



STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY  
MARISA PATERSON MLA (CHAIR), ANDREW BRADDOCK MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), LEANNE CASTLEY MLA

**Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21  
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Asked by Jo Clay:

EPSDD AR P. 65

In relation to: Invasive Animal Program

The Invasive Animal Program deals with wild dogs, feral pigs, feral deer, foxes, rabbits and horses.

- Understanding there is a separate draft ACT Cat Plan, why aren't feral/wild cats dealt with by the Invasive Animal Program, given their impacts on the environment (and given dogs can also either be domesticated or feral)?
- What actions have been taken in the past 12 months to deal with foxes?

**MINISTER VASSAROTTI:** The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

There is currently no feasible cost-effective, efficient way to manage feral cats on a scale that will have meaningful positive effects on the ACT environment. Research effort in other jurisdictions is underway into more efficient control options. The ACT Government supports national research efforts into invasive animal management through the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS).

Fox control is undertaken in some areas of public land to reduce impacts in the way of lamb losses to neighbouring rural enterprises. Mulligans Flat sanctuary is maintained as a fox free area.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Signature: 

Date: 16/3/2024

By the [Minister for Environment, Rebecca Vassarotti