

STOP THE TOAD

KEEP WA CANE TOAD FREE

5 May 2006

Dear Kimberley Toadbusters,

Thank you for your letter of 21 April 2006.

We confirm that you have now decided not to apply for any funding for retrospective activities.

The STTF does not consider itself able to make the "unrestricted donations of financial support for recurrent expenditure or equipment" that you have invited in your letter, for reasons outlined in our previous correspondence on this matter.

However, in respect of funding for your future activities, we do not believe that an arrangement of the nature which you have described as existing between yourself and Biodiversity Protection WA will preclude you from applying for or receiving funds from STTF. Neither do we believe that receiving funding from us will constrain the independence of your activities. We therefore encourage you to consider applying for funding for future activities. The standard conditions which attach to any STTF funding are in accordance with reasonable and common practice. However, if there are some conditions which you believe should not apply to funding applications by KTB, please let us know why so we can consider this.

Preventing the entry of the cane toad into WA is a huge whole-of-community task that will require all of our best efforts and should not simply rely on the KTB's volunteer efforts. There is more than enough work for all of us to do, and so there is no benefit for either of us to duplicate the other's activities. In order to avoid duplications, it is important that we both understand what activities the other is carrying out and planning. This would also allow us to capitalise on any synergies which may be gained by cooperative works. We therefore propose that KTB and STTF establish a joint committee to ensue this. In the first instance perhaps Sarah Brett and Graeme Sawyer should form this committee (as discussed at our meetings in Kununurra). This committee could then also consider the other areas that we previously discussed as deserving of our joint attention. These include trap building programs, Indigenous engagement and mutual support for funding applications.

Thank you for agreeing to a data and information sharing process through DCLM. STTF will also be providing its data and information to DCLM for shared purposes. Thank you also for agreeing to provide behavioural observations directly with STTF, which STTF will reciprocate.

Here are two other matters which your board may wish to consider at this time.

STTF will hold a public forum in Perth as follow up to the one held in June last year. The proposed date for this is Saturday 17 June. We see it as a perfect opportunity for CALM, KTB and perhaps CSIRO to outline their activities and keep the Perth community aware of the issue. STTF would be happy to provide support for a KTB representative to attend. As this is at our invitation, that support would be without reference to our usual funding process. Please advise no later than Wed May 10th of your interest in participating.

Finally, two STTF troop carriers are now in Kununurra and will soon be available for use. As mentioned in our recent meetings and in past correspondence, these vehicles can be made available to KTB for on-ground control operations. The STTF board has determined that, subject to availability, KTB can access the vehicles to the end of June 2006 without reference to our usual funding process. Please let us know if you would like to utilise these vehicles.

We look forward to hearing from you as soon as practicable on the matters of:

- Establishing a KTB/STTF committee
- Your participation in the 2nd Perth Public Forum, in June
- Use of the STTF troop carriers

Wishing you well in your efforts against the cane toad.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Edel', with a small black dot below it.

Robert Edel
Chairperson