

# Trialing Telemetric Cameras

South West NRM are actively continuing to assist property owners in the use of new technologies to monitor feral animals in their region. The traditional motion activated camera would require property owners to physically visit the camera every couple of days to replace the storage card and change the batteries. This meant that the site was visited frequently, and therefore meant that some of the feral animals occupying that area were not able to settle into their normal routine.

To reduce the level of inputs required by the property owner, South West NRM have assisted property owners with the purchase of Jager Pro™ I.C.E.™ telemetric cameras which are capable of sending the picture to an email address. South West NRM also provide technological support to set up and use these new devices. These cameras are set up with an external battery and solar panel, which reduce the number of times the camera has to be visited. There are a number of additional advantages surrounding this set up:

1. The property owner is no longer required to regularly physically visit the site,
2. The camera can remain on location for extended periods of time, and
3. The picture is typically received within 3 minutes, and is date and time stamped.

However, as with the use and trial of any new technology, there are also some disadvantages:

- a) The camera needs to be installed where there is a mobile phone signal, and
- b) The battery and solar panel are very visible, and difficult to hide from the animals.

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Above (left to right): A feral cat, and two wild dogs visiting key property sites monitored by telemetric cameras.



During the trial of this technology it was discovered that I.C.E.<sup>TM</sup> cameras are also a useful tool for monitoring water levels in troughs, dams and tanks. With a minor adaption to how the camera is programmed, the cameras are able to be set up on the bank of a Turkey's nest or facing a trough, and the property owner is able to remotely monitor the water level. The adaption is that the motion activated sensor is turned off and the picture is taken only when you "ask" it to, or within a set time frame. When the camera is set up and installed this way, the property owner is able to receive very accurate, up to date information very quickly (typically within 3 - 5 minutes).

If you are interested in investigating the use of telemetric cameras on your property, please make contact with Jed Sommerfield by emailing [jpo@swnrm.org.au](mailto:jpo@swnrm.org.au).

You can also read more about Jager Pro<sup>TM</sup> I.C.E.<sup>TM</sup> telemetric cameras at <https://jagerpro.com/cameras/>



Above: A sample image of a watering point which is monitored by a telemetric camera.

Below: A Kangaroo poses for the camera (his best side of course!)

