

## Cat Management Draft Bill 2024

For website publication

I object in the strongest possible terms to the outlines and specifics for the revised cat management systems. The following are the points of contention.

- The inaccurate numbers attributed to cat predation of Australian and migratory species. It is unscientific to use stomach content analysis to determine this. There are too many variables as scientist Ruth Norris points out.
- The draft Threat Abatement Plan (TAP) and the section of the Biodiversity Act, National Parks and Wildlife Act that give licence or support to the TAB, and any plan linked in with The SA Cat Management Plan with a view to detaining, injuring, and killing cats.  
The 2016-2020 nation-wide cat cull was labelled as a failure by reviewing government scientists despite killing 1.5 million cats. Scientist Billy Lazenby warned this this could do more harm than good as her experiments showed cats redispersed, using the vacated spaces that supported life and bred up to greater numbers than before.

**Tuesday, 7 April 2015 Anna Salleh**

**ABC Shooting or trapping feral cats may increase their numbers, a new study has found.**

The accidental finding, made during research into the ecological impact of feral cats, emphasises the need to monitor the effects of culling programs, say wildlife biologist Billie Lazenby of the [Tasmanian department of primary industries](#).

"You may be inadvertently doing more damage than good," she says.

Feral cats are often culled because they threaten biodiversity. But, says Lazenby, the effectiveness of culling has only really been studied on islands rather than in mainland areas, where new cats can come in and replace those that have been removed

C.A.T.S. Inc also predicted it stating that the Vacuum Effect, as it is known in scientific terms would ensure a replenishment of cats. CA.T.S. Inc also predicted the ensuing interim rodent plague.

[https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-23/farmers-desperate-to-harvest-and-stop-further-mice-damage/102239794?utm\\_campaign=abc\\_news\\_web&utm\\_content=link&utm\\_medium=content\\_shared&utm\\_source=abc\\_news\\_web](https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-04-23/farmers-desperate-to-harvest-and-stop-further-mice-damage/102239794?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web)

- Powers of Cat Seizure which interferes with cat natural behaviour to be in their own natural environment. The 5 freedoms of animals include freedom of natural behaviour.
- The Assumption that every outdoor cat must be in need of human assistance, even when no medical assistance is required, and the cat does not appear to be hungry. This stockpiles cats into shelters from which a good outcome is no longer possible. Cats are euthanized at a rate of 3 cats to 1 dog because they have no owners to claim them.
- The permission given to Shelters to legally dispose of a cat after 72 hours of detention and notice given to owners if any.
- The inaccuracy of the statement that cat owners are seeking laws or bylaws to ensure the safety of their cat and that this is the general community sentiment. Cat owners and semi owners seek **guarantees** not laws that their cats will not be detained and removed as would almost certainly be the case for semi owned cats under containment and curfew laws.
- The pressure on councils to create cat bylaws in a manner similar to dogs.

By contrast, the C.A.T.S. Cats Assistance To Sterilise Inc. cat management system been an enduring process. It is known as Desex and Return to Home and was developed according to the Natural Resources Amendment Act. It is the only one that has any tangible evidence of success in lowering the ceiling population of cats and impact on wildlife. Community support for this method has been huge and is ongoing. Residents befriend an unowned cat, take it to a vet for desexing, and return it too their garden and feed it. In this way numbers are reduced

but enough remain to control the rodent population, so that the mouse plagues we saw after the 2016-2020 cull don't re-occur. Outdoor cats are public servants and much needed in this way and semi ownership is the answer. All councils can refer their residents to C.A.T.S. Inc. at no cost to council for low cost desexing.

- The power of councils to administer fines for a cat owner if outside of regulations ( by regulations it appears you mean bylaws)
- The power of the council to charge cat registration fees.

Animal Advocate

Name

Suburb