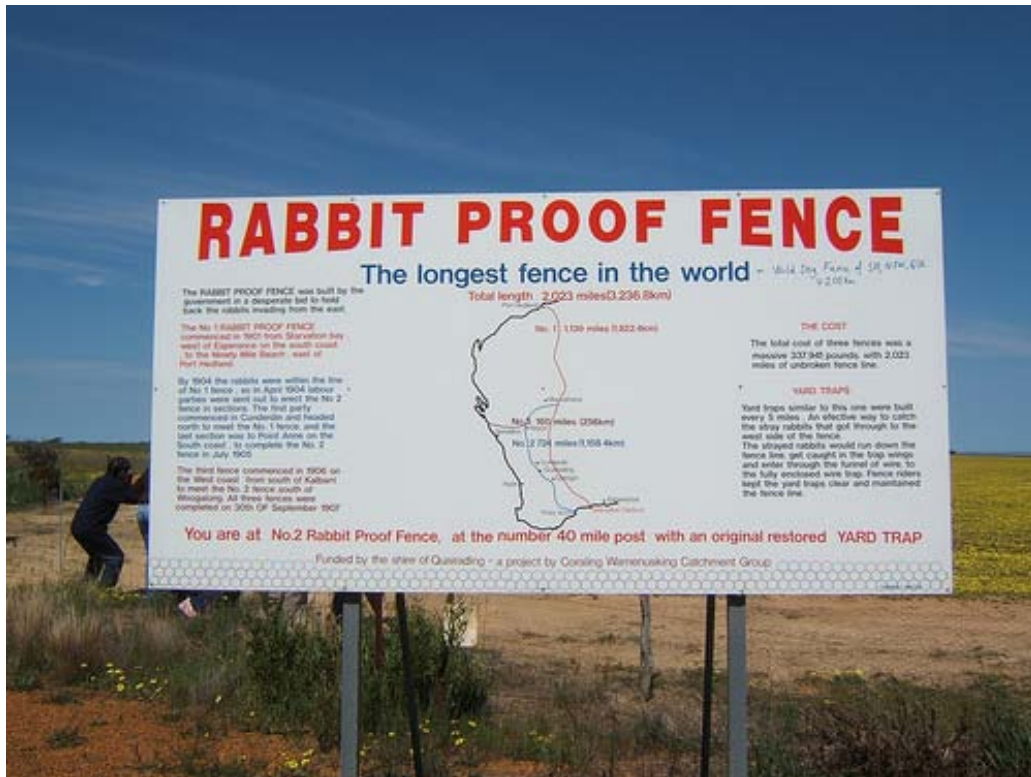


# Murchison Regional Vermin Council Annual Report



## 2009/2010

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

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<b>Section 1</b>	Page
General Information .....	3
Chairmans Report.....	4
CEO's Report .....	5
Delegates .....	7
Plan For The Future Overview .....	7
National Cometition Policy.....	7
Public Interest Disclosure.....	8
State Records Act 2000 .....	8

<b>Section 2</b>	Page
STATEMENT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....	10
INCOME STATEMENT BY NATURE OR TYPE .....	11
INCOME STATEMENT BY PROGRAM .....	12
BALANCE SHEET.....	13
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY .....	13
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW .....	14
FEE SETTING STATEMENT .....	15
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT .....	16
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT .....	44

# GENERAL INFORMATION

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## Administration Office

Shire of Mount Magnet

**Address**

Lot 163 Hepburn Street  
Mt Magnet WA 6638

**Postal Address**

P O Box 62  
Mt Magnet WA 6638

**Telephone**

(08) 9963 3000

**Fax**

(08) 9963 4133

## Other

The Murchison Regional Vermin Council (MRVC) is a statutory organisation which operates under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995. The MRVC was established in 1963 for the purpose of rehabilitation and maintenance of the No 1 Vermin Fence.

The No 1 Vermin Fence was completed in 1907 and at the time was the longest unbroken line of vermin fence in the world. The No 1 fence runs from Starvation Boat Harbour on the south coast of WA to a point near Cape Keraudren on the north west coast. The fence was built in an endeavour to stem the rabbit hordes from eating their way west across from the other side of Australia. Today the fence remains as an important barrier for the pastoralists of the region.

Collaborating Councils: Shires of Cue, Sandstone, Meekatharra, Yalgoo and Mount Magnet

Fence Area: From the 80 mile peg in the South (Lake Moore), to the 426 mile peg in the North (Meekatharra/Wiluna Rd).

Members: Two (2) members from each of the five (5) Councils. Total number of members ten (10).

Total revenue: \$62,709

Number of Employees: 0

## Significant Local Events

There were no significant event in the 2009/2010 year.



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

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As Chairman for the Murchison Regional Vermin Council, it gives me great pleasure to present the Annual Report of the MRVC for the 2009/2010 Financial Year and highlight the important part that it plays to the pastoralists in the area and the viability and sustainability of the pastoral industry.

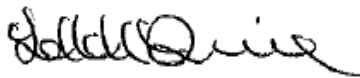
The MRVC Fence plays an important part in stemming the flow of wild dogs into the pastoral area. This vital service is enabling the pastoral industry to survive in this region and play a major part in industry for the Murchison Region. With the recent reduction in the mining industry, the survival of the pastoral industry is paramount to the survival of towns in the midwest region.

I would like to thank the Councillors who volunteer to be a part of the Vermin Council and give their time to provide the governance for the MRVC and ensure that this service continues to function to its best capacity.

I would also like to thank the Chief Executive Officer and the Staff of the Shire of Mount Magnet for their work in maintaining the administrative function of the MRVC.

Mostly I would like to thank the various Contractors, in particular Tony and Andrea Sievwright, who go out onto the fence for days at a time and spend all their time working to ensure that there are no gaps in the fence and it is still protecting the pastoralists. This work is done under some of the worst conditions and very isolated areas. The contractors are to be commended for their efforts and willingness to brave these sort of work conditions.

The 2009/2010 financial year has been another successful year in which the fence has been maintained to sure the function is still operating.



Murray McQuie  
Chairman

# CEO'S REPORT

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In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, it gives me great pleasure to provide the Chief Executive Officers report for the year ended 30 June 2010.

The Murchison Regional Vermin Council meets four times a year and is classed as a Council under the Local Government Act 1995. The Council must meet all the Legislative Requirements under that Act and other Legislation. Some of those requirements are:

- Submission of Annual and Primary Returns (Financial Disclosure) by Councillors and Senior Officers
- Annual Financial Returns
- Annual Report on Council Activities
- Adoption of Budget
- Review of Policies and Delegations
- State Records Act.

## **Finance**

The Financial Statements, as presented within the Annual Report are prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Financial Management Regulations 1996. These Financial Statements are audited by an Independent Auditor and this report is also part of this Annual Report.

The finances available for the MRVC are very limited as the Council is reliant on funding from the member Shires.

## **Fence**

The fence is of great importance to the people of the Murchison region as a barrier fence. The problems associated with wild dogs are increasing and the importance of the fence in stopping the spread of wild dogs to the west allows for the sustainability of the pastoral industry.

It also has a significant historical value. This is because it is the longest fence, the age of the fence and the link to the 'Snowy Rowles' murder case.

## **Fence Maintenance**

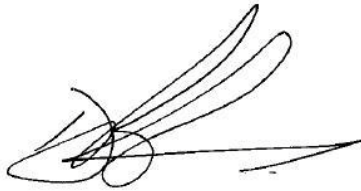
Thanks once again must be extended to the many contractors for the work that they carry out, in particular to Tony and Andrea Sievwright who are the main contractors for maintenance. The

maintenance on the fence is done in adverse conditions and unsupervised. Without the efforts of the maintenance contractors, the fence would fall into a state of disrepair and the regions pastoral industry would become unsustainable.

### **Staff and Councillors**

I would like to thank the Councillors for their tireless efforts to assist in ensuring that the fence is maintained, the governance of the MRVC is upheld and for the valuable information they have passed through to me over the last 12 months. It has certainly made my job a lot easier.

I would also like to thank the staff at the Shire of Mount Magnet for their assistance in the administrative function of the MRVC and helping to ensure that all the accounts are paid on time and the Agendas are prepared.



David Burton  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



## *DELEGATES*

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<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Murray McQuie	Shire of Sandstone
<b>DELEGATES:</b>	Ross Howden	Shire of Meekatharra
	Harvey Nichols	Shire of Meekatharra
	Greg Scott	Shire of Mount Magnet
	Jorgen Jensen	Shire of Mount Magnet
	Terry Iterbide	Shire of Yalgoo
	Laurence Hodder	Shire of Yalgoo
	Maurie Seivwright	Shire of Cue
	Michael Clinch	Shire of Cue
	Ronnie Edmonds	Shire of Sandstone
<b>OTHERS:</b>	Carolyn Horsfield	AgWA
	Chris Richardson	AgWA
	James Sheehan	AgWA
		Executive Officer APB
	Greg Brennan	Meekatharra Zone Control Authority
	Tony & Andrea Seivwright	Fence Contractor

## *THE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OVERVIEW*

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The MRVC accepted a Financial Plan for the Future in May 2006. This Plan was to ensure the continued maintenance of the fence.

The 2009/2010 Financial Statements followed the recommendations of the Financial Plan for the future.

## *NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY (NCP)*

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The financial reporting regulations require governments to report on NCP matters as they relate to the individual Shires. Our overview of Shire practices and local laws indicate that we are complaint in all aspects with this policy.

The Shire undertook no activity during the year in which competition neutrality was considered to be an issue.

## *PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE ACT*

During 2008/2009 I received no disclosures or complaints lodged under the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2003.

Mr David Burton is the designated responsible officer under the Act.

## *STATE RECORDS ACT 2000*

To comply with the State Records Act 2000 I advise that:

- Council's record keeping systems are practical and are believed to be effective. The system has not been evaluated, but a review is planned for the 2010 year.
- Record keeping training has occurred, but a greater level is proposed.
- The effectiveness and efficiency of record keeping training will be assessed as required.
- Council's induction/training of staff will include compliance with Council's record keeping plan.























































































