

Submission
No 23

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF CAT POPULATIONS
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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Cat Containment Laws.

Cats are currently being demonized. Any law that demands 24/7 cat containment, is going to result in cruelty and death to many more cats than is presently occurring and there is an excess of cruelty and death happening to many, many cats already, as a result of their demonization by groups such as the Invasive Species Council.

If such a law is enforced, it will give great power to vigilantes who will be thrilled to trap their neighbors' cats at any opportunity.

The shelters will quickly fill up and lack of space will result in quick killing.

Can we be kind instead of punitive? Provide funds for cat enclosures, (which allow entry to the home), since most homes have none. Make these funds available without ridiculous rules such as enforced by Blue Mountains City Council. (An enclosure at the rear of a home may just be impossible, where one at the side will work fine!)

Can we provide free desexing, but not mandatory, so people aren't punished for accidental breeding, and move ahead to responsibly re home kittens, so people are not going back to drowning kittens as was happening regularly in decades past.

TNR must still be possible. Community cats can be well cared for by the community and well fed and not reproducing, they are absolutely not the threat to wildlife that they are constantly declared to be. The numbers re wildlife deaths caused by cats are vastly inflated.

Please can we be compassionate? Cat containment laws will not help wildlife, that has been shown in other places. These laws will endanger cats and entitle nasty humans who will delight in taking the high moral ground while they persecute their neighbours for letting their cat out. These individuals who pretend to care about the environment are usually living a life style, sadly, like most of us, that funds habitat loss and deforestation..the greatest killers of wildlife. Humans have devastated the environment. Evidence of our presence is EVERYWHERE.

So please don't target cats like this.

Please support TNR.

Thank you.