

Feral Cat

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Felis catus

Impact

- Its main impact is on ground nesting birds such as the Wirebird and various seabirds
- Deadwood and Man and Horse are sites that cats have an impact on the Wirebird
- Gill Point is an area of concern for seabirds

Actions

- As feral cats are an established part of an ecosystem, along with rats, rabbits and mice, then in order to control them, the whole food web needs to be taken into consideration in any action
- The Environmental Health Section of the Public Health and Social Services Department carry out cat-trapping on a regular basis
- Public involvement is required so that people take responsibility in looking after pet cats
- If there is a problem in a certain area, then there can be localised control in the form of trapping or poisoning



One species of seabird, the Madeiran Storm-Petrel, that is impacted by cats
Photo: Emma Bennett



Showing cat middens, where seabirds have been eaten by cats at Gill Point.

Photos: Andrew Darlow