

2022-2024

FERAL PIG FOCUS

Protecting the Scott Coastal Plain



Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



natural resource
management program



Acknowledgements

This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program.

In addition the Augusta Margaret River Shire, through its Environmental Management Fund, has provided support for a 1 year pilot Feral Pig Focus project to complement the Scott River Project for Feral Pig Control in the wider AMR shire.

The project has also received support from the Shire of Nannup and Peppermint Estate Pty Ltd.



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We would also like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the area, the Wadandi & Pibulmen people who have a long association with the South West and its natural resources. Wadandi representatives, the Undalup Association, have been sharing their learning & knowledge with the broader South West communities for number of years, we recognise their continuing connection to the area, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

A big thankyou also goes out to all participating landholders for continued support and collaboration in tackling this important issue.

Executive Summary

Key points

- The implementation of control activities included seasonal trapping and on ground control operations conducted by two field officers from the Lower Blackwood Vertebrate Pest Management Group (LBVPMG). This included tracking, training and ultimately control of feral pigs across the Scott Coastal Plain (SCP) along with responding to landholders' callouts.
- A monitoring program was established as part of this project and used to evaluate the state of the area and success of the project. Two on-ground monitoring methods were implemented; pig activity transects and camera trapping.
- 1500 pigs (688 adults) were removed over the course of the project through a combination of trapping and on ground shooting techniques.
- Monitoring throughout the project demonstrated no measurable increase in pig activity or impacts in the SCP and no pigs were recorded entering the Scott National Park (SNP).
- In order to raise awareness and build capacity of the Lower Blackwood community and SCP landholders, several engagement activities were organised, these included workshops which showcased yearly results.
- Ongoing community consultation was established. A Community of Practice (CoP) was developed between LBVPMG, The Lower Blackwood LCDC and the over 20 SCP land managers to ensure on ground activities are coordinated and resources are used most effectively.
- Community guides were also prepared for detecting and controlling feral pigs and the provision of a resource toolkit for Lower Blackwood community members and the SCP landholders.



Goals and Outcomes

Goals

The goals of this project were:

- To implement a multi-year, strategic and collaborative feral pig control program, including monitoring and evaluation, in the Scott Coastal Plain
- To prevent the spread of feral pigs into the Scott National Park (located at the western end of the Scott Coastal Plain)
- To build capacity in Lower Blackwood landholders to monitor and control feral pigs on their properties
- To raise awareness in the Lower Blackwood community of the issues and impacts of feral pigs



Outcomes

The outcomes of this project were:

- 2 x on-ground field officers and 1 x project officer implementing a three-year, strategic and collaborative feral pig control program, including monitoring and evaluation, in the Scott Coastal Plain. This included a six-month trapping program each project year.
- Feral pigs controlled over the Scott Coastal Plain
- Demonstrating the effectiveness of the Hoggone Bait boxes in the Scott Coastal Plain
- Establishing feral pig monitoring sites in the Scott Coastal Plain and collecting population and distribution data
- Developing and extending Feral Pig Focus Resources
- Continued use and development of the FeralScan mapping tool to map all feral pig control, sightings and damage

Additional Shire of Augusta-Margaret River funded outcomes included:

- Extending the trapping, baiting and monitoring program to several key AMR Shire locations

Project Overview

Feral Pig Focus - Protecting the Scott Coastal Plain is a 3-year State National Resource Management (State NRM) funded project that is supporting the Lower Blackwood Vertebrate Pest Management Group (LBVPMG) to work collaboratively with landholders, the plantation industry, the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (DBCA), the Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development (DPIRD), Traditional Owners and local government to undertake priority feral pig control work to protect the Scott Coastal Plain.



Feral Pig Focus - Protecting the Scott Coastal Plain (SCP) is a 3-year State NRM funded project that is supporting the Lower Blackwood Vertebrate Pest Management Group (LBVPMG) to work collaboratively with landholders, plantation companies, DBCA, DPIRD, Traditional Owners and local government to undertake priority feral pig control work to protect the Scott Coastal Plain.

Feral pigs pose a large threat to the biodiversity and cultural values of the SCP as well as posing an economic threat to local landholders. Pigs are known to be abundant but localised in the SCP regionally and recognised at both state and national levels. The project aligns with both the National Feral Pig Action Plan and the Western Australian Feral Pig Strategy. The National Feral Pig Action Plans vision states to “Actively suppress, or eradicate, Australian feral pig populations to reduce their impacts on environmental, agricultural, cultural and social assets”. While the Western Australian Feral Pig Strategy states that “Management of feral pigs should be strategic and include

defined management objectives, in terms of determining where management should occur, timing of management, being proactive and using appropriate techniques. Prevention and early intervention are the most cost-effective techniques. Management should aim to address actual rather than perceived problems, and to reduce impacts rather than simply animal numbers”. As such the project aims to maintain pig free areas at a local scale applying this strategy to protect high value ecological areas including the Scott National Park (SNP)

Why the Scott Coastal Plain?

As well as being an important and productive Agricultural area, the Scott Coastal Plain is home to 10 species of threatened flora, 52 species of priority flora, along with the the Scott River Ironstone Threatened Ecological Community. There are 26 fauna species listed as threatened, priority or under protection in the Scott Coastal Plain including the Australasian Bittern (Endangered), the Forest Red-Tailed Black Cockatoo (Vulnerable) and the Carnaby's Black Cockatoo (Endangered).

This project addressed the impact of feral pigs on the eastern and central Scott Coastal Plain and worked to prevent their encroachment into the western Scott Coastal Plain, in particular the Scott National Park.

The Blackwood River (Lower Reaches) and Tributaries System and the Gingilup-Jasper wetland system are both nationally important wetlands. Native vegetation in the Gingilup Nature Reserve is in excellent condition providing habitat for a diversity of fauna and supporting a number of species of declared rare flora (DRF). On the western side is the Scott National Park which includes a large number of Priority Species and DRF. A large proportion of the Scott National Park is considered to be in pristine condition with no or little evidence of pig populations.

Culturally, the whole of the Blackwood River system (including the Scott River) is a registered Aboriginal heritage site. Therefore, it's imperative that not only

the current feral pig population in the Scott Coastal Plain be controlled, but that they also be prevented from encroaching upon the Scott National Park.

The LBVPMG have been operational since 2009, and through the group's control and monitoring work, the LBVPMG have identified the key area of concern is the Scott Coastal Plain which has significant pig populations impacting on areas of high conservation and cultural values.

This project has seen the upscaling of the LBVPMG's current program to work collaboratively to implement a program to not only control the pig population currently harbouring in the region, but also to prevent funnelling of the pig population into the Scott National Park, which to date has not been significantly impacted by feral pig numbers.



Project Control Program

Three successive summer trapping seasons with additional callout responses.

The Project ran over three years (2022 – 2024) with the Lower Blackwood LCDC and LBVPMG working collaboratively with key stakeholders. The threat of feral pigs to the SCP was addressed by implementing a seasonal control, monitoring and evaluation program, while engaging with Lower Blackwood landholders (including SCP landholders) to raise awareness, monitor and control feral pigs on their own property. A communications plan was implemented to raise awareness in the Lower Blackwood community (including SCP landholders) of the issues and impacts of feral pigs.

Routine visual monitoring for pig activity and response to landholders' information determined where to prioritise trapping efforts. This allowed flexibility to ensure efficient use of resources and targeted pigs where they were known to be in real time. Once the pig activity was determined and suitable trapping sites were found, daily pre-feeding was used to lure pigs into trapping locations.

Through the installation of weld-mesh traps pigs were able to effectively capture and removed. A camera



- 1. Monitoring and surveillance**
- 2. Pre-feeding**
- 3. Conditioning or acclimating with trap panels**
- 4. Setting trap**
- 5. Trapping**
- 6. Clean-up**
- 7. Post-trap monitoring**

Project Control Program

was used on the trapping locations from pre-feed stage to post trapping to inform the number of pigs feeding at each trapping site and ensure each control activity was successful and all pigs in that area were removed before the trapping effort was stopped at that location. Trapping was conducted using a total of approximately 10 traps. These traps were able to be deployed at one time (not all set concurrently) and were usually kept in place for approximately 5-6 weeks or until it is assessed that it is unlikely more pigs will be caught. The area was swept with detection dogs, where appropriate, to ensure that all pigs were controlled in each trapping location before moving on to a new area.

New control efforts were chosen based on monitoring data, landholder input and routine field officer inspections. In areas where trapping was not a viable option due to likely disturbance or lack of suitable cover, detection dogs were used, where appropriate, to locate and assist with herding pigs. LBVPMG Field officers also further implemented strategic baiting and landholder call-out responses for a remaining 20 weeks annually in areas which were accessible during the wetter months.

Trapping Results



Trapping Season 1

20th January 2022 - 17th July 2022

428 pigs removed (213 adults)

Trapping Season 2

16th November 2022 - 7th July 2023

425 pigs removed (208 adults)

Trapping Season 3

18th November 2023- 25th July 2024

583 pigs removed (249 adults)

Total
1500 pigs (688 adults) removed over the 3 years

Project Control Program

The first control season started in January 2022 with the field officers implementing trapping and on ground control actions. A total of 428 (213 adults) were removed in the first season over 123 working days. Efforts in the first trapping season were focused on the western and central precincts of the project area. The Field officers focused on areas where relationships with landholders were already strong to create a positive reputation while engaging with other landholders in the SCP. Once the strategic areas that would be suitable entry points had been controlled effectively the field officers were able to move their attentions further east, controlling areas where pigs were known to be active.



A total of 425 (204 adult) pigs were removed from the Scott Coastal Plain in the second control season through a combination of trapping, detection dogs and on ground shooting techniques by the LBVPMG field officers. The second season started in November 2022 and ran to July 2023. Trapping efforts were slightly more widespread in year 2 with more landholders engaging with the field officers. Trapping was moved into new properties in the SCP as well as successful, cooperative trapping events in state parks effectively protecting high value ecological areas. There was a noticeable increase in public engagement throughout the second year and detections were being forwarded to the Lower Blackwood LCDC and LBVPMG. Detections were noted not only in the SCP project area but further west in the AMR shire in areas near the Blackwood River. As a result, the Lower Blackwood LCDC were successful in applying for one of the Shire of Augusta Margaret River's Environmental Management Fund (EMF) Grants to control and monitor pig impacts within the AMR Shire.

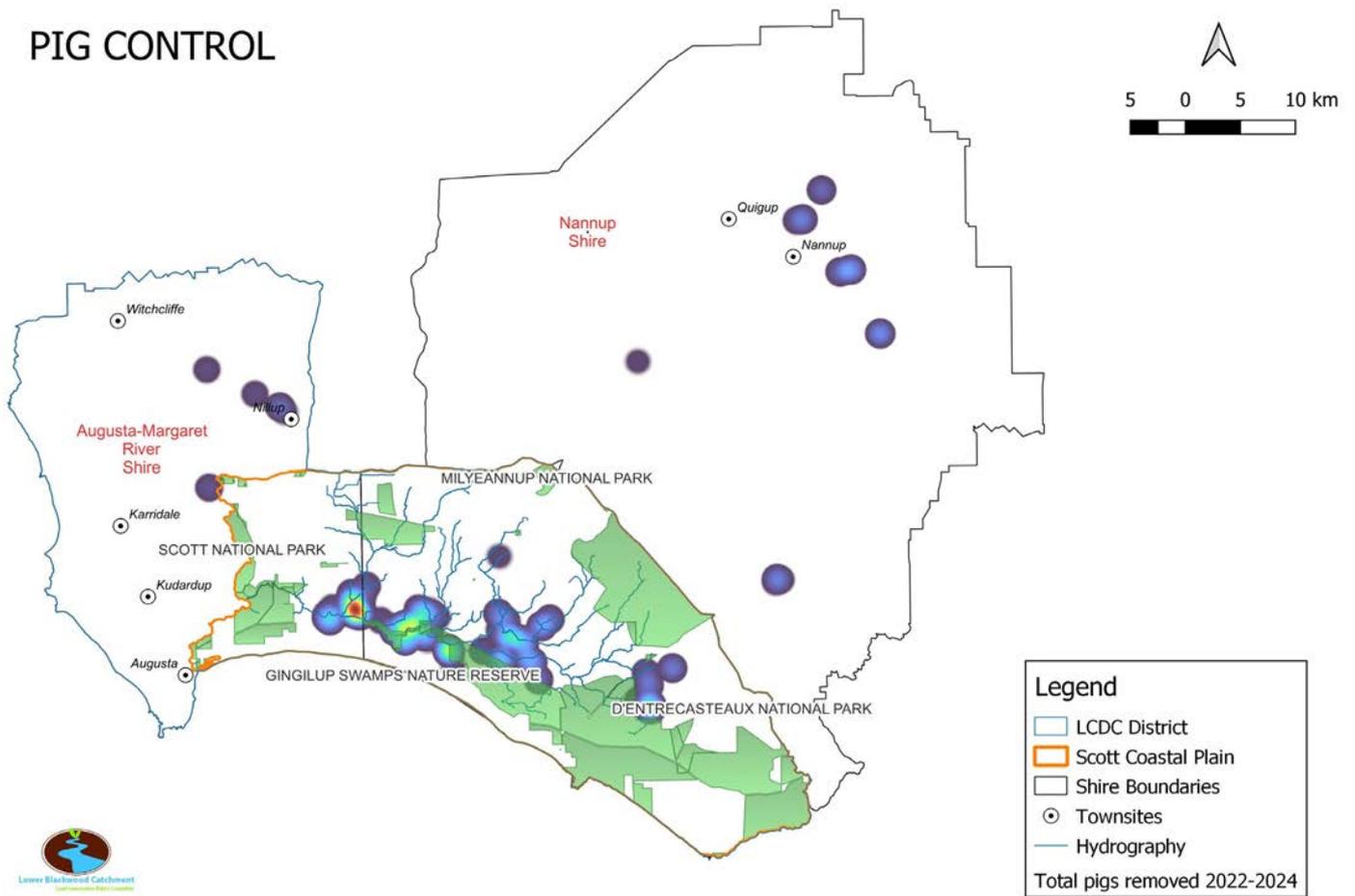


The third control season ran from November 2023 – July 2024. A total of 583 (249 adult) pigs were removed from the Scott Coastal Plain in the third control season through a combination of trapping, detection dogs and on ground shooting techniques by the LBVPMG field officers. This now brings the total number to 1500 (688 adults) pigs that have been removed over the course of the project. New trapping sites with cooperating landholders were able to be used and there was a greater focus in the central and eastern precincts of the SCP. This was due to decreased activity in the western trapping areas in the final trapping season. During the third trapping year with funding provided by the Shire of Augusta Margaret River's EMF Grants the LBVPMG were able to additionally

Project Control Program

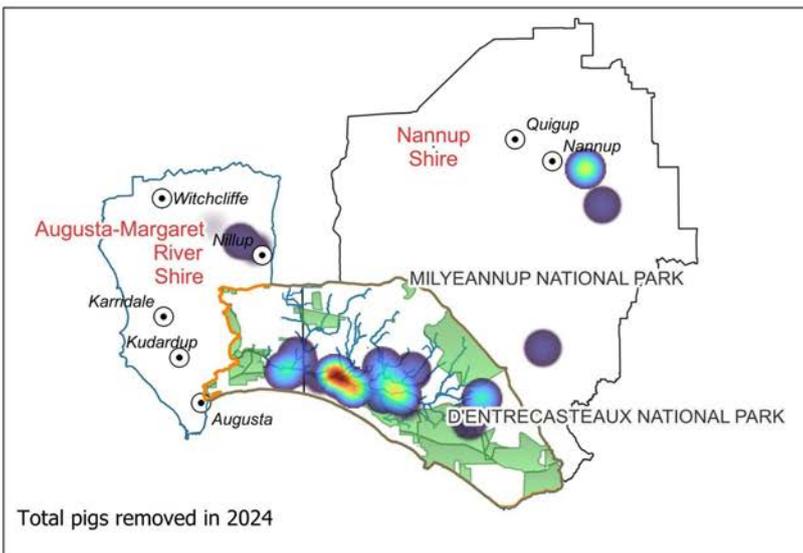
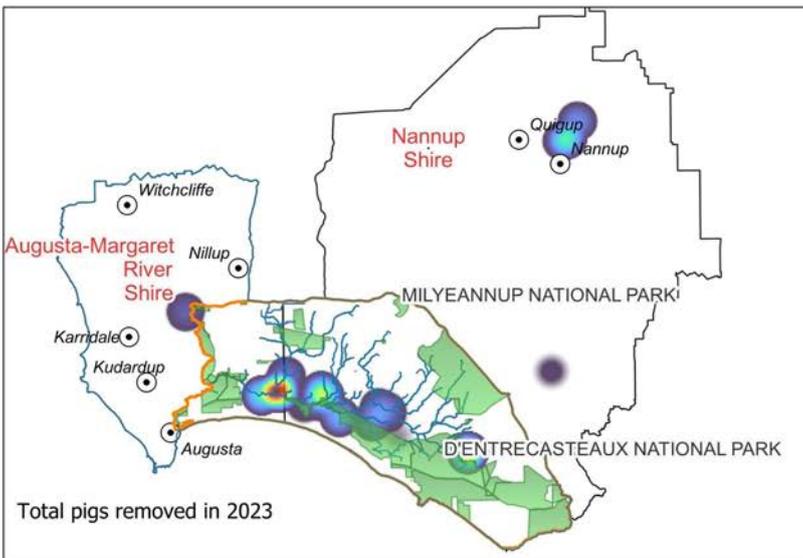
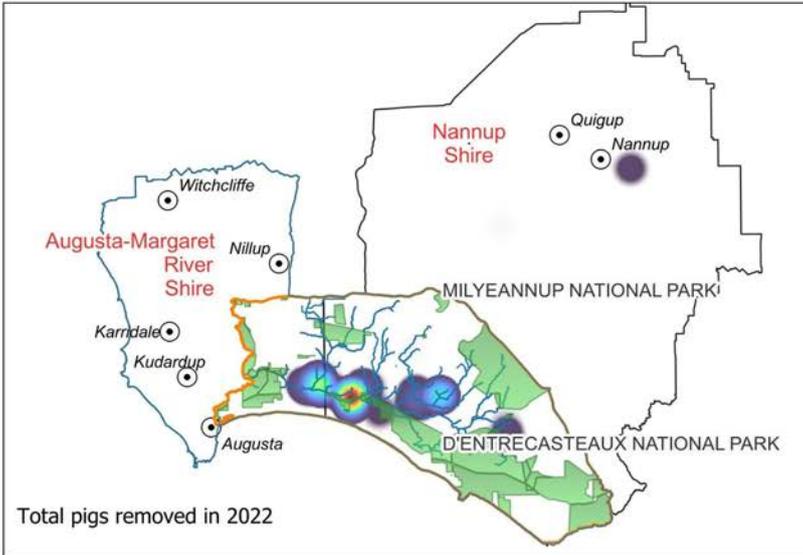
undertake 13 control activities in the Augusta Margaret Shire and manage areas around Warner Glen and Alexandra Bridge.

The below heat maps show the how the LBVPMG were able to target a greater proportion of pigs further east into the SCP in the third year as pig numbers and their impacts were getting under control. It should also be noted that as control was predominantly targeted in that area, the Scott River is a great vector for pig activity and for feral pigs to be able to move west towards the SNP. The heat map also shows a number of out of season landholder callouts that were responded to in the Nannup Shire, these control actions were possible thanks to funding provided by both the Nannup Shire and Peppermint Estate.



Project Control Program

PIG CONTROL



Legend

- LCDC District
- Hydrography
- Scott Coastal Plain
- Shire Boundaries
- Townsites
- Reserves
- Total pigs removed



20 0 20 40 km



Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee

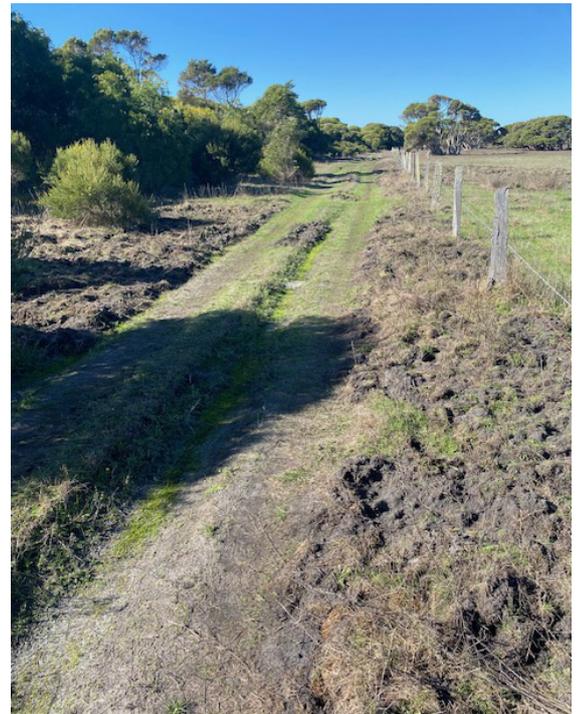
Monitoring Program

A monitoring program was developed to detect any changes in pig activity or population numbers. The use of fixed monitoring cameras and quarterly visual inspections of strategic transects (Pig Activity Transects and Camera Trapping) was chosen to quantify the impacts of feral pigs in the Scott Coastal Plain and estimate the level of impact control actions are having on feral pigs numbers or activity. Some landholder interviews were also conducted to gather information relating to pig activity and public awareness of pig activity. The ongoing examination of the monitoring data and information gathered from the community and landholders enabled the field officers to effectively target, prioritise, review the areas they focus on. This means that resources were used efficiently and overall feral pig impacts were minimised.

Pig Activity Transects

This involved three 10 km transects on roads throughout the survey area, that were surveyed by vehicle every three months, weather permitting. At every 500m interval on the transect, any fresh pig digs, tracks or other signs of activity on the roadside were recorded to determine the percentage of the transect feral pig activity has been observed. Through funding by the Augusta Margaret River Shire’s EMF grant a fourth transect was set up in 2024 to monitor pig activity in the AMR Shire near Warner Glen.

Transect three was in the western region of the SCP closest to the SNP, it is therefore encouraging to see that T3 had consistently less signs of pig damage and activity. Increases in activity along this transect were used as an early detection to prevent pigs entering the SNP.



Pig activity along transects



Monitoring Program



Pig activity has not increased over time which means management has been effective. The variations can potentially be explained by seasonal or even natural sampling variations. The periods where pig activity has decreased overall however, does coincide with the trapping seasons and these declines could be a short-term response to trapping. The first increase in activity is also aligned with the 6-month period without trapping.



Given that there is no significant increase in pig activity it demonstrates that continued management, control and community vigilance of feral pigs in the SCP is an effective management solution and a vital one. Without this management, pig populations in the area would rapidly increase. Sows can easily produce two weaned litters in a year of on average 8 piglets and pig mobs can easily traverse west into the Scott National Park.



Monitoring Program

Camera Trapping

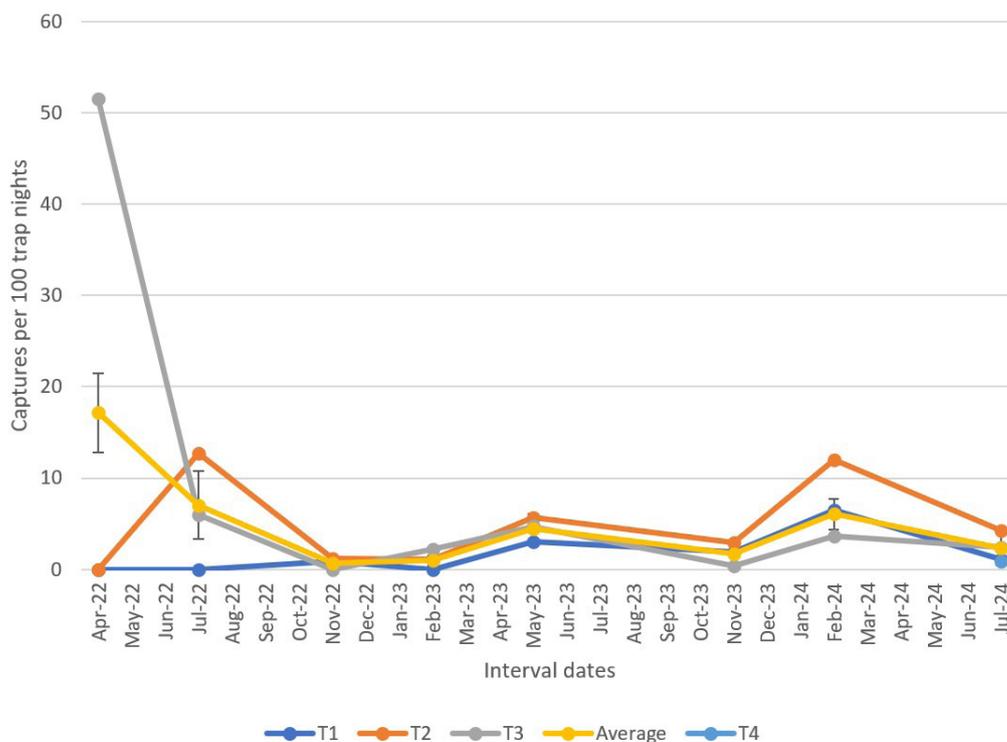
A total of 12 cameras were installed, 3 cameras across each of the three sentinel sites, on pig pads, gaps in fences, or other key 'choke points'.

In 2024 a fourth sentinel site was set up in the AMR Shire as part of the EMF grant funding with another three cameras installed near the Blackwood River in the AMR Shire. The aim was to record the trend in capture rates over time as number of unique sightings per 100 trap nights.

Since the start of the program over a quarter of a million photos have now been analysed for over 7000 trap nights. Trap nights are defined as one camera monitoring over one 24-hour period. Invasive species captured on camera include; pigs, foxes, cats, rabbits and even deer. Given the number of foxes and cats seen on the camera footage these species have now been included in the analysis from July 2022 onwards.



Feral pig photo point captures in each precinct



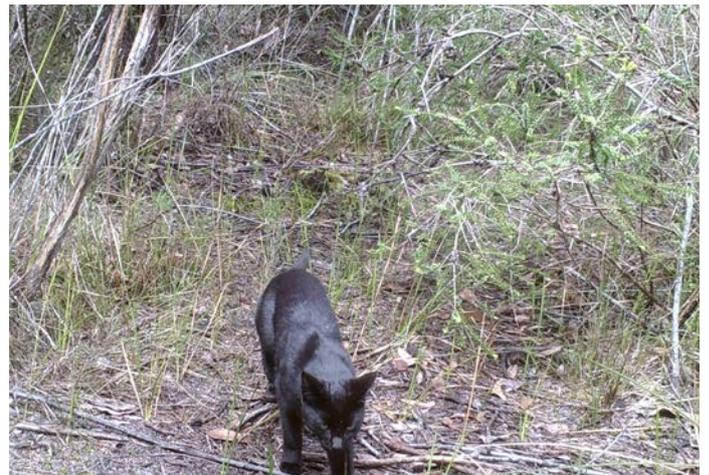
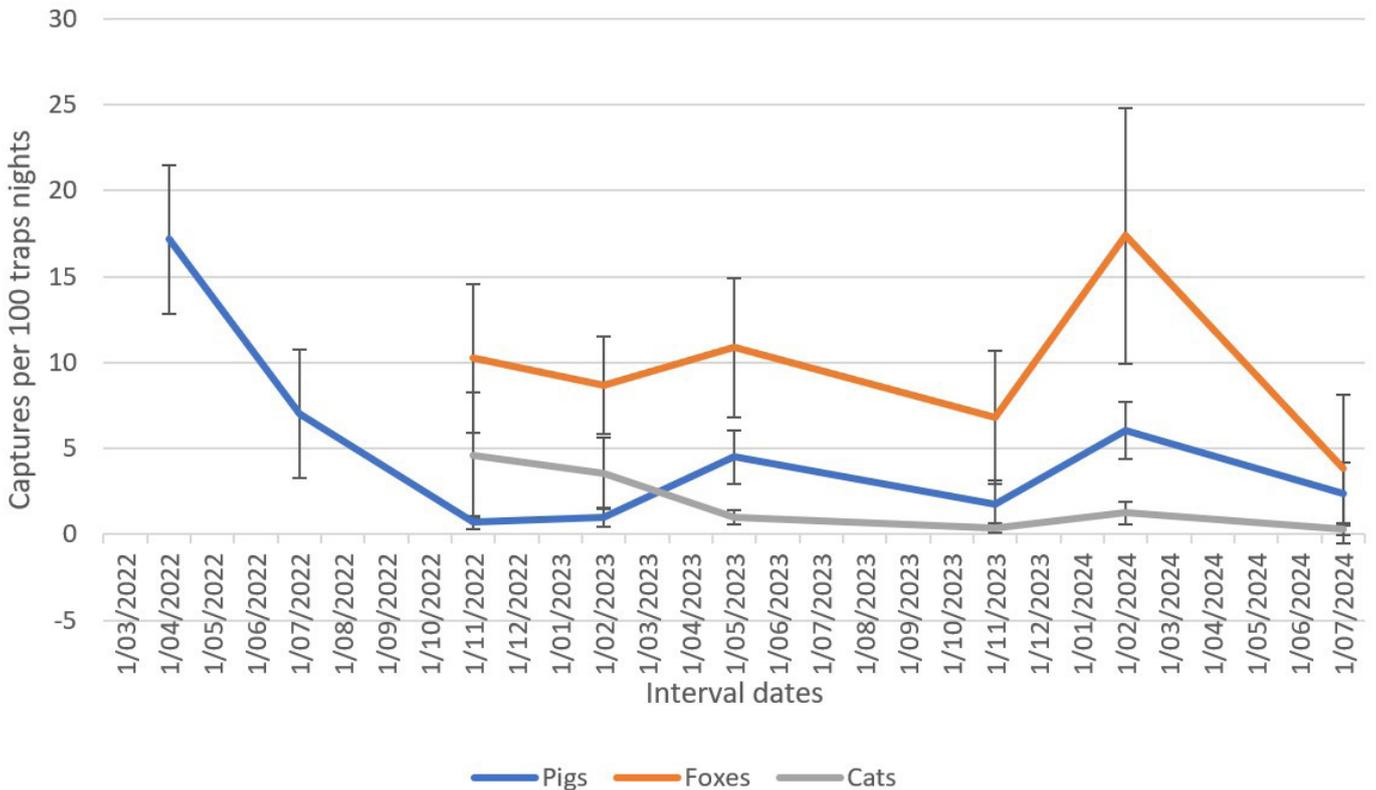
There been an overall decline in the feral pig activity in the camera monitoring, the increases are in line with anecdotal evidence of increased community sightings and the presence of pig diggings or activity signs in the SCP. There is some correlation between trapping efforts and pig activity along the transects. No increase in detectable pig activity along these transects highlights the success of the management program.

Monitoring Program

Through the seasonal trapping efforts, the population of feral pigs in the SCP has not been able to increase and the environmental or agricultural impacts of the feral pigs in the SCP has also not increased.

Through the monitoring program, especially camera trapping, a number of other feral animals have been sighted in the SCP. These have been summarised in the below table. Feral foxes appear to be twice as active in the SCP than pigs and cats are present across a number of camera locations. These feral animals can have a devastating effect on threatened native fauna including birds. Through the course of this project the other feral animal numbers have been recorded and through a project funded by the Augusta Margaret River Shire's EMF grants a Local Feral Cat Strategy is being developed by the Lower Blackwood LCDC.

Feral Animal Camera Trap Sightings



Monitoring Program

FeralScan



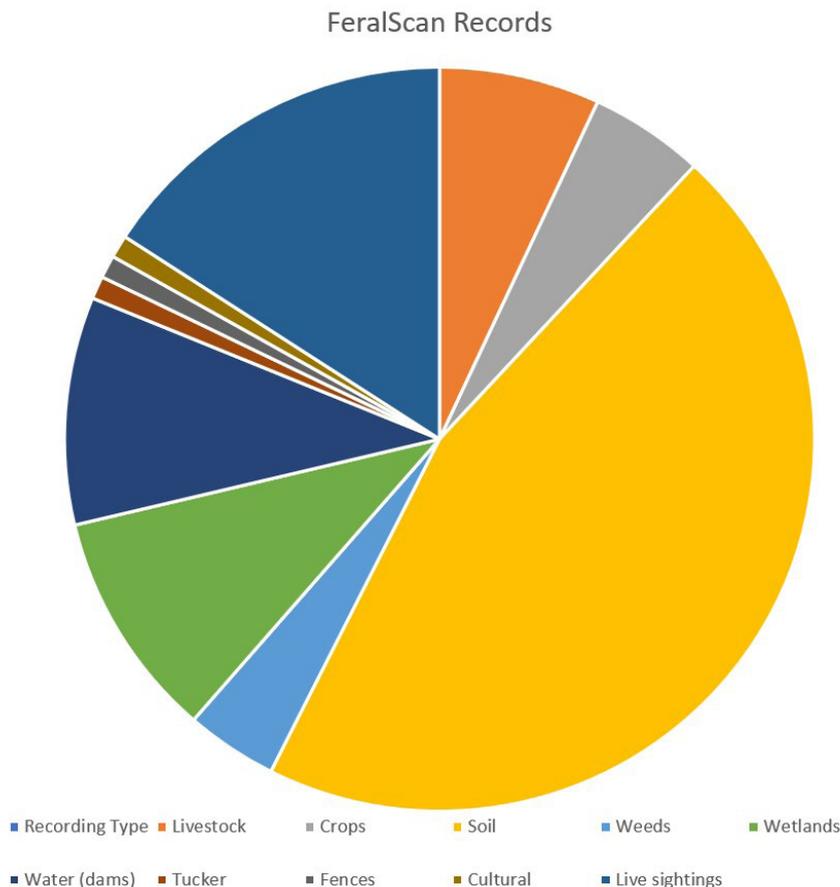
The Lower Blackwood LCDC encouraged landholders in the SCP to report signs of pig activity they noticed in the area either directly to the field and project officers or onto FeralScan.

FeralScan is a free online resource for landholders, Landcare groups, pest control professionals, local government and biosecurity organisations to record information about feral pigs in their area.

During the project a total of 51 damage records and 16 live sightings totalling 76 pigs were officially recorded. Evidence of pig damage to soil was the most commonly reported sighting, and this usually coincided with the break of the season following the first germination even in the area.

FeralScan records tripled between the first and second year due to increased community engagement and continued strong in the final year of the project.

It is worth noting that these numbers do not include that of the field officers own monitoring of pigs and the damage they have caused or the records from the monitoring program and are only that seen by the community and reported to the Lower Blackwood LCDC. This therefore shows the level of engagement and awareness from land managers in the SCP.



Monitoring Program

Monitoring Summary

The level of recorded sightings and impacts from pigs did not significantly increase which gives evidence towards the trapping being effective.

Controlling over 75% of a feral pig population to keep population stable is usually required to have a meaningful impact on ensuring a feral pig population does not grow. Given the monitoring data shows no significant increase in pig activity for the life of the project, there is reasonable evidence to suggest that the control efforts achieved this target.



Community Engagement

The LBVPMG worked directly with over 25 of the SCP land managers in controlling feral pigs. This included coordination of trapping and monitoring efforts, on ground actions including prefeeding and even some ground shooting, surveillance and fencing to limit unauthorised access.

The diverse land use in the SCP shows the need for a tenure blind approach as pig activity/behavior usually crosses land tenure boundaries freely.

A key outcome of the project was demonstrating that this project structure and the relationship between the LCDC and the LBVPMG is a successful framework for navigating the challenges of an area such as the SCP which has very diverse land tenure.

The Lower Blackwood LCDC held annual workshops and information sessions for landholders sharing the progress of the project along with educating landholders on feral pigs in terms of lifecycle, behaviour and the options for limiting impacts of feral pigs in the SCP.

Yearly reporting was carried out by the Lower Blackwood LCDC, showcasing the results of yearly trapping and preliminary monitoring data.

Quarterly updates were shared through the Lower Blackwood LCDC eNews network which has a current reach of over 1083 people in the wider south west region. Further educational resources were prepared for the community including an online resource toolkit which includes an online guide to managing feral pigs in the SCP.

This engagement has resulted in a significant increase in FeralScan reporting compared to before the project started, and therefore a greater awareness of the impacts of feral pigs in the region.



From L-R: Dr. Narelle Dybing (National Feral Pig Program Support Officer, Jeff John (Lower Blackwood LCDC Project Officer, Shane Franklin (LBVPMG Field Officer) and Les Dunnet (LBVPMG Field Officer)

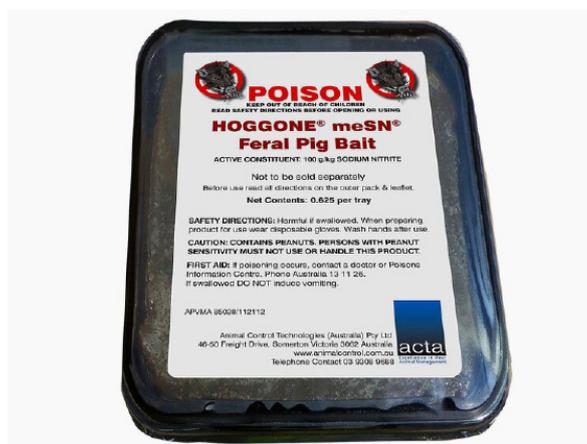
HOGGONE Use

Summary

HOGGONE is an innovative new bait product created by Animal Control Technologies Australia (ACTA) that uses sodium nitrite as the main active ingredient. Pigs are more susceptible to sodium nitrate because they have low levels of a protective enzyme that is present in other species. HOGGONE rapidly and completely breaks down even after the feral pig has died, The active ingredient totally degrades in the environment and with the required use of the HOGGONE bait boxes poses no environmental risks.

The HOGGONE system employs a pre feeding step with placebo bait in the bait boxes before the use of the active sodium nitrate bait is introduced. While HOGGONE Bait boxes are effective in the control of feral pig in the SCP, the input efforts are comparable to those conventional methods employed by the LBVPMG. The cost of the bait compared to control methods (shooting) combined with the inability to accurately track the control numbers and ensure the carcasses are not entering or effecting wetland systems in the SCP deems that it is not a preferred, method for pig control by the field officers.

The greatest opportunities for HOGGONE bait boxes in the SCP and greater southwest are with willing landholders that do require any specialised training to control the pigs. The ability to ensure consistent feeding is the main hurdle for landholders and once the active baits are introduced the control actions are then taken care of without the need to active control (shooting) and the skills or risks associated with these activities. Camera traps can be a proxy for control numbers in this case especially with highly motivated landholders. These findings have been echoed in other feral pig control programs including in the Otway's by the Conservation Ecology Centre (CEC).



Photos courtesy of Animal Control Technologies www.animalcontrol.com.au

Project Challenges

The Scott Coastal Plain can get extremely wet in the winter months in places, which has an impact on feral pig control activities as it limits access for the field officers to key trapping locations. The project was designed so that the 6-month trapping seasons were implemented in the drier months of the year for each of the project years. Given that sows are able to produce two litters per year there was a real gap in being able to control populations through this wet period.

The SCP is quite a preferable environment for feral pigs with ample supply of different feed on offer. Luring feral pigs away from their normal feeding habits and into traps was challenging with conventional feeds such as grain. As result the LBVPMG have found that apples are preferred to be used to prefeed pigs in trapping activities. While pigs are effectively drawn into traps with the use of apples there were also some challenges with crows also being drawn towards trapping sites with the apples.

The field officers were able to continue to respond to landholder callouts where access permits during the winter season. If more resources were available this period could have been used to focus on landholder engagement and capacity building. Field officers would have been able to build the resources and skills needed to control and monitor pigs more effectively in landholders in the area. Community awareness consistently improved over the course of the project but more was needed to assist landholders to undertake control or monitoring actions themselves.

Unauthorised access to both private and state managed land is frequent in the SCP and recreational feral pig hunters are common. Both of these hamper control strategies put in place and can cause the pigs to be disturbed and 'trap-shy'. Landholders were also initially cautious of permitting field officers' access to their property to undertake control or monitoring actions. Through continued stakeholder engagement however, this greatly improved showing the importance of long-term coordinated and strategic programs to manage feral pigs.



Project Challenges

The LBVPMG built great relationships with the community who, once motivated, became the best source of information to assist with control activities often saving precious time on routine surveillance.

Stolen equipment was another challenge to both the control and monitoring activities, two cameras were stolen and three broken/drowned over the life of the project as well as one stolen trap. A number of control events were disturbed by unauthorised activity, this was more common on long weekends public holidays when unauthorised activity usually spiked. Trapping activity was as a result usually conducted in private property where the managers had better results in reducing or eliminating unauthorised activity.

A large-scale event (Scott River Races) meant a large increase in the volume of unauthorised activity in the Scott Coastal Plain was present for a period of time. This caused numerous disruptions in the field officers pig control activity. Including pig movement, patterns changing, traps being disturbed and pig mobs becoming trap shy due to increased human activity.

Given the extreme drought conditions experienced in the summer 2023/2024 it was interesting to note that pig behaviour significantly varied from the normal. Landholders and field officers reported pig activity in different areas within the SCP than would be typical during even a normal summer where water sources become scarcer. Once the season broke however the pig activity and impacts to germination on agricultural land returned to normal.



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Positive Outcomes

This was the first large-scale monitoring program for feral pigs in the SCP by the LBVPMG and Lower Blackwood LCDC. As a result, it is now possible to measure impacts and outcomes of management actions rather than relying solely on pig control numbers.

- The LBVPMG and Lower Blackwood LCDC were able to get great support and cooperation from plantation companies to both monitor pig activity and assist with ensuring unauthorised access was effectively restricted. This aided effective control as feral pigs were less likely to be disturbed by unauthorised activity during trapping events.
- Through the monitoring program, feral pigs in close proximity to a high value ecological site were able to be promptly detected. A coordinated effort between the LBVPMG and cooperation from DBCA meant the activity was effectively controlled before serious environmental damage could occur. This shows the value in the ongoing monitoring program in its ability to be able to protect high value ecological areas including The Scott National Park. Protecting the SNP was a major goal for the program.
- Landholder engagement continued to increase during each control season due to ongoing communication and raising the level of public awareness of the issues present in the Scott Coastal Plain. The steady on ground activity of the field officers and their response to call outs has meant they have developed a strong rapport with local land holders. Community awareness has risen through the ongoing communications from the Lower Blackwood LCDC. Wider interest from surrounding landholders has been astounding and shows the extent of the pig activity in the Southwest and lack of coordinated resources to be able to address feral pig activity at a regional level. This shows the importance of longer-term programs that enable a more continual, coordinated and strategic approach to feral pig management.



Lessons Learned

Management is an effective strategy to minimise environmental and agricultural impacts

Consistency develops trust and momentum with long term programs

Community networks enhance efficiency of control actions

More input is needed to build landholder capacity and transition landholders from awareness to active participation



Next Steps

Given the success of the project the Lower Blackwood LCDC and LBVPMG aim to secure more funding to continue the program. It has now been demonstrated that management is not only required but is able to effectively control the impacts of feral pigs in the Scott Coastal Plain and is necessary to continue to protect the SNP.

Recommendations to include in future programs

- Investigate measures to determine and monitor relative density or total population numbers in the SCP.
- Investigate determining a local agricultural cost per hectare on pig damage in the area
- Conduct a feasibility study on a hypothetical eradication program.
- An eDNA sampling feasibility study that focused on SCP waterways could determine whether it could improve efficiency of control actions and add another layer to monitoring pig and all other vertebrate pest activity in the SCP.
- Explore the role of recreational hunting in the SCP, (survey current values, attitudes and experiences) including a risks/benefit analysis.
- Cooperation with Blackwood Biosecurity Group and Lower Donnelly River Conservation Association to widen approach to prevent eastern sources of pig into the SCP.
- Investigate the potential adoption of new monitoring techniques (eVorta) providing live feed alerts to increase monitoring data but also improve control efficiency.
- Now with a community that is aware of the pig activity in the region and the impacts the feral pig populations will have, a key next step would be to enhance engagement and build capacity of private landholders. This would include continuing to facilitate nil tenure feral pig control approaches between private and public land managers. Increasing land holder monitoring would add significant value to the program but also landholders assisting with control actions through the use of HOGGONE, PigBrig, or actions such as prefeeding or strategic exclusion fencing.



Special Thanks

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In addition the Augusta Margaret River Shire, through it's Environmental Management Fund, has provided support for a 1 year pilot Feral Pig Focus project to complement the Scott River Project for Feral Pig Control in the wider AMR shire.



A special thanks to our other project supporters:

- Peppermint Estate
- Shire of Nannup
- Collins Bros Orchards for their excellent supply of bait apples!



PEPPERMINT
ESTATE

And a big thankyou to all participating landholders! We look forward to your continued support and collaboration in tackling this important issue.



EST. 1906
Collins Bros.
ORCHARDS
PREMIUM PEMBERTON PRODUCE

And Remember - Report A Pig!

www.lowerblackwood.com.au/projects/feral-pig-control



Lower Blackwood Catchment
Land Conservation District Committee



**For more information and to report a pig sighting,
head to our website:**

www.lowerblackwood.com.au