

# Menangle Fox Campaign

Managing foxes in south-west Sydney - Reducing impacts on livestock and native wildlife

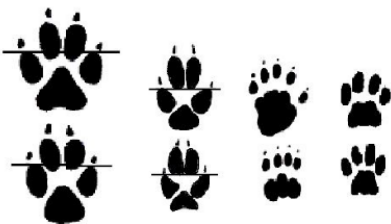
## Next coordinated control operation Autumn 2018 20 March – 30 April

If you are planning on controlling foxes on your property you can increase the effectiveness across the landscape by taking part in our **Autumn campaign** which will run from **20 March to 30 April 2018**. If you are in a residential area, you can help by removing any sources of food or shelter. If you have seen a fox visiting in your backyard, contact us to discuss loaning a cage trap.

**Camden Show - Friday 16 & Saturday 17 March 2018** - come and visit the Local Land Services and NSW DPI stall to find out more about the Menangle Fox Campaign.

### Do you have foxes on your land?

The **Menangle Fox Control Group** (MFCG) aims to coordinate a landscape approach to manage foxes, protect livestock, domestic animals and native wildlife. The aim is to get as many landholders (rural and residential) in the area to undertake control activities twice a year during Autumn and Spring.



WILD DOG

FOX

QUOLL

CAT

You may not see the fox but maybe you have seen what they leave behind?

### Tracks



Red Fox (Source: "Track, Scats and Other  
Traces"/http://www.abc.net.au/science/scribblygum/)

### Scats

To register your interest in the Menangle Fox Campaign

visit <http://goo.gl/forms/ahkjaKsBwH>

call 02 4724 2128 or email [menangle.fox@gmail.com](mailto:menangle.fox@gmail.com)

Trapping foxes using cage traps can be difficult as foxes are very cautious about entering small confined spaces. There has been some success so far in the campaign with around seven foxes trapped. The next **workshop** at Cawdor Public School will start at 6pm with a **demonstration of a range of cage traps**, both custom-made and off-the-shelf. We will also be providing a **free sausage sizzle**. If you would like to attend **PLEASE REGISTER** at <https://goo.gl/forms/80VJZtiHVt1gp1>

Foxes are more likely to enter a large cage trap.



A number of smaller cage traps will be available at the workshop to borrow after the demonstration.

A study of **fox movements** across Sydney is currently underway. Four foxes were trapped and released in the Menangle area after being fitted with GPS tracking collars. The information collected will help us better understand the areas they use and how to best manage the resources they are selecting to rest or den. Some interesting information on what has been found so far will be presented at the next workshop.

### Fox dens and rest sites – what do they look like?

Come to our next workshop to find out more...

**Thermal imagery** used to observe foxes when shooting can tell us a lot about their behaviour. **Rod Morris** will join us again at our next workshop to show us what he is learning about foxes and other invasive species and what they get up to in the paddock.

Greater Sydney Local Land Services runs **Vertebrate Pesticide Training** throughout the year. This training gives participants able to bait on their property accreditation to do so. The course includes training to use 1080 for fox control and pindone for rabbits with the cost just \$50. It is free for a small number of eligible landholders within the campaign area who participate during the control period. Call Annaliese Geddes on 02 4724 2134 or email [menangle.fox@gmail.com](mailto:menangle.fox@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**Canid Pest Ejectors** (CPEs) have been developed as a target specific delivery device for 1080. Access and use is governed by local regulations and authorities. Training and accreditation needs to be completed prior to using the devices. Advantages of CPEs include their target specificity to canids and their inability to be moved or cached by animals. CPE courses are also run throughout the year at a cost of \$50, please contact Annaliese Geddes on 4724 2134 to find out more.

**Rabbits** are generally part of the fox diet, so controlling them together is beneficial.

**Maggie Gil Fernández** is a Masters student from Macquarie University studying what species visit canid pest ejectors (CPEs) in urban and peri-urban areas around Sydney. Maggie is also going to be looking at diet and genetic diversity of foxes when she starts her PhD next year. We would like to hear from anyone who can help collect scats and ear clippings from foxes you may have trapped, shot or found for the study. Please call 02 4724 2128 or email [menangle.fox@gmail.com](mailto:menangle.fox@gmail.com) for more information. Maggie will have sample collection kits at the next workshop.

### Have you seen a fox had a chicken taken by a fox or trapped a fox?

Please record it in FoxScan to assist our campaign. We now have our own Menangle fox campaign page [www.feralscan.org.au/foxscan/menanglefox](http://www.feralscan.org.au/foxscan/menanglefox)

View instructions on using the Foxscan website or app at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=I55bF7\\_Sqvk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I55bF7_Sqvk)



**Remote cameras** are widely used to monitor animals including pest species such as foxes. The recent



monitoring program across the campaign area found foxes present at 90 percent of sites with more than 40 species recorded across the area.

*Fox with a chicken caught on camera*

### Have your say on regional pest animal plans

<https://greatersydney.lis.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/pestplan>

The NSW government is seeking input into 11 draft regional strategic pest animal management plans. The plans identify the risks in each region, set regional pest animal management priorities, and provide for the coordinated management of pest animal risks within and across Local Land Services regions.

**Consultation closes at 5pm Friday 20 April 2018.**

### Simple tips to reduce fox problems

- Don't leave pet food outside overnight and never feed foxes
- Use enclosed compost bins
- Keep domestic animals secure at night
- Remove fallen fruit around fruit trees
- Keep garbage bins covered
- Block entry points to drains
- Close off access to underneath buildings
- Use fox-proof enclosures for poultry
- Turn-off outside lights that might attract insects
- Reduce weeds that provide food and shelter, such as african olive and blackberries
- Don't feed native wildlife as they will become more vulnerable to predators
- Record sightings in FoxScan.

For an overview of the issues faced by participants of the Menangle fox campaign listen to the **ABC Radio National** program **Off Track**. This news article includes the link to the radio program

[www.abc.net.au/news/2017-06-30/foxes-sydneys-fringe-poses-challenges-for-landholders-ecosystems/8656240](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-06-30/foxes-sydneys-fringe-poses-challenges-for-landholders-ecosystems/8656240)



If you would like to receive the Menangle Fox Campaign **newsletter** or are interested in any of the control or monitoring activities, please register your interest at: <http://goo.gl/forms/ahkjaksBwH> or email [menangle.fox@gmail.com](mailto:menangle.fox@gmail.com)