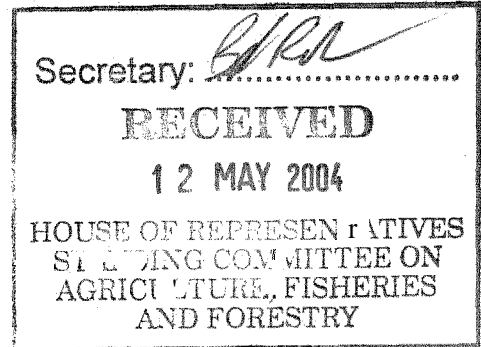


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10th May 2004

The Secretary,  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Committee  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600



Ref: ENQUIRY

**SUBMISSION**

**The impact of Pest Animals on Agriculture**

- A). The Federal Government could appoint -
1. National Co-ordinator
  1. Secretary
  1. Liaison Officer to co-ordinate the current various relevant State and Territory authorities for a unified approach and also regulate and control the eradication contractors

[Team of 3]

The Government could, in addition to current State and Territory Authorities, provide a bounty on scalps for example;

1. FOXES

A bounty of \$20.00 per fox scalp to apply in Mainland Australia

The exception to this would be Tasmania where, due to the recent introduction of foxes into the area, the fox scalp bounty could be \$1,000.00 for each scalp in an endeavor to quickly eradicate this problem before it can become a major disaster.

This bounty to be payable to a licensed shooter who delivers the body, prior to the onset of Rigor Mortis, to the nearest working Police Station.

At the 21st April 2004 it was estimated that there are approximately fifty [50] foxes in Tasmania. This number will multiply rapidly unless extreme measures are undertaken.

Possible huge fines etc. for anyone breaking laws such as introducing vermin into new or rorting the bounty system.

2. FERAL PIGS

As ail pig meat is exported a government levy per kilogram bonus to exporters could be applied with 90% being returned to licensed pig meat harvesters. This will not eliminate feral pigs but will drastically the numbers to a point where other eradication projects will be more effective in of an outbreak. of disease.

3. FERAL CATS

A bounty of \$5.00 per scalp.

4. EUROPEAN RABBITS

A bounty of \$2.00 ears and scalp

5. STATE FORESTS AND NATIONAL PARKS.

Provide an overlap of 5-10 kilometres into rural landowners properties as an assistance for better dual control

In to A}. Federal Government three person management team.

B}. Working under the above management team an eradication contractor for trial assessment purposes.

The contractors team could consist of,

1. Manager / Supervisor with 4WD station wagon equipped for liaison with Forestry Management, Local Authorities and adjacent landholders.
1. Experienced vermin controller with a fully equipped 4 x 4WD utility working area immediately prior to machinery operators driving rabbits etc. into burrows and ferreting around trees prior to ripping warrens
2. Machinery operators for ripping burrows
  - 1 Prime mover and 3 x 4 low loader
  - 1 20 tonne Excavator, ROPS and FLOPS equipped.
  - 1 CAT Challenger rubber tracked tractor with front blade and back rippers, ROPS and FLOPS.
  - 1 -4X4 Vehicle for service and operator movement

2. Experienced **vermin controllers for cleanup.**  
These vermin controllers would cover **spotlighting** and areas that required foot **patrols such as river bends.**

**3 - 4X4 fully equipped utilities [1 spare]**

1 - Quad Bike

Total crew of 8 - **6 working, 2 rostered off.**

Working week - 7 days per week

Crew would have one (1) week off at Easter

Crew would have three (3) weeks off Christmas / New Year period.

\*\*\* We would *be available* to provide detailed **costings** and a **contractor** for the above work if required.

Suggested area of operation initially by eradication team for trial period assessment

Commence Echuca / Moama area work in 100 kilometre radius of both Victoria and New South Wales, After this area is cleared then work total area in NSW west of the Newell Highway with the area around Moomba Gas Field, Cameron Corner included. Then move further into South Australia and Queensland as required.

Possible example would be -

Crew would move through Perricoota State Forest west of Moama in New South Wales, then on to Barmah State Forest utilising the Murray River as a boundary then moving on to the next area with the idea of cleaning up isolated forests first prior to moving into larger National Parks,

The of working this zone is to provide a buffer prior to moving into the Great Dividing Range area etc. which will require a vastly different strategy.

Basically this would mean eradicating vermin etc. from central areas of Australia prior to moving into the coastal regions and adjacent hills as per enclosed map.

In addition to the eradication team one [1] medium size grader and driver could be utilised to grade fire break type tracks along the boundary fence between landowners properties and State Forrest areas. This would provide access to vermin controllers in the future

## POSSIBLE ZONES FOR CONTROL

- A. South West New South Wales  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats.
- B. Northern Victoria  
odd Pig, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats
- C. Victoria and South East South Australia  
odd Pig, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats.
- D. Eastern Victoria and South New South Wales  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats, Wild Dogs.
- E. Eastern New South Wales  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats, Wild Dogs
- F. Northern New South Wales and Southern Queensland  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Gats.
- G. North West New South Wales and Western Queensland  
Pigs, Rabbits, Foxes, Feral Cats, Wild Dogs
- H. Queensland  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits (light) Feral Cats

- i. Northern Queensland  
.Pigs, Foxes, Feral Cats
- J. Top Cape York  
.Pigs, Foxes, Feral Cats
- K. South Australia  
.Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats
- L. Western South Australia  
.Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats
- M. Southern Northern Territory  
.Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats
- N, Eastern Northern Territory  
.Pigs, odd Fox, Feral Cats
- O. Western Northern Territory  
.Pigs. Feral Cats
- P. Region, West Australia  
Pigs, Feral Cats
- Q. Great Sandy Desert, Gibson Desert and Nullabor Plains,  
Western Australia  
Pigs, Foxes, Rabbits, Feral Cats

R, Pilbara Region, West **Australia**

.Pigs, Foxes, Feral Cats

S. of West **Australia**

Pigs, Foxes. Rabbits, Feral Cats.

T, Tasmania and Straight Islands

Recently introduced foxes etc,

Underlining denotes heavy infestations.

Other such as **Buffalo**, Camels, Donkeys and Goats could be included in zones. Zones are based on using natural barriers, some borders, arid etc.

**Suggested start for initial eradication team zones A and B.**

Should eradication team be successful a second team could be started covering Zones L and K, South Australia.

A eradication team could be set up to work Zones G, M and Q.

These could then move into coastal zones.

Obviously other methods of extermination would be utilised as required in the various zones.

\*\*\* **Should it be required we could provide an actual upgraded independent map of Australia's vermin infestations** on a zone or **state** basis.

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Consideration could be given to a joint venture of feral animal eradication between the Federal Government and three or four of the largest landholders in to reduce the number of feral animals on their properties.

If this could then be extended to **smaller** landholders.



We believe our submission would be simple to implement and very effective.

We have tried to present an overview of the steps we consider would be necessary to control and eventually eradicate feral animals in Australia.

Should you require any additional information please contact the undersigned.

Yours faithfully,



T.W. Powell, Director  
Transport Concepts (Qld.) Pty. Ltd.

(Could you please advise via facsimile receipt of this submission.)

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HELD BY THE COMMITTEE**

**ATTACHMENT TO SUBMISSION NO. 13**

**ATTACHMENTS, APPENDICES AND PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDED WITH  
SUBMISSIONS ARE HELD IN THE COMMITTEE OFFICE**