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CLM Murtho Park – Wiela Floodplain Project PIG Control Methods in partnership with Renmark to Border LAP

FINAL REPORT

30/06/10

The Project has been successful in providing landholders with a broader view and understanding on Pig control methods. This included demonstrating methods and skills in pig control.

This project will need to continue with some assistance from CLM. CLM commits to continue with volunteer support by the project manager visiting and advising at the request of the landholders.

Monitor & Survey:

The following methods and processes were demonstrated and used with this project. We focused on feeding habits and feeding locations to gain density of feral pigs.

Free Baiting: Sixteen sites were installed to calculate density and location of feral pigs. This allowed us to set pig traps in the most appropriate locations. Density: We located two groups of pigs which included 5 adults pigs and 9 piglets.

Spotlighting: This was attempted over three nights but was not very successful due to density of the orchards and floodplain. 1 x large pig was sighted. In consultation with the landholders it was agree that spotlighting was of very limited value in this case.

Surveying: Feral Pig activity was noted by locating tracks and patterns of predation and photo graphing activity.

Control Methods:

The following methods and processes were demonstrated with this project.

Trapping: Three traps were installed and used to control pigs. Feral Pigs trapped 1 x Female (85kg) Pig with 6 piglets.

Free Baiting: Opportunist removal of pigs at Feed stations. 1 x Male (30kg) Pig removed. Landholder removed 1 x Male (100kg) pig during this period.

Resources:

The project committed the following resources to this project. Travelled 2,613 kms Project members committed 300 hrs to this project.

A pictorial presentation has been produced the project manager to present this report .

Conclusion:

The best method of feral pig control at this site is trapping and this conclusion was established in consultation with the landholders. Opportunist removal of feral pigs using firearms is best used following a successful trapping program has been completed at the discretion of landholders.

Mick Punturiero CLM Project Coordinator Partnership with Renmark to Border Local Action Planning Association