feralSCAN

A community pest animal recording and management tool

ABOUT FERALSCAN

FeralScan is a community-designed website and smartphone app that allows people to record pest animal sightings, the damage they cause and control actions in their local area.

It is free and easy-to-use for monitoring, recording and rapidly communicating information about pest species, and promotes collaboration through local targeted pest animal management.

FeralScan contains 450,000 records and photos of pest animals mapped by communities across Australia. It can be used to document pest animal activity, communicate pest problems to other people, identify priority areas for pest control, alert authorities to new threats or risks, and evaluate control efforts. Users can also print maps, view and export pest records and join/create a private group to see detailed reports from other people in their local area.

FeralScan is used by farmers, landholder associations, community groups, people living in urban areas, indigenous groups, volunteers, professional pest controllers, local government authorities, catchment groups and State government biosecurity agencies managing pest animals and their impacts.

FeralScan:

- ✓ connects and empowers communities
- ✓ addresses landholder and community needs
- ✓ facilitates collaboration and partnerships
- ✓ provides practical pest control resources
- ✓ promotes adoption of best practices
- ✓ delivers customised advice and services.

Celebrating 12+ years as Australia's largest community platform for recording invasive animal information

KEY FERALSCAN FEATURES

- Records pest animal activity
- Data managed securely
- Communicates the problem to others
- Creates a digital map, and prints your own pest animal maps
- Identifies priority areas for pest control
- Real-time alert notifications

Professional pest animal controllers meeting with Peter West, FeralScan Coordinator, at a dedicated training program at Wooramel Station, WA.

WHY FERALSCAN

Australian communities face many challenges associated with invasive pest animals. Enabling communities to document pest animal numbers and problems caused by pests provides decision makers with reliable, accurate and timely information to inform management decisions and appropriate interventions at all scales.

FeralScan's pest surveillance, detection, mapping, communication and response technologies provide all of this information in an easily accessible centralised digital platform.

Communities rely on coordination and collaboration to reduce pests and the damage they cause. FeralScan brings land managers together to collect and centralise essential real-time data to inform collective action.

Its interactive live dashboards present summary data through dynamic charts, tables and exports, private and customised maps, photo galleries and PDF exports – empowering user groups with real-time intelligence to coordinate and guide their local on-ground pest control activities.

Regional organisations and biosecurity groups use FeralScan to connect with landholders, identify priorities for control, assess pest problems, document control efforts, report outcomes and evaluate program effectiveness.

FeralScan, with over 470,000+ entries, is Australia's largest community developed pest animal database.

FERALSCAN IN ACTION

FeralScan was designed to benefit users. It offers a simple platform configured with specialised software to collect, manage, display and communicate information (through Email, App and SMS alert notifications). Users can choose how they receive notifications, and can be part of multiple private groups managed within the software.

Users can record and photograph:

1. Sightings and evidence of pest animals, including animal signs, audible calls, tracks, scats and other traces.
2. Damage caused by pest animals, including damage to crops, mauled/killed sheep, or predation of native wildlife.
3. Control of pest animals e.g. baiting, trapping, shooting, exclusion fences, deterrents, etc.

Northern NSW wild dog management facilitator Dave Worsley uses the FeralScan App for recording wild dog impacts and control.

FeralScan empowers communities and organisations to manage pest animals cooperatively.

KEY FERALSCAN FACTS

470,000+
records and photos of pest sightings, damage reports and control interventions

48,000+
app downloads

51,000+
registered and private users

500+
active private landholder, community, biosecurity and pest control groups

28
different introduced pest animal species can be recorded and monitored

72,000
customised real-time alerts deployed, alerting people on 372,890 occasions Australia-wide

Note: As of June 2024

USED BY

- Urban residents
- Farmers
- Land managers
- Community groups
- Indigenous groups
- Landholder associations
- Local government
- Pest control professionals
- Biosecurity groups

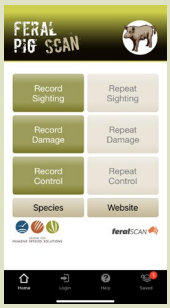
THE USER JOURNEY

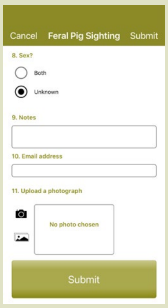
1 Registration

- Go to FeralScan at www.feralscan.org.au or download the mobile app
- Register your name and email address

2 Start recording pest animals in your local area

- Select a species
- Choose the type of information to record
- Allow the App to know your location
- Describe and photograph what you've seen
- Submit your report to the secure database



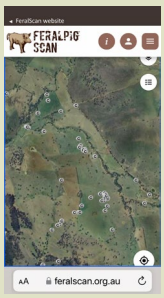


3 Connect with support

- Reports are shared with local authorities
- Access pest control solutions
- Collaborate and work together

4 Keep informed

- Examine the latest maps
- Create/Join a private group
- Receive alerts from others



5 Control of pests reducing damage levels, based on data

- Encourage others to record sightings, impacts and control
- Visit FeralScan regularly to see the latest additions
- Use best practice toolkits at pestsmart.org.au
- Monitor and evaluate control effectiveness

Note: Privacy and data security are a priority for FeralScan users, so all information provided is managed securely, carefully and responsibly to protect the identity and location of all FeralScan users.

Peter West, FeralScan Coordinator, showcasing the app.

FUTURE DIRECTION

- Secure ongoing investment in FeralScan as a nation-wide digital community resource to support communities and pest managers in safeguarding Australia from the threats posed by pests to agriculture, biosecurity, the environment, biodiversity, and communities.
- Improve preparedness and response capabilities to emergency animal disease (EAD) risks, by connecting landholders Australia-wide to the latest EAD alerts, surveillance and reporting mechanisms.

Banksia FOUNDATION

Award winner 2016

LEARN MORE

www.feralscan.org.au

feralscan@feralscan.org.au

Download FeralScan app from Apple and Google Play stores

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

Access invasives.com.au to view the FeralScan report - *Facilitating community adoption of digital resources* - which contains an overview of the project's aims and numerous case studies of the successful use of FeralScan.

Current and recent FeralScan investors are the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australian Wool Innovation, NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development through the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions.

CENTRE FOR INVASIVE SPECIES SOLUTIONS

NSW GOVERNMENT

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

awi Australian Wool Innovation Limited