Human/Wildlife Conflict; The feral pig intersection between biophysical and human dimension research.



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Palerang_Pig24 habitat movements





Lachlan Marshall, Darren Marshall, Aiden Sydenham.









Feral Pig Impact – mixed enterprise landscapes

- Damage to agricultural assets
- Damage to environmental assets
- Biosecurity threat

















Can I use science (GPS Collars) as a platform to motivate land managers to work together and control feral pigs at a landscape scale.







Home range and core home range movement









Core Home Range – district wide









Seasonal variation







Landscape movement – Engagement Tool



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Landscape features of highly revisited (recurse) sites

Biophysical Outcomes

Powerful partnerships: NSW Vertebrate Pest Research Unit Biosecurity Queensland





Average hourly distance (meters) by solar period



Male 9,806 km 4.99km Female 5,501 km 2.72km Sex Home range (Km²) Core home range (Km²)

Average daily distance

Total km travelled

Sex

Male	9.25	1.32
Female	0.85	0.11









Current and complete GPS collaring sites









What impact are we having?









Do we need to think differently?



Biophysical Ecology



Human Dimension Ecology









Human Dimension Ecology

Neither alone is sufficient to influence change!









Research Objectives - Human Dimensions

- Assess the effectiveness and promise of alternative engagement interventions for managing feral pigs.
- Examine the effect of alternative engagement interventions on land manager and community member:
- <u>knowledge</u> of (1) the impact of feral pigs on agriculture, the environment and disease transmission, (2) feral pig management techniques, (3) coordinated control, (4) land manager and community responsibility for control, and (5) the ecology (movement patterns etc) of feral pigs.
- <u>attitude</u> toward (1) coordinated control and (2) land manager and community responsibility for control, of feral pigs.
- <u>trust</u> amongst (1) land managers within a community and (2) land managers have for researchers and practitioners.
- <u>networks</u> within a community, specifically weak ties between (1) land managers within a community and (2) land managers and researchers/ practitioners.
- Community-based research will increase voluntary participation in coordinated control events.







Research Design



Engagement (+) --- Research (+) = **Treatment 1 X 2 reps** Engagement (-) --- Research (+) = **Treatment 2 X 2 reps** Engagement (+) --- Research (-) = **Treatment 3 X 1 rep** Engagement (-) --- Research (-) = **Control site X 1 rep**









Research Design



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Human Dimension Methods

Individual participant Surveys

- Quantitative analysis
- Pre and Post survey at each site
- Measure evolution within sites
- Comparison of treatment sites
- n=201 participants across all sites

Semi- Structured Interviews

- Qualitative analysis
- Using Most significant change theory
- N=21 participants across all sites

Community Profiles











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I personally aim to bridge the gap between the biophysical ecology and human dimension ecology sciences.







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