

FERAL ANIMALS POLICY



PREAMBLE

Feral animal populations are regarded, together with fire and weeds, as the main threats to biological diversity within the Northern Territory. In order to preserve the integrity of ecosystems and ecological processes it is necessary to control the number of feral animals as far as possible.

POLICY

The Parks and Wildlife Commission will seek to reduce the adverse impact of feral animals on the natural biodiversity of the Northern Territory by;

- Removing, where practical, all feral animals from parks and reserves except where provisions are included in park management plans for retaining some feral animals for specific management or conservation purposes.
- Ensuring that all feral animal control be humane and done by the most appropriate methods. Control may include commercial harvesting and utilisation of feral animals but it is understood that in many situations this may be inappropriate and other control methods must be used.
- Implementing approved feral animal management programs which have clear measurable objectives, involve follow-up monitoring to gauge effectiveness and are revised as control priorities change.
- Co-operating with landholders and local authorities to ensure that all unmanaged feral animal populations are controlled as far as is practical.
- Feral Animals should be considered as part of the overall grazing pressure.
- Explaining to landholders and the public generally the reasons why feral animal control programs are desirable and necessary.

STATUS: Endorsed 94th PWCNT Nov 2001

FILE: D89/948