



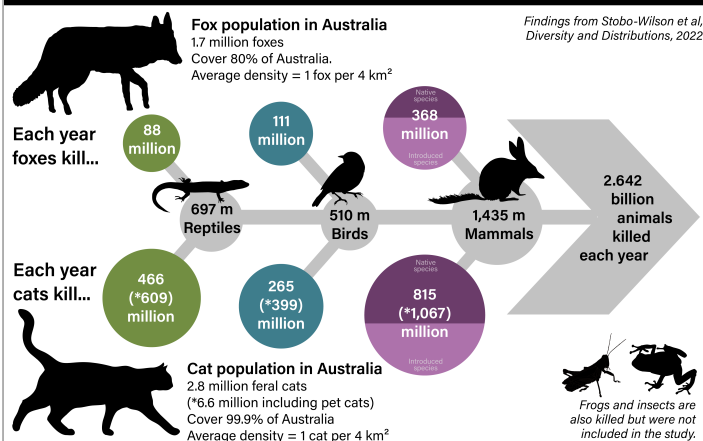
How you can help manage feral animals around The Cape.

The Cape's Natural Environment Group has identified protection of our wildlife as a priority issue - particularly trying to control the impact caused by feral animals.

We are incredibly lucky to have some very rare and vulnerable species like Hooded Plovers, Latham's Snipe and Lewin's Rail, let alone a variety of reptiles and small mammals such as rodents, antechinus and possums living in our backyard. But sadly, they're all at risk of predation by foxes and cats.

This document is designed to help you understand the problem and how you can help reduce the damage being done.

Animals killed in Australia each year



This diagram illustrates the chilling facts of the extent of damage being done by feral cats and foxes to our native wildlife.

Cats are prohibited pets within The Cape and are restricted by a curfew on the Bass Coast, but we know they're here and wandering through, especially at night.

Thanks to the use of cameras, we now have documented evidence of foxes emerging from the coastal reserve and roaming through the estate during the evening with captured prey.



Wandering cat photographed in the south east corner of The Cape.



Fox with captured Ringtail Possum photographed recently in the south east corner of The Cape.

How you can help...

If you see a cat regularly out and about around your home, the Bass Coast Shire Council can assist by providing a cage for capture.

1. Call the council on **5671 2211** to book a cat cage – it's a free service. Rangers will ring you when one is available.
2. The ranger will inform you about the rules and you'll need to sign a Stat Dec stating that the cage is being used for a nuisance cat only.
3. You will have the cage for a 4 day loan period. A Ranger can either drop it off to you, or you can collect it.
4. As soon as you catch a cat, call the council to arrange for the Ranger to come and collect it.
If you are unsuccessful, a Ranger will pick up the empty cage after the 4 day period.

Report a sighting...

While you're out walking, if you see a cat or fox in the estate or emerging from the adjoining coastal reserve, please report your sighting (time, date and location, cat colour/markings and photo if possible) to

cape.nature.group@gmail.com

Thank you. The information we collect will help in developing plans to help protect our vulnerable species by controlling these destructive creatures living in and around the estate through ongoing eradication programs.