

Submission  
No 448

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

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially  
Confidential

## Management of cat population in New South Wales

My neighbour has been feeding native birds which is lovely to see and hear however with this the neighbourhood cat and owner see our yard as their own. In that we have a cat in our yard anytime of day or night killing every and any bird they can.

Problem 1 - bird carcasses are left in the yard as the cats are not eating them just killing them

Problem 2 – we have that much cat poop in our yard that we are unable to let the children go out and play until we have cleaned it up. We have a 5-year-old child with low immunity issues, and we are afraid he will get sick from all the cat poop in the yard. The cat poop can be in the front or back yard, on our porch/patio on our roof, basically anywhere

\* **Toxoplasmosis** - Exposure to cat faeces can lead to a disease called toxoplasmosis, caused by the parasite *Toxoplasma gondii*<sup>1234</sup>. While healthy individuals may not show symptoms, pregnant women and people with weakened immune systems are at risk.

Problem 3 – tomcat mark their territory on everything and anything, we have to make sure there is no cat urine anywhere the children wish to play. Again, we have to clean this up before we or the children are able to go out into our own yard

Problem 4 – fighting tomcat, we can have up to one or six cats in our yard at any given time, day or night so we don't have to deal with all pooping and urinating we have to listen or stop them from fighting. And how many cats do we own..... NON

Problem 5 – it has cost us between \$450 to \$500 to humane products (sensors, plants, spray etc) to try and stop all the pooping, urinating and fighting which is a losing battle. We are at a point where we are thinking of inhumane options to try and protect our family and native animals.

Problem 6 – I was a dog owner until she passed away due to old age. Having a dog help with stopping the pooping, urinating and fighting in the back yard but no help in the front yard. As a responsible dog owner by law I had to keep her in the yard to protect other people. I had to make sure she was not a nuisance by barking etc or I could get fined. People who own cattle, sheep, snake, chicken etc are also legally responsible for keeping their animals from locked up, being a nuisance and keeping other people safe. However, cat owner have no responsibility and why are they different from any other person who owns animals.

Problem 7 – who will enforce cat owner to lock up their animal's day or night. My local council doesn't even come out and catch stray dog even if they're vicious.

As a residence we must catch them and take them to the pound.

Leasing of humane traps to residence who can take the cats to the pound. Then it would be between the cat owners and the council to sort out any issues and leave the residence who is having the issues out of yet.

Problem 8 – this issues has been around for years and years and even with this survey it will more than likely not change as cat owner seems to have more rights than anyone else in New South Wales.