

# FERAL PIGS IN AUSTRALIA

#### **POPULATION**

Modelling indicates there could be up to 24 million feral pigs in Australia, covering 45 per cent of the national landmass



#### **GROWTH**

Feral pigs can breed from seven months of age and populations can increase by up to 86 per cent annually in ideal conditions POTENTIAL

86%

INCREASE ANNUALLY

### LIVESTOCK THREAT

Feral pigs cost
Australian agriculture
more than \$100 million
a year preying on
livestock, destroying
crops and pasture, and
spreading weeds

\$100<sup>+</sup>
MILLION
DAMAGE TO
AUSTRALIAN
AGRICULTURE

## **BIOLOGICAL THREAT**

Feral pigs are hosts for pathogens such as brucellosis and leptospirosis, and wild populations have spread African swine fever across Asia and Europe, where millions of pigs have died



#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE**

By wallowing and rooting around the edges of watercourses and swamps, feral pigs reduce water quality, cause land degradation and erosion, damage vegetation, and destroy native wildlife nesting sites and food sources



#### CONTROL

A combination of control techniques including baiting, trapping, aerial shooting, ground hunting, exclusion fencing must be strategically used by landholders to maximise effectiveness of control activities



NATIONAL FERAL PIG ACTION PLAN