

Community vs Government-Led Feral Pig Control Programs:

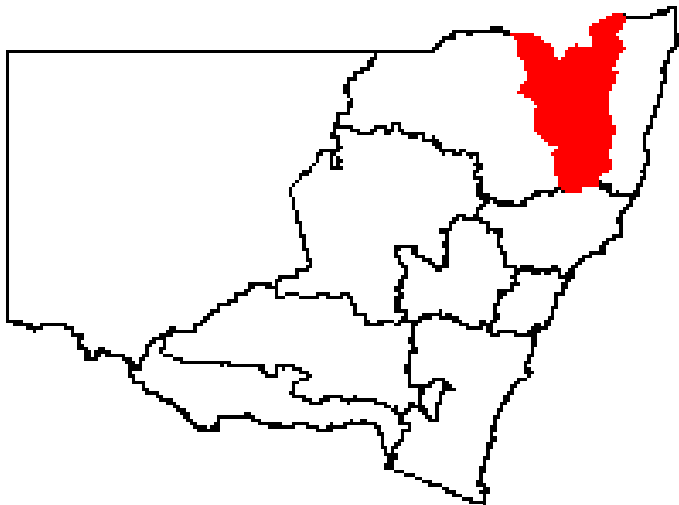
Two Case Studies from Northern Tablelands, NSW

E Keyte, M Smart, A Elliott

October 2025



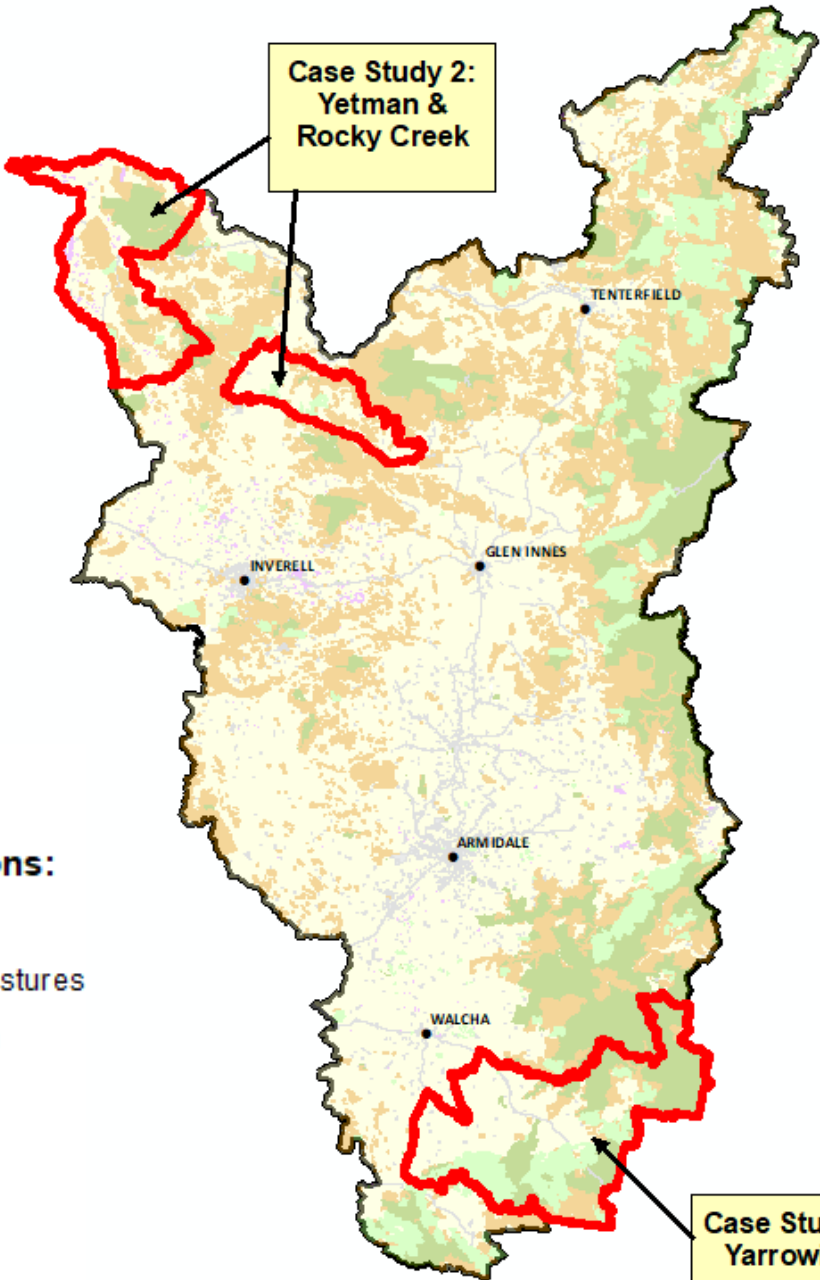
Case Study Areas



Legend

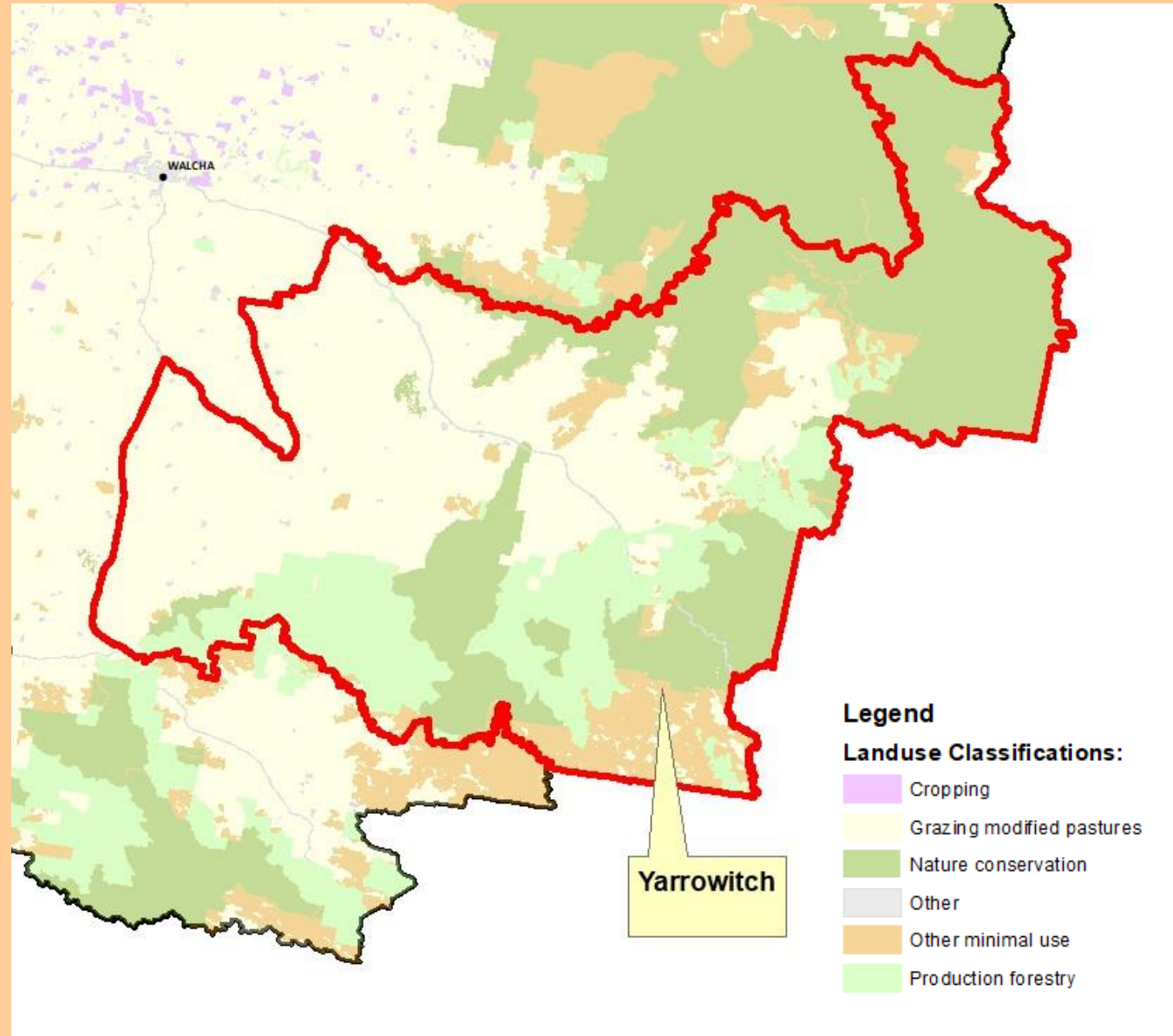
Landuse Classifications:

- Cropping
- Grazing modified pastures
- Nature conservation
- Other
- Other minimal use
- Production forestry



Case Study 1: Community-Led

Yarrowitch



Yarrowitch Community

 **Expanding Feral Pig Incursion**

 **Mobilisation**

 **Multi-Agency**



The Makings of a 'Local Champion'

🌱 **Belonging**

☐ 🌿 **Generosity**

☐ **Partnership**

🏆 **Respected and Recognised**



Community-Led: A Proven Model

Locally Made, Locally Owned

"At Yarrowitch, since the pig program started, we have seen the benefits across our properties. Last winter, we trapped around 200 pigs; this year, only 50."

Socially Motivated Participation

"This outcome is a result of everyone playing their part – and it wouldn't have been possible without government funding."

Building Capacity & Knowledge

Angus, Anne-Marie & Harry Pointing

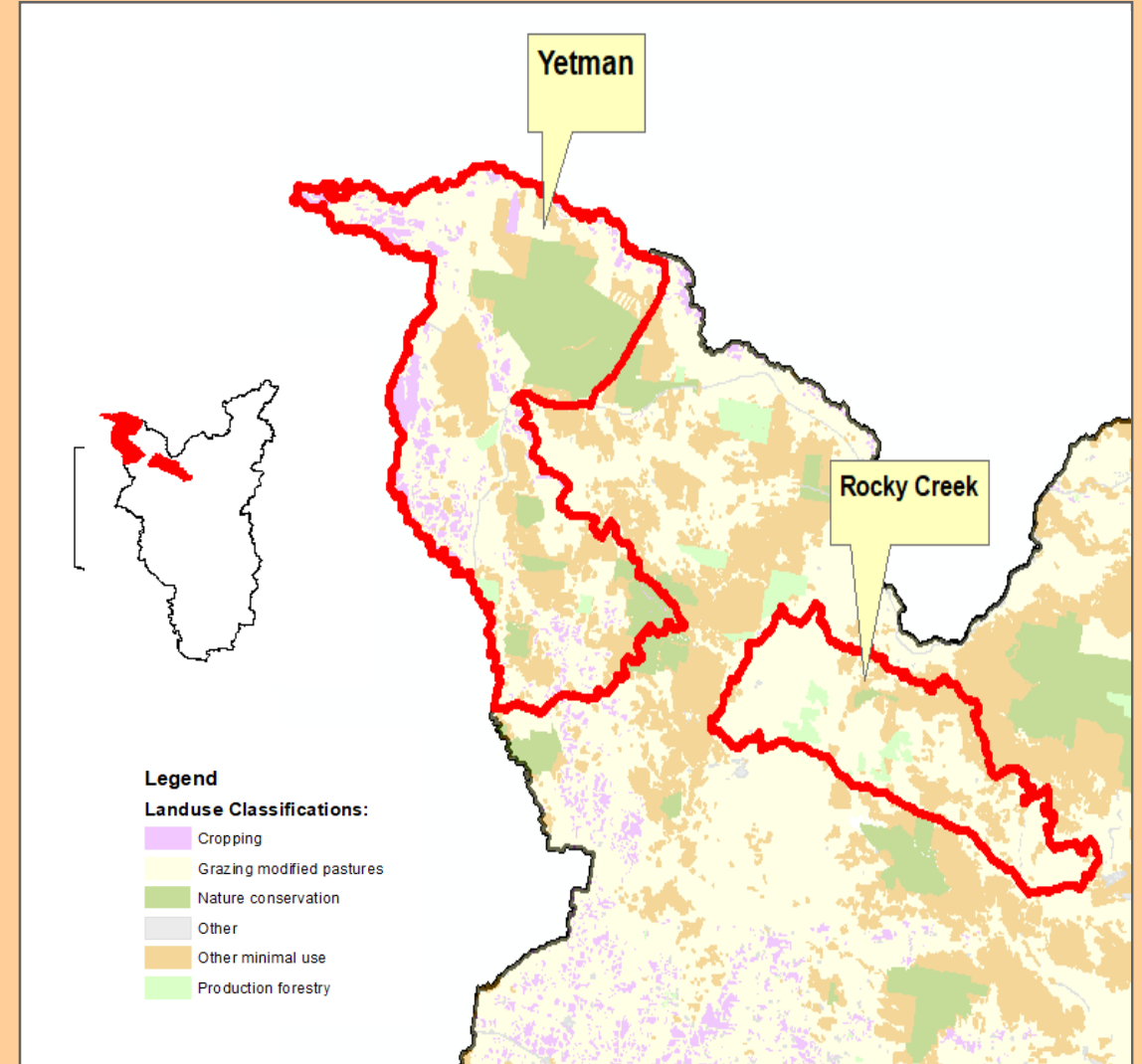
Leadership from Within

Tangible Impact





Case Study 2: Government-Led Yetman and Rocky Creek



Case Study 2: Key Elements

Personal 1 on 1 Landholder Engagement

Capacity Building

Incentives Provided

Multi-Method Control Approach

Data Sharing & Monitoring



Real, Relevant & Visual Evidence

-  **Drone damage surveys**
-  **Pre control thermal imaging monitoring**
-  **Photo point monitoring**



Photo Point Monitoring Results

Asset: Farm dam / Watering point

February 2024



September 2024



September 2025



Photo Point Monitoring Results

Asset: Pasture / Crop

January 2025



September 2025



Building Trust and Capability

- **Trust is the foundation:**
Without it, participation doesn't happen.
- **Tailored engagement works:**
Different areas require different approaches.
- **Momentum matters:**
Each success builds stronger relationships and champions.
- **Community-led control:**
Landholders take ownership when supported.



The Future

- **Champions emerge:**
Advocates share stories and inspire others.
- **Sustainable impact:**
Programs designed to continue beyond funding.
- **Long-term vision:**
Skilled, equipped, motivated landholders working together.
- **Shared assets build capacity:**
Pig traps, bait stations, grain, training.



"I've enjoyed the work for us in our community's all the more and to get to see the impact of the support programs like the one that they've taken over a long period," showed me the impact you can achieve through longer control programs."

Rocky Arnold

