

B6. Feral Animal Control

The Agriculture Protection Board has a list of declared pest animals known to cause agricultural and environmental damage. This is available at:

http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/content/PW/VP/declared_animals.pdf

Under the Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976, there are various Declaration Categories associated with the species listed. Unlike declared plants, there is no legislated obligation to control these species however; cooperative management with other local governments and other land managers to control feral animals is encouraged.

Actions to consider include:

- Development of a local government policy in recognition of the damage feral animals may cause in local natural areas;
- monitoring the presence of feral animals in local government controlled natural areas; and
- monitoring natural areas for use by domestic animals and impacts of this use.

Control measures are generally species specific. Cats and foxes may be controlled by the use of 1080 poison baits. However, community use of the reserves may make the associated risk to domestic animals unacceptable in urban areas. Other methods of feral animal control may provide viable options. Specific advice on control of some pest species is available at: <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/content/pw/vp/index.htm>. For further information, contact your local DAFWA office and ask to speak to a Biosecurity Officer.

DAFWA cannot endorse commercial operators; however they suggest the use of licensed pest-control operators. Ask if they are: registered to use 1080, Pindone and/or Alphachloralose (toxins for rabbit, fox, and bird control); skilled in identification of at-risk native fauna; aware of strategies to minimise risks to native fauna; skilled in use of traps/trapping; monitoring and are experienced in the bushland environment. Use of these toxins is regulated by Health WA - who may provide a list of endorsed licensed pest-control operators.