

# National Feral Pig Action Plan

The National Feral Pig Action Plan 2021-2031 provides the national framework to reduce impacts caused by feral pig populations across Australia through collaborative and coordinated management.

Community engagement and involvement in regional management programs, operating across different land tenures, is key to effective feral pig management.

## The problem



**4 - 10**

piglets per litter,  
6 on average



weaned litters can  
be produced every  
12-15 months

**>70%**

annual reduction in feral pig  
populations required to  
prevent rapid population  
recovery

**86%**

increase in feral pig  
populations in one  
year if no control is  
conducted



### Environmental impacts

- Globally, feral pigs contribute **4.9 million** metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions/year
- Feral pigs threaten:
  - 146** species of flora and fauna
  - 8** ecological communities



### Agriculture impacts

Exact regional populations and current economic losses from feral pigs across Australia are not known, however...

**\$47 million**

damage to agriculture in  
northwest NSW alone  
(2020/21)

**\$40 million**

losses to environmental and  
agricultural assets in the  
Whitsunday Region (2020)



### Biosecurity risks

Feral pigs can:

- harbour and transmit **>60** significant exotic, endemic and zoonotic pathogens and parasites
- spread weeds



### Cultural impacts

- Biodiversity loss, including turtle nest predation
- Ecosystem damage
- Loss of cultural heritage
- Water quality condemnation

## What's needed?

- Long-term, coordinated and well-resourced feral pig management programs
- Continued participation of all land managers in local management groups
- Effective and timely use of integrated best practice management to reduce feral pig impacts
- Data to inform management programs and monitor outcomes, over time
- Use of cost-effective and reliable technologies to improve the efficacy of control programs

## Benefits being achieved from coordinated and strategic best practice management

**\$18.83**

return for every  
\$ spent on feral  
pig management  
in Whitsunday  
region

**43,608 pigs**

removed from  
the Western  
Riverina region  
since 2016

**<30**

feral pigs  
remaining on  
Kangaroo Island

**4,844 pigs**

removed in aerial  
control programs across  
northern WA wheatbelt  
in 2022

**10%**

average turtle nest  
predation rate by feral  
pigs, wild dogs and  
goannas on western Cape  
York (down from >90%)