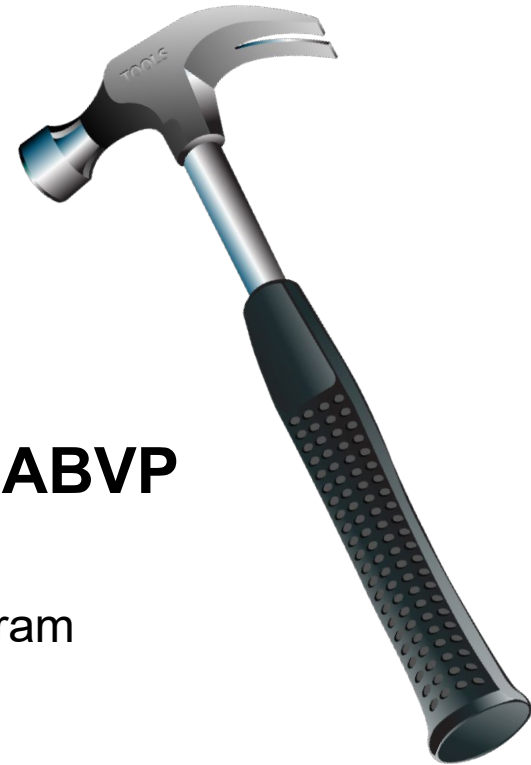


Rethinking the role of shelters are a response to outdoor cats



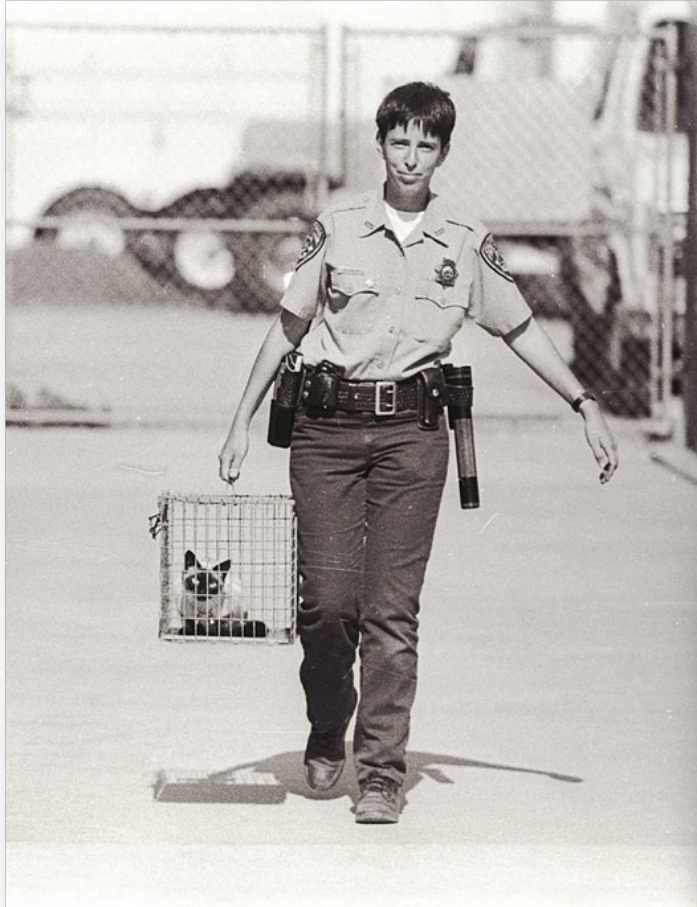
**Kate Hurley, DVM, MPVM, Dip. ABVP
(Shelter Medicine)**

UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program

www.sheltermedicine.com

sheltermedicine@ucdavis.edu

Where I came from



Goals of shelter-based cat management

- Resolve nuisance situations and complaints
- Return lost cats to their owners
- Find new homes for cats that need them
- Reduce harm caused by cats
 - To wildlife
 - To public health
- Reduce the number of free roaming cats overall



How I got here



One thing we can probably all agree on

The impact of free-ranging domestic cats on wildlife of the United States

Scott R. Loss, Tom Will & Peter P. Marra

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding author](#)

Nature Communications **4**, Article number: 1396 | doi:10.1038/

Received 06 September 2012 | Accepted 12 December 2012 |

| Updated online **12 December 2013**

[Corrigendum \(December, 2013\)](#)

Structured decisions about actions to reduce wildlife mortality require a quantitative evidence base...Future **specific management decisions, both in the United States and globally, must be further informed by fine scale research that allows analysis of population responses to cats and assessment of the success of particular management actions.**

One difference between dogs and cats



Another difference between cats and dogs



Article

Strategies to Reduce the Euthanasia of Impounded Dogs and Cats Used by Councils in Victoria, Australia

Jacquie Rand ^{1,2,*}, Emily Lancaster ², Georgina Inwood ¹, Carolyn Cluderay ¹ and Linda Marston ²

¹ School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, Gatton, QLD 4343, Australia; georgina.inwood@uqconnect.edu.au (G.I.); carolyn.cluderay@uq.edu.au (C.C.)

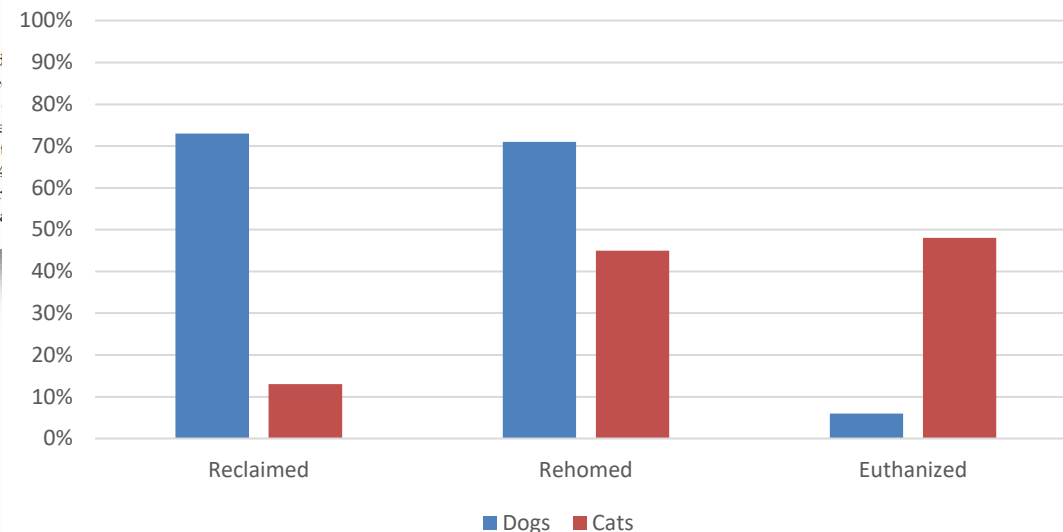
² Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, Kenmore, QLD 4069, Australia; emily.lancaster1@uqconnect.edu.au (E.L.); linda@marston.com.au (L.M.)

* Correspondence: jacquie@petwelfare.org.au or j.rand@uq.edu.au

Received: 13 March 2018; Accepted: 14 June 2018; Published: 21 June 2018

Simple Summary: Euthanasia is used in developed countries as a method for dogs and cats entering shelters and council pounds. This study analyzed cat population, registration, intake and outcome data for the 79 Victorian (74%) of councils achieved euthanasia rates for dogs of $\leq 10\%$, but only one and mean cat euthanasia was 48%. Low euthanasia rates were associated with adoption of unclaimed animals. A telephone survey of 35 councils (44%) identified policies, practices and attitudes of staff to identify strategies that envisaged this data could be used as a resource for councils to lower euthanasia rates.

Outcomes for dogs versus cats at shelters serving 79 Victorian Councils



Same tool, different results?



Cat numbers in Australia



Education, low cost
spay/neuter, licensing,
laws



Urban and suburban: Most
community concerns, most
shelter intake

- 3.8 million owned cats (150/1000 residents)
 - 89% sterilized
- 700,000 semi-owned and un-owned urban and suburban cats
- 1.4 – 5.6 million cats in natural environments



Natural environments:
wildlife concern and
management target

Not a unique struggle

J. Range Manage.
52:398–412 September 1999

Invited Synthesis Paper:

Coyote depredation control: An interface between biology and management

We believe there is **a need to address the controversy surrounding coyote depredation management**, to enlighten resource managers and the general public, and to stimulate discussion and research regarding new avenues of approaching the persistent problem of coyote depredation management.

The resilience of coyote populations dictates that the size of the area involved, the intensity and persistence of effort, timing of removal with respect to vulnerability of prey, as well as normal demographic processes of coyotes, must be considered. Effecting removals as close as practical to the anticipated risks, both in time and proximity, is important.

False solutions can be harmful

Nonlethal Techniques for Managing Predation: Primary and Secondary Repellents

John A. Shivik

*Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center and Utah
University, Logan UT*

Adrian Treves

Center for Applied Biodiversity Science, Conservation Interna

Peggy Callahan

Wildlife Science Center, 5463 West Broadway, Forest Lake, M

“As long as private livestock producers can externalize the costs of predator losses via government-subsidized predator control, they will have **little incentive** for responsible animal husbandry techniques, i.e., reduce stocking levels, clear carcasses and after-births quickly, confine herds at night or during calving/lambing, install fencing...or **adopt numerous other non-lethal preventive methods to avoid depredation** (Shivik et al. 2003).”

Letting go of ineffective methods can save lives

THE SACRAMENTO BEE 

Suggestions in changing Wildlife Services range from new practices to outright bans

By Tom Knudson
May 6, 2012

"We've pretty much learned how to control coyotes on our own," said Jensen, whose losses to coyotes have declined 60 percent to 70 percent – from about 50 lambs a year when a federal trapper worked there to 15 to 20 today. "Anything that can help you 24 hours a day, like electric fencing, is a good thing."

Historical shelter-based cat management model

- Ad hoc admission based on community member perception and preference
- Outcomes are adoption, return to owner, relocation (rarely), euthanasia
- “Low intensity trap-adopt-or-kill”
- Significant chunk of \$4 million investment on domestic animal (cat and dog) protection



~~“the size of the area involved, the intensity and persistence of effort, timing of removal with respect to vulnerability of prey, as well as normal demographic processes”~~

Shelter/neuter/return or TNR diversion

- Healthy, free-roaming, unidentified cats
 - Adults and older kittens
 - Regardless of finder's intent
 - Known feeder not required
- Sterilize, vaccinate, ear tip, return to location found
- Operated through shelter (SNR) or diversion to dedicated program (TNR)
- “Semi-targeted-trap-neuter-return”



False solutions can be harmful

Please re-think this whole approach. Stop normalizing it. It is in many instances not humane and an excuse for devoting the actual resources needed to stop the population of friendly cats on the streets in the first place.

Equally applicable standard



Please re-think this whole approach. Stop normalizing it. It is in many instances not humane and an excuse for devoting the actual resources needed to stop the population of friendly cats on the streets in the first place.

Best tool to reach these goals?

- Resolve nuisance situations and complaints
- Return lost cats to their owners
- Find new homes for cats that need them
- Protect the welfare of cats
- Reduce harm caused by cats
 - To wildlife
 - To public health
- Reduce the number of free roaming cats overall

Reality check

Public Opinions on Strategies for Managing Stray Cats and Predictors of Opposition to Trap-Neuter and Return in Brisbane, Australia

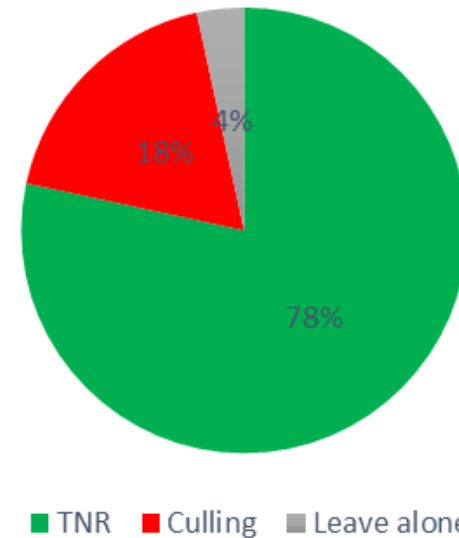
■ Jacquie Rand^{1,2*}, ■ Gina Fisher², ■ Kate Lamb¹ and ■ Andre

¹School of Veterinary Science, University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

²Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

A survey of Brisbane residents was undertaken to investigate co cats and their management. Surveys were distributed to 84 med City, and were completed by 305 patients and staff. Practices we respondents from a representative distribution of socioeconomic about trap, neuter, and return (TNR) programs for management (79%), chose TNR as their preferred management strategy, while preference to continue the current Brisbane City Council lethal c ~1,000 cats annually), and 3.4% selected to leave the cats alone. toward urban stray cats as a function of demographic variables v


Preferences for managing urban stray cats in Brisbane



Harm reduction

- Recognizes that imperfect but effective strategies can have greater benefit than hypothetically preferred but realistically unattainable outcomes
- E.g. clean needle exchange for IV drug users, access to birth control for teens

Harm reduction principles for healthcare settings

[Mary Hawk](#) , [Robert W. S. Coulter](#), [James E. Egan](#), [Stuart Fisk](#), [M. Reuel Friedman](#), [Monique Tula](#) & [Suzanne Kinsky](#)

[Harm Reduction Journal](#) 14, Article number: 70 (2017) | [Cite this article](#)

9604 Accesses | 12 Citations | 23 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

Abstract

Background

Harm reduction refers to **interventions aimed at reducing the negative effects of health behaviors without necessarily extinguishing the problematic health behaviors** completely. The vast majority of the harm reduction literature focuses on the harms of drug use and on specific harm reduction strategies, such as syringe exchange, rather than on the harm reduction philosophy as a whole. Given that a harm reduction approach can address other risk behaviors that often occur alongside drug use and that harm reduction principles have been applied to harms such as sex work, eating disorders, and tobacco use, a natural evolution of the harm reduction philosophy is to extend it to other health risk behaviors and to a broader healthcare audience.

Resolve complaints



Incentive for effective nuisance mitigation

What will solve this problem?



Raccoons live in all five boroughs of New York City. They can easily adapt to live wherever food and shelter are available. Raccoons living on your property or in your house can cause problems:

- Raccoons can have **rabies** and may bite you or your pets.
- Raccoons can **damage** your home and property.



Protect Yourself and Your Pets from Rabies

All mammals can get rabies, a deadly virus that attacks the brain and nervous system. Infected raccoons can give rabies to you and your pets through bites and scratches.

- A rabid raccoon may
- Appear sick or injured
 - Stumble or have trouble standing
 - Convulse or shake uncontrollably
 - Act unusually friendly or aggressive

If you are bitten or scratched by a raccoon, wash the wound with lots of soap and water. See your doctor as soon as possible or visit the emergency room. Call 311 to report a sick raccoon or if a raccoon scratches or bites you or your pet.

If you own dogs or cats, make sure that their rabies vaccinations are up to date, it's the law. All pets 4 months of age or older need a rabies shot and must be revaccinated every one to four years, depending on the vaccine used.

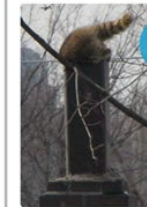
Prevent Raccoons from Entering Your Home

- Always feed pets indoors to avoid attracting raccoons and other pests.
- Keep your garbage and recycling areas clean, and make sure these containers are tightly sealed.
- Buy a raccoon-resistant trash container, or place a weight on the lid of your garbage bin.
- Seal all openings to your home, garage and outdoor sheds.
- Replace torn screens and fix broken windows.
- Trim tree branches that raccoons could use to climb onto your roof.
- Sprinkle cayenne pepper around your property as raccoons find it irritating. (Use cayenne pepper with caution; it can be very irritating to pets.)
- Fence in areas underneath decks.

Drive Raccoons Out of Your Home

Raccoons look for safe, quiet areas to set up dens, especially female raccoons with litters. An uncomfortable environment may cause raccoons to leave your property.

- Never attempt to capture or trap a raccoon.
- Use bright or flashing lights or play loud music in your attic or other areas where raccoons live.
- You may need to hire a licensed professional Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator. Visit the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at dec.ny.gov, and search wildlife control to find a wildlife trapper near you.



Protect Your Home and Property from Damage

Raccoons are not picky eaters; they will even eat your trash. Raccoons will also live almost anywhere, including under rock piles, fireplace chimneys, hollow walls, attics, the underside of overhangs and beams or sewers. Over time, they can damage your property and become a nuisance.

Incentive for effective mitigation

“People no longer could use the shelter as the “Easy Button” – a place to drop off cats without trying to find their own solutions to the problem, sometimes of their own making...The old answer would have been: set traps and animal control will go out and pick up the cats. This option has been eliminated. Now we have a conversation...our job is to help facilitate the public to engage in the desired behavior which could be TNR or helping a neighbor with TNR, not feeding their pets outside which could be attracting cats, making their yard unattractive to cats in various ways, having a stray cat scanned for a microchip, advertising a found cat on Craigslist, etc.”

- Tracy Mohr, Chico City Animal Services

TNR impact on complaint calls

DECREASES IN COMPLAINT CALLS IN RURAL MONTANA



Group: Thompson River Animal Care Shelter (TRACS)

Target area: The five towns located in Sanders County, MT (pop. 11,000; 2700 sq. mile)

Project: 755 spays/neuters of community cats from July 1, 2010 through July 1, 2012

Results: Cat-related calls to TRACS, the only animal shelter in the county, went from 1,032 in 2009 to 166 in 2011 (84% decline).

DECREASES IN COMPLAINT CALLS IN SUBURBAN TEXAS



Group: PETS Low Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic

Target area: Wichita Falls, TX (pop. 104,000)

Project: 1,188 spays/neuters of community cats from 2011 through 2012

Results: Community cat related complaint calls to Wichita Falls Animal Control went from 1,958 in 2010 to less than 200 in 2012 (at least 90% decline).

Ok, but what about this?



Where do colonies come from?



what can i do about feral cats in my neighborhood



3 "SOLUTIONS" THAT ARE REALLY DEADLY TRAPS

- 1** Bringing feral cats to a shelter where they are killed because they are unadoptable.
- 2** Contacting Animal Control to trap the feral cats and kittens. They will kill them.
- 3** Accepting a shelter's offer to lend you a trap. Beware... there are strings attached. In return, you must bring in the cat or kitten, which is then speedily killed.

Opening the right doors

- Increase public trust and decrease abandonment by ensuring the shelters provide good care and positive outcomes for all cats admitted
- Prevent one abandoned cat from turning into a colony by making TNR accessible and easy
- Open doors of communication through non-lethal options
- Decrease existing colonies over time through attrition and adoption

Best Practices: Community Cat Colony Care

Here's a list of best-practice tips for colony caregivers when caring for cats or working with neighbors.

FEEDING AND CARE

- Remove any uneaten food within 30 minutes. Leaving food overnight can attract insects and wildlife.
TIP: If the cats usually eat all of the food within 15 minutes, try putting out a bit more. If there is consistently food remaining after 30 minutes, try putting out less.
- Provide fresh water.
TIP: In the summer, provide lots of water to prevent dehydration. During the winter, try wider, deeper bowls to prevent water from freezing.
- Choose one place to feed and keep it clean. We recommend creating a 'feeding station' for all food dishes. Learn more about feeding stations at alleycat.org/ColonyCare-Feeding.
TIP: You can feed on disposable plates or bowls, but be sure to throw them away or recycle immediately after use.
- Deter insects:
 - Build a "moat" around food bowls. Place the bowls in a tray filled with about an inch of water.
 - Use ant-proof bowls. See examples at alleycat.org/AntProof.

COMMON SENSE STEPS

- Trap-Neuter-Return ALL cats in the colony, including any new cats who arrive. Discuss TNR plans with your neighbors to avoid confusion and concern. Let everyone know they can contact you with questions.
TIP: Explain the benefits of spay/neuter so your neighbors know you're helping cats and improving the community. Inform them that there will be no more kittens if all of the cats are neutered, and that mating behaviors like yowling, and fighting will stop.
- Keep everything clean. You'll reduce unpleasant smells and the neighbors will thank you.
TIP: For easier clean up after meals, choose one place for all of the cats' food dishes instead of scattering them.
- Create litter areas. Build a box with 2'x 4's or use a sandbox. This will keep cats from relieving themselves in neighborhood gardens. Be sure the litter area is in a quiet, sheltered space and clean it regularly.
TIP: Sand can withstand weather, but regular indoor litter can not.
- Provide safe shelters. Cats need warm, dry places to stay that are away from populated areas. You can make one or purchase one.
TIP: Learn how to buy or build shelters at alleycat.org/ShelterGallery.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Listen to your neighbors and address any concerns. Determine what the issues are and do your best to work with your neighbors to resolve them.
TIP: Remain calm and constructive—take this chance to educate neighbors about community cats. If you need a confidence boost, find another caregiver or friend to go with you when meeting with the community.
- Use humane deterrents to keep cats away from areas they aren't wanted. Offer to apply them for your neighbors. Learn more at alleycat.org/Deterrents.
TIP: Try using citrus scented fragrances to deter cats from yards, porches, and gardens.

Learn how you can be a critical lifeline for cats and caregivers:
www.alleycat.org/FeralFriends

Re-unite lost cats with owners



Reunite cats with owners?

Search and identification methods that owners use to find a lost cat

Linda K. Lord, DVM, PhD; Thomas E. Wittum, PhD; Amy K. Ferketich, PhD; Julie A. Funk, DVM, PhD; Päivi J. Rajala-Schultz, DVM, PhD

Objective—To characterize the process by which owners search for lost cats and identify factors associated with time to recovery.

Design—Cross-sectional study.

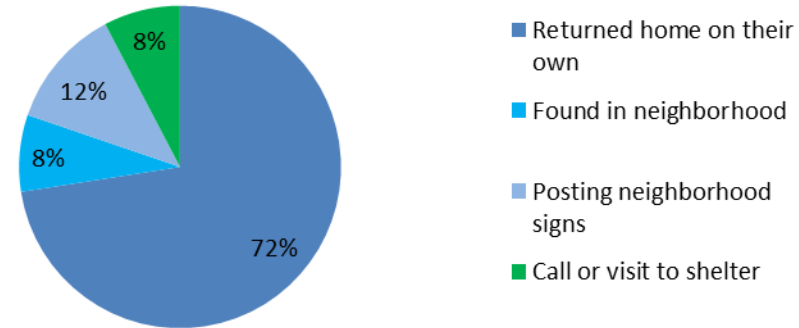
Sample Population—Owners of 138 cats lost in Montgomery County, Ohio, between June 1 and September 30, 2005.

Procedures—A telephone survey was conducted.

Results—73 of the 138 (53%) cats were recovered; median time to recovery was 5 days (range, 0.5 to 81 days). Most cats (48 [66%]) that were recovered returned home on their own or were found in the neighborhood (5 [7%]); most other cats were recovered through posting of neighborhood signs (8 [11%]) or calling or visiting an animal agency (5 [7%]). The highest success rate for any of the search methods that were used was only 12% (post-

SMALL ANIMALS

Methods by which lost cats were reunited with owners



Larger study

- Random digit dialed national survey of > 1,000 households
- 15% of households had lost a cat
- Of those, 75% were found
 - 1/54 by visit to shelter
 - 48/54 by returning on their own or searching neighborhood

Animals **2012**, *2*, 301–315; doi:10.3390/ani2020301

OPEN ACCESS

animals

ISSN 2076-2615

www.mdpi.com/journal/animals

Article

Frequency of Lost Dogs and Cats in the United States and the Methods Used to Locate Them

Emily Weiss ¹, Margaret Slater ^{2,*} and Linda Lord ³

¹ Shelter Research and Development, Community Outreach, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA®), 6260 N. Hillside, Wichita, KS 67219, USA;

E-Mail: emily.weiss@aspc.org

² Shelter Research and Development, Community Outreach, American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA®), 50 Stone Ridge Drive, Northampton, MA 01602, USA

³ Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA; E-Mail: linda.lord@cvm.osu.edu

* Author to whom correspondence should be addressed; E-Mail: margaret.slater@aspc.org; Tel.: +1-217-855-8394.

Received: 25 April 2012; in revised form: 8 June 2012 / Accepted: 11 June 2012 /

Published: 13 June 2012

Consistent results

Search Methods Used to Locate Missing Cats and Locations Where Missing Cats Are Found

Liyan Huang ¹, Marcia Coradini ^{1,*}, Jacquie Rand ^{1,2}, John Morton ³, Kat Albrecht ⁴,
Brigid Wasson ⁴ and Danielle Robertson ⁴

¹ Gatton Campus, The University of Queensland, Queensland 4343, Australia; rien@liv
j.rand@uq.edu.au (J.R.)

² Australian Pet Welfare Foundation, Kenmore, Queensland 4069, Australia; jacquie@pe

³ Jemora Pty Ltd., Geelong, Victoria 3220, Australia, john.morton@optusnet.com.au

⁴ Missing Pet Partnership, Cloverdale, CA 6105, USA; info@katalbrecht.com (K.A.);
bwasson@missingpetpartnership.org (B.W.); danielle@lostpetresearch.com (D.R.)

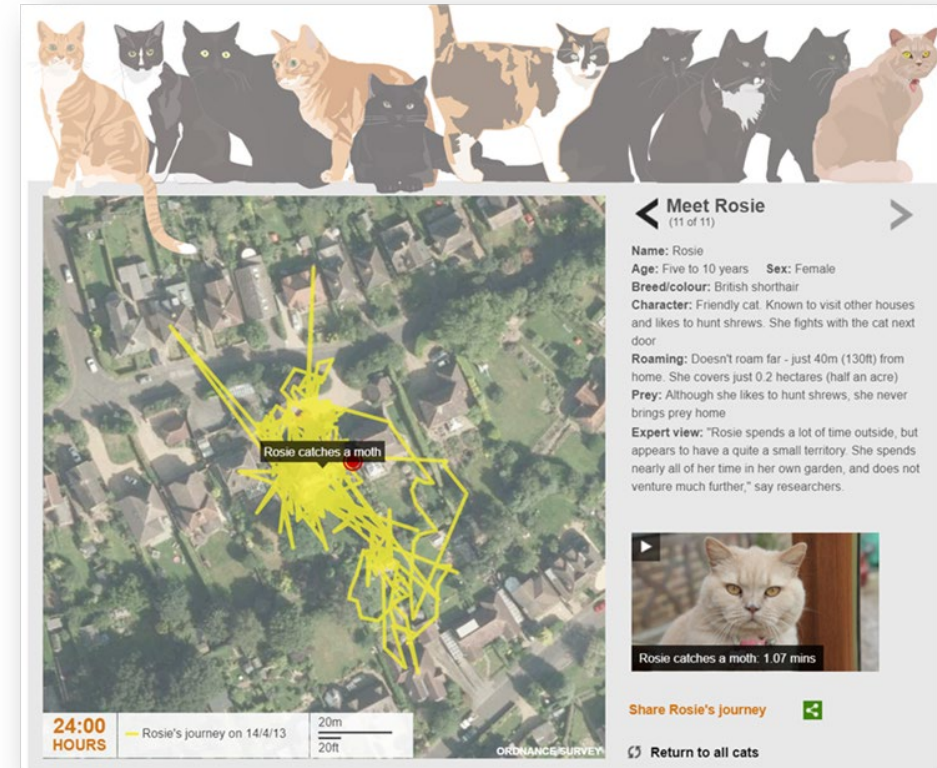
* Correspondence: m.coradini@uq.edu.au; Tel: +61-7-5460-1788

Received: 19 November 2017; Accepted: 20 December 2017; Published: 2 January 2018

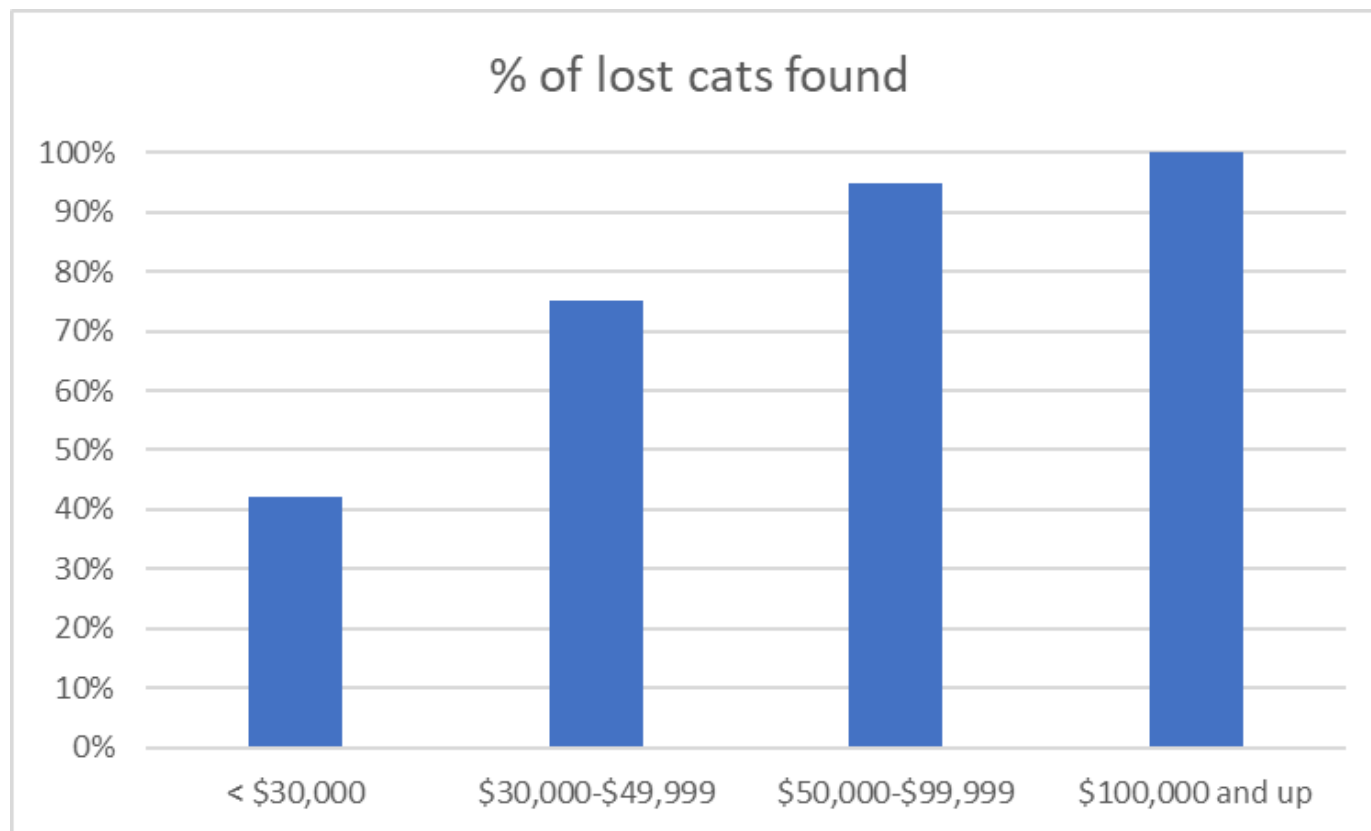
“Of the cats that were found alive, the vast majority were found outside (83%). This was followed by the option offered as ‘cat being found inside someone else’s house’ (11%), inside the house where they lived (4%), and inside a public building (2%), therefore less than 2% of found cats were in a shelter or municipal animal facility.”

Lost versus free roaming cats

- Most free roaming cats brought to shelters *aren't pets*
 - Unowned or semi-owned
- Many friendly cats brought to shelters *weren't lost*
 - Indoor/outdoor pet cats going on their neighborhood rounds
- Most lost pet cats *will not be found* at a shelter



Most at risk



Weiss, E., et al. (2012). "Frequency of Lost Dogs and Cats in the United States and the Methods Used to Locate Them." [Animals\(2\): 301-315.](#)

SNReturn to owner

- *Friendly* free roaming cats in good condition are likely to have someone who cares
- SNR bypasses language, transportation and cost barriers
- Resolves mismatch of timing in when cats are lost and when people look for them
- Educates community members directly about spay/neuter




When is the shelter the right tool to get lost cats home?

- Efforts already made to reunite the cat in the neighborhood of origin
 - Post, scan, social media, talk to neighbors
- Evidence that the cat is lost or abandoned versus indoor/outdoor pet
 - Length of time/consistency of sighting
 - Body condition and health
- In conjunction with robust, cat-specific return-to-owner shelter programs

Paper Collars: IS THIS YOUR COMMUNITY CAT?
APRIL 7, 2017 by KAT ALBRECHT

I love a good mystery. And when one of my ([Missing Animal Response](#)) students told me that a super friendly cat had showed up repeatedly outside his apartment and asked me what he should do, I suggested a paper collar.




My student already knew that when someone "finds" a cat in the area. But since this cat is

Reunited: How owners of missing pets, finders, and shelters can work together to maximize cat reclaims

If you want to know what your shelter, your community, and people who have lost their cats can do to get those MIA felines back to their families, we only have one thing to say: Here, kitty, kitty!

In this free webinar, Brigid Wasson of Missing Pet Partnership examines why fewer than 2 percent of lost pet cats who enter shelters will ever see home again - and how to beat those odds.



How shelters can get more lost cats home Watch later Share

- Getting Started
- Alternatives to Intake
- Managed Admission
- Capacity for Care
- Removing Barriers to Adoption
- Return to Field
- Shelter Profiles
- Dear Million Cat Challenge
- Webinars**
- And the survey says!
- Expo2019 Cat Housing Resources

Find new homes for cats that need them



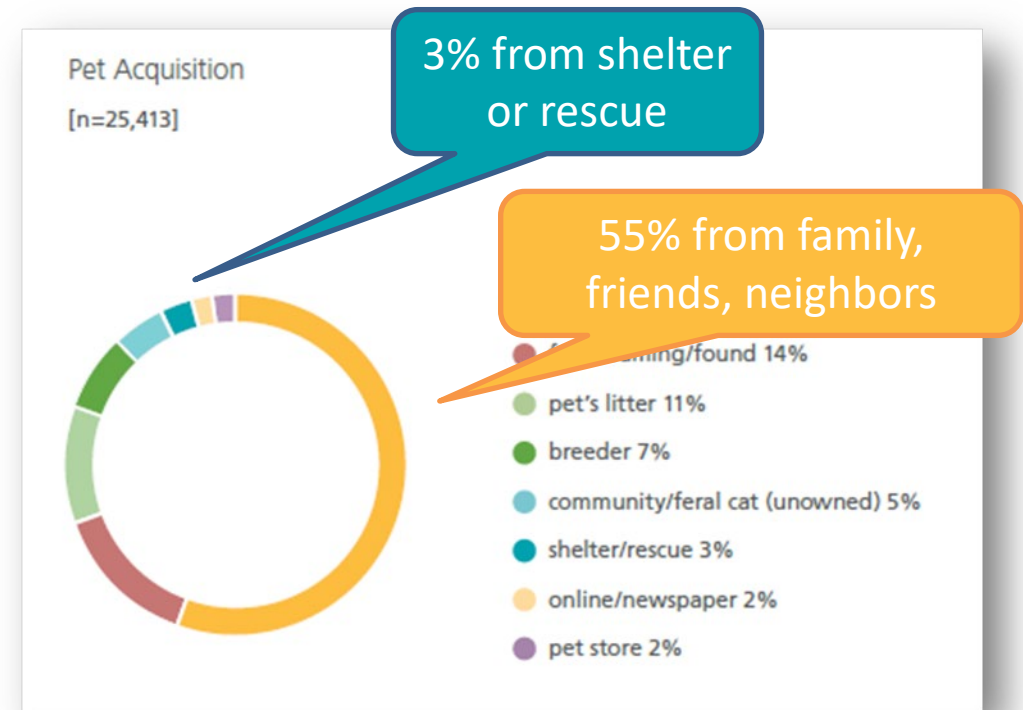
Find new homes for cats?

- Make shelter surrender safe for people who can't keep their pets
 - Right care, right outcome
- Save adoptions for kittens, owner surrendered cats, cruelty/hoarding cases, and targeted intervention
 - Serious nuisance/public health issues
 - Environmentally sensitive areas



Close the loop on homes that cats already have

- Underserved community members may be more likely to obtain pets from a source other than a shelter
- SNR for friendly, healthy cats can close the loop on sterilization and vaccination for cats already “adopted” from another source



Humane Society of the United States
Pets for Life Report 2014

Reduce cat numbers to reduce risk to wildlife, public health and cats



Requirement for population management

- *At least 50% - 75% TNR* required for eradication
- ~4 million pet cats (60% allowed outdoors)
- 700,000 urban and suburban free roaming cats
- *Removal short of eradication has no benefit*

Estimation of effectiveness of three methods of feral cat population control by use of a simulation model

Robert J. McCauley

Unless > 57% of cats were captured and neutered annually by TNR or removed by lethal control, there was minimal effect on population size.

Use of matrix population models to estimate the efficacy of euthanasia versus trap-neuter-return for management of free-roaming cats

Mark C. Anderson

The model predicted effective cat population control by use of annual euthanasia of > 50% of the population or **by annual neutering of > 75 of the fertile population.**

Requirement for population management

- *At least 50% removal required for eradication*
- ~4 million pet cats (60% allowed outdoors)
- 700,000 urban and suburban free roaming cats
- *Removal short of eradication has no benefit*

Estimation of effectiveness of three methods of feral cat population control by use of a simulation model

Robert J. McCauley

Unless > 57% of cats were captured and neutered annually by TNR or **removed by lethal control, there was minimal effect on population size.**

Use of matrix population models to estimate the efficacy of euthanasia versus trap-neuter-return for management of free-roaming cats

Mark C. Anderson

The model predicted effective cat population control by use of **annual euthanasia of > 50% of the population** or by annual neutering of > 75 of the fertile population.

Removal short of eradication

Wildlife Damage Management Conferences --
Proceedings

Wildlife Damage Management, Internet Center for

1-1-2005

Demographic and Spatial Responses of Coyotes to Changes in Food and Exploitation

Eric Gese

USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services, National Wildlife Research Center, Logan, UT, USA

Removals brought about a drastic reduction in pack size and a corresponding decrease in density. However, both **pack size and density rebounded to pre-removal levels within 8 months post-removal**. ..Accounting for both changes in prey abundance and coyote density, litter size was significantly related to total prey abundance/coyote. **With increasing prey and reduced coyote density, mean litter size doubled** in the removal area compared to pre-removal levels.

Removal short of eradication

Effects of low-level culling of feral cats in open populations: a case study from the forests of southern Tasmania

Billie T. Lazenby^{A,B,D}, Nicholas J. Mooney^C and Christopher R. Dickman^A

^ASchool of Biological Sciences, A08, University of Tasmania

^BDepartment of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Wildlife, Hobart, Tas. 7000, Australia.

^CPO Box 120, Richmond, Tas. 7025, Australia

^DCorresponding author. Email: Billie.Lazenby@utas.edu.au

“Contrary to expectation, the relative abundance and activity of feral cats increased in the cull-sites, even though the numbers of cats captured per unit effort during the culling period declined. **Increases in minimum numbers of cats known to be alive ranged from 75% to 211% during the culling period, compared with pre- and post-cull estimates.**”

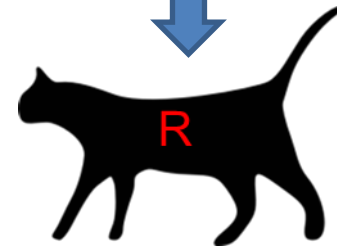
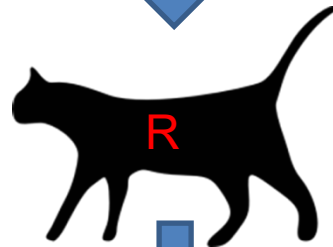
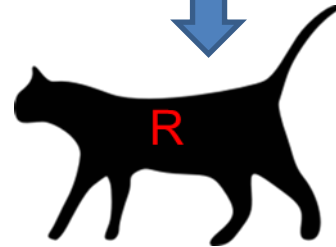
WORSE THAN NOTHING

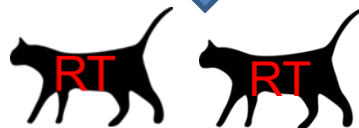
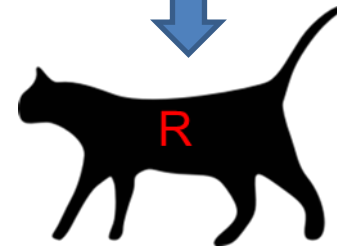
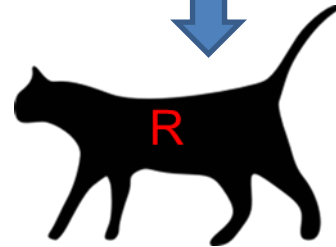
“This study provides evidence that *ad hoc* culling of feral cats may be not only ineffective, but **has the potential to increase the impact of feral cats in open populations.**”

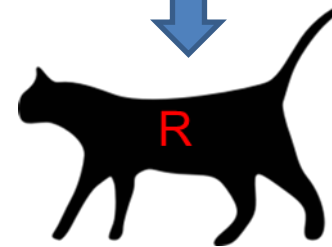
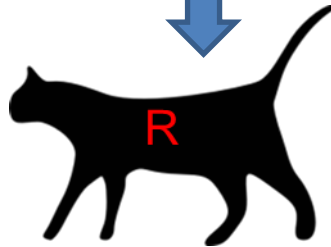


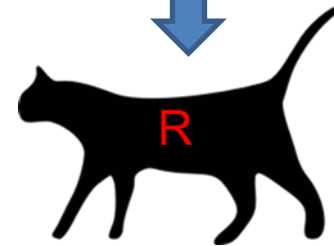
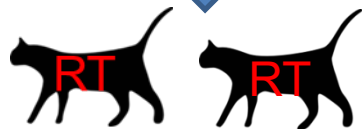
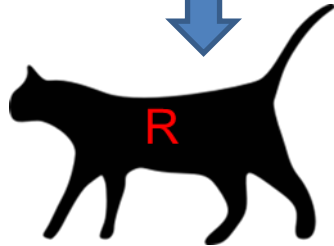
So why would SNR work?











Study of the effect on shelter cat intakes and euthanasia from a shelter neuter return project of 10,080 cats from March 2010 to June 2014

Karen L. Johnson¹ and Jon Cicirelli²

¹ National Pet Alliance, San Jose, CA, United States

² San Jose Animal Care and Services, San Jose, CA, United States

- Euthanasia **down 75%**
- Euthanasia due to URI **down 99%**
- Cats picked up dead **down 20%**
- Intake (cat and kitten) **down 29%**



animals



[Animals \(Basel\)](#). 2018 Apr; 8(4): 55.

PMCID: PMC5946139

Published online 2018 Apr 13. doi: [10.3390/ani8040055](https://doi.org/10.3390/ani8040055)

PMID: [29652808](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29652808/)

The Impact of an Integrated Program of Return-to-Field and Targeted Trap-Neuter-Return on Feline Intake and Euthanasia at a Municipal Animal Shelter

[Daniel D. Spehar](#)¹ and [Peter J. Wolf](#)^{2,*}

► [Author information](#) ► [Article notes](#) ► [Copyright and License information](#) [Disclaimer](#)

- 11,749 cats sterilized and returned over 3-year period
- Euthanasia **down 84%**
- Calls for dead cat pickup **down 24%**
- Intake **down 38%**

Managed is *better* than unmanaged

[EcoHealth](#)

September 2013, Volume 10, [Issue 3](#), pp 277–289 | [Cite as](#)

Toxoplasma gondii, Source to Sea: Higher Contribution of Domestic Felids to Terrestrial Parasite Loading Despite Lower Infection Prevalence

Authors

[Authors](#)

Elizabeth VanWormer , Patricia A. C.

Infection prevalence differed among sympatric felids, with a **significantly lower prevalence for managed feral cats (17%)** than mountain lions, bobcats, or **unmanaged feral cats subsisting on wild prey (73–81%)**.

The right tool for the job

- SNR/TNR diversion for most healthy unowned adult cats brought to the shelter
 - Healthy unsocial cats to stabilize populations in the community and limit euthanasia at the shelter
 - Healthy friendly stray/free roaming cats to maximize return to owner and spayed/neutered/vaccinated cats in homes
 - As an avenue to open doors with community members who support non-lethal control, in order to allow education and harm reduction
- Traditional shelter pathway for owned cats and:
 - Unhealthy stray/free roaming cats (sick/injured/poor body condition)
 - Cruelty, abuse and neglect cases
 - Interventions for significant nuisance situations/public health or wildlife risk
 - Social kittens on a pathway to adoption
 - As a solution for community members seeking a trustworthy organization where they can be assured that cats will receive appropriate care and outcomes, in order to prevent abandonment or neglect

Neither SNR nor Shelter intake will be right for every situation



Thank you!!!

