

MEDIA RELEASE

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\$7.5 MILLION TO TARGET NSW PESTS

Editor's Note: Grabs and overlay available here.

NSW farmers and regional communities are set to benefit from a \$1.5 million boost to the existing \$6 million for pest management, bringing the total spend to \$7.5million.

Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair said pest animals are often concentrated during dry times; making control more effective and allowing tools like biocontrol agents to be strategically distributed.

"This additional spend will allow us to trial predator control on an extremely large scale, spanning the North Coast and Northern Tablelands regions, to 'reset' pest animal populations at a lower level," Mr Blair said.

"Effective management of pest animals is not only critical to helping our farmers manage stock through the drought, but also to ensure young and vulnerable animals are protected as farms restock when the drought eventually breaks.

"The big focus for this funding is targeting wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and deer by using a combination of approved control measures including aerial shooting (feral pigs and deer) and baiting (feral pigs, foxes and wild dogs).

"It also supports containing species that have the capacity to spread quickly such as cane toads to north of the Clarence River and red eared slider turtles to the Greater Sydney and Hunter regions.

"By reducing the numbers of predators we can minimise their impacts on the economy, communities and the environment.

"Controlling non-native pest species in NSW is key to protecting our primary industries and our environment now and well into the future."

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