum
- Now considering internally fencing off properties within the cluster to give more control
- Opportunity to increase productivity
- More enterprise choices now with goats, dorper or other animals.
- Stocking rates can now be what they should be rather than being dictated to by dogs
- We now have the ability to spell country by controlling grazing pressure
- Dogs impact on grazing pressure, forcing sheep to graze in certain areas, sheep are now more relaxed and spread out
- Increasing the capital value of the property
- Bio-security advantages of being able to control sheep and cattle within the boundary area and be able to get clean musters
- Once the season changes and people get busy they will need labour
- Fencing = full control of your business
- We will get our money back that, no question
- Initial capital outlay was $11/acre and we got that back in year 1
- Better able to match stocking rates with season and have control over grass
- Opportunities for more employment in surrounding communities
- Lambing percentage now back to around 80%
- Before fencing our lambmarking would have been around 40%, we are now up around 80%
- Reduced livestock losses due to dogs
- Have done 10 days shearing this year with 10 staff (100 mandays) where previously I was down to 1 day of shearing
- No fence, no sheep, no wages. One of the best schemes the Government has come up with which has meant that people have spent the money in the local community, its real regional economic stimulus.
- We have put sheep in a paddock that we have not been able to use for sheep for 40 years.
- More sheep, more people to do the work and dollars flowing into the community.
- I can now go to bed at night knowing nothing is being attacked
- Husbands are more relaxed, much better long term outlook, has a huge flow on effect through the community and the entire family, social cohesion of families and mens mental health.
6.0 Improvement

Completion Survey

- Completion surveys were received from the 7 clusters in relation to the following 6 questions. Responses are shown at Appendix 5.
  1. I believe that the way RAPAD managed the project was practical and useful
  2. Information on what we were required to do was clear and understandable
  3. Communications with RAPAD throughout the project were timely and informative
  4. The finished fence has met all my expectations
  5. The amount of communication I now have with other cluster members has increased
  6. Overall I’d rate the project as successful

- The sample size is only small, however all responses were generally positive with most responses rated as 6 or 7 (out of 7).
Attachment 1
Program Logic RAPAD
QFPI Cluster Fencing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logic Hierarchy Level</th>
<th>Project Outcomes</th>
<th>Link to State Outcomes</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Measurements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LEVEL 5. Aspirational goals (10 years’ time)</strong></td>
<td>That the RAPAD QFPI Project is the catalyst for achieving significant improvement in profitability of regional businesses (both rural and non-rural) through the demonstration of the economic, social and environmental benefit of cluster fencing.</td>
<td>The economic, social and environmental risks associated with priority weeds and pests are managed.</td>
<td>50% of the rural properties within the RAPAD QFPI region are fenced with pest exclusion fencing.</td>
<td>Hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20% increase in the regional domestic product. (Regional GDP).</td>
<td>MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20% increase in employment in the region</td>
<td>Accumulated capital cost of fencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000,000 sheep in the RAPAD QFPI region.</td>
<td>Livestock numbers within the fenced area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Local Government expenditure on Dog control has reduced by $500,000 per year.</td>
<td>Livestock numbers outside fenced area</td>
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<td>Population in the RAPAD QFPI has increased by 10%.</td>
<td>Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep</td>
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<td>Wild dog count in the RAPAD QFPI region has decreased by 50%.</td>
<td>Reproduction rates within the fenced area</td>
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<td>Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.</td>
<td>Regional GDP</td>
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<td>Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit</td>
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<td>Cost of Dog control by Regional Councils and Landowners</td>
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<td>Population</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Count of wild dogs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Landholder attitudinal survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logic Hierarchy Level</td>
<td>Project Outcomes</td>
<td>Link to State Outcomes</td>
<td>Targets</td>
<td>Measurements</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>LEVEL 4.</td>
<td>Long-term outcomes</td>
<td>(5 years’ time)</td>
<td>That the RAPAD QFPI Project has been successful in demonstrating the economic, social and environmental benefits of cluster fencing.</td>
<td>The preparedness and resilience of communities (including community organisations, Indigenous groups, industry, Landcare, landholders, land and water managers, local government and volunteers) is improved. Priority landscapes have improved resilience to weed and pest impacts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logic Hierarchy Level</td>
<td>Project Outcomes</td>
<td>Link to State Outcomes</td>
<td>Targets</td>
<td>Measurements</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| LEVEL 3. Intermediate outcomes (3 yrs) | Continued positive change to cluster and local communities’ profitability and environmental management through an:  
- increase in business profitability;  
- increase in reproduction rates (e.g. lambing rates);  
- increase in sheep numbers (as a percentage of stock numbers in the cluster);  
- increase in stock numbers;  
- increase in carrying capacity; | The detrimental economic, social and environmental impacts from weeds and pests are reduced.              | The area fenced is now greater than twice the initial RAPAD cluster group representing 2,000,000ha.  
10% of the rural properties within the RAPAD QFPI region are fenced with pest exclusion fencing.  
5% increase in employment in the region  
200,000 sheep in the RAPAD QFPI region.  
Wild dog count in the RAPAD QFPI region has decreased by 10%.  
Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises. | Hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)  
MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.  
Accumulated capital cost of fencing  
Livestock numbers within the fenced area  
Livestock numbers outside fenced area  
Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep  
Reproduction rates within the fenced area  
Regional GDP  
Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit  
Cost of Dog control by Regional Councils and Landowners  
Count of wild dogs  
Landholder attitudinal survey |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logic Hierarchy Level</th>
<th>Project Outcomes</th>
<th>Link to State Outcomes</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Measurements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **LEVEL 2.**          | Fence erection and a positive change to clusters’ profitability and environmental management due to cluster fencing and the reduction of wild dogs through the:  
  • Development of individual and cluster pest management plans;  
  • Training of landholders in monitoring;  
  • Significant proportion of cluster’s fencing constructed;  
  • Implementation of pest management activities  
  • Current snapshot of the impact of wild dogs on clusters’ economic and environmental wellbeing through:  
  • Development of legal and governance arrangements with clusters.  
| Activities undertaken towards preventing and/or managing populations of emerging weeds and pests.  
Communities [including community organisations, Indigenous groups, industry, Landcare, landholders, land and water managers, local government and volunteers] have the skills, knowledge and capacity to participate and engage in natural resource management.  
Activities undertaken to protect priority ecosystems or agricultural undertakings from further damage from weeds and pests.  
Targeted weeds and pests are controlled as appropriate.  
| The area of the RAPAD QFPI cluster fencing is now complete.  
Wild dog numbers have been reduced.  
Landholders within the cluster groups feel more in control of their sheep enterprises.  
| Hectares and Kilometers fenced (RAPAD and Non RAPAD)  
MAP showing area fenced with RAPAD cluster and other groups eg LRC.  
Accumulated capital cost of fencing  
Livestock numbers within the fenced area  
Livestock numbers outside fenced area  
Labour spend based on Standard Labour costs per sheep  
Reproduction rates within the fenced area  
Cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit based on forecast economic benefits  
Count of wild dogs  
Landholder attitudinal survey |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Logic Hierarchy Level</th>
<th>Project Outcomes</th>
<th>Link to State Outcomes</th>
<th>Targets</th>
<th>Measurements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| LEVEL 1. Foundations  | Current snapshot of the impact of wild dogs on clusters’ economic and environmental wellbeing through:  
  - Development of legal and governance arrangements with clusters; and  
  - Validation of current pest, economic and environmental data. | Activities are undertaken towards preventing and/or managing populations of emerging weeds and pests.  
Partnerships with key stakeholders (e.g. Landcare, industry) are established and/or maintained, and engagement activities are undertaken  
Activities are undertaken to protect priority ecosystems or agricultural undertakings from further damage from weeds and pests.  
Activities are undertaken with key stakeholders to develop knowledge of priority NRM issues (e.g. mapping, monitoring studies, case studies, etc.) | Planned hectares and kilometers fenced (RAPAD QFPI)  
MAP showing planned area to be fenced with RAPAD QFPI.  
Planned accumulated capital cost of fencing  
Current livestock numbers within the fenced area  
Reproduction rates within the fenced area  
Annual cost of wild dogs to enterprises within the fenced area  
Planned cost benefit ratio of CAPEX to economic benefit based on forecast economic benefits  
Current count of wild dogs on properties to be fenced  
Landholder baseline attitudinal survey |
Attachment 3
Round 2 Benefit Cost Calculations
**RAPAD Round 2 data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheep Numbers</strong></td>
<td>103,551</td>
<td>239,129</td>
<td>135,578 As per QFPI sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheep Variable Labour required</strong></td>
<td>1,242,612</td>
<td>2,869,548</td>
<td>1,626,936 At $12/sheep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Variable FTE</strong></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>29 Variable FTE calculated at $35/hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cattle Numbers</strong></td>
<td>15,896</td>
<td>8,317</td>
<td>(7,579) As per QFPI sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cattle Variable Labour required</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(4) Cattle variable FTE calculated at 1FTE/1,000 AE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Increase in Jobs</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>25 Calculation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheep GM</strong></td>
<td>22.24</td>
<td>34.63</td>
<td>12.39 LPM 2013 Wild Dog Check Fence Feasibility Study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increased Sheep Gross Margin</strong></td>
<td>2,302,974</td>
<td>8,281,037</td>
<td>5,978,063 Calculation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cattle GM</strong></td>
<td>250</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>5.00 Based on DPI Gross Margins (average across enterprise type)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reduced Cattle Gross Margin</strong></td>
<td>3,974,000</td>
<td>2,120,835</td>
<td>(1,853,165) Calculation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increased Regional Gross Margin</strong></td>
<td>6,276,974</td>
<td>10,401,872</td>
<td>4,124,898</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>31</th>
<th>31</th>
<th>As per QFPI sheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labour per property</strong></td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>1.79</td>
<td>0.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheep per property</strong></td>
<td>3,340</td>
<td>7,714</td>
<td>4,373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cattle per property</strong></td>
<td>513</td>
<td>268</td>
<td>(244)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DSE per property</strong></td>
<td>9,494</td>
<td>10,933</td>
<td>1,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total area fenced</strong></td>
<td>401,933</td>
<td>401,933</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ha per property</strong></td>
<td>12,966</td>
<td>12,966</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **GM/Property**              | 202,483      | 335,544      | 133,061           |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4,142,040</th>
<th>13,630,353</th>
<th>9,488,313 LPM 2013 Wild Dog Check Fence Feasibility Study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross income sheep</strong></td>
<td>9,537,600</td>
<td>5,156,540</td>
<td>(4,381,060) Based on DPI Gross Margins (average across enterprise type)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase in gross income</strong></td>
<td>13,679,640</td>
<td>18,786,893</td>
<td>5,107,253</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Add Increased variable labour | 1,414,724    | 56,000       |
| Total Annual Regional Benefit | 6,521,977    |               |
| Government Expenditure on Fencing | 2,100,000    |               |
| Annualised multiplier based on one off expenditure | $ 3.11 per year every year from $1 government spend | |
| Proponents Expenditure on Fencing | 3,900,000   |               |
| Increased Annual Gross Margin | 4,124,898    |               |
| Proponents Return on Capital (Increased Gross Margin/CAPEX) | $ 1.06 | $1.06 increased GM for every $1 spent on the fence |
Attachment 4
Map of the ASGS region
Barcladine/Blackall, Far Central West and Longreach
SA2 and LGA areas

The ABS data is extracted from both SA2 and LGA areas.

A summary of these areas is shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SA2</th>
<th>LGA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barcaldine/Blackall</td>
<td>Barcaldine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blackall/Tambo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longreach</td>
<td>Longreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Central West</td>
<td>Boulia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diamantina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barcoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Winton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The seven LGA areas are included in the RAPAD area, however what RAPAD describe as the QFPI area does not include Boulia and Diamantina.
Attachment 5
Completion survey results
1. I believe that the way RAPAD managed the project was practical and useful

Small response however general agreement on this issue.

2. Information on what we were required to do was clear and understandable

Small response however general agreement on this issue.

3. Communications with RAPAD throughout the project were timely and informative

Small response however general agreement on this issue.
4. The finished fence has met all my expectations

Small response however general agreement on this issue.

5. The amount of communication I now have with other cluster members has increased

Small response however general agreement on this issue.

6. Overall I’d rate the project as successful

Small response however general agreement on this issue.
Attachment 6
Logic Level 3 Data Indicators Summary
RAPAD QFPI ROUND 2
M&E Cluster Interviews October 8-10, 2018

Interviews held in Barcaldine and Ilfracombe
35 people participated representing 14 clusters
Focus is on MERI data collection.

Purpose is to add value to the analysis and interpretation for the project to show the reality of improvements on-property and in local communities

- We are looking for any impact data, for those with 2017/18 summer rain they may have measured outputs such as lambs marked or weaned
- Where that’s not the situation, then the focus is probably more relevant to aspects of completing the fence, removing pest animals, effectiveness of the fence as a barrier, any maintenance issues, personal benefits and expectations of what is possible when it rains.
- In both cases we are seeking benefits and or difficulties experienced as a result of the fencing at a business or family or social nature.

1. Working to get the fence construction happening
Target group – those who have been through the process for funding, purchasing materials, working with fencing contractors etc

Questions:
Tell us about the work involved in getting the funding sorted.

- Cluster formation went well
- We helped each other out
- Working pretty good so far
- Many of us had fenced before so we knew what we were in for from a construction point of view

- Has been easy, lucky as only a small cluster, happily do it again, very easy cluster to maintain, people are great, it just works, benefit of small cluster, no angst re 10 to 20 years, happily do it for anyone
Tell us about the work involved in organising fencing materials, contractors, machinery etc

- some used contractors some of us did it ourselves
- people had a choice
- we thought availability of contractors would be difficult so we just bought the gear ourselves, we thought it’s going to cost the same amount and we would end up with the gear and we can use it to keep improving the place going forward, something like a grader pretty cheap investment to help protect the place into the future
- It employed people for sure, we hired 2 backpackers for the 3 months it took, we wouldn’t have employed anyone at all if it wasn’t for the fence
- Contractors were good, all the clearing etc we did, pretty straight forward
- More options available now more types, heights, styles
- Simple to build happens fast
- Fencing again would you change design – personal preference, ground preparation is the biggest thing, after the wet we will know more

- Anxiety about what to do with the state road, main roads didn’t want grids, insisted on removing the grids and making a laneway, opportunity for main roads to get rid of the grids,
- Steel and wire prices continue to rise priced some this week, risen 40% in 2 years,
- Ordering material at the start, pretty well knew what we wanted, first load turned up quickly, orders were on time, as one nearly ran out the next turned up, 56km up in 7 months, done more since inside,
- No issues with materials, council stuff was good, about 4 week lead time, wire left over from council, no issues
- Wide range of suppliers now, lots of choice
- AWI machine has been a very useful machine for us, a few issues, without it I don’t know how we would have done it, only need 2 people

How significant an achievement is it to get to this stage?

- Real good, security, peace of mind especially up against stock routes and main roads
- Definitely good when we finished, now to have a good boundary is peace of mind
- Really satisfying, we were lucky in that we had a small cluster, number of people, whole process was really amicable between members, from a state govt position, more people = more area but that can grow the animosity and issues of control, essentially the more members the more clashes and potentially less productivity overall as a result, 4 or 5 properties works well I reckon, as the numbers rise it would get more difficult

What is your next step for your sheep production business?

- Exclusion fencing ourselves now internally to gain independence within the cluster is the ultimate goal, we are still part of the cluster it remains the same, cluster still operates but you operate independently within that and more fencing means more checks and more control for us and all the cluster members
• Cluster absolutely gives you the opportunity to increase your productivity
• Fencing internally now will give us even more independence and control, cluster funding was the catalyst it gave us the start and we will use exclusion materials
• No one is putting 6 wire fences up anymore, internally we are doing exclusion as well, means more opportunities and choices for us as a business, could be dorpers, goats etc, more opportunities to run different types of small stock, we had no option before we simply couldn’t run them, now we can run a diverse agricultural holding which is better for everyone
• We have just about totally fenced ourselves off from each other in the cluster, big plus as you have total control then of your destiny, helps with managing, control it a lot better in small areas, think you can have too big clusters, people and size, size for management, we came in with the view of fencing ourselves in, cluster was the catalyst, lot more control when you have the area smaller

What does having fencing happening mean for your business and getting it back into sheep and wool production? Are there any lamb marking figures coming through yet?
Is there anything happening on your property yet on the employment front as a result of the fencing?

• The stocking rate can be what its meant to be, not what is dictated to you by dogs
• Given us back the ability to control your pastures, grazing pressures, ability to spell country, in return stocking rates level out, our primary goal is to grow grass and now we have full control
• Means we now have the ability to control the ecosystem within each fenced paddock, I reckon we will now have less woody weeds as well, wild dogs directly impact on grazing pressure, they push stock into one corner
• I genuinely think it is increasing the capital value of the place
• Provided us with a huge biosecurity advantage, now can clean muster inside, shouldn’t need to spray for lice, that’s a cost saving and a better biosecurity outcome
• We’ve got sheep again, when the dogs came we got out of sheep altogether, fence have meant we have brought sheep back and are breeding sheep again now
• Once the season changes and people get busy they will need labour, that’s inevitable
• Cluster gave us a great opportunity financially to get a concept up and running to get our own business model back, get control of their business, clusters a great concept, gets you proactive, gives you an opportunity to do lots of things in your business
• Fencing = full control of your business

• We will get our money back, no question, investment in the future of our business, pure and simple
• No brainer
• Initial capital outlay, cost us $11 an acre, got it back in the first year, pays for itself in one year, without any capital growth in your asset simply because you can get back control
• Less about running more stock the actual benefit will come from increased wool cuts and lamb growth this will lead to better returns of what you have, turn off capacity increases less supplementation, don't have to lighten off as much in the drier years, better able to match stocking rates, no budgeting power before, couldn't forecast before can now
• Before with the stock route we had no control of what came through, we do now
• Real carrying capacity has been reducing over the last 30 years due to roos, now we are back in control
• Given us back the time and allowing us to improve stock rather than just simply trying to keep them alive, before that's all you do, now you can invest in good genetics and invest in your business knowing you will get a return
• Allows you to intensify your business, I now have the ability to trade cattle due to better pasture, getting busier now thanks to increased opportunities, options for multi enterprises, end goal is to run sheep, first time for us in 10 years, when that occurs workloads double, opportunities for more employment in the surrounding communities
• I am in sheep, there is significant evidence of increased dog numbers right out side my fences so without the fence I would not have remained stocked with sheep. Given the severe drought, if I had cattle I would have destocked 2-3 years ago. This would have reduced my employment of local people by 1.5 man years.
• Our LM ing figures have been great, two years now of marking well over 75% in all mobs. In fact now, you can lock in the fact that you can expect 80 lambs for every 100 ewes lambing down. Prior to fencing, this could not been done and it was sheer luck the years that we got good lambing percentages. Despite the severe drought, the good lambings has meant excellent sales of sheep as we have destocked, the extra alive sheep that we sold has put a lot of money in the bank and really helped our financial position.
• As we are running <50% of normal numbers due to drought, there are far less employment opportunities. Nevertheless if we had been forced out of sheep, we would have reduced our employment of (day workers, shearers, contractors, etc) by 70%.
• I got back into them, numbers have been maintained, I buy 1000 and kow when I come to sell there will be 1000 in there not 500
• Have done 10 days shearing this financial year employing 10 staff, the previous 2 years I have shorn for only 1 day
• We have fenced ourselves off for more independence
• We've only just finished so not sue but expectation is it will give us more control over your management, bigger incentive to maintain this than a 6 wire fence in the past as it will deliver so much more than a traditional fence
• We haven’t had a dog attack in the cluster since the fence, has greatly reduced the area of danger to stock, we may have a dog in the other half of the place, know not to put stock in that area until we eliminate it
• Expectation for your business now the fence is up, being able to run stock safely, hope to see more grass and feed, controlling grazing pressure as well
• We’ve seen it already, we wouldn’t be running sheep without the fence, dog attacks were getting very frequent, this isn’t happening now, no dogs and no pigs, stock are working the country much more evenly than before, from an economic point of view, we’ve shawn 22000 sheep this financial year, all those wages are going back into Longreach, if we didn’t have the fence there wouldn’t be 1 sheep at home and the wages wouldn’t have been spent in the local town, I reckon I have paid more in wages than I received in govt funding for the fence which is great, no fence no sheep no wages, one of the best schemes the govt has come up with, meant people have spent money in the local community, it’s real regional economic stimulus, we would have had to go out of sheep without the fence no question
• Before fencing for the last 5 years we have averaged lambing of less than 40%, thanks to the fence its over 80% now, last year we got 26 dogs this year with the fence we have got one dog and I think we fenced him in
• Weaning percentage so much better with the fence, this year thanks to the fence we only marked 20 less lambs before the fence we were usually 300 down, huge difference
• Stock seem so much more settled now
• 60% average across the flock would be the best historically, never really got to the lows as we caught the dogs just in time, fence was a massive preventative measure, its given us more control and we are hitting 80% thanks to the fence, also more confident now and happy to invest in better practices and things are really jumping along all thanks to the fence
• Pigs have been a big problem, fence will help eliminate them now
• Amazing the amount of pigs trying to get into our cluster but can’t get in thanks to the fence
• We are about to lambmark sheep in a paddock we haven’t been able to run sheep in for 40 years, it was cattle country before that, couldn’t put sheep in there, thanks to the fence sheep can go in and they have done really well, really looking forward to the results
• We are now finally progressing towards what the investment was about, more sheep and more people to do the work and dollars flowing into the community
• This fence should become the norm of this style of fence on the boundary
• Catalyst for us to keep fencing internally, place is worth more, get more control, no lice, no strays, more control over external parasites.
• Intended outcome has been the additional biosecurity control, lice, weeds
• You can choose what stock you want to run, as opposed to dogs dictating what you run
• I can now keep stock separated bulls and cows, haven’t had a bull breach the fence yet, place that’s not fenced shot 3 dogs last week,
• Everything we predicted would happen thanks to the fence has with additional benefits, we originally said it would take 3 years to pay for itself, it hasn’t taken that long
• Fence is a really exciting thing even with the tough dry times we can be proactive and positive for the long term and build our business, not be as reactive, before you would go mustering and see dogs so you would spend days after that searching for them, now we don’t have to it’s a wonderful thing for our businesses when most other things have been really challenging, this project has given us a focus, it will save us time and has allowed us to focus on the future, focus on productivity
• Employment we created whilst we were building it so it’s making a positive now and a good time to have it when things were dry and no one was employing anyone, so benefits are happening now as well as into the future
• Seeing the green shoots of potential right now as a result of the project, benefits aren’t just long term they are happening now, they started when the fencing started

Social impacts, how you are feeling thanks to the fence
• Easier to go away, get off the place, now that makes a big difference to your mental health
• Peace of mind
• Nice to go out and not see sheep left to die after dog attacks
• Huge benefits now
• Was getting to me, seeing something you have invested in torn to pieces,
• Life has certainly improved, confidence that we will be in sheep so I have continued in investing in equipment and technologies to making my sheep operation effectant and up to date. Some examples include DNA genomics in our breeding flock, new sheep handling equipment and new marketing strategies for our unmulesed wool including a a relationship with the NZ firm called ICEBREAKER
• Relaxed regarding no dogs killing sheep, I can now go to bed at night knowing nothing is going to get torn apart
• A lot less stress of seeing the cruelty dogs were doing, from here on in we look forward to being viable again
• Peace of mind
• It’s funny the stress of trying to look after my old boundary fences which were in terrible shape has all gone with new fences
• So much time saved, all the traps are in the shed now, haven’t needed them thanks to the fence,
• Husbands are now much more relaxed, much better long term outlook, has a huge flow on through the community and the entire family, social cohesion of families, essential to men’s health
• Makes the old fences look insignificant, new ones look better, makes me feel better
• For peace of mind and security I would rather do exclusion fencing than conventional, so much better, proof is there as soon as you put it up, easier fencing
• When we do laneways and holding paddocks we will use exclusion fencing rather than traditional/conventional, better use of equipment and capital on the place, makes you more proud of the fence and keener to keep it in the best shape as you know the job its doing

2. Working to remove pest animals
Target group – those with fences finished and are in or have done removal activities.

Questions:
• How long ago was the boundary completed?
• What targets do you have for numbers of pest animals inside the boundary?
• What actions have you taken to remove pest animals?
• Tell us about the level of success or otherwise, in reaching your pest animal target so far?
• What hasn’t worked for you in removing pest animals?
• In what ways has your workload changed?
• What has it been like for you personally since the fences went up? As a family? Some people have said to us that they have more peace of mind as the fence goes up. Anything like that for you?

• It takes a while I didn’t know how many we had before we fenced
• We see pigs on the outside trying to get in put none have made it in yet, this makes a big difference as pigs bloody love lambs nearly as much as dogs
• Aim is zero or no point doing it, we couldn’t come close before, we are at zero now thanks to the fence
• Currently I’ve probably only got 1 or 2 pigs left inside, big campaign to eradicate and you can now with the fence, no pigs coming in now, great help overall to production and biosecurity
• People who haven’t fenced are copping the pests
• Need to keep vigilant and maintain it,
• Before without the fence if you saw a dog or pig there was a chance he could get away, now with the fence he can’t get away,
3. Fence maintenance
Target group – those with fences finished and pest animals removed

Questions:
- Overall, how effective would you say the fence is as a barrier to keep pests out?
- What are you doing to keep a check on how the fence is going? How often?
- What are you seeing happen in how the finished fence is keeping animals out? (e.g. breaches or holes from pests or damage following rain etc)
- In what ways has your workload changed?
- Tell us about the level of success in reaching your target for pest animals so far?

- We had had couple of breaches in one sandy section but I found the holes and just added extra footer to it and its good as gold now
- Everyone in the cluster is committed to the fence
- Fence holding up well
- Some hotspots, sandy country, add a footer on the other side, easy fix, expected it
- After 10 days dogs no they cant get through, go somewhere else

- Fence has been very very effective
- Fence won’t stop everything, maintenance is really important, if you don’t do your bit you let everyone else down, we are all in it as one, everyone has to work together to make that cluster work

4. Unfenced neighbours
- What comments are you hearing from any unfenced neighbours – good or bad?
- What do you think might help remove any bad effects and/or ensure good effects continue?

- Neighbours keen to join up in round 3, we don’t have any objections, more the merrier, will mean happy days for all of us, we all get control of our destiny, one outside neighbor sold since the fence went up and the new owner has now fenced and joined up to us aswell, 2 in 12 months have added onto it, and that’s good for everyone
- When we first stated looking for cluster members we had 10 people keen, when crunch came left to 3, all the others (that didn’t join) can now see what is going on and the benefits, the pasture situation, it’s really exciting for us and they are kicking themselves
• Some are fencing as a result
• Definitely I am waiting for neighbours to be fenced and take advantage
• They make their choices, they live with it
• Since we started all the neighbours who didn't want a bar of it have all fenced, flow on effect of the program, it’s great, both did council schemes as well

5. Individual owners’ current pasture situation
Target group – those with fences finished, pest animals reduced/removed

Questions:
• When did you reach your pest animal target?
• Have you had any rain since completing your fence?
• What are you seeing happen with your pasture?
• What are you seeing happen with your stock or is it too soon to tell?
• Is all this telling you anything practical about future pasture or animal production?

• Hasn’t rained enough yet really but I reckon it will be great
• In my experience of fencing my other place the buffel grass has gone gangbusters and is taking over from bare paddock spots, ring of bulldust are turning into buffel grass
• Will help remove what used to be woody weeds and replacing it will grass
• Feed will last longer

• More control, weaning rates up, not the same losses as before, due to predators and control the grazing of your pasture
• Sheep now getting a go at better pasture, growth we got was phenomenal so late in the growing season with the little bit of rain we got, stock look really well, grass held on thanks to the fence, we now get a say in who’s feeding on the grass
• 1100 weaned lambs in the paddock, keep going ahead, feed just keeps lasting and lasting thanks to the fence, don’t need any lick yet, herbage has come up and is holding on much better
• We are going to see pastures we have never seen before

5. Your thinking of the current climate situation
• What do you make of the current climate conditions?

• Based on the of the fence I can run the place on 6 inches, if I can get that I know I am going to be ok because now I can feed budget so much more accurately, know the ewes I put in there are all going to be there at the end, I know my lambing rates are going to be back up and even better know weaning rates will be too, give me a 6 inch year any day and that’s all we need now thanks to the fence

6. Other questions

• Do you have a pest management plan?
• In what ways is it practical for your cluster situation?
• In what ways isn’t it practical for your cluster situation?
• What happens in your cluster group since working together to get the fence sorted and up?
• Final comments

• As soon as you see how many pests you see over the fence, kangaroos and no grass as far as you can see, you will fence
• No one wants to be first, advantage of the program is it allowed people to kick this off and show the benefits
• I know one fenced block near me was recently sold to a NSW sheep producer who paid a premium and his number one priority was a fence, very rare you get NSW sheep producers looking to invest in western Queensland but we are seeing it now and the main lure is the fences

• Weed eradication application as a group rather than individuals, keen to look at more stuff going forward
• With smaller closer clusters I reckon this will work much better
• If the govt got money we are keen to get it as a cluster, use the association we already have
• Coop mentality is certainly got opportunities, offers economy of scale, vehicles, poly pipe, consignment of cattle going to one processor/market, simple as being transparent as a cluster, easier to do this in a small cluster, certainly room and opportunity for it
• Opportunity though I think to start with the simple things first, easier now to pick up the phone and have the opportunity

• AWI opportunity to get wifi project, do it together, apply for this as a cluster, wifi towers across the cluster and use it together
• One cluster member sold since we did it, went through pretty easy, didn’t seem to change anything, AGM with new cluster members, for anyone that has to face that all went smoothly, I am sure they could sell more readily, saw the benefits and sold quickly with the fence, before the fence it was on the market for a while
• Lack of shearers will be a challenge
• Need to reinvest back into shearing shed get it up to date
• Cheaper to pay the travel and have them stay in town, puts more money into those businesses

Lessons for RAPAD to take away for Round 3
• Single payment would be better than staggered as everyone is buying materials at the beginning not in stages, needs additional checks and balances, people were hanging out for the last payment
• No dramas or issues
• Process is fairly easy, understand why a process is needed, once you get your head around this its easy to conform, process straight forward
• It took a little while to get the contracts sorted and took a while to get the final conditions, based on the problems with round 1 contract, frustrating but we got their in the end
• Good at the beginning Morgan told us what you needed at the beginning with invoices, what we have to keep record or otherwise 6 months later its really difficult, right at the beginning made it so much easier
• Negative for us was after we finally got our cluster together and where we were going to fence, the goalposts changed from 10 years to 20 years, very stressful,
• why we needed insurance when we already had it, not sure why we need both really, then again once you finished building still need the insurance not sure why,
• Joining up some clusters rather than setting up new ones, individual should be looked at not enough scope there,
• Keep advocating won’t stop at round 3 asking govt for funding, we will handle the maintenance, overall meaning as to why we are doing this is so compelling, lifted the innovation, significantly increase the productivity and profitability of producers which will directly result in increasing the profitability of the communities in the region they support