

Setting the scene for failure: Victorian feral cat legislation, social license dimensions and the French Island feral cat eradication project.

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Feral cats have a major impact on Victoria's biodiversity and are one of the most significant threats to our native wildlife. The declaration is an important milestone in protecting them.

Invasive Plants and Animals

- Invasive species on public land Managing invasive species after fire Feral cat declaration Early invader weeds Weed risk ratings Victorian Deer Control

Feral cat declaration

The feral cat is now declared an established pest animal on specified Crown land under the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. This will help to protect Victoria's at-risk biodiversity and give threatened species the best chance of survival.

On 26 July 2018, the feral or wild population of the cat (*Felis catus*) (feral cat) was declared an established pest animal on specified Crown land in Victoria under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

The declaration applies to areas of Crown land managed by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Phillip Island Nature Park and the four Alpine Resort Management Boards. It is important that the feral cat declaration only applies to areas of Crown Land where feral cat management is of high priority for the protection of biodiversity and minimises the risk to free-roaming domestic cats.

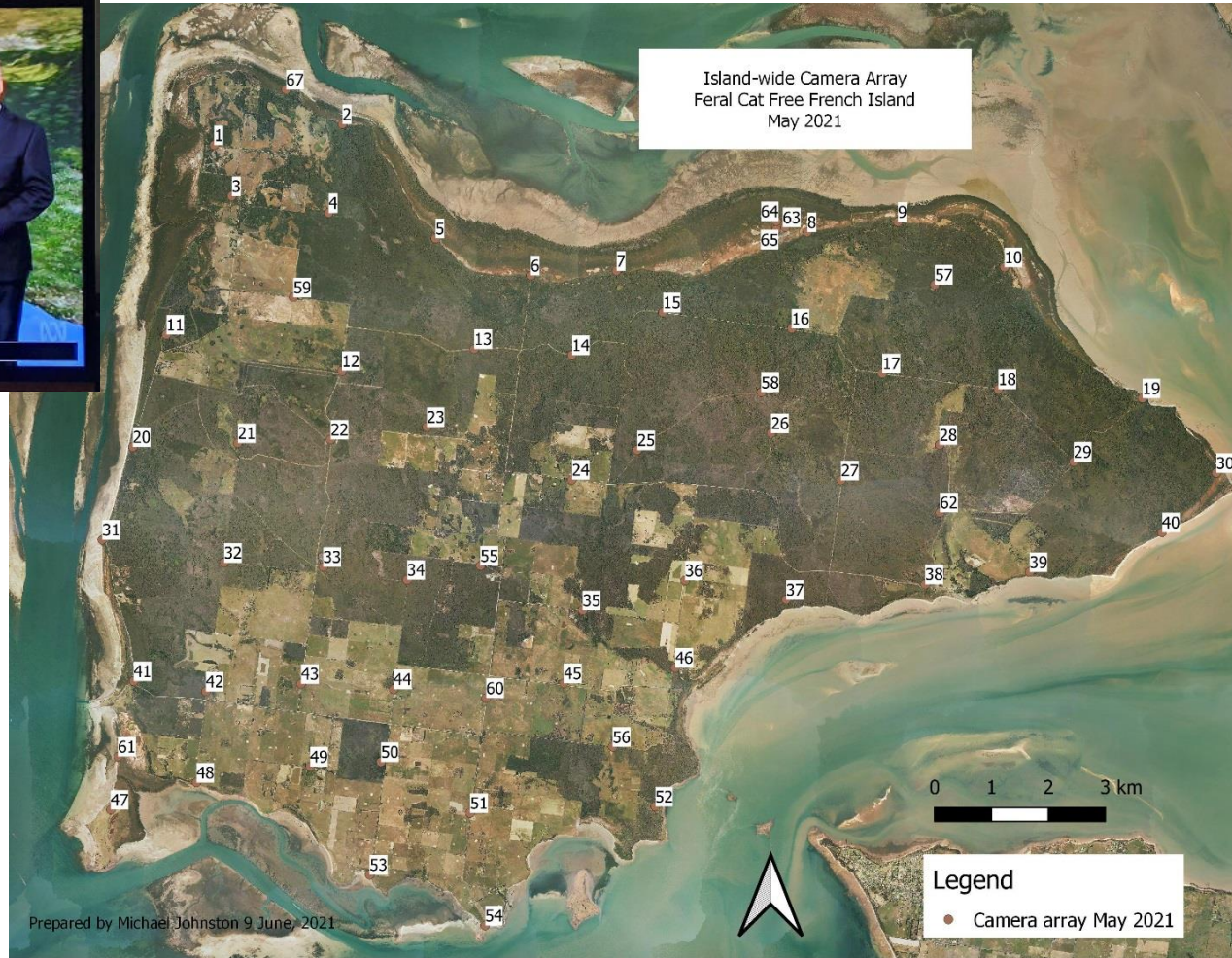
Feral cat control will be implemented by department and agency staff, and their agents, ensuring efforts are targeted to protect the threatened wildlife most at risk of predation by feral cats.



Photo credit: Helen Achurch, supplied by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions

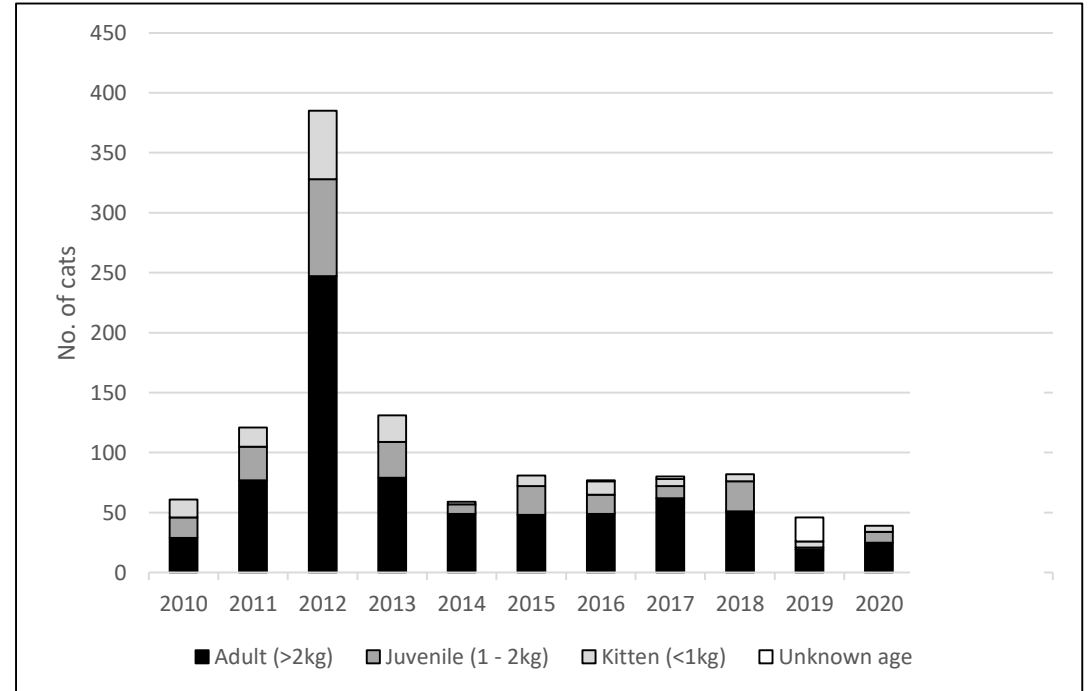
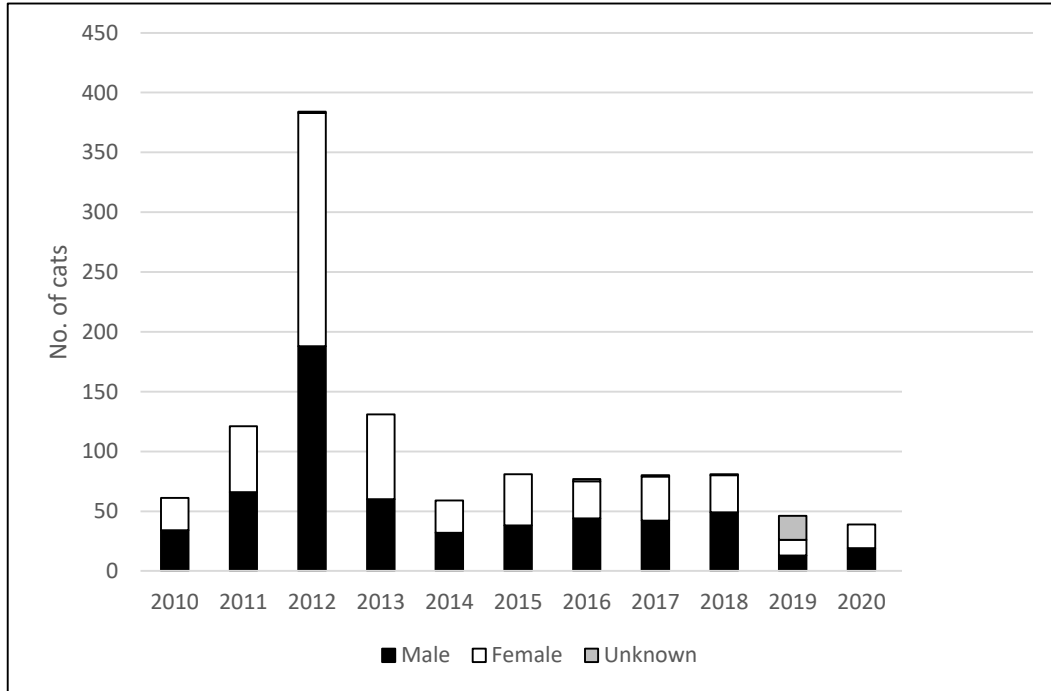


French Island



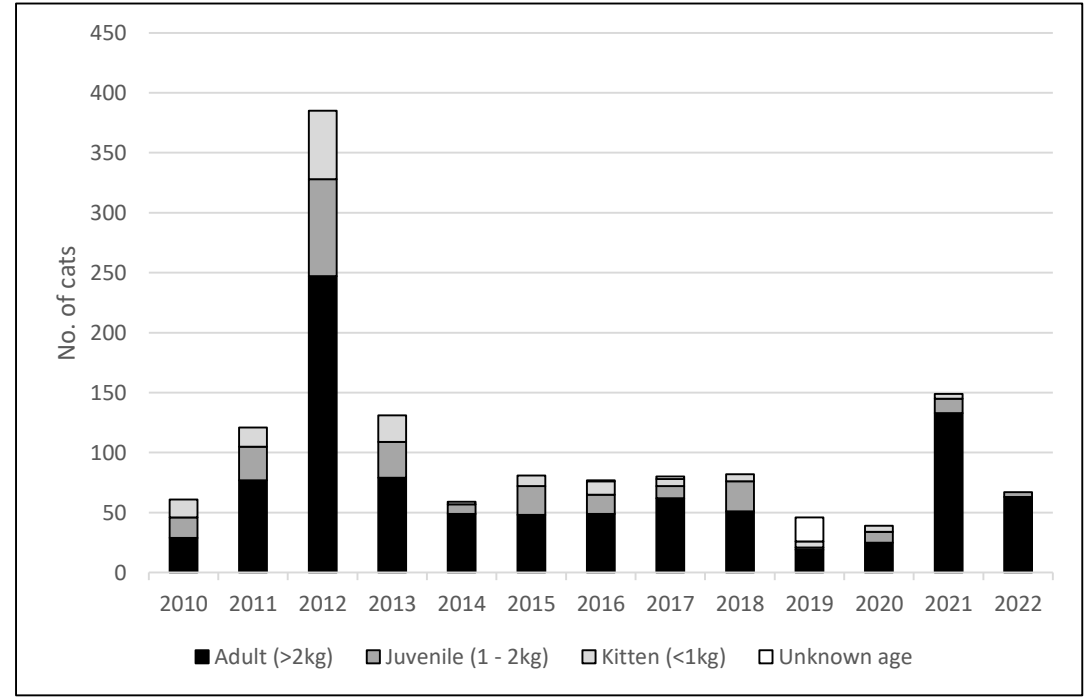
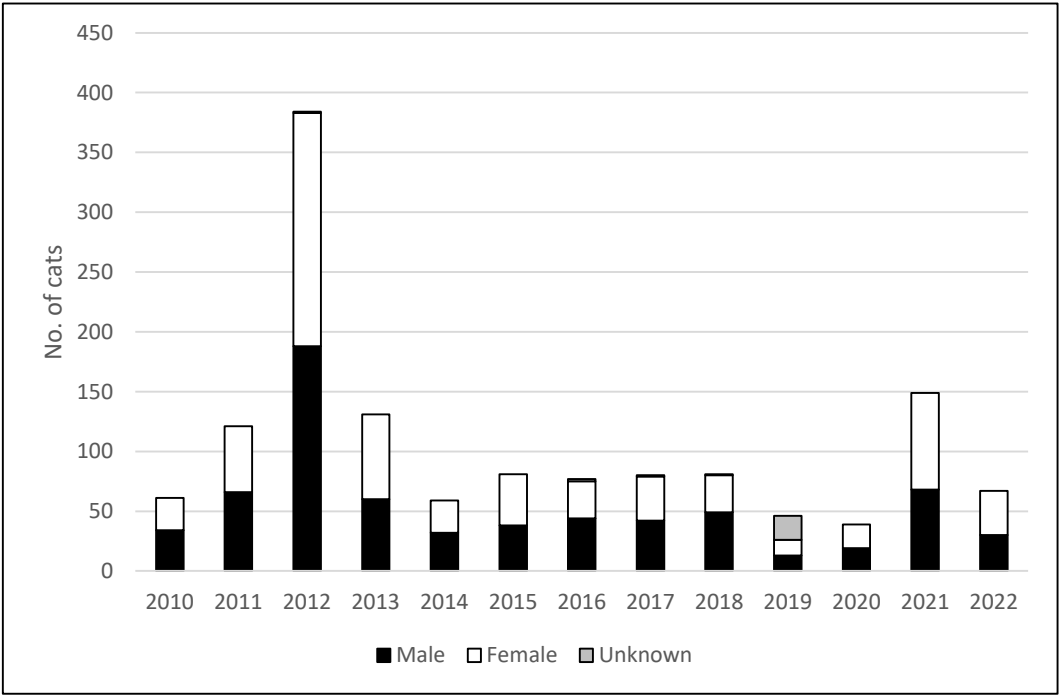


Population suppression (2010 – 2020)





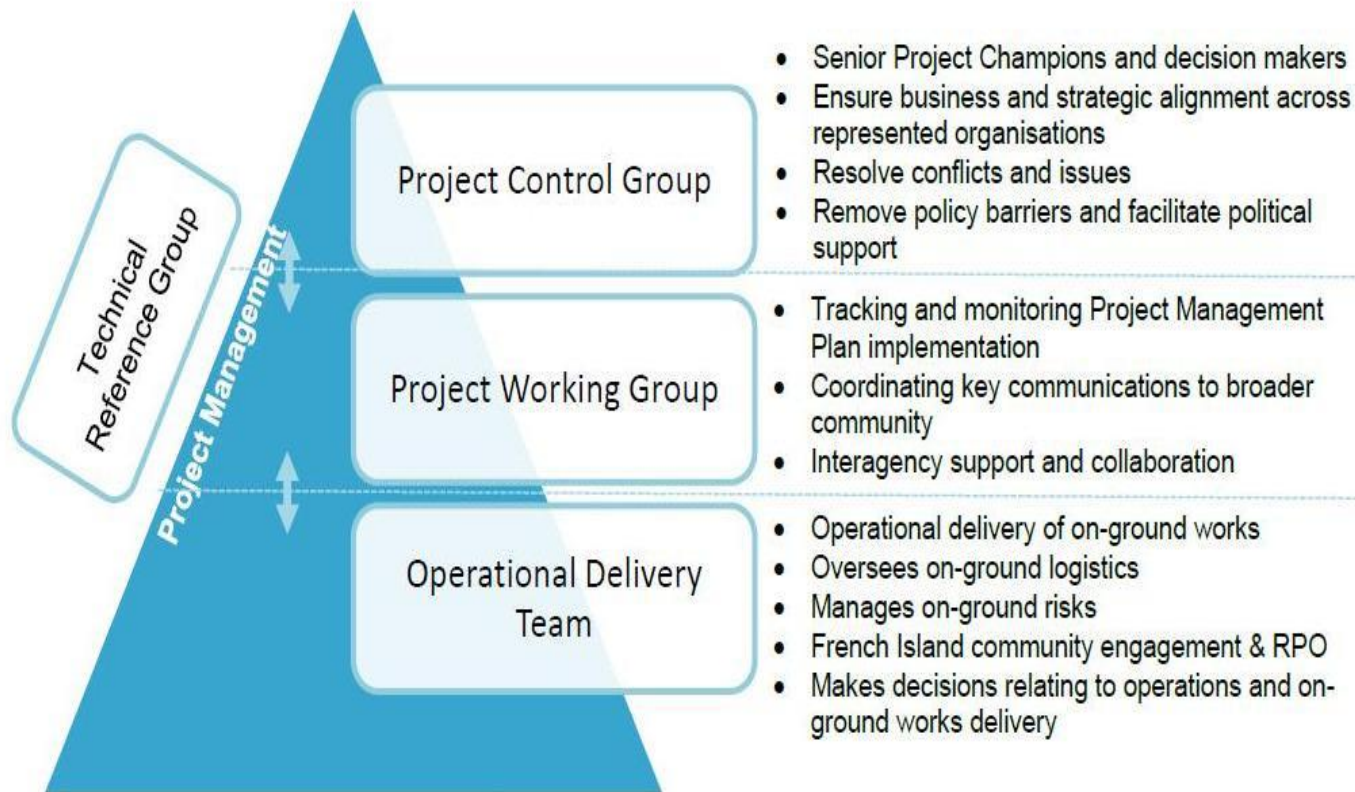
Eradication operation 284 days (2021 – 2022)



Success



Challenges



Acknowledgements

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