

**NATIONAL
FERAL PIG
ACTION PLAN**

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM

MONDAY 5 JULY 2021



Defining the metrics for success for feral pig management in remote areas

Dr. Justin Perry, NAILSMA

Defining metrics of success for feral animal management.

In partnership with APN Cape York and Kalan Enterprises



Research



Project lead, CSIRO Land and Water

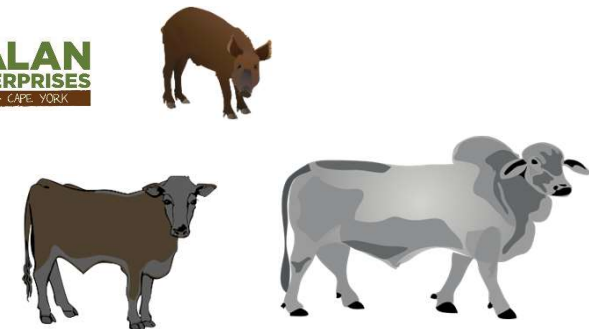
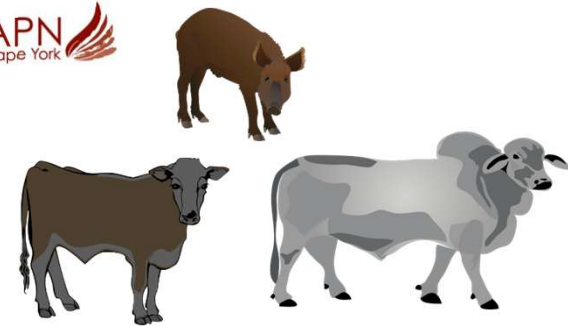


Department of Environment and Science

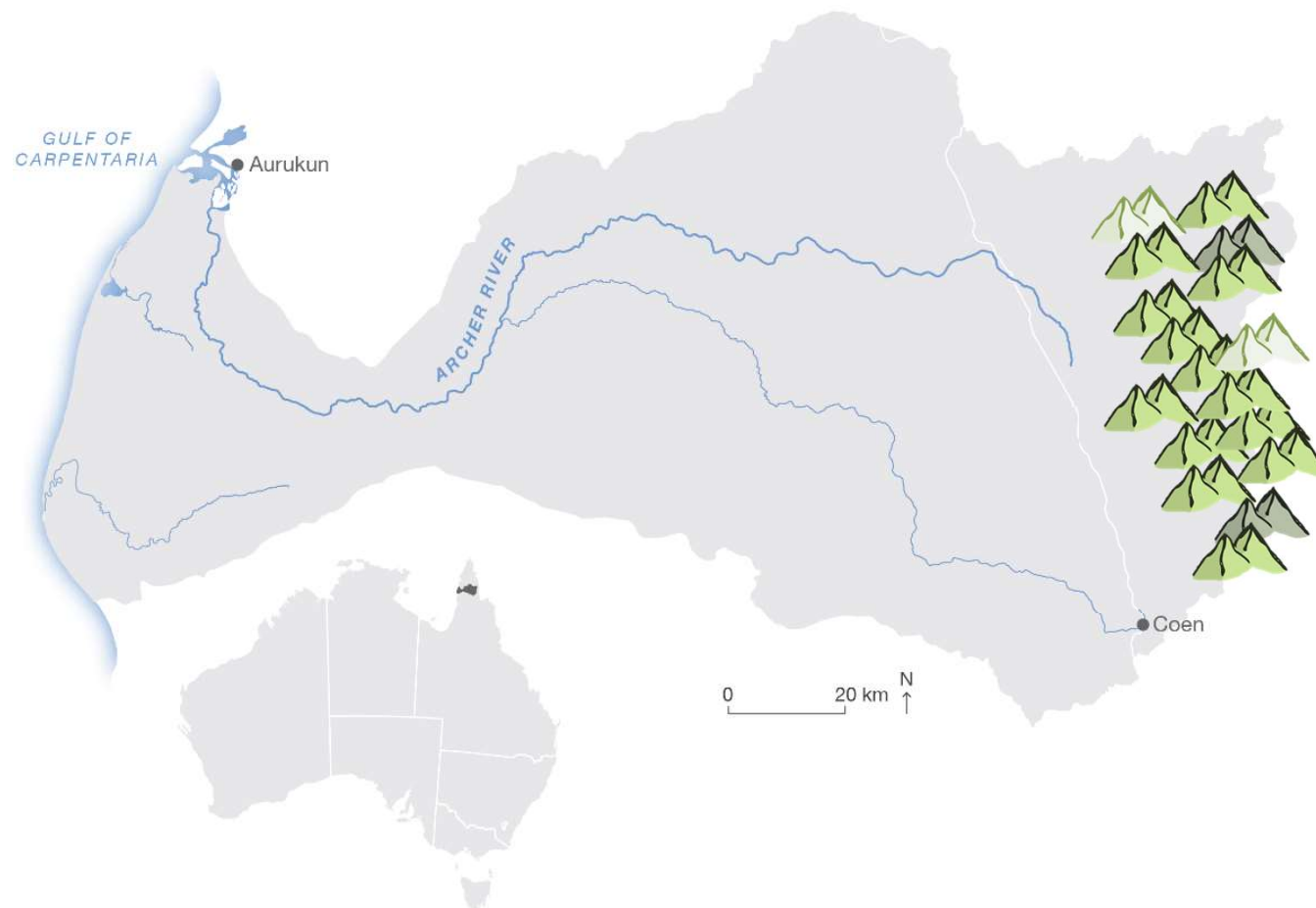


JCU Tropwater.

Management



Archer River Basin



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Work we have done

- Worked with Kalan Enterprises and APN Cape York since 2011 to develop robust metrics for measuring the impact of feral animal management.
- Describing the costs and benefits of various management methods.
- Defining the social and cultural values associated with feral animal impacts.
- Developing robust and repeatable reporting and monitoring tools.

Desired impact: More effective feral animal management for protecting cultural and environmental values.

Defining success

helping to define success, measure change, develop interventions



Feral pig distribution and density



Distance Sampler - Ian McConnell

Observer name: Ian McConnell
Transsect number:

Observer side: ☒ Front Left ☐ Back Left ☐ Back Right
Type: ☐ Survey ☒ Track

Transsect area (ha):
Transsect length (km):
Proposed alt (m):

Session: 3, Fri AM
Study area: Archer River Bosh
Region: Coon

Transsect notes:

Cancel Continue

Status: Location: -18.911°, 145.783°
Altitude: -14.00 m Speed: 0.00 m/h

Transsect notes: Ian McConnell on Front Left side

Add POI Save

Distance Sampler - Ian McConnell

Animal: ☒ Pig ☐ Cattle

Comments: 2 boars, 1 sow. Next to eroc

Count:

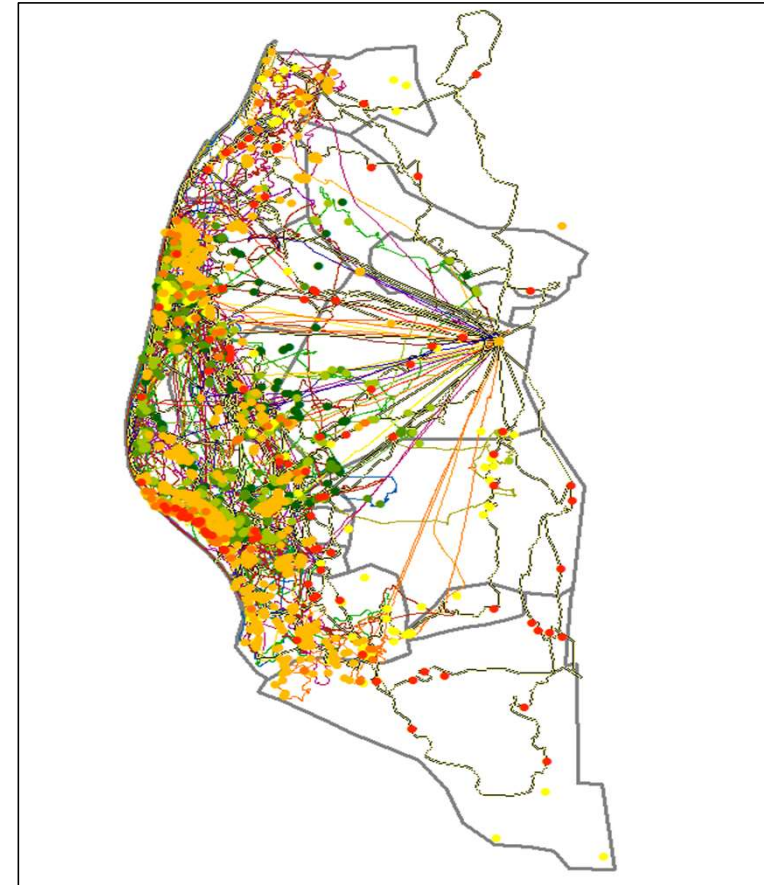
7 8 9
4 5 6
1 2 3
0 Clear

Distance:

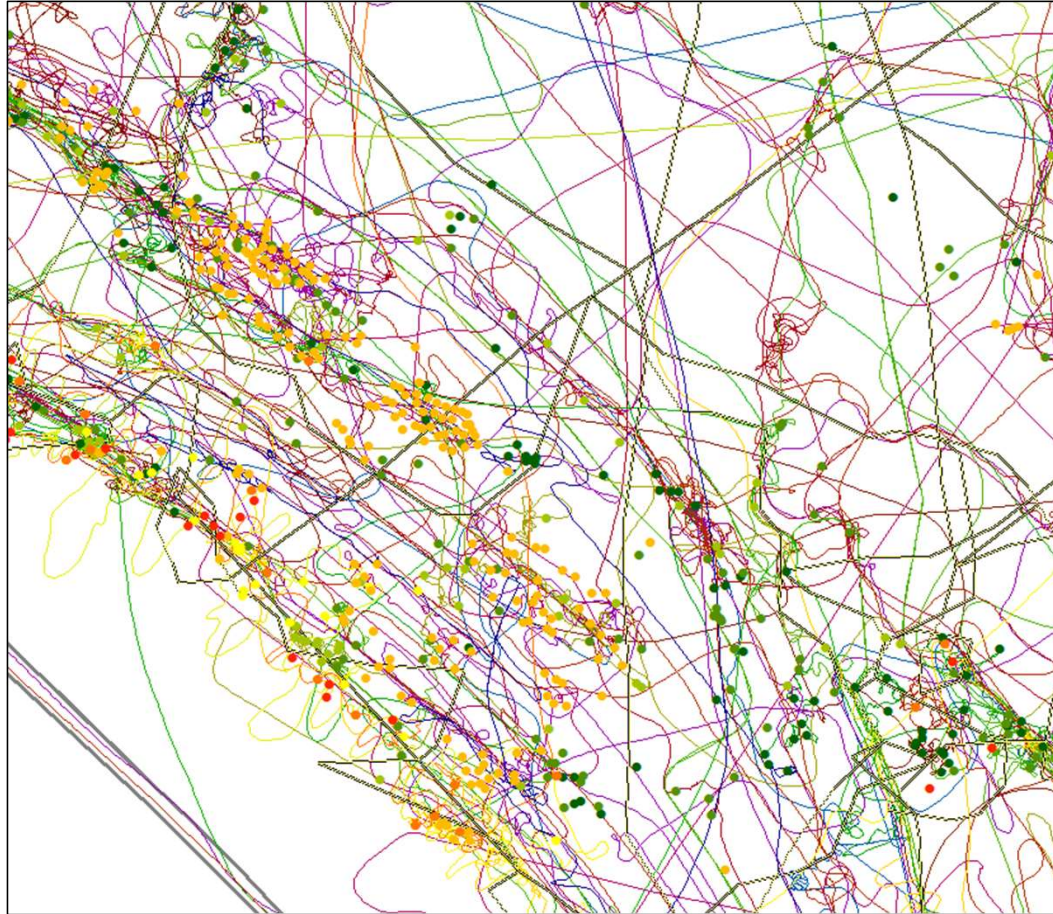
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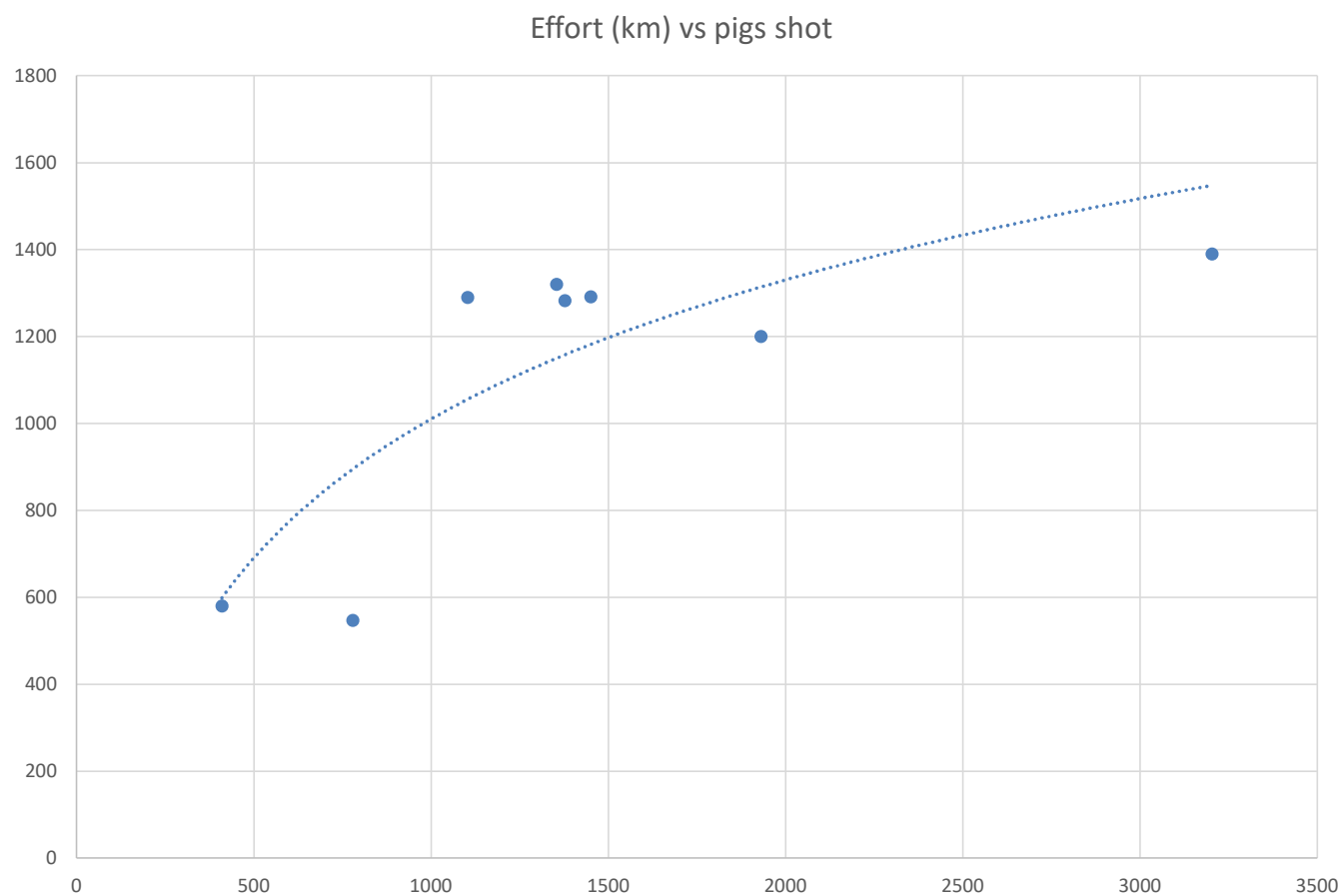
Add POI Save



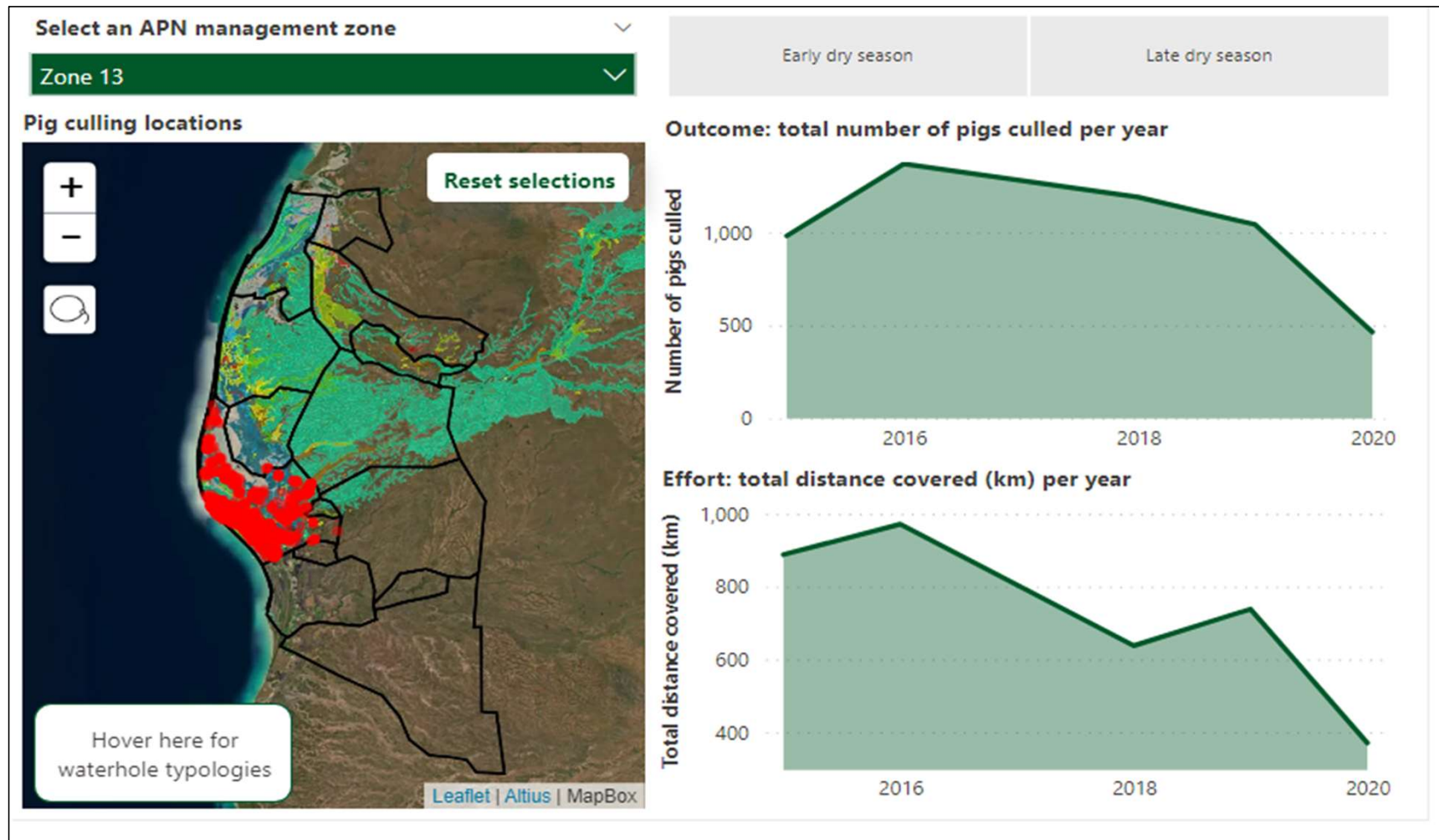
Close up of helicopter tracks



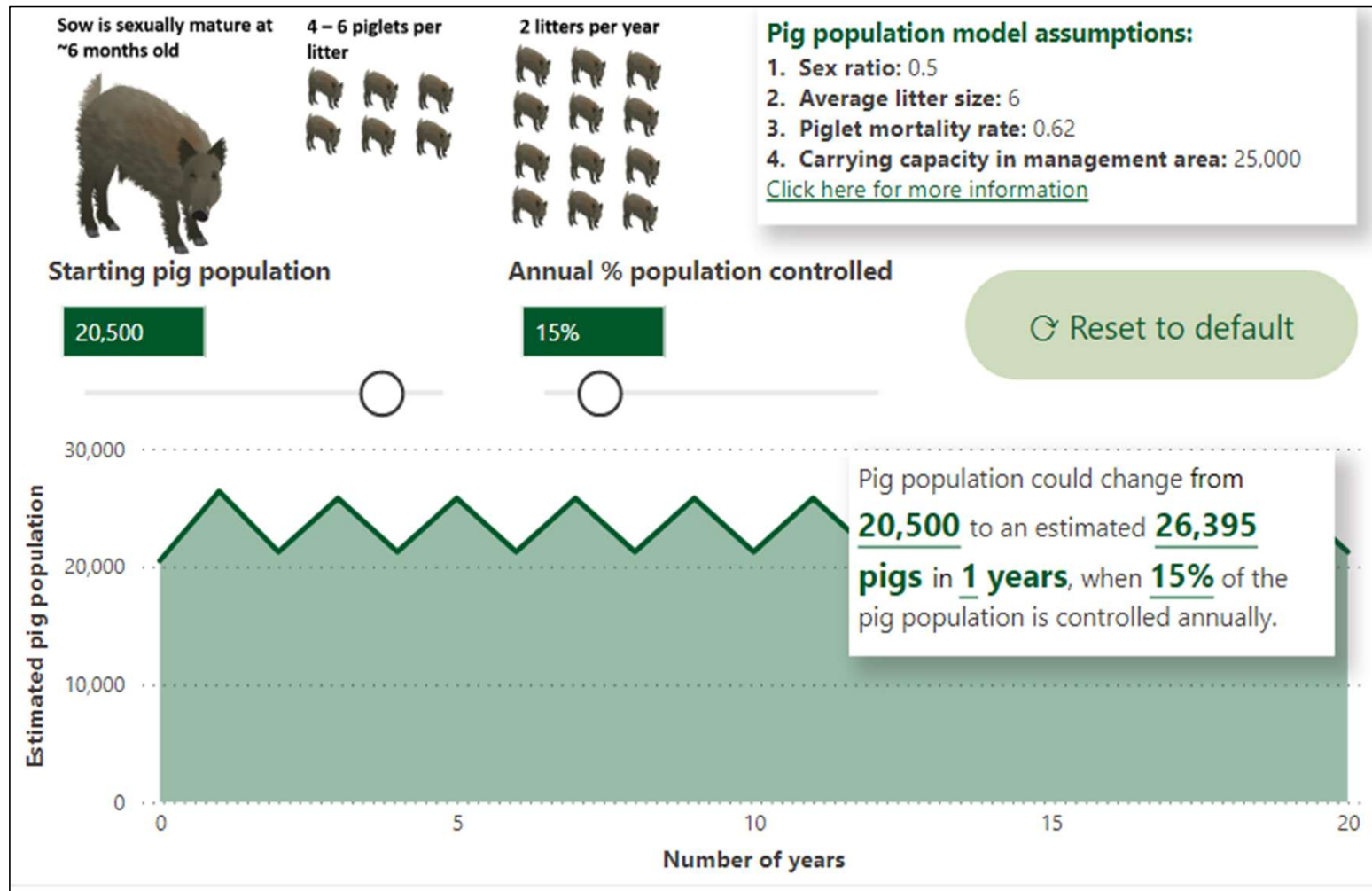
Effort vs pigs shot



Pig culling by management zone



Pig killing calculator



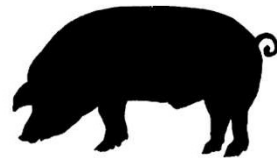
Metric 1. Changes in distribution and abundance of feral animals.

Method:

- Put some effort into collecting some simple data.
- Identify feral pig density zones (scaled by environment)
- Put some effort into planning control. Equal effort aerial control in different zones to see if you are making any difference.

Metric 2. Marine turtle predation

NESTS
DEPREDATED



2012 *D⁺* 98%

1%

0%

1%

2017 *A⁺* 2.5%

2.5%

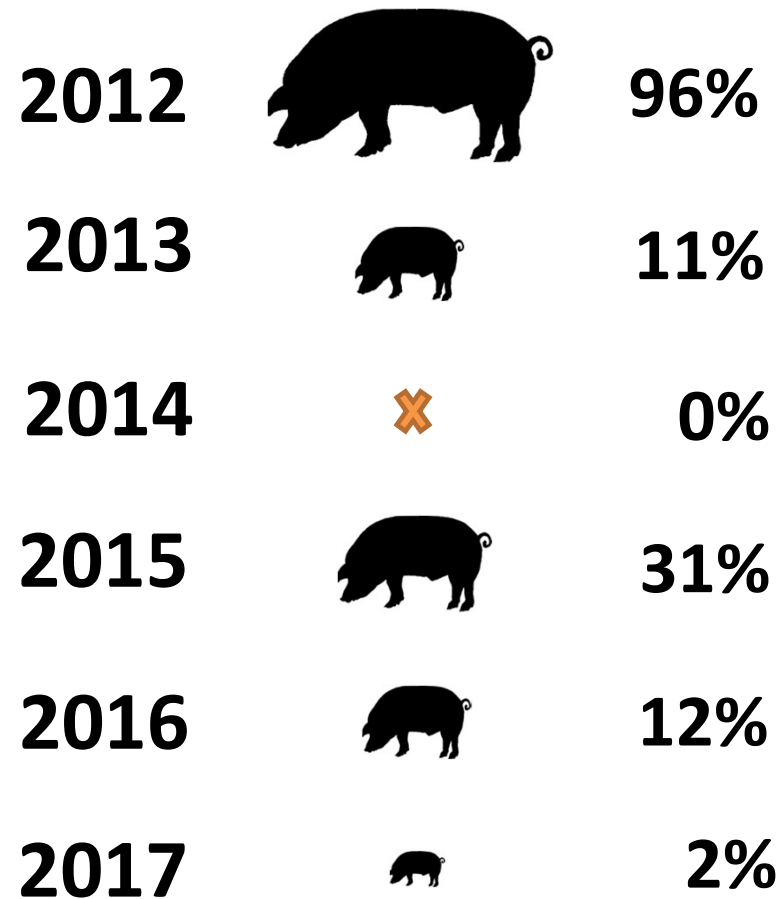
19%

0%

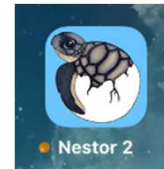


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Primary threat (pigs) under control



Strategic nest protection



7:05 AM 99% GPS

< Cancel Observation details | Unlocked

None Flatback Olive Ridley Green Hawksbill Loggerhead Leatherback Unknown

Species: Olive Ridley

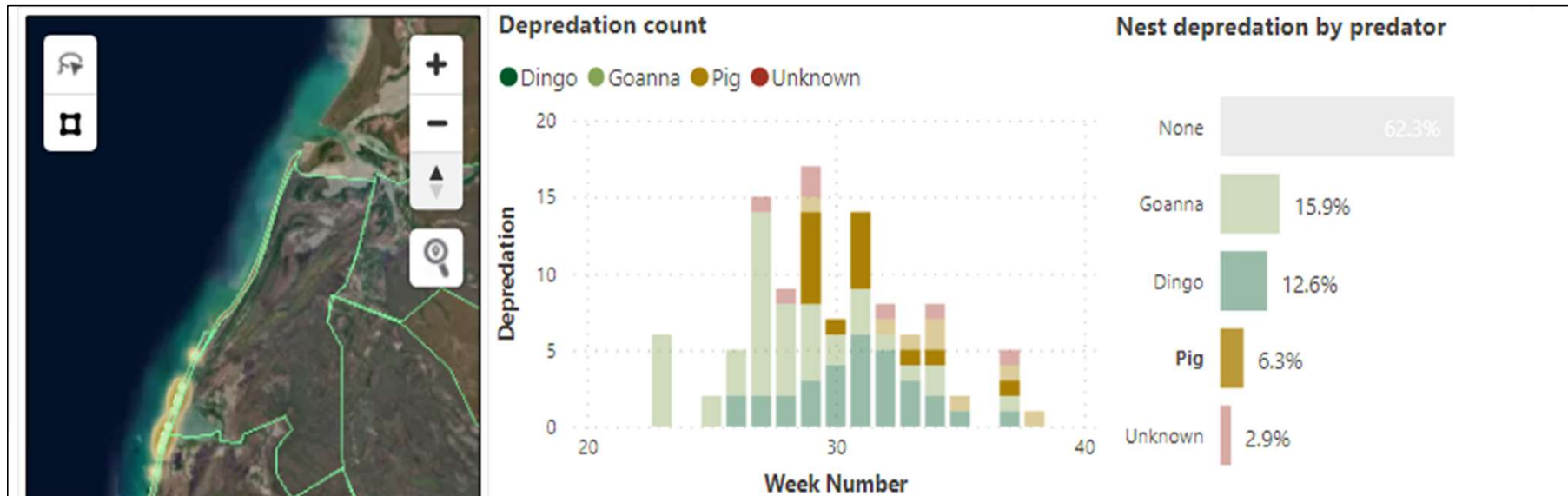
Observation type: Nest False crawl Adult Hatching Other TagID Nest ID OR 34 Body pits 0 Monitoring? No Yes New Old Unknown

Damage/predation: None Pig Dog Goanna Other Vegetation: Bare sand Grass area Under shrub Under tree Rubble zone Timestamp: 2016-07-05 08:35:24

Position: Lower end of beach, close to tide line (L) Beach (B) Slope of dune (S) Above vegetation line (V) Latitude: -13.7452388 Longitude: 141.4935412

Observation notes: 25/7/16. Relocated from big iPad. Nest ID changed from or234-or34
11/8/16. Missing nest.
15/8/16.

Save



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Aerial survey of nests (>100km)



5 days of survey



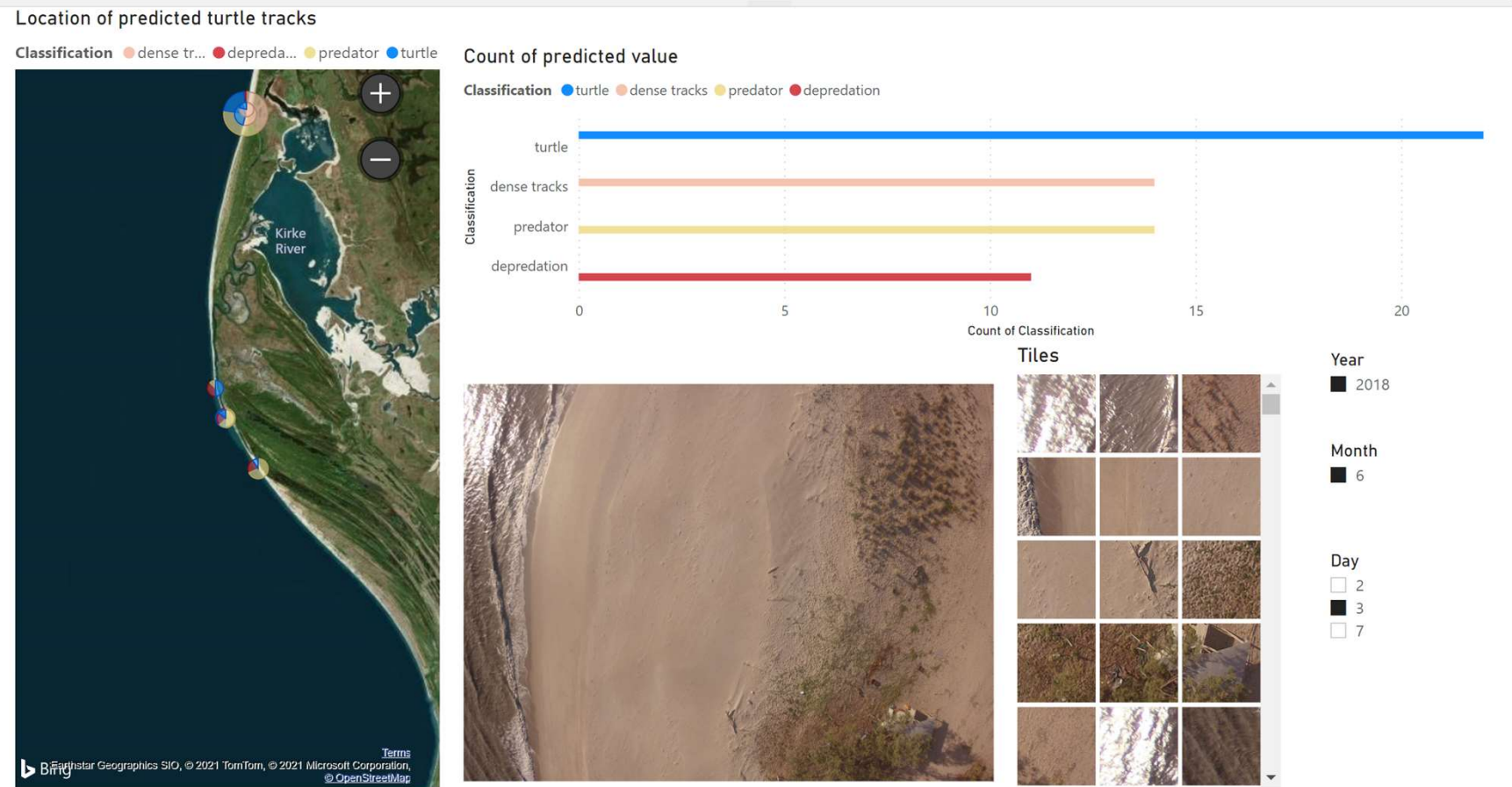
14142 geocoded photos



27.8 GB of data



Using AI to automate analysis

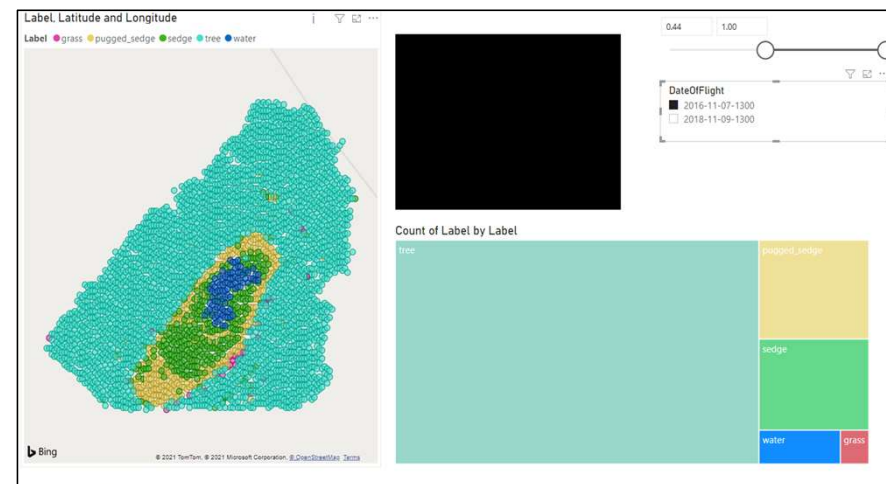
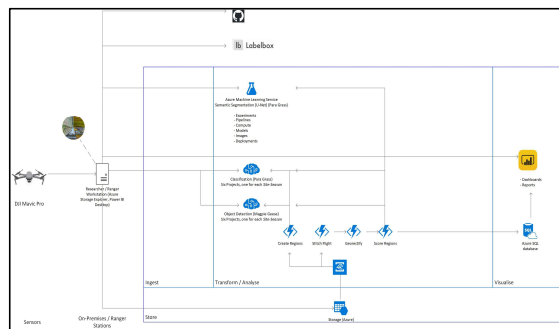
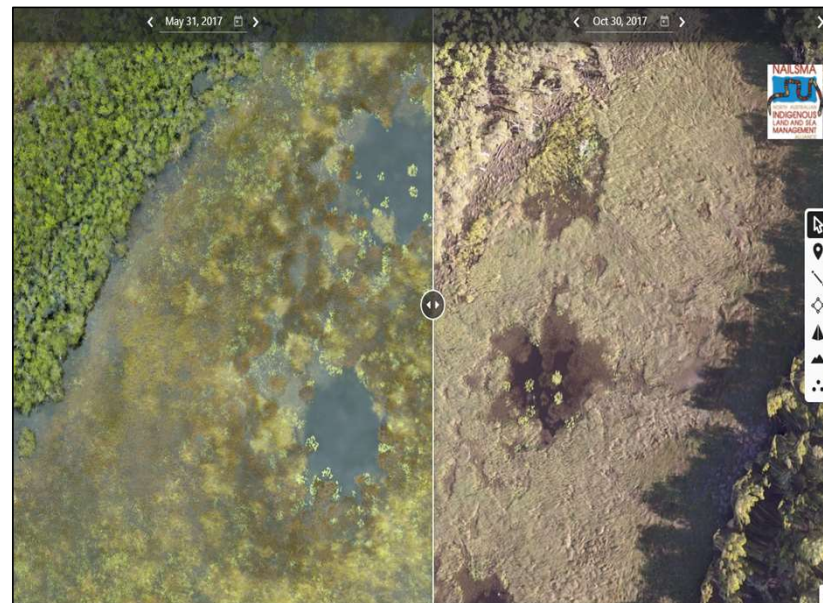
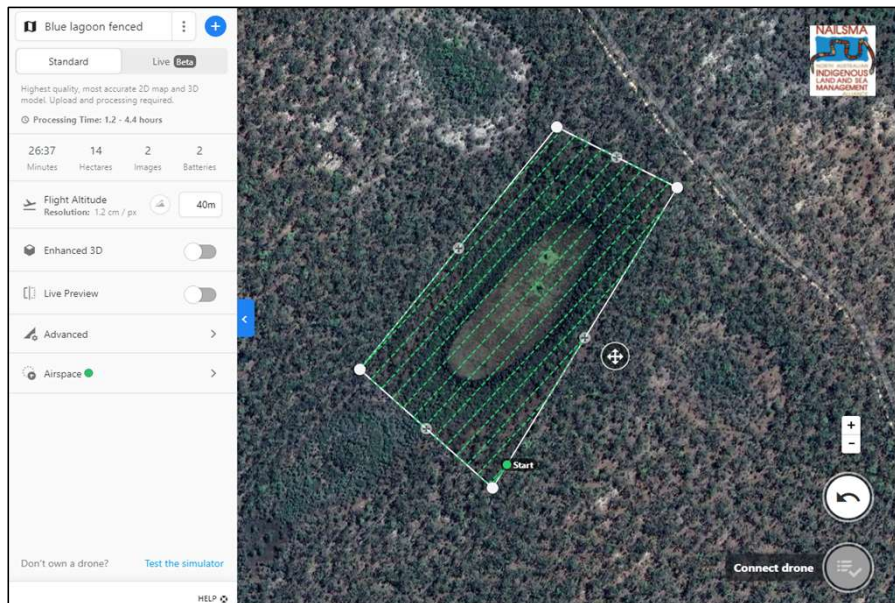


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Simple monitoring methods.

Time lapse cameras and drones



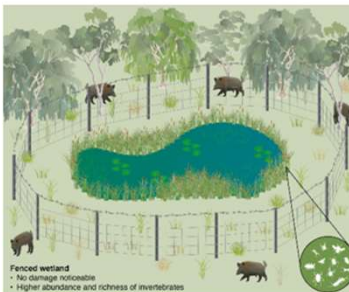


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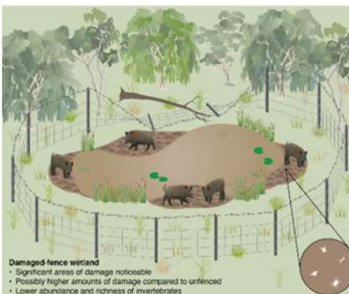
Fencing??????



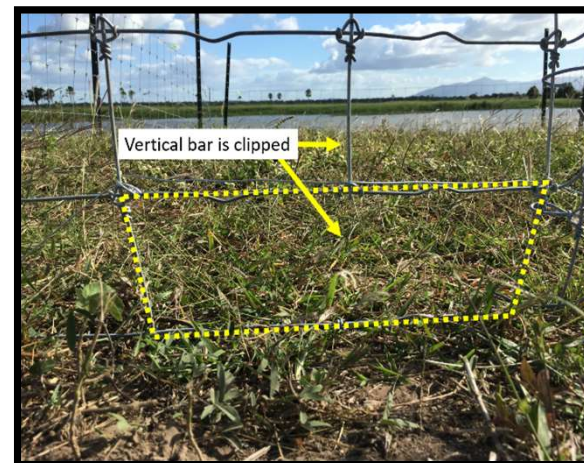
Unfenced



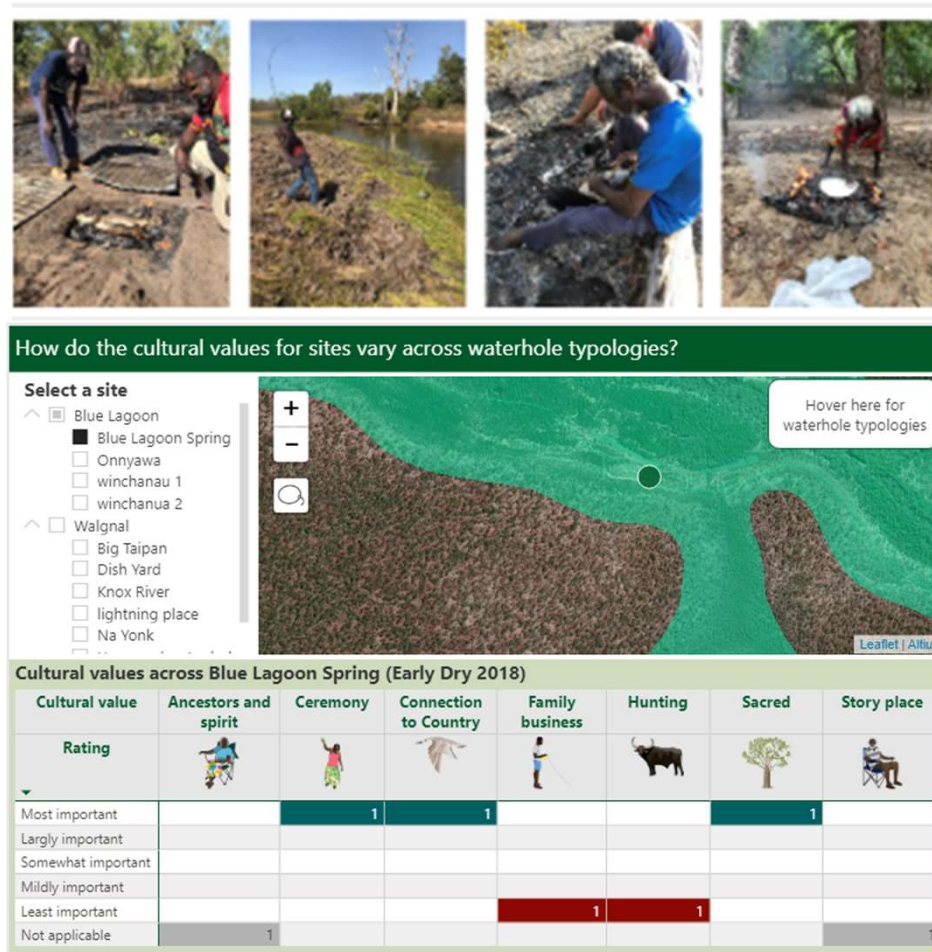
Well maintained
and built fence



Poorly maintained
and built fence



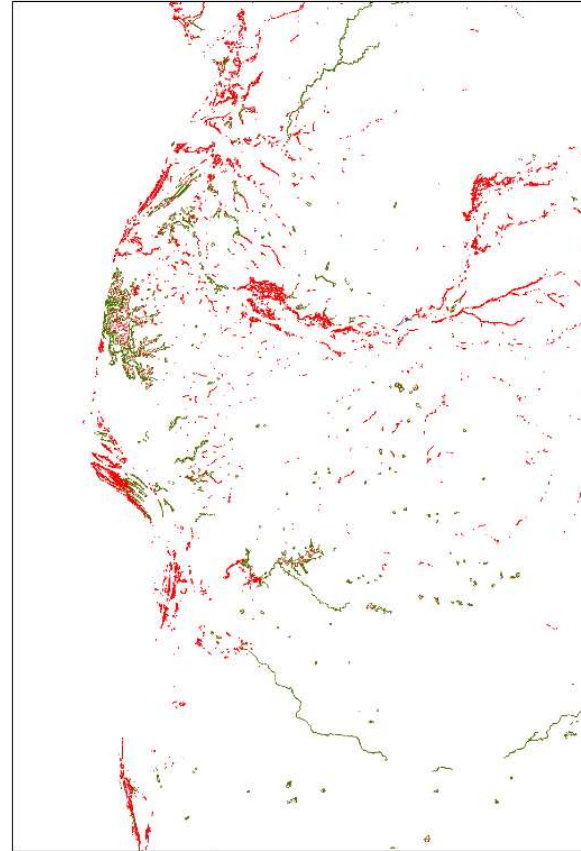
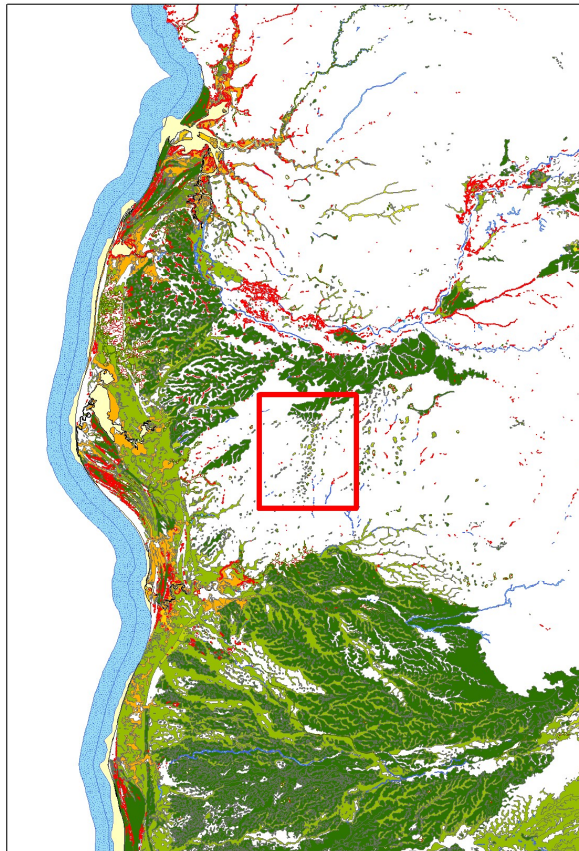
Understanding local values is critical



Water hole Typology



Identifying late dry season pig refuges.



Training and implementation in partnership



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Take away messages

- Its important to ensure activities don't stop when projects finish
- We spent just as much time on planning and monitoring for land managers (dashboards, methods, typology).
- Tools need to be built for multiple skill levels, with explanatory material so that people can use them without pre-knowledge.
- Consistency of monitoring data and methods to allow cumulative and cross regional assessment to occur between years.
- Partnerships are critical to success.
- Social and cultural context cannot be ignored for national, regional and local planning.

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