

STOP THE TOAD

KEEP WA CANE TOAD FREE

Stop the Toad Foundation Annual Report 2007/08



Cane toads collect at an exclusion barrier fence – Great Toad Muster 2008



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**Annual Report 2007-2008
Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc)
To June 30 2008**



Exclusion barrier fencing - an efficient management tool for cane toad eradication.

BACKGROUND:

The STOP THE TOAD FOUNDATION is a not-for-profit organisation incorporated in Western Australia in October 2005 with the primary purpose of preventing the invasion of cane toads into Western Australia. The strategic focus of the Foundation is to alert all Australians to the potential impacts of the cane toad and to try to engage everyone in the protection of Western Australia from the toad's imminent invasion.

This report covers the period from 1 July 2007 to the end of its third financial year, 30 June 2008.

The Foundation secured \$100,000 of Western Australian Government funding towards the end of 2007 to support cane toad control in the Northern Territory and within Western Australia in the event that populations of toads do establish in this state.

The Committee of Management of the STTF was established at an inaugural AGM on 27 October 2005. It has held 9 meetings in the 2007/08 financial year.

OBJECTS OF ASSOCIATION:

- (a) To prevent the migration of cane toads into Western Australia.
- (b) To fund, develop, install and operate toad trapping devices and other toad control mechanisms with the aim of preventing cane toads entering Western Australia.
- (c) To protect Western Australia's native fauna and flora from the infestation of cane toads.
- (d) To educate the public on the risks and danger posed by cane toads and the ways to prevent the migration of cane toads into Western Australia.
- (e) To conduct and finance research into the development of effective methods of controlling, reducing or eliminating cane toad populations.
- (f) To implement cane toad control measures in Western Australia in the event that populations of cane toads are established in the State.
- (g) To carry out activities that promote or to facilitate the above objectives, including fund raising activities.
- (h) To establish and maintain a public fund to be called the "Stop the Toad Fund" for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objects/purposes of the Association. The Public Fund is established to receive all gifts of money or property for this purpose and any money received because of such gifts must be credited to the Public Fund Bank Account. The Public Fund must not receive any other money or property into the Public Fund Bank Account and it must also comply with subdivision 30-E of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Stop The Toad Foundation (Inc) Rules of Association – Clause 3



Ring Lagoon, Auvergne Cattle station; perfect toad habitat.

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION:

Cane toads are a noxious pest. Since their misguided release into the sugar cane fields of Queensland seventy years ago they have spread in vast numbers across northern Australia, from Queensland into the Northern Territory, with disastrous results for native wildlife. And now they are bearing down upon the Kimberley region of Western Australia.

Until recently, Australians were strangely fatalistic about the proliferation of this feral menace. As a result no concerted effort was ever made to even slow its westward advance, let alone eradicate it completely. Some scientists and policy-makers held that a biological control was just around the corner, but decade followed decade and no silver bullet emerged. Meantime, the toad marched unchecked across our tropical north. Into Kakadu. Into the suburbs of Darwin. And now much further westward, to the Victoria River and beyond. The toad frontline is now 25 kilometres from the WA border. Once toads reach the vast Ord River catchment, the game will be up. This, then, is the eleventh hour.

Community groups here and in the Northern Territory have worked tirelessly to awaken the public to the ecological crisis at our doorstep and, I'm pleased to say, that as a direct result of their work the old fatalism has lost sway and a new energy has taken hold. **Many Western Australians believe that inaction is simply not an option. That defending our state against a cane toad infestation is not only possible – it's vital.** A spirited resistance to cane toad infestation is now firmly abroad in the public imagination. This is visible in schools and the media, in business groups and volunteer organisations, and in state government policy. A sharp new focus and fresh urgency have already stepped up levels of research and practical measures, both professional and volunteer, to aid in the fight. The Stop The Toad Foundation is proud of its pivotal role in helping foster this new can-do mindset. Our founding members and patron deserve every credit for their efforts to bring people and ideas together in the cause of toad control.

We stand now at the end of our third year of operations and our results to date are enormously encouraging. After wide consultation with scientists, indigenous stakeholders, and toad specialists from all over Australia we are better placed than we were three years ago to have an impact on the westward movement of the toad. The success of the Great Toad Muster in the critical Auvergne region in September/October 2007 has confirmed our strategy and strengthened our resolve. The new exclusion fencing element implemented during the GTM 2007 and 2008 has the potential to be the single most significant development to date in the development of cane toad control techniques.

The Foundation's Committee of Management is enormously grateful for the wave of support we have benefited from. Thanks go especially to our primary sponsor, the Western Australian Government, and to our other major sponsors, ABN Foundation, Skywest and Lotterywest. Special thanks also goes to Panoramic Resources.

But most importantly to all those volunteers who did their bit to reduce the cane toad threat to WA this year, those who cooked, drove, answered phones, created spreadsheets, spoke to schoolkids, ran raffles, built traps, told their friends and relatives, charged batteries, or caught, killed and counted toads in the heat, thank you and congratulations on an amazing effort.

On behalf of the Committee of Management of the Stop The Toad Foundation I would also like to thank our staff who worked so hard and so well under such testing circumstances to maximize and guide the volunteer effort this third year.

Robert Edel



**Chairperson
Stop The Toad Foundation (Inc)**



Robert Edel
Chairperson of the
Stop The Toad Foundation
(Partner at Phillips Fox)

TOADS IN A NUTSHELL:

Cane toads (*Bufo marinus*) were introduced to Queensland by the Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations at Meringa in 1935 in a failed attempt to control a sugar cane pest. Since then cane toads have devastated the biological landscape of Queensland, northern New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

The cane toad is recognised by the IUCN (the World Conservation Union) and the Global Invasive Species Programme as one of the world's 100 worst invaders. The National Cane Toad Taskforce has recognized growing evidence and concern about the impact of cane toads on Australia's ecosystems. The cane toad has been listed as a key threatening process in Australia.

Cane toads are both aggressive predators and highly toxic when eaten by other animals (this includes the toad's eggs and tadpoles). They have an instant and deadly impact on anything that bites them. Cane toads feed on a broad variety of prey items including insects; small reptiles and frogs. They even eat ground-nesting bird chicks and eggs. They out-compete native species for food and shelter sites and (having no natural enemies) can deplete resources so severely that their impacts are major.

Cane toads have spread from Queensland, south into New South Wales where the front has reached Port Macquarie and east into the Northern Territory, devastating ecosystems throughout Arnhem Land and Kakadu.

In the Northern Territory there is evidence of localised extinctions of northern quolls (*Dasyurus hallucatus*), severe population declines of large predatory reptiles such as the varanid (monitor) lizards. Reports of deaths of freshwater crocodiles, water birds, freshwater fish and turtles are accumulating.

Now cane toads are on the Western Australian doorstep, with populations just 25 kilometres from the Northern Territory/Western Australia border. This puts them potentially within six month's walk of the East Kimberley town of Kununurra and the world-class RAMSAR wetlands of Lake Argyle, Lake Kununurra and the Ord River. There is great concern that should the toads cross the WA border they will decimate many species that are unique to Western Australia.

CSIRO predictions warn that unless stopped, cane toads will colonise Perth and could even eventually infest areas as far south as Margaret River.

The downstream environmental, social, economic, health and cultural impacts of toad colonisation of Western Australia are potentially enormous. The impact on tourism in the Kimberley alone could be worth many millions of dollars each year. In affected areas, Aboriginal people suffer as resources that have been traditionally used for thousands of years are diminished – fish, turtles, goanna, crocodiles and small mammals.

Cane toads are very adaptable and can infiltrate urban areas, grasslands, woodlands, sand dunes, coastal heath, mangroves and the margins of rainforest.

The toads are prolific breeders with large females recorded as producing 30,000 eggs at a time. The eggs are capable of surviving in freshwater systems and brackish systems with salinity levels up to 15‰.

The cane toad front tends to be comprised of large animals in large numbers creating major ecosystem disruption. Following colonisation of an area by toads, in time, there appears to be a general reduction in size and number of toads, allowing some native species to re-establish. While these ecosystems will never be the same again, it is expected that reducing the impacts of the initial wave may have benefits in rate and scale of ecosystem recovery, after the front has passed.

There are likely benefits in even slowing the toads advance, but the Foundation is committed to thorough exploration all potential methods to eradicate or significantly impact upon the advancing front and thereby halt the westward progression of toads.

Toads require access to water at least every 4 days. Given the extended dry seasons experienced in the Northern Territory and the Kimberley this is a weakness that can be exploited.



Bufo marinus – the cane toad

THE SEASONAL STRATEGY:

The Foundation conducted a nation-wide video conference in February 2006 involving leading cane toad researchers, experts in feral control and people with specific knowledge of the Northern Territory country that the toads are moving through. The purpose was to bring together information on:

- the ecology/biology/behaviour of the cane toad
- the terrestrial and aquatic environments that the front is passing through
- land tenure and legislative settings
- past experience of cane toad control measures
- studies and other resources which may assist

The aim was to develop an answer to the question: How best would you go about stopping the toad's advance? Matters of strategy, cost-effectiveness and safety for participants were considered.

Information gathered in this process and supported by field trials during the 2006 Muster has underpinned the Foundation's 2007 **Dry Season Strategy** which was released for stakeholder comment in April 2007. This Strategy in turn underpinned the **Great Toad Muster** which took place in September - October 2007.

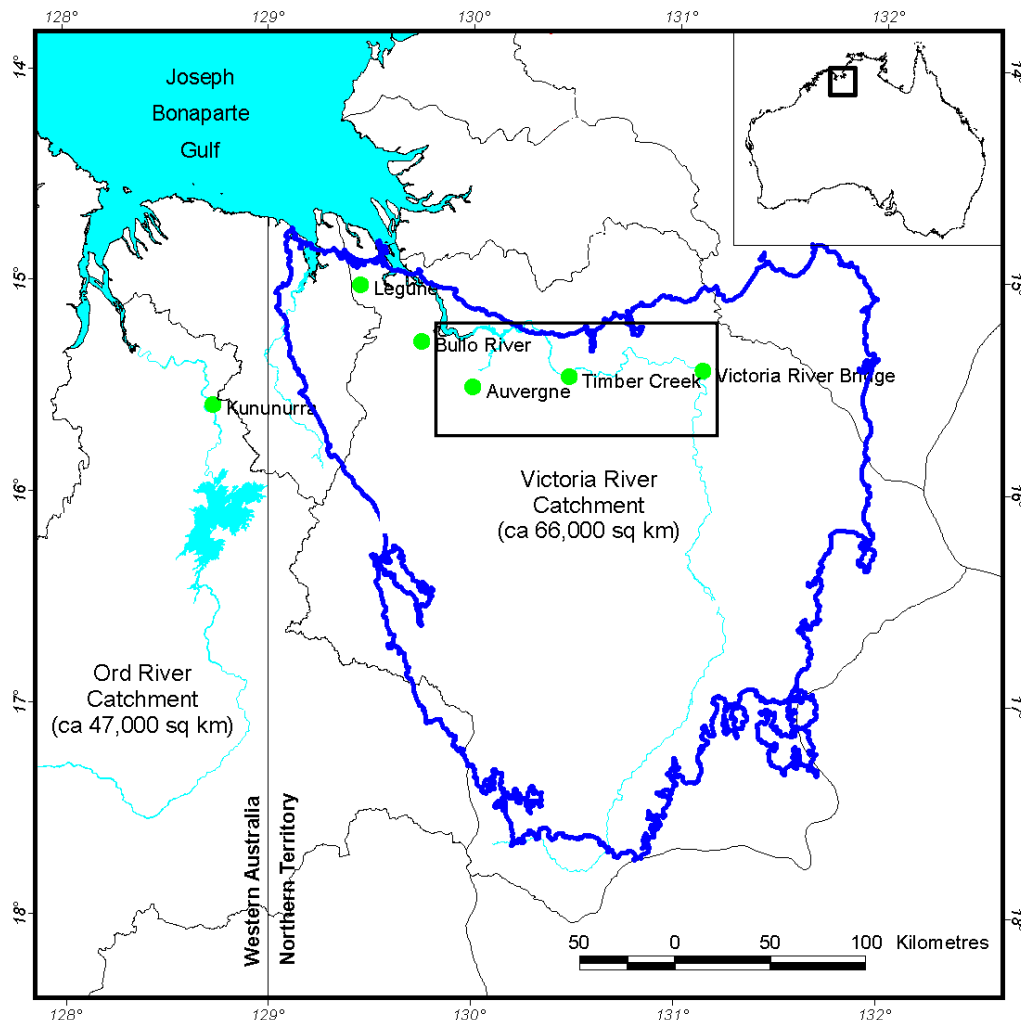
The Seasonal Strategy (available at www.stopthetoad.org.au/publications) proposes that there is a time of year when cane toads are particularly vulnerable and that an opportunity exists to drive their numbers down to very low levels. This is towards the end of the Dry Season, when water is at its scarcest in the landscape but temperature, humidity and insect

life are on the increase. Toads are therefore congregated around any remaining water and beginning to be active, as they sense imminent rains and prepare to breed.

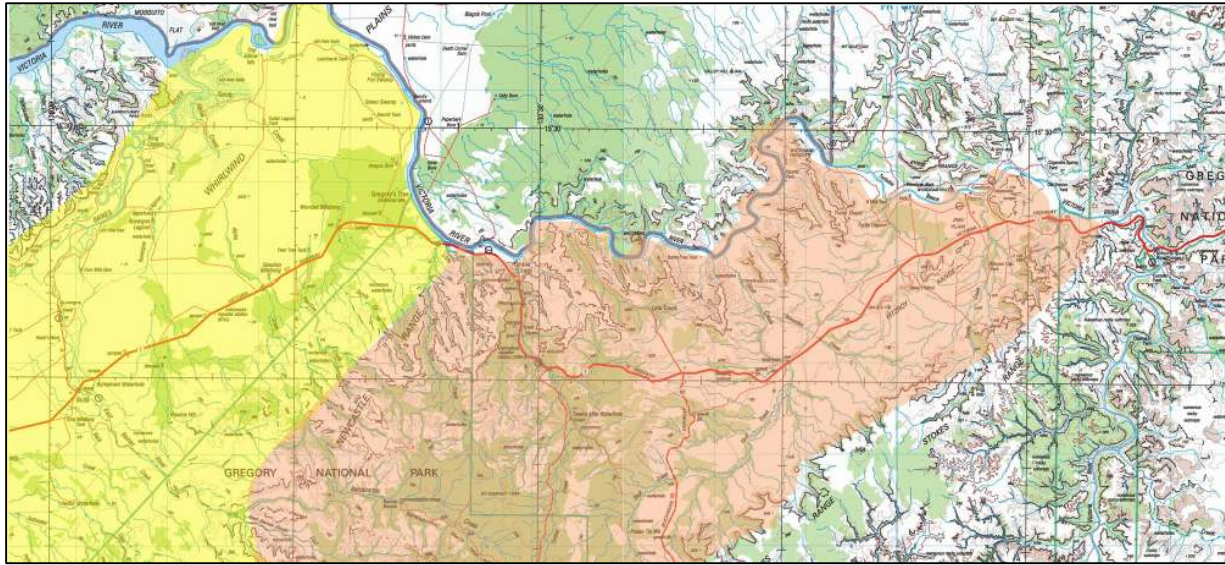
At this time, toads will be found only in very close proximity to water, and in fact are usually found right on the perimeter of it. They tend to be out in the open and are easily captured.

It has been demonstrated that, at this time of year, toad populations around a specific water body can be driven to very low levels indeed. This is achieved by trapping and hand-capture of toads at a site on multiple consecutive nights (and as demonstrated during the 2007 Muster through the use of fencing). This approach presents an opportunity to clear water bodies in a 'sweep' across the landscape. The aim is to push them as far east as possible before the rains arrive and they become free to move westward once again.

At its heart, the Seasonal Strategy is the creation of a 'buffer zone' in the most toad unfriendly areas. Clearing the buffer zone will need to be repeated and strategies adapted each year to suit the mobile nature of the toad front until a biological solution can be found to bring the cane toad under control.



The frontline in the NT could be as big as Tasmania. For now, the Foundation's focus is on the buffer zones defined on the leading edge of the front in the boxed area above.



The first priority is to clear the primary buffer zone (yellow), working from west to east and if time allows, to begin to clear the secondary buffer zone (pink).

The Seasonal Strategy (which covers both the wet and dry seasons in Australia's north) determines to identify and repeat the activities of the Muster 06 from the apparent western leading edge of the current infestation and work back towards the east. The basic principal of the program is that the toads closest to the WA border take the highest priority, as they are of the greatest threat to the toad free integrity of WA. The first priority is to clear the primary buffer zone (yellow) and if time allows, the secondary buffer zone (pink).

Given the remote nature of much of this country, focussing on-ground control effort within this annual window of opportunity may present the most cost-effective use of resources, especially in light of the fact that it may need to be repeated for some years to come.

Following the outstanding success of the 2006 Muster, it was anticipated that the cane toad population likely to be encountered during the 2007 Muster would comprise a significantly reduced number of toads in the buffer zone. This was indeed the case with just 12,004 cane toads being removed between September 22, 2007 and October 14, 2007 with an intriguing result that a whole age class of toads (sub – adults) appears to be missing from the buffer zone population.

REPORT ON ACTIVITY

This report on the achievements of the Stop The Toad Foundation should be read in conjunction with the Foundation's Strategic Plan (see Appendix 1).

1) OPERATIONS AND TRAINING:

Primary Goal: To implement the most thorough on-ground control operations achievable to slow, and if possible halt, the westward movement of cane toads; and to effectively deal with any (hitch-hiker) outbreaks ahead of the front.

Secondary Goal: In the advent of cane toads entering Western Australia, to minimise their spread and the harm they do to natural systems and ecological communities.

- Continued support for Frogwatch toad expert Graeme Sawyer to develop strategies that complemented the outcomes sought by the Foundation and meet the aims of the Seasonal Strategy Plan.
- Liaised with DEC, local landholders and other interested parties to collect intelligence on the extent and position of the current toad front line.
- Used its relationship with the Mulayee Aboriginal Women Rangers in Timber Creek to access information on where cane toads have reached and where water remains in the landscape at the end of the dry season - to define areas where cane toad control is most likely to be effective.
- Conducted a number field trips to the control area for the purposes of:
 - surveillance
 - site evaluation for fencing trials
 - vegetation and soil type reconnaissance
 - liaison with Timber Creek communities
 - trapping and hand-capture operations
 - aerial reconnaissance
 - Gregory's Fence Trial
- The Foundation held its second Great Toad Muster from 22 September to 14 October 2007.
- The Foundation trialled the use of exclusion barrier fencing as a form of cane toad control during the GTM 2007. Results were very encouraging.
- Provided first-aid and other relevant training to staff members involved in on-ground exercises associated with this annual action.

2) LOGISTICS:

Primary Goal: To deploy the necessary people, machinery, equipment and supplies reliably and cost-effectively - where needed, when needed.

- Developed a strategy for promoting the major Dry Season initiative to individuals and organisations likely to be interested in participating, in preparation for The Great Toad Muster 2007.
- Maintained two second-hand Toyota Troupe carriers to operational readiness.

- Purchased and prepared a range of other essential machinery and equipment to operational readiness, including EPIRBs, UHF radios, handheld GPS units, trap electronics, personnel support equipment, first aid equipment, etc.
- Continued asset management and maintenance regimes for vehicles, machinery and other equipment.
- Initiated logistical planning regimes for on-ground control operations including toad surveillance work in preparation for The Great Toad Muster 07.
- Purchased materials to undertake trial fencing on man made water points on Auvergne Station to exclude access to cane toads.
- Employed a full time Strategic Campaign Manager in May 2008.



Staff and volunteers at base camp, Auvergne Cattle Station

3.) INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS:

Primary Goal: To establish and maintain high levels of information flow, to and from the Foundation, which maximise:

- **intelligence gathering to satisfy our knowledge needs, and**
 - **stakeholder awareness, participation and support**
-
- Continued to raise the profile of the issue to all Western Australians, especially those in the populous south of the State. Sought to create opportunities for the broader community to become part of the solution. More than 30 press, radio and TV interviews were produced and conducted in the period.
 - Conducted many awareness raising exercises throughout the year, such as the stalls (eg. WA Caravan and Camping Show), including sidewalk displays, talks to schools and interested clubs and associations and participation in events such as the Perth Royal Show.
 - Maintained STTF website to promote awareness of the issue and act as a conduit for enquiries, donations, etc.
 - Produced printed materials for use in awareness raising and to build support for the campaign, including:
 - KEEP WA CANE TOAD FREE bumper stickers (5,000 printed and distributed 2007/2008)
 - A generic brochure outlining the purpose and approach of the Foundation (10,000 printed and distributed - ongoing)
 - Numerous special purpose flyers and email updates
 - Undertook many contacts with WA and Federal Ministers for Environment, and encouraged them to increase spending on the search for biological cane toad controls and to support on-ground community-based control initiatives.
 - Conducted ongoing liaison with the best available expertise in cane toad ecology/behaviour and control techniques with the best available knowledge of the control area terrain and conditions. The outputs have shaped the Foundation's overall strategic planning and particularly the development of the new 2008 Seasonal Strategy.
 - Continued ongoing research which indicated that not all toads in an area are active on a given night and that the manual collection of toads would need to be repeated over multiple nights if an area is to be cleared of toads. This has significant implications for toad control activity and has shaped the evolution of the Foundation's Seasonal Strategy.
 - Continued the promotion of an 'Application for support' process which provides a mechanism by which Foundation finances and equipment can be made available to groups and individuals who wish to participate in or contribute to cane toad control.
 - In May, 2008 launched a Dry Season Strategy (and sought comment from stakeholders). The strategy formed the operational basis for the Great Toad Muster 2008.
 - Maintained a database of more than 2500 individuals and organisations interested in the issue. Distributed monthly e-newsletters to those on the database.

4) ADMINISTRATION AND FUNDRAISING:

Primary Goal: To develop and operate an administration which effectively supports the work of the Foundation while remaining as lean as possible.

- Due to ongoing issues with funding support, the Foundation was not able to support any staff members for most of the 2007-2008 financial year. The position of Campaign Manager was undertaken in a voluntary capacity by Board member Mr Russell Gueho from July 2007 to May 2008. After receiving further funding in 2008, Ms Kim Hands was appointed to the position of Campaign Manager in May 2008 in a paid capacity.
- The engagement of volunteers to assist with administrative tasks such as mail outs, organising volunteer evenings and plans for the Great Toad Muster 2008.
- A continued agreement with the Conservation Council of WA to be:
 - providers of key administrative functions (eg. book keeping),
 - a centre of Perth-based operations, and
 - 'front-of-house' for the Foundation (phone number, reception, etc)
- Ensured appropriate and adequate insurance cover for all staff and volunteers.
- Development of relationship with all relevant landowners and statutory bodies.

Fundraising:

- Fundraising is important to the ongoing success and achievement of the Foundation's aims. STTF engaged one part-time staff member for the duration for the duration of the 2007/2008 financial year to manage fundraising, funding applications and event management.
- Fundraising staff successfully secured a further \$50,000 in 2007 from a philanthropic foundation to fund operations for the 2007 Great Toad Muster.
- An ongoing partnership with Barwick Estate wines has been maintained. 33% of proceeds from wine sales are donated to the Stop The Toad Foundation.
- Continued relationship with Matso's Broome Brewery where 10 cents from every glass of 'Hit the Toad' lager is donated to the Foundation to assist with the ongoing battle against the toad.
- A Lotterywest grant was used to purchase equipment for the 2007 Great Toad Muster.
- The STTF website has an online donation system, which receives weekly donations between \$20-\$1000.
- STTF sells Bumper car stickers for \$2 to raise funds the Foundations operations.

POSTSCRIPT: A BRIEF REPORT ON THE GREAT TOAD MUSTER 2007

A report on **The Great Toad Muster 2007** is available in entirety on the Foundations website however the following information can be provided.

34 volunteers participated across the duration of the Muster, generating a total of 1054 days and nights of human activity (including staff) and removing in excess of 12,000 toads from the primary buffer zone (see map page 8).

This number was a lot less than that removed in 2006, indicating that the 2006 Great Toad Muster had a huge impact on the toad numbers moving towards Western Australia.

During the 2007 Muster (as well as the 2006 Muster) no cane toad was sighted more than 300 metres from water during the period and the vast majority of the toads were found within 10 metres of water. This means that the environmental pressure on cane toads to move to water during the dry season is incredibly strong and it now appears certain that they have to do this to survive. This and the premise that multiple night toadbusts in one area can drive local populations close to zero, are now considered to be proven. There are, however, cost efficiencies to be considered when relying on one control methodology such as hand mustering.

A new fencing strategy was trialled during the 2007 Muster with outstanding success as a control methodology. The exclusion fencing has the potential to be the single most significant development to date in the manual control of cane toads and will be further developed at the Great Toad Muster 2008.



Volunteers attaching wildlife friendly gates to the exclusion fences to allow access by native animals, but not cane toads.

THE YEAR AHEAD

We stand at the end of our third year of operations with encouraging results. The success of the Great Toad Muster in 2006 and the outstanding results interpreted from the 2007 Muster in the critical Auvergne region has confirmed our strategy and strengthened our resolve. We now look forward.

The Foundation will further develop its fencing strategy to test the possibility of exclusion barrier fences as a tool designed to completely clear areas of toads and protect high biodiversity hot spots. It will encourage other community groups and DEC to use the exclusion barrier fences in areas they are undertaking cane toad control work.

The exact nature and extent of the toad front line along its entire length will continue to be a focus of The Foundation. We will rely on the reconnaissance activities of DEC, anecdotal reports, our own volunteers and support personnel to assist with the determination of this position. We plan to continue to work on Auvergne cattle station, but also plan for control activities further west.

We will also support appropriate research and development into biological or other controls and into the creation of areas of biodiversity protection.

No one pretends that this task will be easy. The country is remote, difficult to access and potentially dangerous to operate in. The Stop the Toad Foundation is dedicated to the defence of our Western Australia and is committed to fighting the toad in a strategic manner, bringing teams of volunteers and professionals together in complementary action.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERSHIP:

The Committee of Management of the Stop The Toad Foundation Inc. is comprised of:

- Chairperson: Robert Edel (Phillips Fox)
- Vice-chair: Luc Longley
- Secretary: Chris Tallentire (Conservation Council of WA)
- Treasurer: Kenneth Bradley (Volunteering WA)
- Dr Andrew Storey (University of WA)
- Dr Helen Robertson (Murdoch Uni)
- Mr Rosh Ireland (WA Government representative)

(at the time of the Foundation's AGM 29th October 2007).

The Foundation's Patron is WA writer Tim Winton.

It should be noted that many of the documents cited here are available online at www.stopthetoad.org.au, in the 'Publications' section, including:

- Transcript of the Strategic forum video conference
- Dry Season Strategy
- New Seasonal Strategy
- Hitchhiker - Rapid Response Strategy discussion paper
- Fencing Strategy discussion papers
- Application for support process documents
- Report on the 2006 Great Toad Muster
- Report on 2007 Great Toad Muster
- Report on Gregory Tree Deflection Fence Trial

APPENDIX 1: STRATEGIC PLAN:

As well as the Seasonal Strategy, an overarching strategic plan for the activity of the organisation has been in development. It identifies the following goals and key objectives and these have shaped the Foundation's activity throughout the year:

1) Operations and Training

Primary Goal: To implement the most thorough on-ground control operations achievable to slow, and if possible halt, the westward movement of cane toads; and to effectively deal with any (hitch-hiker) outbreaks ahead of the front.

Secondary Goal: In the advent of cane toads entering Western Australia, to minimise their spread and the harm they do to natural systems and ecological communities.

- Conduct on-ground cane toad control activities to deliver maximum impact on the advance of the front.
- Design and implement a rapid response capability to effectively deal with toad incursions ahead of the front (by toads which hitchhike on vehicles), in concert with responsible government agencies.
- Develop a culture of safety and implement and maintain robust safety procedures at all times for all Foundation staff and volunteers.
- Develop a training program which ensures that all Foundation staff and volunteers are adequately prepared for all activities and all foreseeable contingencies.
- Develop and promote sound holding and disposal procedures for toads captured.
- Protect the environment in all phases of operations to the maximum extent possible.

2) Logistics

Primary Goal: To deploy the necessary people, machinery, equipment and supplies reliably and cost-effectively - where needed, when needed.

- Establish cost-effective and secure processes for provisioning of all field activities.
- Develop a transport capability for moving people, machinery, equipment and supplies through the landscape.
- Establish a vehicle and equipment control register including repair and maintenance schedules for all STTF assets.
- Establish cost-effective production processes for traps and other in field requirements.
- Establish temporary field operations centres as required.

3) Information

Primary Goal: To establish and maintain high levels of information flow, to and from the Foundation, which maximise:

- **intelligence gathering to satisfy our knowledge needs, and**
 - **stakeholder awareness, participation and support**
-
- Create and maintain awareness of, and support for, the Foundation and its objectives and activities at local, state and national levels.
 - Establish relationship with a broad range of stakeholders prepared to assist the Foundation achieve its objectives.
 - Identify clear, simple and direct pathways for interested parties to find ways of assisting and engaging the Foundation.
 - Identify all Foundation knowledge needs and ways to fulfil them.
 - Identify all Foundation Research and Development priorities and develop plans to satisfy them.
 - Satisfy all needs for centralised information and data management on toads, control results, volunteers and stakeholders.

4) Administration

Primary Goal: To develop and operate an administration which effectively supports the work of the Foundation while remaining as lean as possible.

- Achieve sound but efficient Human Resource Management outcomes to ensure staff and volunteers are the right people in the right roles, adequately trained and resourced to do the job.
- Find cost effective approaches to operating from multiple locations including front of house, secretarial support, communications, financial management, accounting and auditing.
- Fulfil the Foundation's duty of care to its staff and volunteers by providing best practice risk minimisation strategies and adequate insurances at all times.
- Ensure that all licences, permissions and permits required by the organisation are in order at all times.
- Create an organisational structure and system of governance and decision making which is robust and accountable but also transparent, responsive and inclusive.
- Raise sufficient funds to enable the operations of the Foundation.

STOP THE TOAD FOUNDATION (INC)

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

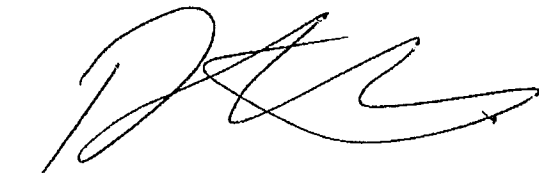
30 JUNE 2008

STOP THE TOAD FOUNDATION (INC)

STATEMENT BY COMMITTEE

I hereby certify that:

1. The attached Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 30 June 2008 is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies in Note 1 to the accounts.
2. All receipts due to the Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) during the year ended 30 June 2008 have been deposited to the nominated Bank West account.
3. All payments made by the Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) for the year ended 30 June 2008 have been made for approved Association business.
4. Nothing has come to my attention that would indicate that the financial statements are inaccurate, inappropriate or otherwise misleading.
5. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



ROBERT EDEL
Chairman

Date: 28/10/08



Anderson Munro & Wyllie

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Unit 8 / 7 Hector Street, Osborne Park WA 6017
PO Box 1357, Osborne Park WA 6916

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ABN 59 125 425 274

Website: www.amwaudit.com.au

STOP THE TOAD FOUNDATION (INC)

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Scope

We have audited the attached special purpose financial report of Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) for the year ended 30 June 2008. The Executive is responsible for the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies used are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Council and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc). No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to the needs of the members.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting requirements. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. (These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements).

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) is a non profit organisation which depends on grants, donations and fund raising activities as its main sources of income. It is not practicable to establish controls over donations, fund raising activities and other cash receipts until their initial entry in the accounting records. Therefore our audit testing of donations, fund raising activities and other cash receipts was limited to the amounts recorded.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements the financial position of Stop the Toad Foundation (Inc) as at 30 June 2008 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

ANDERSON MUNRO & WYLLIE

ANDERSON MUNRO & WYLLIE

Chartered Accountants

Billy-Joe Thomas

Director

Osborne Park, Western Australia

Dated 29 October 2008

Stop The Toad Foundation Inc

City West Lotteries House
2 Delhi Street
West Perth. WA 6005
Western Australia

Balance Sheet

As of June 2008

28/10/2008

2:07:49 PM

Assets	
Current Assets	
Main Acc #592933700	-\$1,056.67
Maximiser Acc #592365993	\$112,777.58
Fund #593279923	\$4,719.23
Debit Card acc#797539221	\$2,345.96
Trade Debtors	\$2,721.09
Total Current Assets	<u>\$121,507.19</u>
Other Assets	
Prepayments	<u>\$1,767.68</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>\$1,767.68</u>
Plant & Equipment	
Plant & Equipment	\$108,380.84
Plant & Equip Accum Dep	-\$33,750.89
Total Plant & Equipment	<u>\$74,629.95</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$197,904.82</u>
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Trade Creditors	\$16,194.89
GST Liabilities	
GST on sales	\$2.44
GST on purchases	-\$720.56
Total GST Liabilities	<u>-\$718.12</u>
Payroll Liabilities	
Payroll Superannuation Payable	\$683.53
PAYG Withholding Payable	\$0.61
Leave Provision	\$576.90
Total Payroll Liabilities	<u>\$1,261.04</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>\$16,737.81</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$16,737.81</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$181,167.01</u>
Equity	
Retained Earnings	\$108,913.38
Current Year Earnings	\$72,253.63
Total Equity	<u>\$181,167.01</u>

Stop The Toad Foundation Inc

City West Lotteries House
2 Delhi Street
West Perth. WA 6005
Western Australia

Profit & Loss Statement

July 2007 through June 2008

28/10/2008

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Income		
WA Government		\$124,000.00
Donations		\$63,453.27
Bank interest Acc#592365993		\$5,545.08
Bank interest acc#593279923		\$0.22
Grants		
Grant from Lotterywest	\$20,845.59	
Dept of the Environ & Water	\$3,300.00	
Total Income		<u>\$217,144.16</u>
Expenses		
Operations		
Administration cost for CCWA	\$11,520.50	
Bank fees Acc#592933700	\$353.45	
Bank fees Acc#592365993	\$70.00	
Bank fees Acc#797539221	\$13.00	
Depreciation Accum	\$16,460.33	
Catering	\$45.00	
Promotional Material	\$1,456.87	
Rent	\$2,510.00	
Travel	\$628.46	
Website	\$629.55	
Freight	\$4.36	
Postage	\$81.59	
Office Supplies	\$392.81	
Legal & accounting fees	\$1,195.00	
Business Insurance	\$1,502.93	
Photocopying	\$30.64	
Fundraising	\$395.00	
Telephone/internet	\$5,350.26	
On-ground Operations		
Vehicle licencing & Insurance	\$5,147.44	
Vehicle Fuel & Servicing	\$9,405.65	
Equipment	\$5,309.41	
Reports	\$1,640.72	
Traps	\$444.09	
Fencing	\$10,203.10	
Food & Camp Expenses	\$11,669.79	
Employment Expenses		
Professional development	\$627.27	
Superannuation	\$3,255.30	
Wages	\$36,170.00	
Leave Provision	\$576.90	
Workers' Compensation	\$951.11	
Contract Work	\$16,850.00	
Total Expenses		<u>\$144,890.53</u>
Net Profit / (Loss)		<u>\$72,253.63</u>

STOP THE TOAD FOUNDATION (INC)

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

NOTE 1:

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the accounts preparation requirements of the foundation. The executive has determined that the council is not a reporting entity.

No applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied in the preparation of this report.

The statements are also prepared on an accrual basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous year unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of these statements:

DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS

Depreciation has been charged on fixed assets at rates assessed to write-off the cost of each of the assets over their economic life.