

2 July 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission to Parliamentary Inquiry on the problem of feral and domestic cats in Australia

Please let me preface this submission by saying I am a cat owner and think that cats can be wonderful companions.

However- the vast majority of people are not responsible pet owners and both feral and domestic cats present a massive key threatening process to our endangered wildlife.

I do not believe the recent changes to the Companion Animals Act will do enough to push people towards responsible pet ownership. While making it cheaper to register a desexed cat is great, there are LOTS of people that don't even microchip or register their dogs and cats anyway.

Education and awareness is not enough to change this situation.

I would like to see a tonne of additional resourcing go out to Local Government and perhaps Local Land Services (or equivalent state agencies) to conduct extensive cat (and fox) trapping where un-microchipped/registered animals are immediately euthanised. I know that may seem harsh but we are facing a biodiversity extinction crisis and we need to act decisively as a nation.

Yours sincerely

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