

Submission
No 331

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

I live in a relatively busy street in Katoomba, Lurline Street. I have lived here for 25 years. About 8 years ago a new neighbour moved in, who owned a large ginger cat. It has been stalking everything that moves and succeeding in killing heaps of wildlife. In my yard. I shoo it off but it comes back. I watch it. I am powerless to do anything. I have spoken to the neighbour but to deaf ears. Council are powerless. Over the years, I have disposed of, in my wheelie bin at least 12 dead possums, both ringtails and brushtails. I have personally euthanased one struggling/ dying possum, that was in a very bad way, taken one dying possum to Wentworth falls vet, (the contact vet for WIRES up here), been called over to the gutter outside my house, by a local School boy to find a head bitten tiny ring tail struggling to move. I rather foolishly tried to keep it alive, It didn't work, It would have died in great pain.

THIS IS WRONG. If I wanted a cat I would get one. I do not want a cat. I especially don't want my neighbour's cat. If I owned a dog that strayed onto someone else's land I would be responsible for it and its actions, not so with cats.

Cat owners need to be held responsible for their pets. Un owned cats need to be impounded. This list is just what I find, on my standard size block, it doesn't measure what the cat takes away.

A cat's territory can be large, I don't get much native wildlife in my yard.

Imagine all the animals killed in the adjacent bushland (800 m away) where wildlife is relatively plentiful. Imagine how many domestic cats are up here in Katoomba.

Please change things, before we we loose even more of our wonderful natural heritage.