



Data-based decision making is essential for effective feral pig management

The National Feral Pig Action Plan 2021-2031 provides the national framework to reduce the extensive impacts caused by feral pigs.

It aims to guide land managers to work collectively in coordinated ways over the long term on a landscape-scale, nil tenure basis.

Measuring success ... We can't manage what we don't measure

- Annual reductions of at least 70% are required to prevent rapid population recovery
- Changes in feral pig impacts and/or their populations are not routinely measured or monitored in most programs
- Adaptive best practice management of feral pigs is therefore difficult
- Impacts caused by feral pigs to Australia's unique biodiversity are poorly understood

Data needed by land managers to enable continuous improvement in control programs

- Density and distribution of feral pigs in the region
- Where to focus management efforts in a particular landscape
- Where feral pigs are in that landscape and when they use those areas
- Habitat preferences
- Assets being impacted by feral pigs and size of these impacts
- Economic costs of damage caused to different agricultural enterprises
- Effectiveness of management efforts in reducing impacts and/or population densities
- Knowing if the right combinations of best practice management methods are being used, and at the right time(s) and right scale

Demonstration sites – sharing knowledge, learning from others

- Peers and neighbours are the most important sources of information and advice
- Six NFPAP demonstration sites are in place to provide information to other management groups on:
 - What's working, what's not, what next?
 - Technology/tools being used
 - Data being used by land managers to better inform their management decisions



Technology and data recording tools being used by demonstration sites	Cape York	Carpentaria LCDC	Kangaroo Island	MidWest	Western Riverina	Whitsunday
Visual sign	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Field cameras	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Aerial surveillance (drones/helicopter)	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
GPS collars	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Environmental DNA	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Thermal scopes / binoculars	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓
Thermal assisted aerial culling	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
FeralScan or other recording apps	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗

Contact us

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