

Natural Resources Commission

Comments on the Draft Recommendations regarding *Pest Animal Management Review*

Points

Amend the Game & Feral Control Act 2002 to allow:

Managers of crown lands to implement their own control measures without having to have LLS perform the ground works and controls.

- the overreaching aim of financial benefits & gains to & for the local community
- engaging with & using local community workers to facilitate the required controls
- not being reliant on LLS officers, so the controls can be performed at the most appropriate & financially beneficial times.

LLS to be more responsive (via a change to the G&FC act) to the overall financial outcome within the local community & not be constrained by legislation

- delegate some of the current (restricted) functions to the actual crown land managers. LLS would still hold the inspection on request function.

R 1, i through viii (page 5/130)

With reference to Windamere Recreational Park Reserve 190112.

Current method used by Mudgee LLS (from paperwork and onground observations) to "control" goats, pigs, foxs, cats appears to be:

Hire a chopper at \$1500/hour & shoot all pests in sight, goats, pigs foxs & cats. The observed result is dead carcasses lying about the land, feeding the remaining pests & attracting further ferals to the area.

This is a financial cost to the community, the funding to LLS is either by budgeted or a grant, it is expensive & the funding could have been better utilised in other support areas.

An better approach would be:

Trust engages local goat mustering contractor who removes the goats & pays the Trust a percentage of the profits (goats are worth around \$80 each at market). The money paid to the Trust is then paid to a "pest/feral" controller, also engaged by the Trust to shoot the pigs, foxs, cats.

The financial gain is manifold in the local community.

Both contractors have to spend more money that they otherwise would not under the current rules. This flows on in the local area and saves the LLS budget/grant expenditure, which ultimatly comes from taxation of the local community.

Trust acheives the goals inheint in their Plan of Management for the Recreation Reserve, very few carcasses left about to feed any incomming ferals, money into the local community & very little interference by LLS in the smooth running & function of the land managment by the Trust.

R 23 i & ii

= good

R 24 i

further develop goat market

R 25 i

better utilisation of meat & skins from a cull