

‘Seed Money’ A Success

Integrated Feral Pig Management
NSW Vertebrate Pest Management Symposium - October 2025

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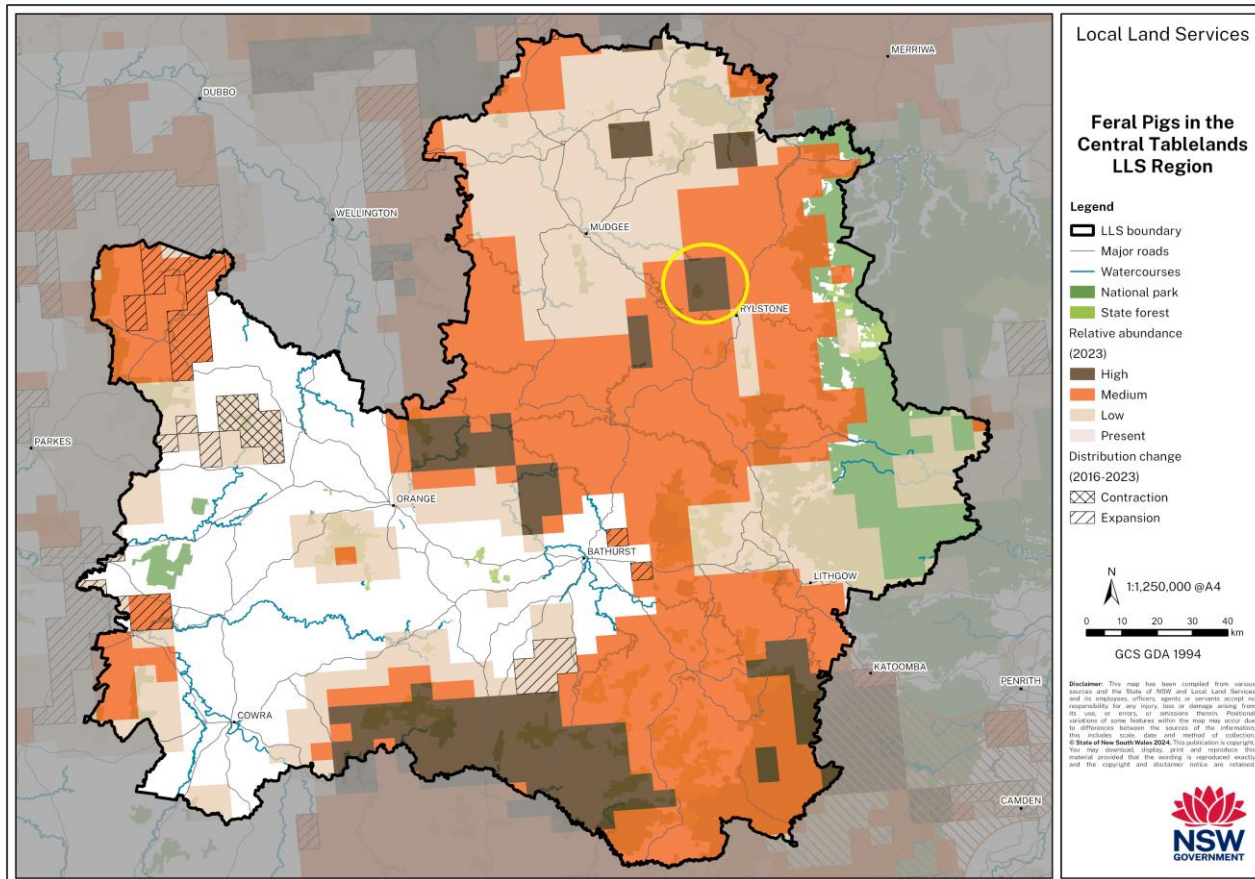




Seed Money?

- NSW Government rolled out \$13 million towards feral pig control programs across NSW 2023/24 (FPP)
- \$50 k allocated to Mudgee Region
- Motivating incentive “Seed Money”

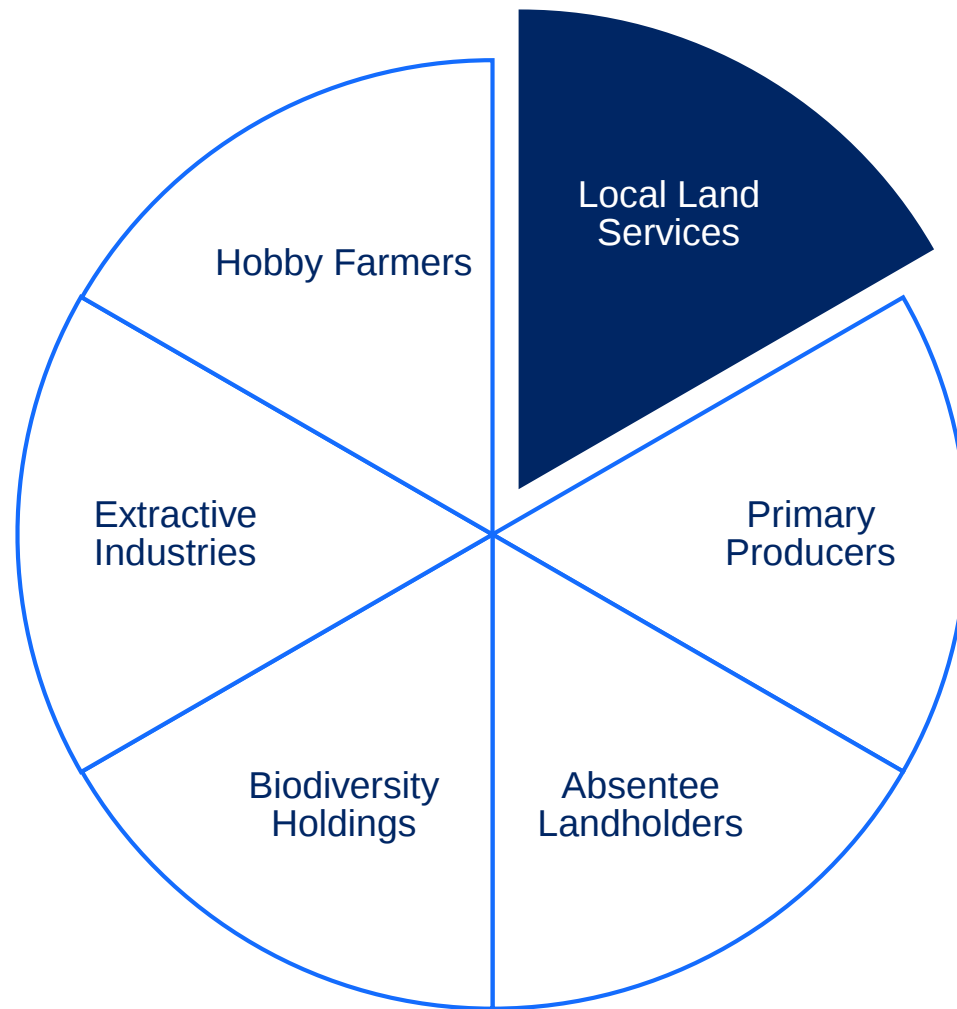
Site Selection



Lue/ Havilah area

- 2023 feral pig master class identified high populations
- High abundance in the CT RSPAMP 2024/28
- Landholder reports feral pig activity

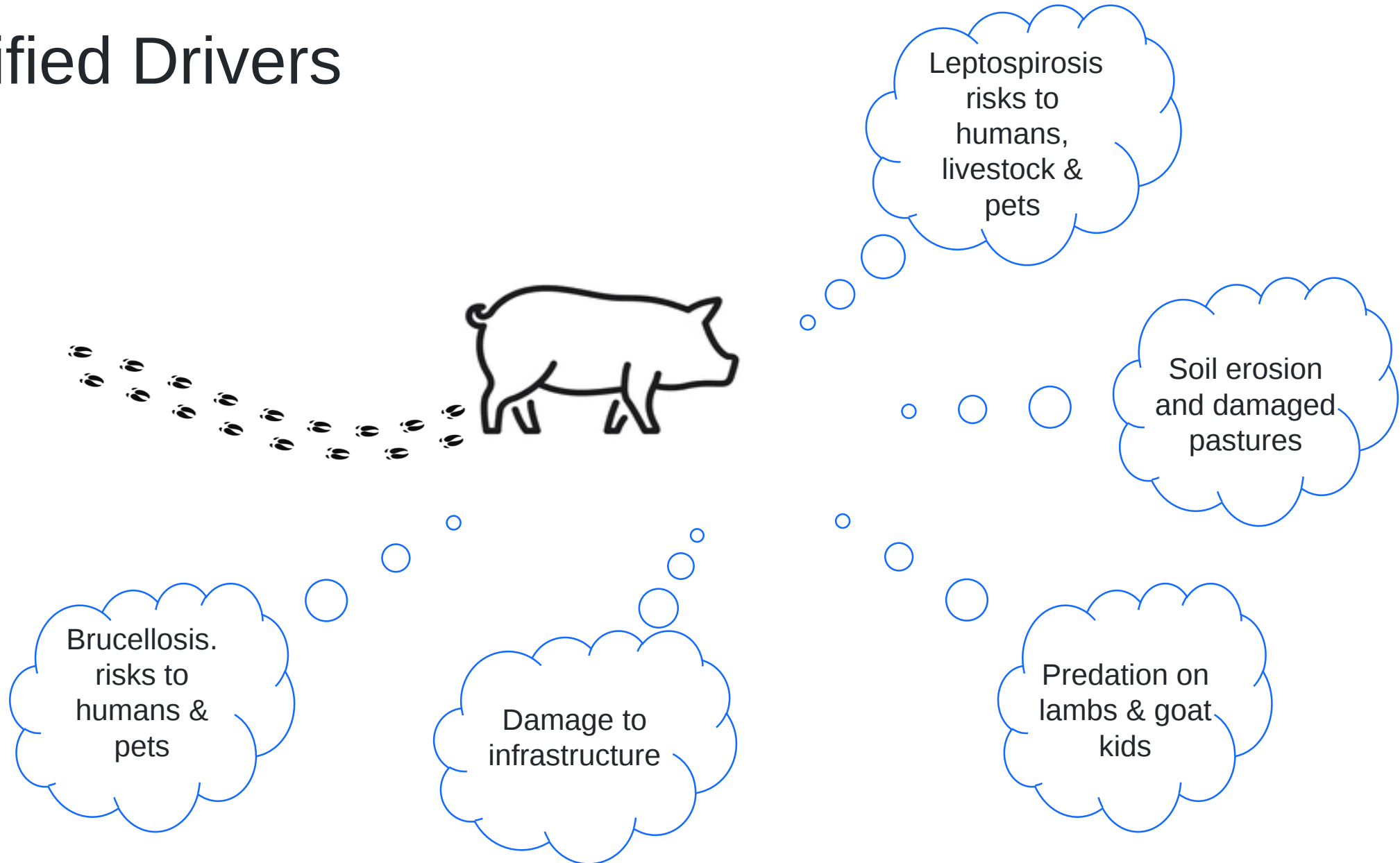
Putting the Puzzle Together



- Site visits
- Phone consultations



Identified Drivers



Increased Social Fragmentation

“I don’t know my neighbours”

and

“Theres not enough people doing something”

A reflection of diminished community cohesion and shared responsibility...



Feral Pig Management Session

Local Land Services



Feral pig management info session - Lue

Do you want to learn more about feral pig management?
Are you keen to get involved in a coordinated program in your community?

Join us for an informative session where our biosecurity officers will talk through different feral pig management tools and techniques. They'll be covering:

- pig grain vouchers
- trap designs
- bait types
- zoonotic disease risks.

Morning tea and lunch will be provided on the day. Please RSVP for catering purposes.

Region
Central Tablelands

Date and time
24 November 2023
9:00 am – 1:00pm

Location
Lue Hall, Cox Street Lue 2850

RSVP
By 20 November 2023
To Amanda Turner, Biosecurity Officer
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0448 229 854



NSW
GOVERNMENT

- Upskill knowledge
- Relationship building between LLS and land occupiers
- Network encouraging between primary producers, absentee, biodiversity, extractive and hobby land occupiers

*Good catering attracts numbers.
Especially when you promise a good STEAK!

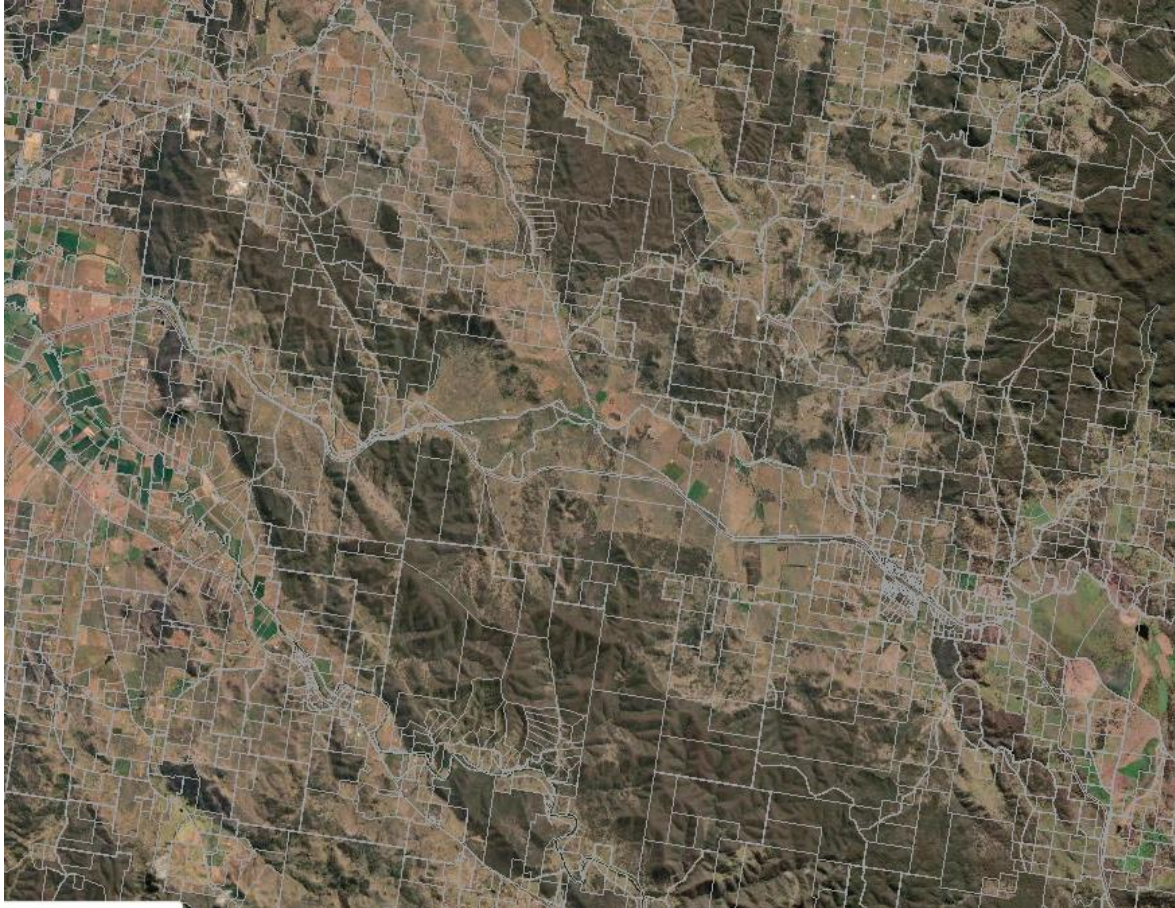
Local Land Services

What we covered

- District vet - zoonotic disease risks
- LLS Biosecurity Officers - pig biology and control methods available
- Trap designs
- Non-target prevention devices (hog matt, pig Baitta's)
- Contractor attendance for relationship building



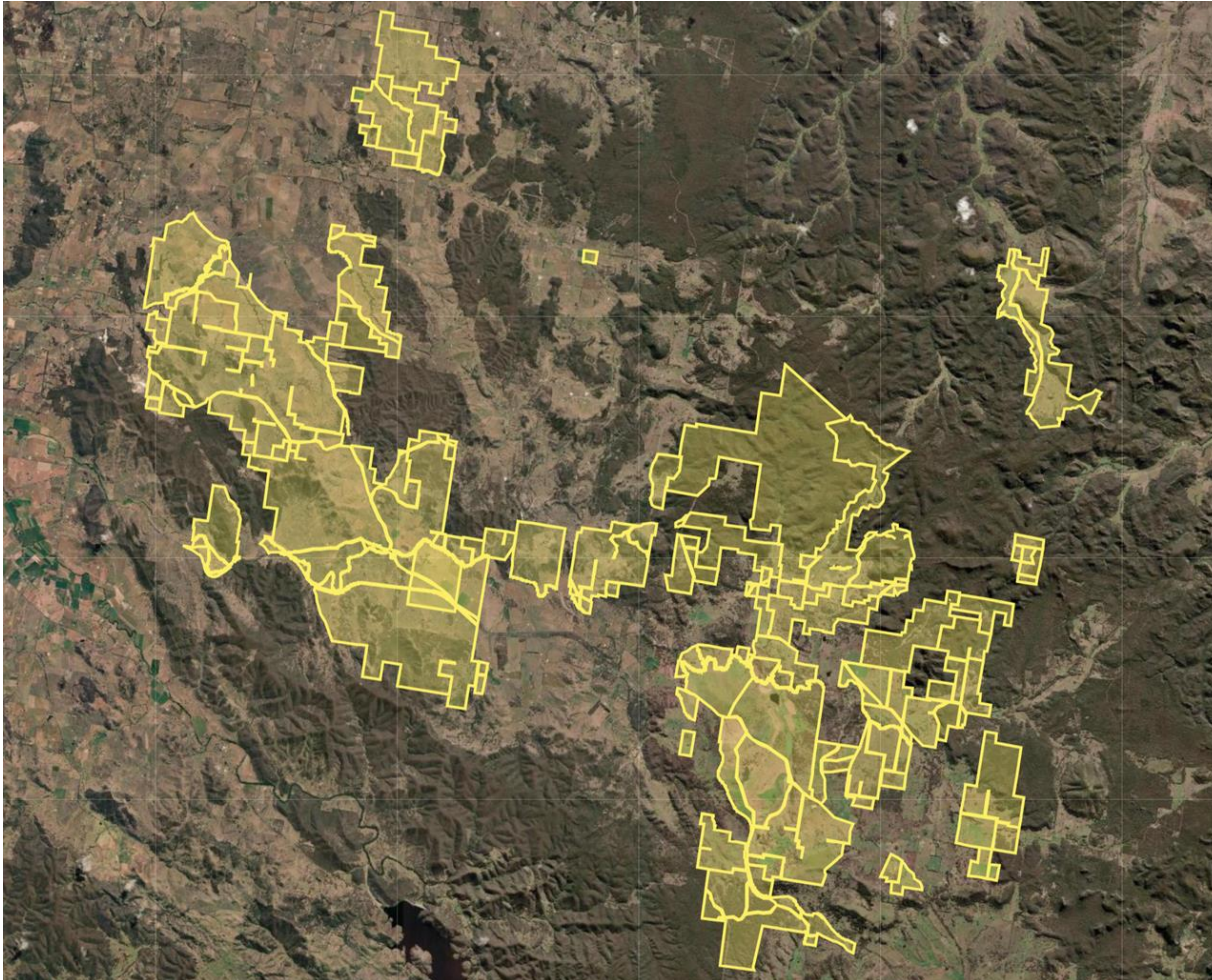
A key idea that worked well



A0 map of area printed on table – land occupiers highlight their property if they wish to participate in the program.

- Created discussion and networking between land occupiers
- Put pressure on neighbouring properties to get involved
- Discussions on what work is already being done within the area

Results



- Established relationships with LLS and land occupiers
- 18839 ha (35 participating holdings)
- 10 land occupiers utilised contractor labor
- 7.2 tonne grain utilised
 - 122kg 1080 poisoned
 - 7 tonne free feed and trapping
- Land occupiers actively reporting numbers controlled to bio-officers and utilising feral scan

“Used the carrot not the stick “ (seed money)



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What LLS brought to the table:

- Subsidised grain for free feeding, trapping and 1080 baiting
- Molasses's for fermenting grain
- Pig traps available for hire
- 4G trail cameras
- Pig baitta feeders
- Pest controller labour (optional)
- Coordinated support for control programs

Pig Brig trial





Numbers reported controlled

1,456 feral pigs reported controlled from November 2023 – September 2024.

Contractor reports 809, 1 wild dog

Landholder reports 647

Some figures to consider with contractor labor;

- \$3.10ha
- \$48.20 per pig



Local Land Services



Around the traps today!

Pre	Post
122kgs poisoned grain (2/35 properties)	796kgs poisoned grain (8/35 properties)
647 pigs reported controlled (landholder only reports)	196 pigs reported controlled

- Actively reporting numbers controlled to LLS
- Neighbours working together - sharing costs of grain purchasing
- Conducting drone surveillance of damage impacts pre & post control
- Landholders continued to engage contractor Labor



Ongoing barriers we face



Photo: C.Hundy

1. Recreational hunting with pig dogs
2. Maintaining program momentum once the tap is turned off
3. Constant change in land ownership

What is the answer?

