

Management of Cane toads in NSW- Toadally serious stuff



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Invasive Species Officer

17 October 2023

Cane Toads in NSW



Agenda

NSW Cane toad Biosecurity zone review

Mandalong Cane toad eradication program

Kenthurst Cane toad management program

Communications and Reporting



Photo credit Matt Greenlees- Female toad

Current Cane toad Biosecurity zone

The NSW Cane Toad Biosecurity Zone was established on December 13, 2019, through the gazettal of an amendment to the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 (Part 2C Division 2)

The zone is described in the regulation and illustrated spatially at Appendix A.

The regulation requires certain actions to be undertaken by landholders in relation to cane toads in the Biosecurity Zone and these are described in the Regulatory Measure.



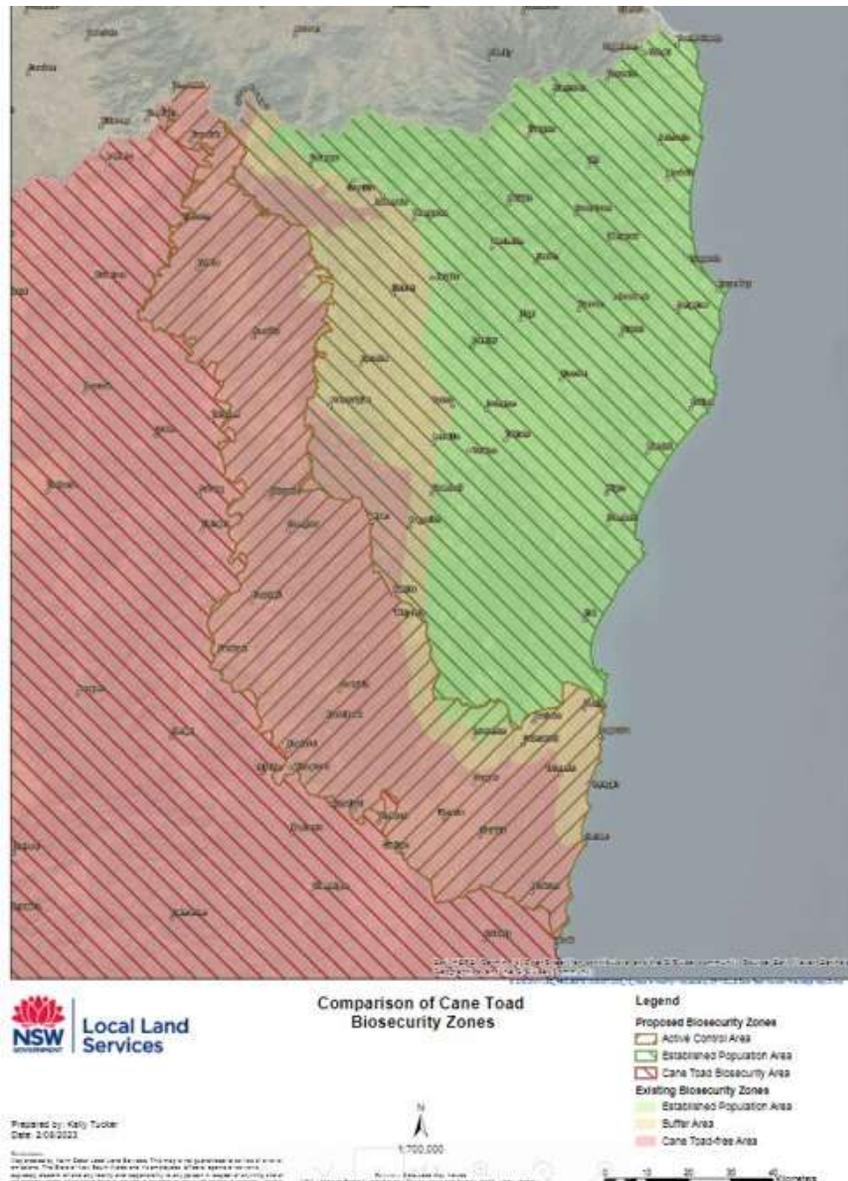
Consultation



Consultation process on the new biosecurity zone borders- NPWS, LLS, Landcare and independent contractors participated

Proposed CTBZ and current CTBZ

- Key The solid background colours reflect the existing NSW CTBZ
- green (widespread area)
- Amber – buffer zone
- Red – cane toad free
- **Proposed zone is hatched.**
- Hatched green is the widespread area
- Hatched amber is the ‘active control zone’
- Hatched red is the cane toad free area
- There are significant differences between the existing and proposed.



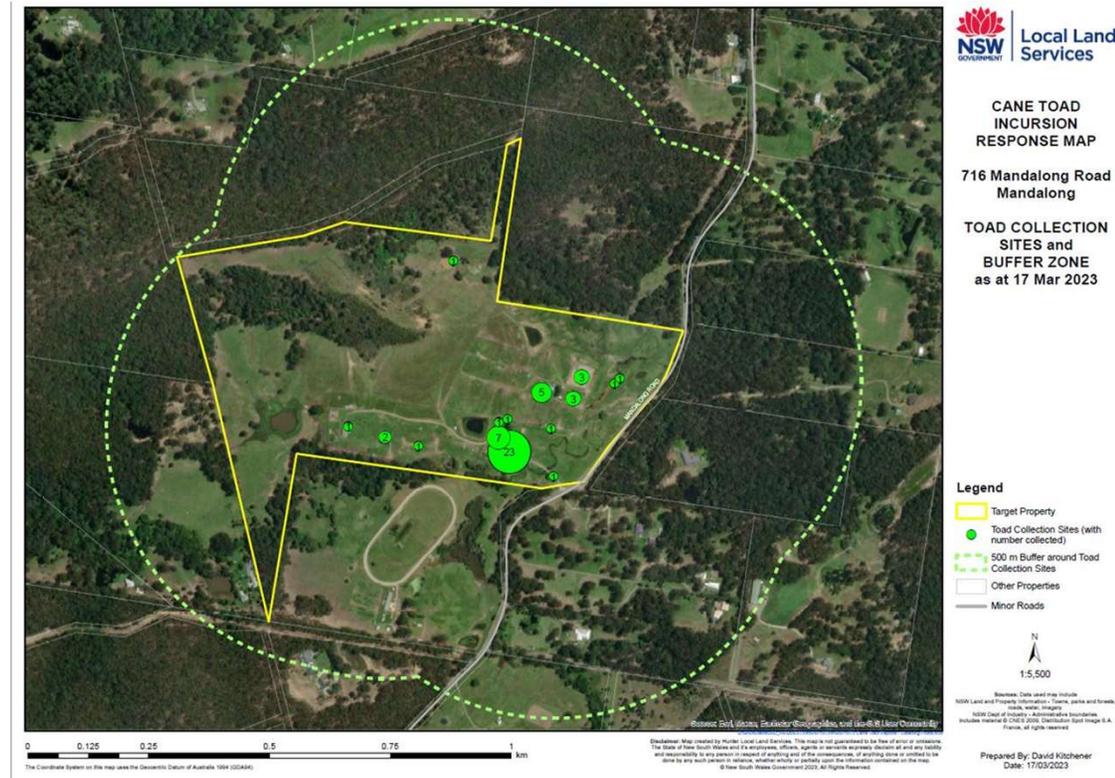
Subtitle

Mandalong Cane toad eradication program

Descriptor

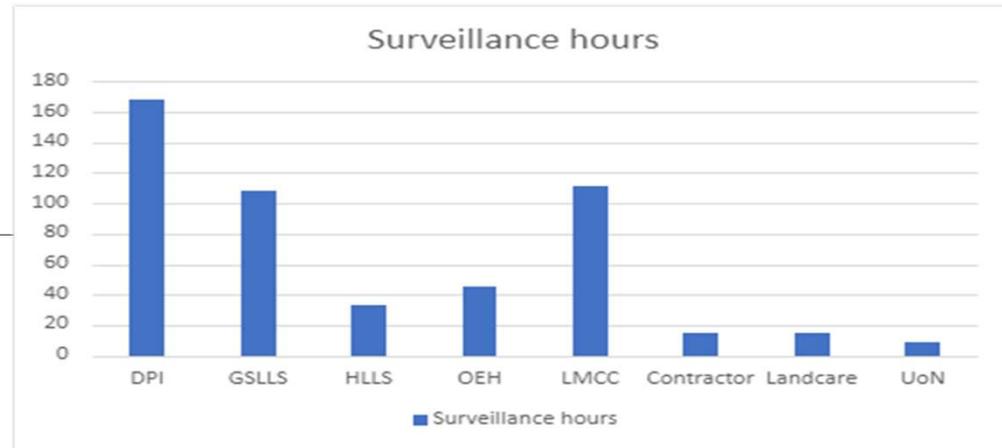
21/22 Cane toad season

- 52 Cane toads collected in total- all from IP1 and IP2
- Night surveillance 3 night /fortnight starting 19/9/22
- Last on ground surveillance 4/5/2023
- Last toad caught 15/3/23
- Detector dogs
- traps
- Listening stations
- Clean up site
- Report from University of Newcastle
- eDNA
- DNA
- Community communications



Night surveillance

- Three nights a fortnight
- Over 500 hours
- This is not including day-time activities



Songmeters

- 15 listening stations
- Almost 1000hrs listening
- 5 properties
- No toads detected





University of Newcastle data

- Majority of the toads collected were considered juveniles- not capable of reproduction
- No adult females collected
- Four of the toads collected at the end of summer in 2023 were sexually mature. Only one ever detected calling.

Environmental DNA

Training and sampling



DNA- Where did they come from

Mandalong toads came from 7 breeding pairs

14 toads were full siblings

The adult male was not related to any of the other toads tested

Breeding event from one mating pair ruled out

Parents of toads not collected

Scenario 1. The sub-adults collected at the site are the product of local breeding in Mandalong.

Scenario 2. Many related juveniles or sub-adults sheltered together and were transported together to Mandalong (Most likely).



Come and join us



Native frogs seen during night surveillance

Subtitle

Kenthurst Cane toad program

Descriptor

Kenthurst CT program

- Since 2021, 57 toads found
- 11 found in one day
- Song meters
- Detector dogs
- eDNA
- Monthly night surveillance
- Site plan
- SWMS
- Detection report form and all data entered into Feral Scan and MAXX



Detector dog trained for Cane toads

Kenthurst CT program



Cane toad containment area and Biosecurity direction

INDIVIDUAL BIOSECURITY DIRECTION

NSW Biosecurity Act 2015

I, [REDACTED]

am an authorised officer under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act). In accordance with section 123 of the Act I hereby give an individual biosecurity direction (the biosecurity direction) to the following person:

[REDACTED]

Name of individual, corporation, body corporate, Trustee of Family Trust

[REDACTED]

Residential or business address

[REDACTED] NSW 2156

Suburb

State

Postcode

[REDACTED]

Phone

Email

The biosecurity direction applies to the person in relation to the following thing/s or place/s:

The premises located at [REDACTED], NSW 2156 is the trading location of [REDACTED] Pty Ltd. This business is subject to ongoing incursions of cane toads (*Rhinella marina*) through business trade activities and is currently implementing management of cane toads (eradication) in accordance with an approved Cane Toad Site Specific Management Plan [REDACTED] (also known as [REDACTED] referred to as the Plan). The Plan has been approved and agreed to by Director [REDACTED]

In accordance with section 128 of the Act I reasonably believe that the biosecurity direction is

Communication

- Trade shows
- Electronic display boards
- Flyers
- Facebook posts



A close-up photograph of a cane toad. In the top left corner is the NSW Government logo. In the bottom left corner, there is text that says "Help prevent cane toads spreading in NSW" followed by "More information and to report sightings" and the website "www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/canetoad" with a white arrow pointing to a QR code on the right.



Protect what we love

Cane toads have different features to native frogs

NON-NATIVE	NATIVE	NATIVE
		
CANE TOAD	BANJO FROG	PERON'S TREE FROG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> No pads on fingers and toes<input type="checkbox"/> Poor climbers<input type="checkbox"/> Bony ridge over eye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Unwebbed fingers<input type="checkbox"/> Orange/yellow sides<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow gland under eye to shoulder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Pads on toes<input type="checkbox"/> Climbs<input type="checkbox"/> Cross-shaped pupil

SEE IT. REPORT IT. 1800 680 244
dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/sighting
If you see an unusual non-native pest animal, report it to NSW Department of Primary Industries.



How to report

Online form

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/forms/report-an-unusual-animal-sighting>

Email

invasive.species@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Phone 1800 680 244

