



# Australian Wildlife Conservancy

Providing new hope for Australia's wildlife



The importance of flexibility and persistence in feral cat management

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## AWC's Mission

The effective conservation of all Australian animal species and the habitats in which they live.



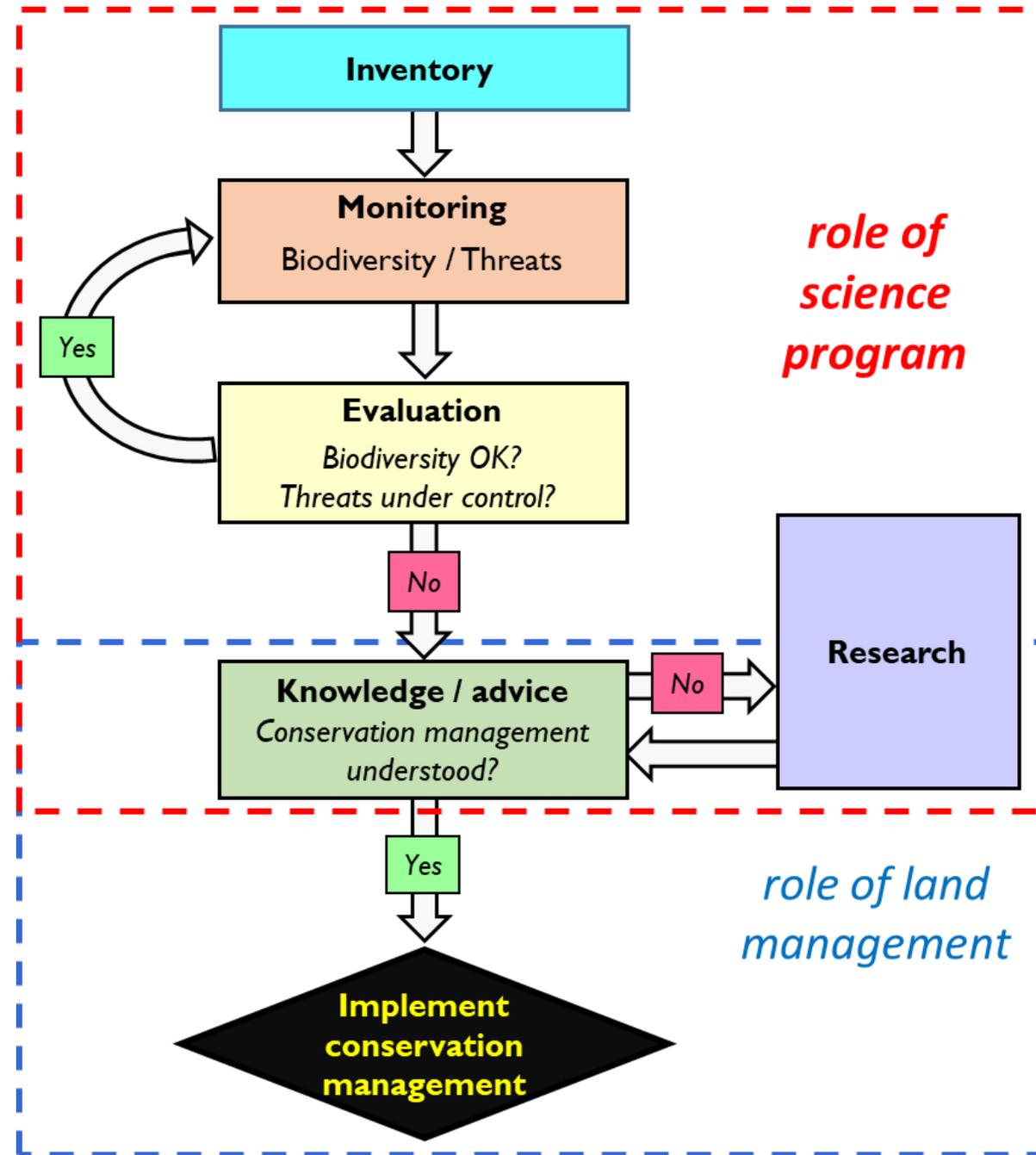
Supported by:





# AWC's Conservation Program

- Collect and analyse ecological data on AWC properties
- Monitor impact and inform adaptive management
- Develop and implement conservation strategies
- Work closely with land managers to manage threats
- Focus on threatened and iconic species, particularly mammals
- Threat management is a large part of the conservation program at AWC – includes feral animals, weeds, climate change and fire







## Feral Cat Management in AWC's South West region

- Feral-predator free exclosures
- Aerial and ground-based Eradocat baiting
- Targeted trapping
- Camera trap monitoring



# Faure Island

- Cats were eradicated in 2001\*
- Four reintroduced mammals



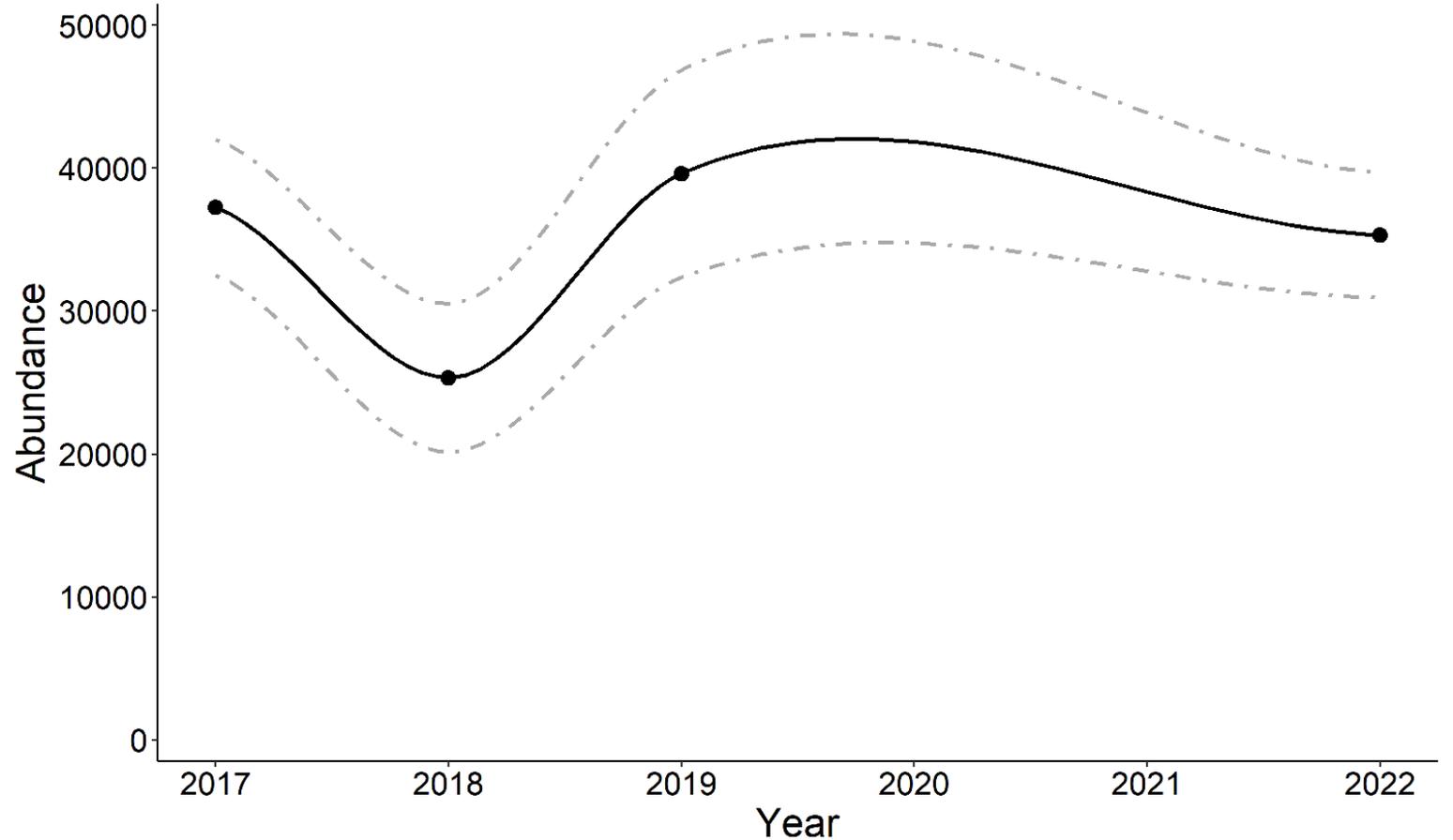
100 % Occupancy



93 % Occupancy



27 % Occupancy



\*Algar et al. 2010.



# Karakamia

- Cats were eradicated in 1994
- Four reintroduced mammals



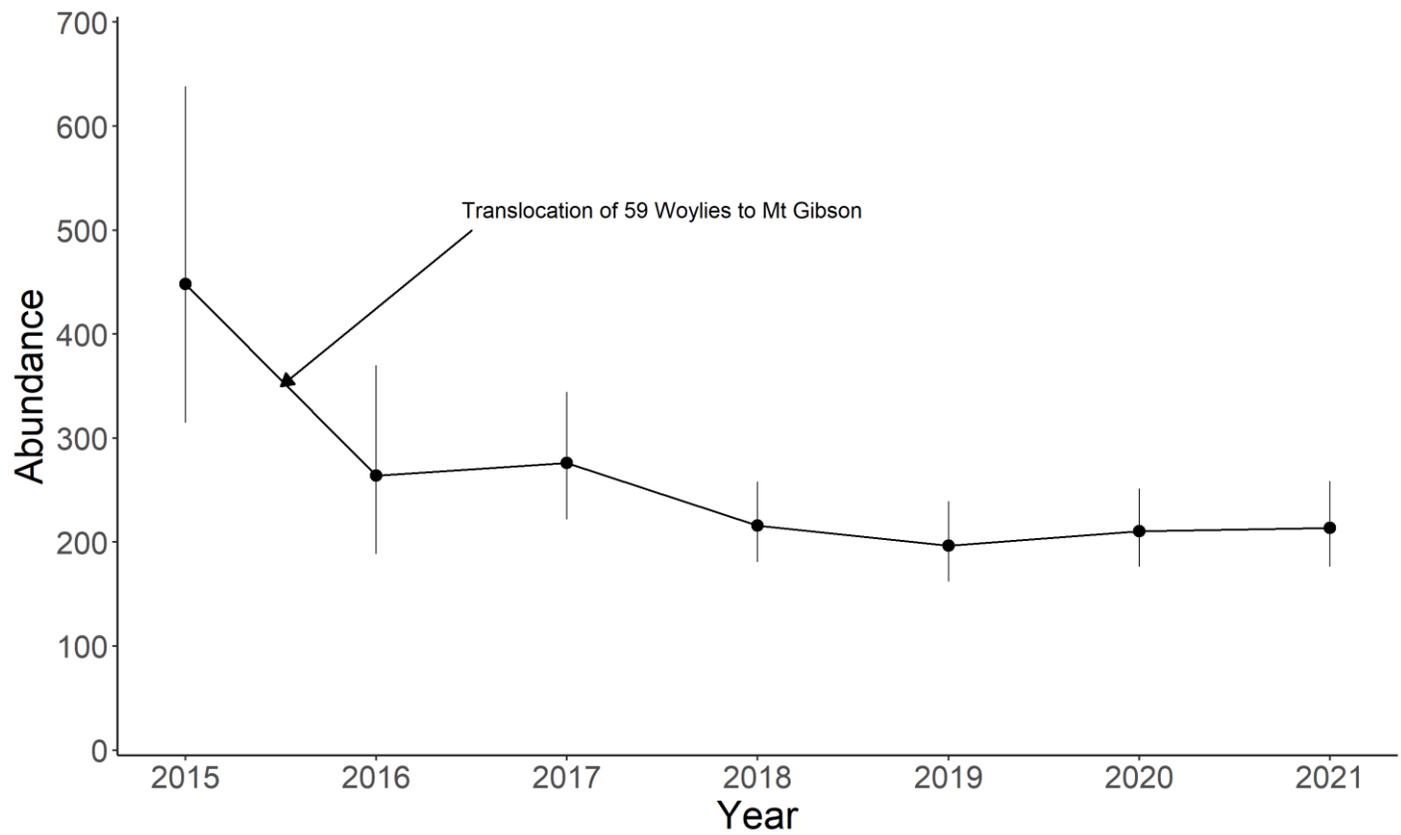
~197 individuals



~205 individuals



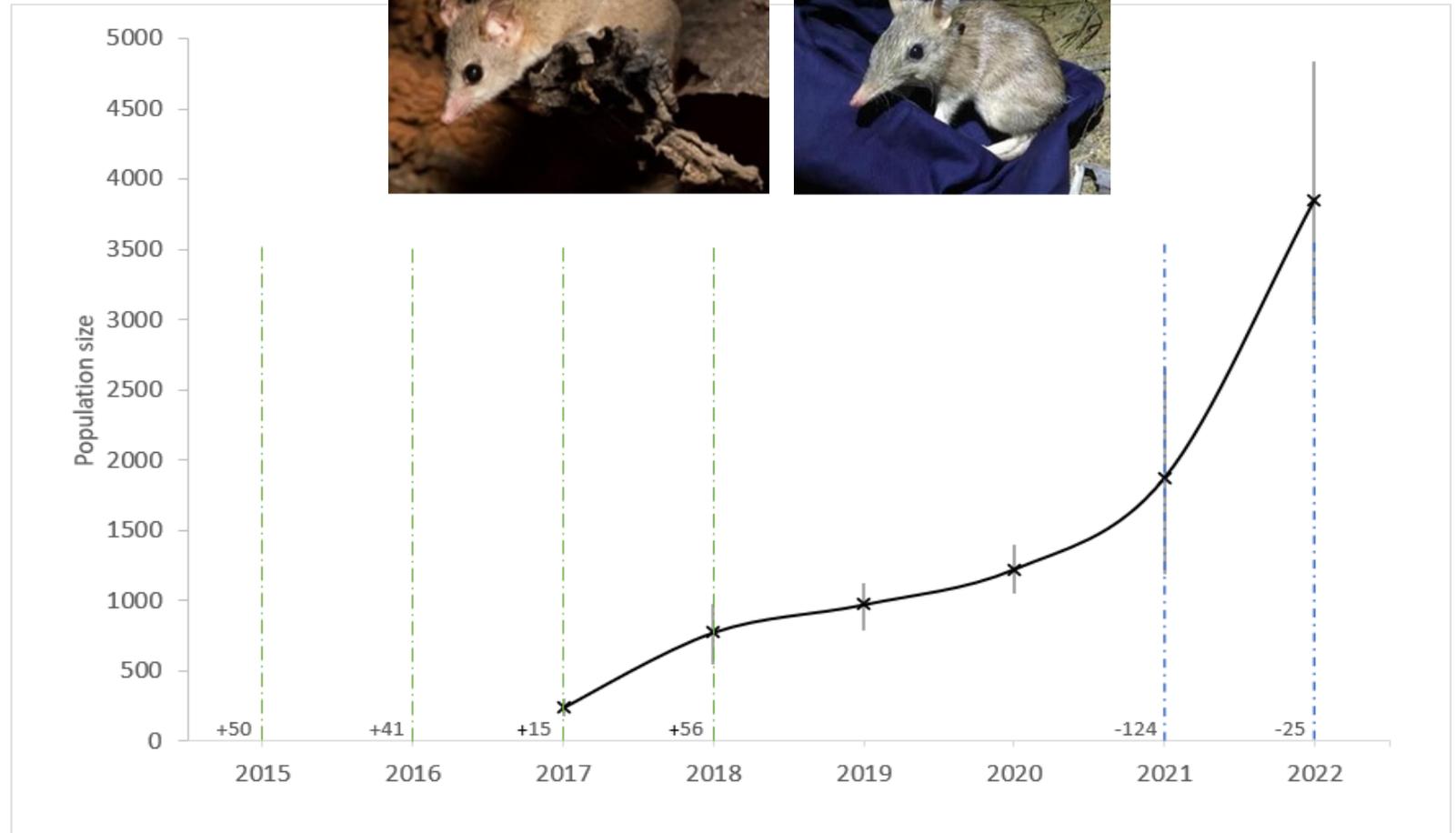
~170 individuals





# Mt Gibson

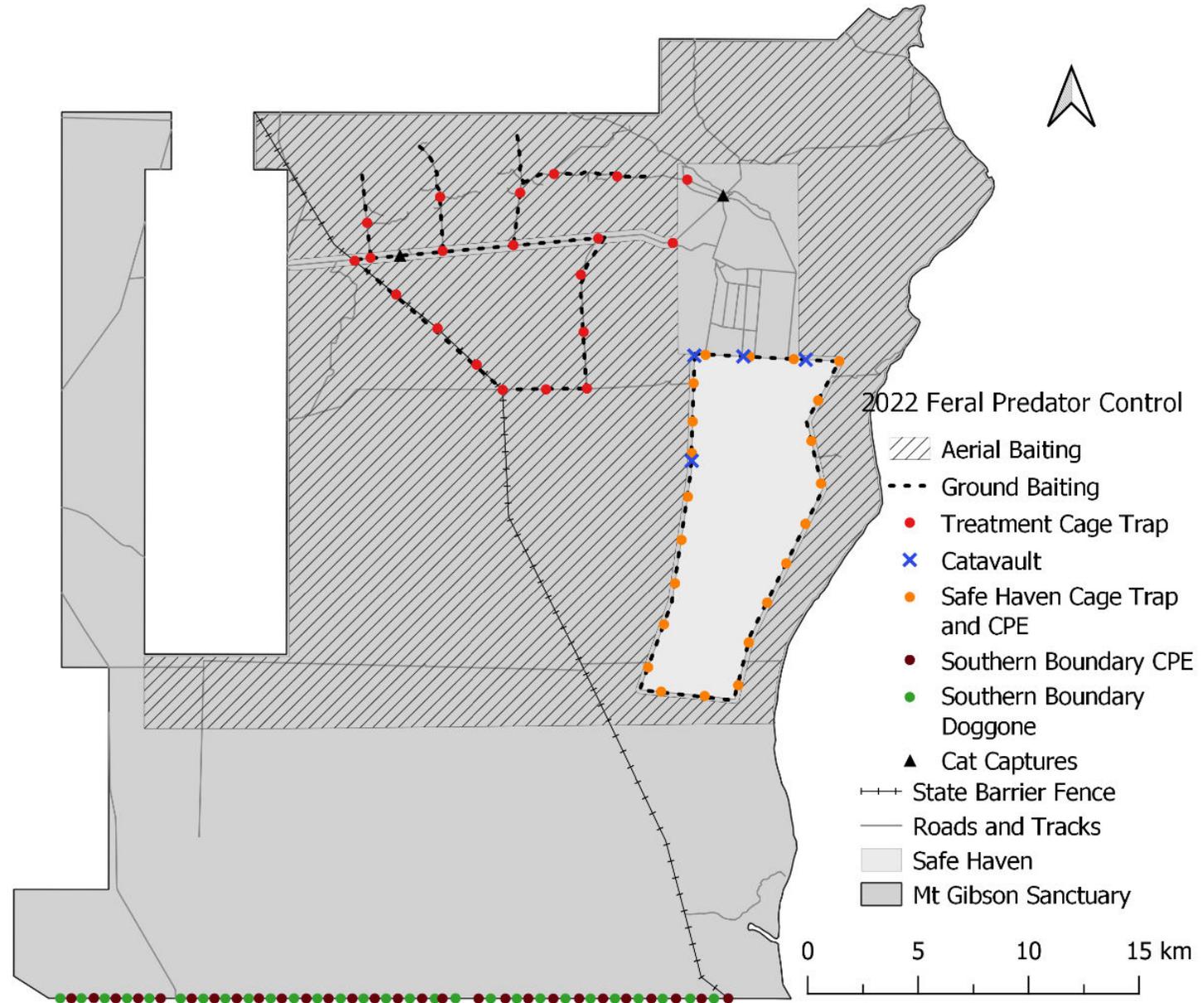
- 7,832 ha fenced enclosure
- Cats were eradicated in 2015
- Eight reintroduced mammals





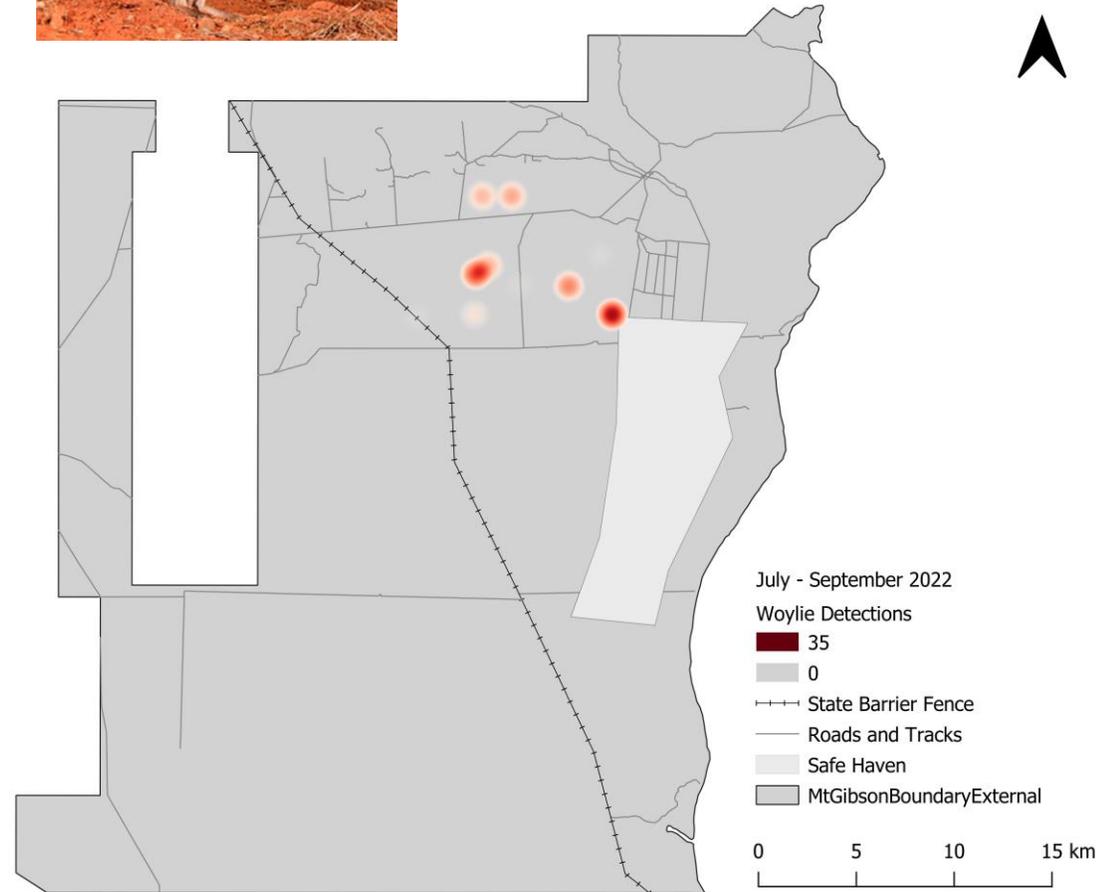
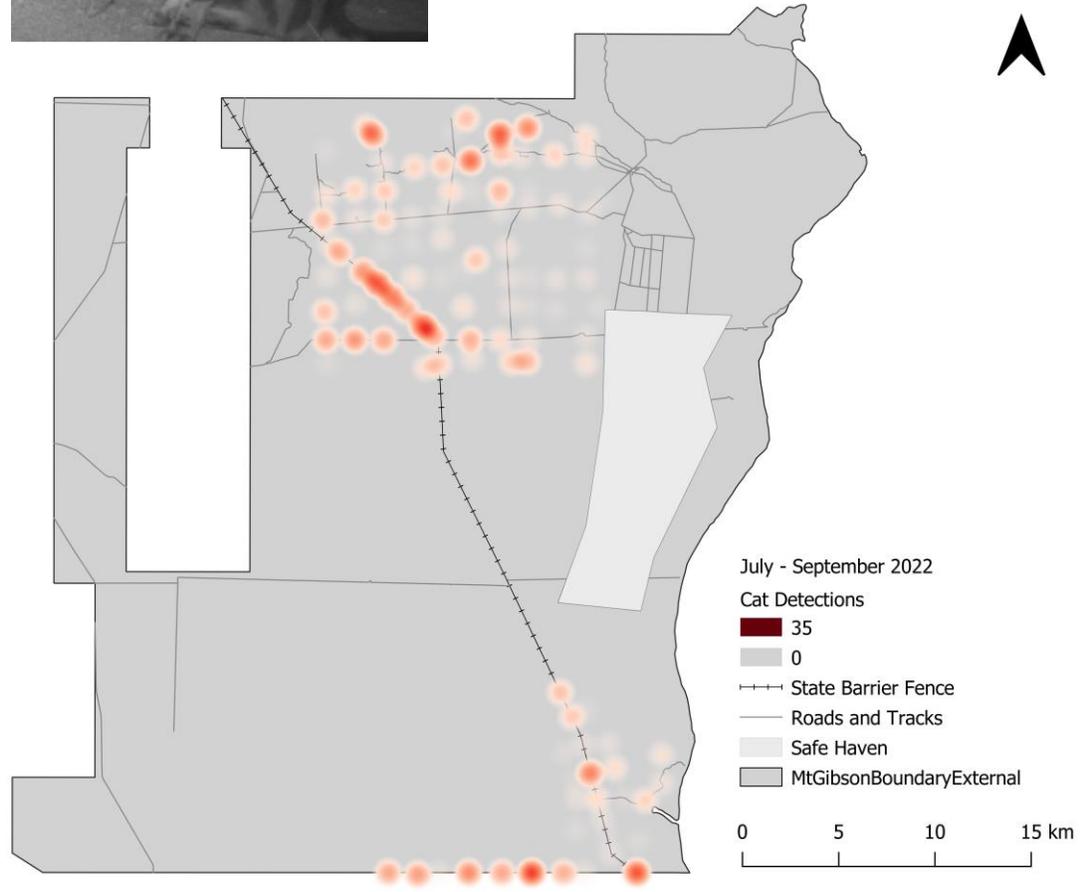
# Mt Gibson outside the fence

- Cats are present (~5 detections per day)
- One intentionally reintroduced mammal
- Eradicator baiting program
- Camera array to identify cat activity hotspots
- Targeted trapping in hotspots



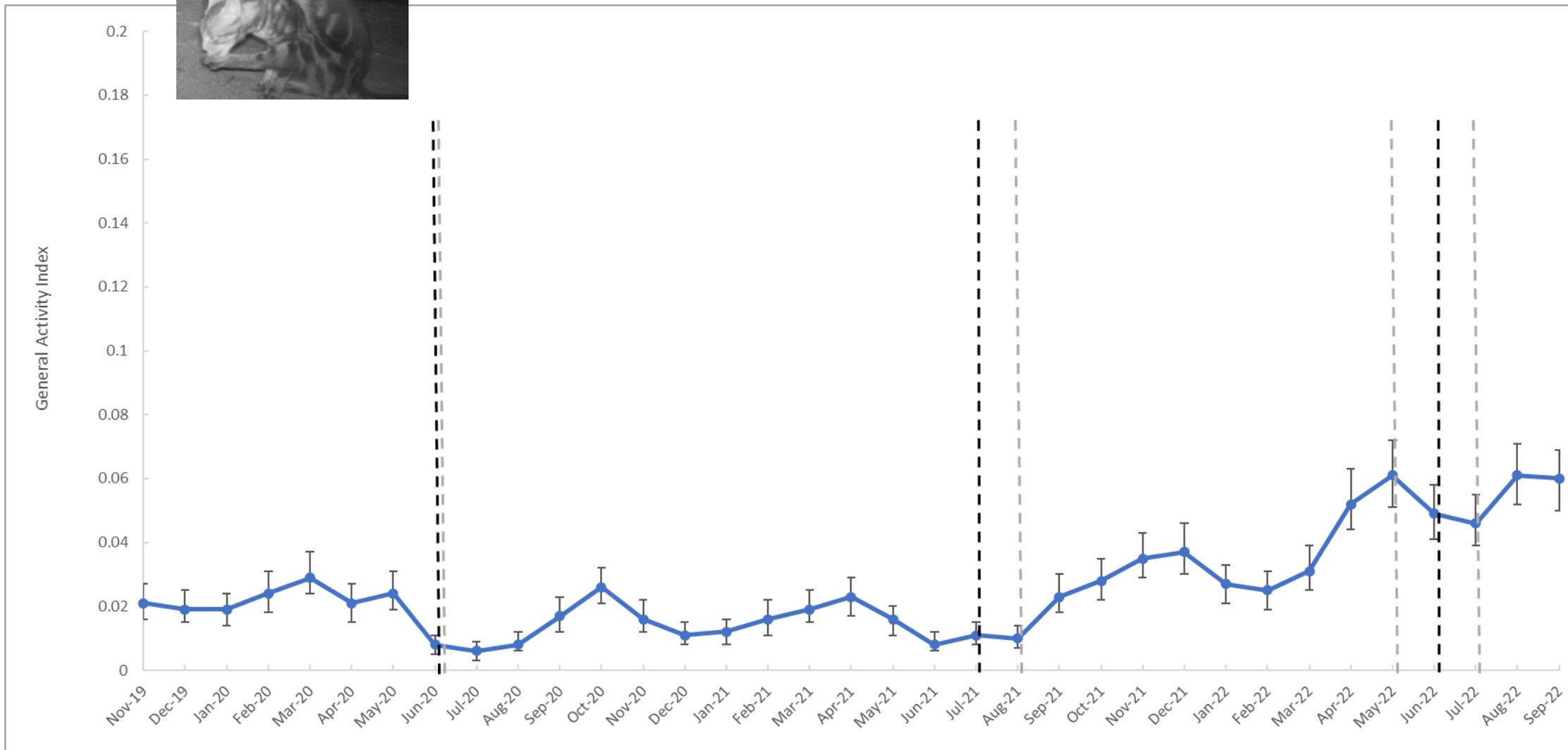


# Mt Gibson outside the fence





# Mt Gibson outside the fence





# Paruna

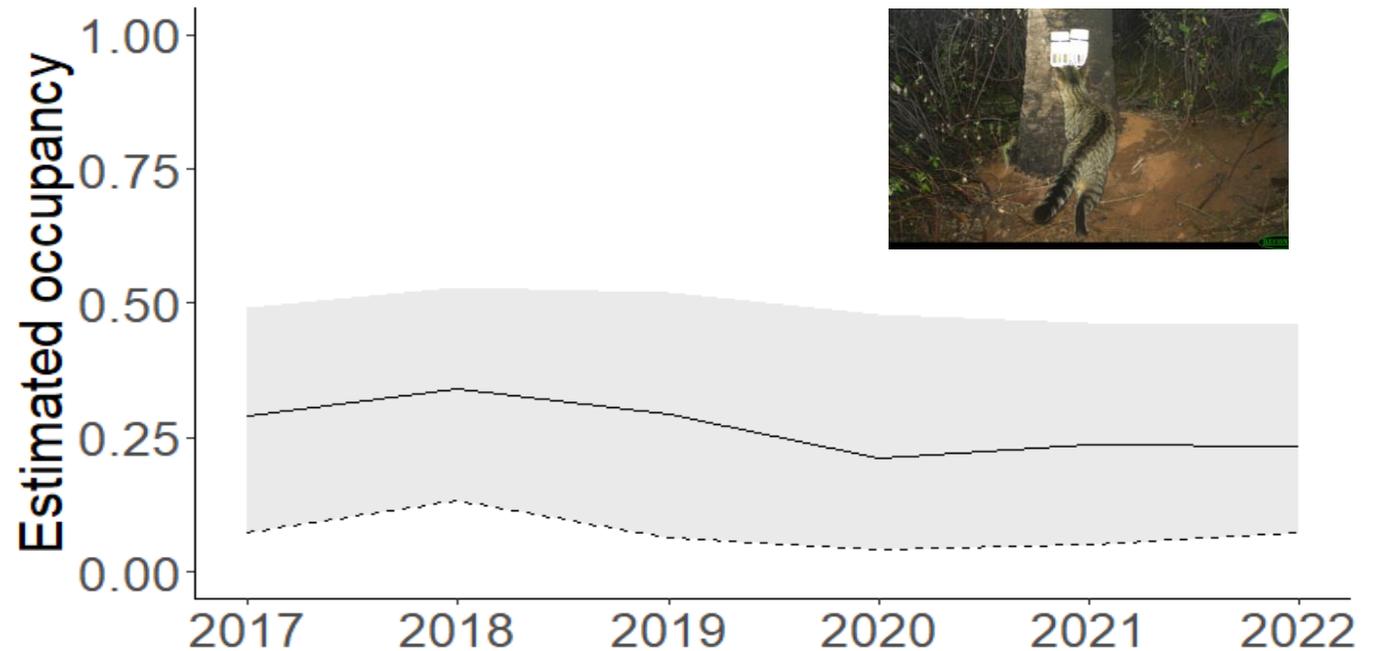
- Cats are present (8% occupancy)
- Two threatened mammals
- Camera array to identify cat activity hotspots
- Targeted trapping and shooting in hotspots
- Four cats euthanised in 2022



<5 individuals



3 % Occupancy



# Feral Predator Management

The background image shows a natural landscape with a grey mesh predator fence running across the middle ground. The foreground is filled with white, fluffy vegetation, likely a native plant. The background features a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

- Fast recovery of native wildlife when cats are completely removed
- Different approaches for different places
- Adaptive & responsive
- Constant monitoring and management
- Pragmatic about what can be achieved
- Are there tolerable thresholds? What native mammal densities are desired?



# Thank you

*Please contact us or check out the Annual Ecohealth Reports online for more information*



## Contacts

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