INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF CAT POPULATIONS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

THE DIRECTOR
ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE
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SUBMISSSION TO NSW CAT INQUIRY

Please accept my submission to the NSW Cat Inquiry.

NSW lost many millions of plants and animals as a result of the 2019-2020 drought and bushfires. Many of the native invertebrates and vertebrates species, including birds, which were adversely impacted by this drought and bushfire season are preyed upon by domestic and feral cats.

There are three ways in which domestic cats can be stopped from harming native animals which will have no impact on a domestic cat's welfare.

These three methods of protecting native animals which will not affect the welfare of domestic cats.

- 1. Mandating cat containment 24 hours per day.
- 2. Mandating the desexing, microchipping and registration of all domestic cats
- 3. Ensuring that Local councils are given sufficient funding to enforce any new laws.

I do not own any cats . However cats have killed native animals in my house yards.

The last native animal to be killed by a cat in my backyard was a wattle bird, a native honeyeater. The cat was an uncontained domestic cat.

I have friends who have cats who live happily

in their containment areas.

One method of containment is a cat run made out of strong wire which goes from inside the house to a run around the perimeter of the back yard . This cat run leads into two large caged areas on grass which contain water and food .

The other method of containment consists of metal mesh which encloses the large courtyard. House walls form two sides of the court yard. The third side consists of part metal mesh and brick wall and the fourth side of the courtyard consists of a fence with metal

mesh attached which reaches the roof level metal mesh which forms the ceiling of the enclosure. The cat and humans enter the house via a doorway.

These types of enclosures do not impact a domestic cat's welfare.

A domestic cat is not adversely impacted by microchipping or desexing .

The three methods of protecting native wildlife discussed above should be made into law so that native wildlife will be protected from domestic cats and domestic cats will be to live happily with their owners.

Yours sincerely

21.11.2024