Sus scrofa (Feral Pig)

Description: Feral pigs include all pigs ranging from typical black wild pigs to buff or spotted black or white which may resemble a typical farmed pig. By definition a feral pig is any pig which is not domesticated and is living in a wild state. They are generally nocturnal, and camp in thick cover during the day. Feral pigs are omnivorous and can range from 5 to 50 square kilometres. Feral pigs breed throughout the year often producing two weaned litters per year.

Distribution: Common and widespread within the Douglas Shire, particularly in the lowlands.

Impacts: Feral pigs damage crops, stock, property and the natural environment. They transmit disease and could spread exotic diseases such as foot and mouth if this was introduced to the country.

Key projects: A long-term shire wide program has been set up to assist the community to minimise the environmental, social and economic impacts of feral pigs.

Biosecurity obligations and legal requirements

Obligations relating to restricted matter

Under the Act you must not move, feed, give away, sell or release wild dogs into the environment. Penalties may apply.

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with feral pigs under their control.

Pig proof fencing is by far the most effective measure of reducing the impacts of feral pigs on domestic gardens and small crops.

Property managers should coordinate control activities with neighbours.

In the asset protection zone

A range of control options from shooting, to trapping and baiting are used to control feral pigs when required. Douglas Shire Council operates a series of traps along the coastal lowlands and in the Daintree to reduce the number of feral pigs.

Landholders wishing to participate in the program should contact Douglas Shire Council on 07 4099 9444.

For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Management Plan available at douglas.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.









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