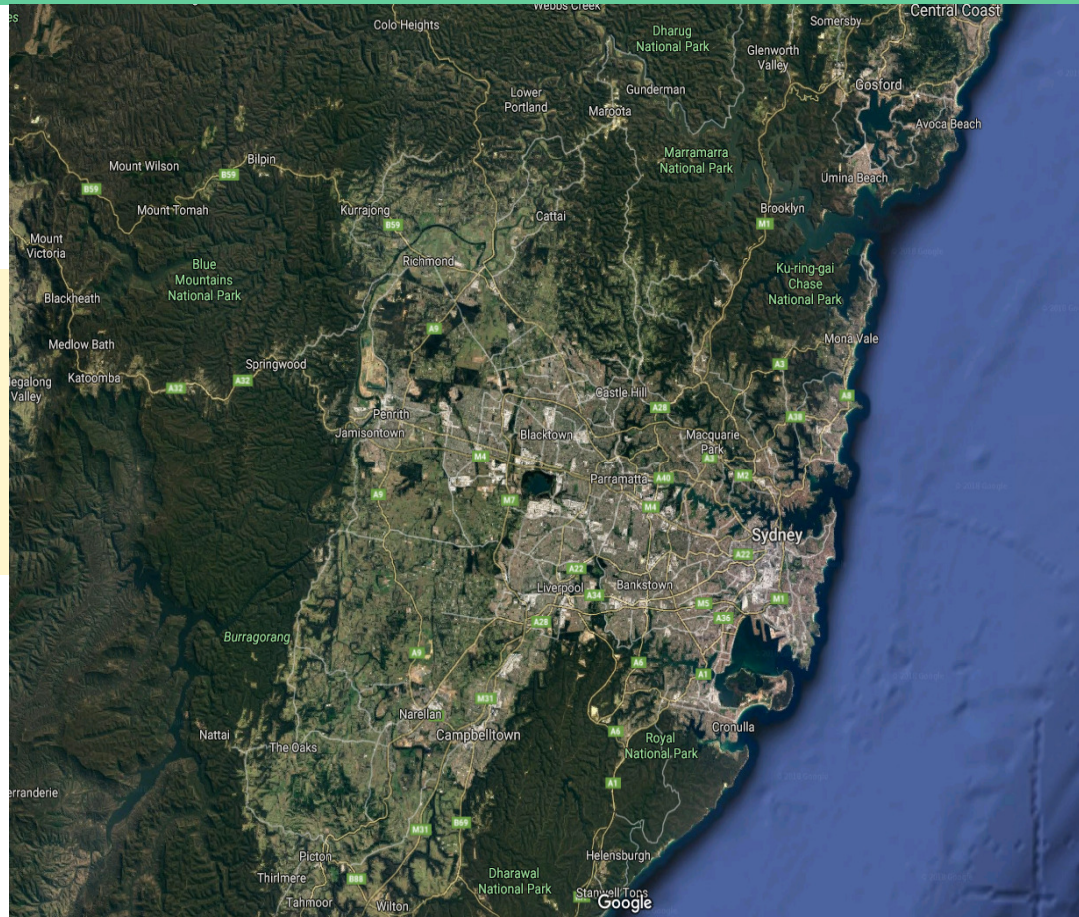


# Sydney North Vertebrate Pest Committee (formerly UFAAG)



# Greater Sydney Region

- High density buildings & population
- Open space including bushland
- Peri-urban / rural fringe
- Multiple land-use
- Multiple tenure
- Many stakeholders
- Broad range of knowledge, opinion, needs & expectations



# The Sydney North Region



David Jenkins [www.whalespotter.com.au](http://www.whalespotter.com.au)



# **The Urban Feral Animal Action Group (UFAAG)**

**Established in 1998 and is comprised of local Councils and State government key land management agencies**

**The group came together as a result of community concerns of the threat to local wildlife posed by the fox combined with a more effective means of control needed by agencies.**



# Planning for the fox program

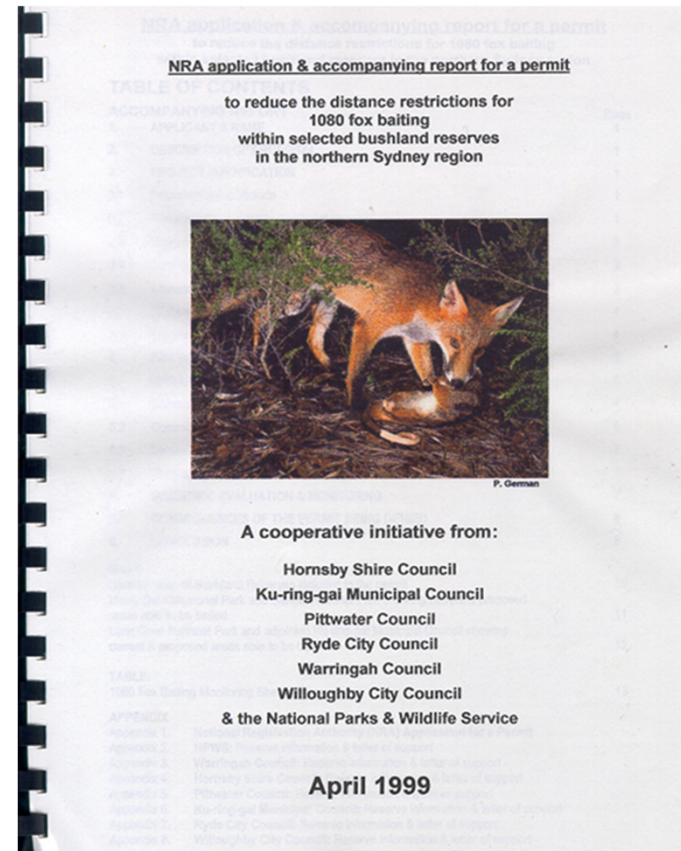
- Public awareness campaigns
- Regional Fox Control Plan
- Consultation with RLPB (LLS) NSW Ag. (DPI) and EPA
- Applied for special off-label permit to 1080 use within urban areas

## Regional Fox Control Program

*Conserving Sydney's  
Green Web*



Photo Courtesy of Pavel German



# In 2000: 6 local councils and NPWS initiated a coordinated cross tenure fox control program



- Ensure the long-term survival and recovery of native animals in the Sydney North Region from foxes, by reducing fox numbers across the region
- Raise community awareness and work with the community
- Investigate new fox control methods
- Lessen attacks on animals in zoos, refuges & high conservation areas
- Complement existing bushland management activities

**IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Sydney-North Regional Fox Baiting Program**

Please be advised that the Regional Fox Baiting Program will soon resume in the Sydney-North area. The aim of the program is to protect native wildlife, including threatened species, from fox predation.

Baiting will be conducted within the following reserves in 2010 during the months of March, May, August and November:


- Manly-Warringah Memorial Park
- Jamieson Park
- Deep and Middle Creek, Narrabeen
- Dee Why Lagoon
- Garigal National Park
- Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park

The fox control program will involve the use of "Foxoff® Econobait" poison baits which are designed specifically for fox control. Poison baits contain 1080 (sodium monofluoroacetate). Baits will be buried to reduce the risk of non-target poisoning.

Warning signs will be displayed to notify the public about the program. It is vital that pet owners take extra precautions to ensure that their pets do not enter these reserves during the baiting period. Entering a baited reserve during the baiting period with a dog or cat is an offence under the Local Government Act, Section 632. Dogs are prohibited in National Parks at all times, penalties apply.

For further information please contact Warringah Council on 9942 2111.

Photo: David German



# Coordinated Rabbit Program

In December 2005 the Committee decided to pass a motion for the group to develop a rabbit management plan to facilitate a coordinated and proactive approach for managing rabbits on land occupied by the agencies represented.



## Rabbit Management Plan

2007 – 2012

for the

**Urban Feral Animal Action Group  
Sydney North**



Prepared April 2006

By Steve Parker

Moss Vale Rural Lands Protection Board

# Cats in Urban Bushland Initiatives

Protect your Cat, Protect your Wildlife program



## Cat and Wildlife Expo

10AM - 2PM SUNDAY 26 JULY  
ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE, INGLESIDE



*Protect your cat, protect your wildlife*  
Promoting responsible cat ownership



Fun family event • Food stalls • Face painting • Prizes  
Jumping castle • Kids activity corner • Cat photo competitions  
Native animals from Australian Wildlife Displays • Animal  
Welfare League's luxury cat shelter tour • Adopt a cat or kitten

**'WHO'S WHO'  
OF THE CAT WORLD**  
Vets, boarding facilities, toys,  
behaviourists, containment,  
nutrition & more

**PRESENTATIONS**  
Cat behaviourists  
Specialist cat vets  
Specialist wildlife vets  
Sydney Wildlife

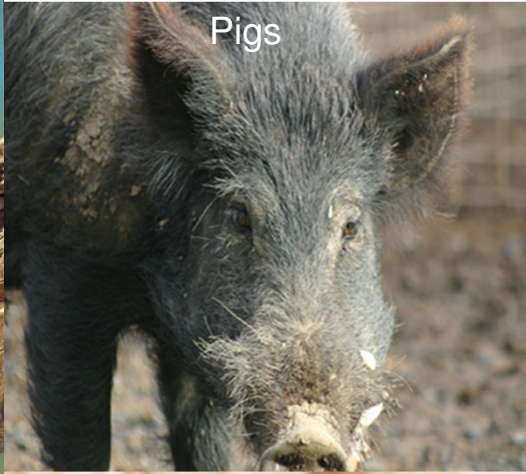


# Other Pests & New Incursions

Myna Birds



Pigs



Red-Eared Slider Turtle



Cane Toad



Asian Black-spined Toad



Fire Ants



# Urban Barriers

- Fox control blamed for recent increase in rabbits, but not always the case;
- Dumping of unwanted pet rabbits an ongoing problem, increases urban populations;
- Close proximity to houses & children's playgrounds makes some control methods difficult;
- Risk to domestic cats & dog biggest public concern when baiting in reserves;
- Closure of reserves to dog walkers: significant issue for councils whose reserves are otherwise open to dogs.



# Sydney North Vertebrate Pest Committee

**Today; 9 Councils, Bidjigal Reserve Trust, Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, NSW NPWS, Forests NSW, Taronga Zoo, Local Land Services, RMS, Railcorp, Sydney Water.**

## Guiding Principles

- Cross tenure approach;
- Multi land management agencies, landholders & community
- Strategic & integrated
- Identify & manage impacts, management aims & desired outcomes
- Use a combination of control methods;
- Monitor effectiveness of programs;
- Best practice methods
- Cost effective, target specific & humane
- Community education & awareness campaigns




# Coordination, Training, Field Days

- Coordinated grant funding projects
- Education campaigns
- Training program for members
- Field days
- Guest speakers at meetings




# Data Collection



WHERE YOU HELP MAP FERAL ANIMALS  
AND THE DAMAGE THEY CAUSE  
A LANDOWNER, COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT  
& BUSINESS COLLABORATION

[Home](#) [Get involved](#) [Register](#) [Register your Group](#) [Photo Gallery](#) [Regional sites](#) [Support](#) [Visit PestSmart website](#)

## Welcome to the northern Sydney fox mapping resource



**Local authorities and the community in northern Sydney are working together to manage the impacts of introduced foxes**

Foxes are a major introduced pest animal in northern Sydney. They prey on native wildlife (such as birds), kill backyard poultry, spread weeds and disease, and have been known to kill domestic pets and zoo animals. Fox impacts on native fauna can be substantially reduced by intensive broad-area fox control targeting areas where native fauna are vulnerable to fox predation.

Priority sites for the conservation of threatened species in northern Sydney include:

1. Garigal / Ku-ring-gai Fox Threat Abatement Plan (Fox TAP) site for endangered Southern Brown Bandicoots
2. North Head for endangered populations of Long-nosed Bandicoots and Little Penguin, and the North Head Wildlife Sanctuary.

You can help to be part of the solution to reduce the impacts of urban foxes by reporting when you see foxes or see the problems they cause (such as predation of backyard poultry) here in the FoxScan website. The information you record can help local authorities to implement appropriate strategies to reduce the adverse impacts of foxes, and help protect domestic and native animals.



**How to record foxes in your local area**

1. Register in FoxScan or Login
2. Record fox sightings and impacts
3. Download the App (AppStore and Google play)

Please note, your personal details will not be visible or accessible to the public.


[LOG OUT](#) [MY PROFILE](#)

### Record Fox Activity



**START MAPPING**

Recent Records 4,174  
**TOTAL RECORDS 15,141**



You are Here [RabbitScan](#)

[View Data](#) [Add Sighting](#) [Add Damage](#) [Add Control](#) [My Data](#)

[Return To Home](#) [Print Friendly](#) [\[View Rabbit Biocontrol Tracker\]](#)

To create a new rabbit sighting, click the Add Sighting tab above. Fill out the details and then click the Submit button. To add a damage site or control location use the Add Damage and Add Control tabs.

To view your existing sites, click the My Data tab above.

### RabbitScan

**Display Settings**

Year

Recent Data

☐ My Data  
☐ All Data  
☐ My Group

**Summary**

	Sighting	Damage	Control	Disease
Jillian MacIntyre	77	14	47	
National	8,387	589	-	845

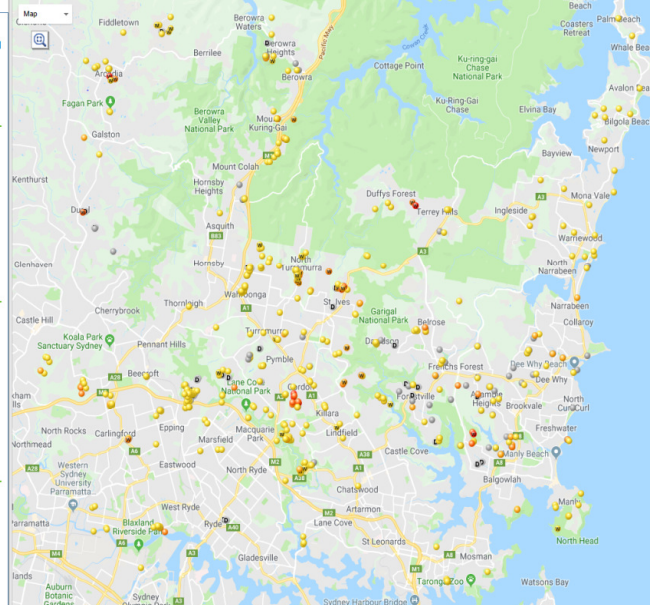
**Legend**

- Very high numbers seen
- High numbers seen
- Medium numbers seen
- Low numbers seen
- Very low numbers seen
- None
- Warren seen
- Damage Site
- Known region for rabbits (Click to display)
- Rabbit Barrier fences (Click to display)

**Layers**

☐ Rabbit Biocontrol Tracking Sites

[Return To Home](#)



# Overall Management Issues- Barriers & Successes

## Barriers

- Long term commitment of resources, staff time & budget;
- Mixed level of knowledge & skills;
- Perception & opinion;
- Staff turnover
- Not core business for some agencies



## Successes

- Have inspired other groups in Sydney including counterparts in Southern Sydney;
- 1080 proven safe and effective in urban areas;
- Public feedback pro fox & rabbit control
- Rabbit Management Plan 2012-2017
- Training for agency staff
- Information & support for agencies undertaking vertebrate pest control
- A united stance
- Increase in native fauna species (LN Bandicoot).

# Thank you - Questions

## Photo Credits

Mel Hall

Brendan Smith

Richard Ali

John Taylor

NSW National Park &  
Wildlife

NSW DPI

Northern Beaches Council

David Jenkins

