

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially  
Confidential

The vitriol levelled on cats has intensified with Invasive Species Council (ISC) spreading like FIREWEED & receiving significant funding from a variety of sources.

While cats are hunters and will catch and kill a variety of prey, I have EXTENSIVE experience with cats and dogs in a rural setting and have found peoples pet dogs, lacking training and supervision are FAR deadlier than cats.

To explain, in a rural setting, cats control large numbers of rats, mice & rabbits. They have been seen targeting snakes.

In over 45 years on a farm, I have found minimal traces of, or been presented with virtually no native animal (marsupials etc) kills & only a handful of birds. In other words, my experience has been that the farm cats we have had, have focussed on known prey - rats, mice & rabbits. I dare say then do kill a proportion of small native animals, but I do not agree the number is anywhere near the one proposed.

Dogs, on the other hand, have terrorised the local community, running in packs when unsupervised, killing goats, sheep & lambs, maiming calves, injuring horses & killing many smaller animals including dragging my neighbours galah out of its cage and tearing it up.

I have seen ISC touting figures. These 'figures' are most likely a rudimentary calculation based on an estimate of free living cats, plus their registered domestic counterparts, multiplied by a predetermined 'kill figure' per head.

This falls apart when you consider that I, for example, currently have four indoor cats, all rescue cats, that are completely indoor.

They are registered & microchipped, but are unable to kill anything apart from the odd moth or fly that entered the house.

But I guarantee they will be included in that figure.

I would also refer back to my previous statement regarding the targets of cats over 45 years of observations. A significant portion of the kill estimate would include pest species that outcompete native animals- these pest species, such as rats, impact native animals significantly & will increase in number should their apex predator be removed.

Lastly, if the kill estimates were true, we would be unable to walk down the street for number of animals existing. I suppose then ISC would want to "cull" them too!

I absolutely advocate for desexing domestic cats, I advocate for city dwelling cats to be contained at night, I advocate for catching wild living cats from the environment.

I DO NOT advocate for poisoning, shooting or other cruel lethal control means. I DO NOT advocate for fines for owners whose cats are outside. I DO NOT advocate for ISC having any input in this process as they are run by a megalomaniac & narcissist who need to get out from behind their computers and pick up a mattock and actually do a bit of weed digging. Then they might be of some use instead of mouth pieces who relish in cruelty & death!

Human activity remains the number 1 cause of extinctions in Australia and around the world. Until we curb our own voracious, destructive natures, we need to LAY OFF other species!