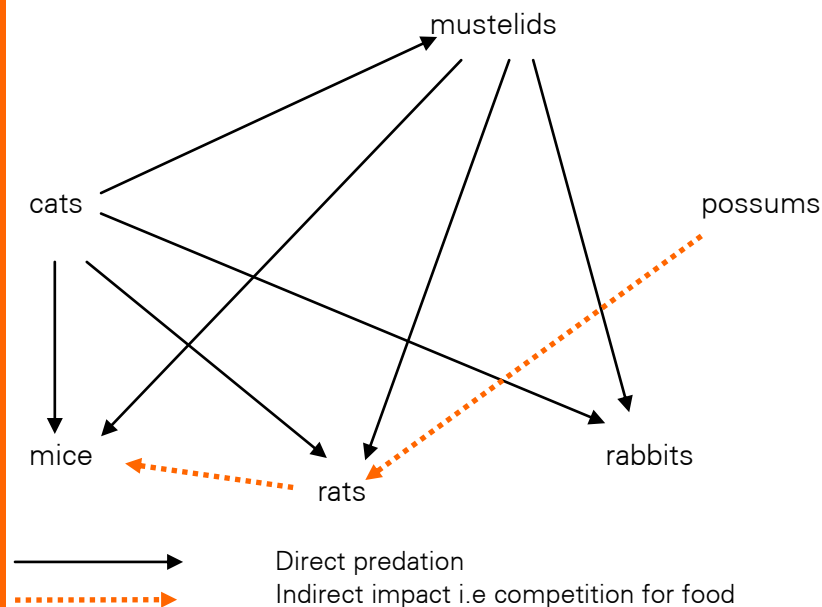


Integrated Pest Management

Prey/predator diagram

June 2010











































pigs/goats/deer and livestock –
impact on food availability, native plant
recruitment and cause soil disturbance etc

The above diagram is a very simplified version of predator/prey relationships (all of the above pest animals impact on native plants and wildlife too!) aimed to get you thinking about the impacts of removing only one predator from the system. In general, removing one top level predator can lead to increases of other lower level predators, as per the arrows showing either direct or indirect impacts. For instance, removing only possums may result in higher rat numbers and therefore have a significant negative impact on bird numbers and seedling success. If mustelids and cats are removed and rabbits aren't, a significant increase in vegetation browse may occur.

Removing only one predator/pest from the equation is usually not enough to protect biodiversity, so we look at using an **integrated** approach, considering the implications of different predator/pest removal. In general, targeting rats, possums and mustelids will give the greatest benefits in a forest ecosystem, whereas in a coastal ecosystem, removing cats, hedgehogs, mustelids and rabbits will give best overall results.

The table below gives an idea of which pest animals will need to be controlled to protect which native species in different habitats. This is somewhat simplified but should give an idea of prioritisation and the suite of pest animals you need to consider targeting. Please note, we only give advice in detail on pest animals that are able to be controlled by trapping or baiting. Pest animal control that requires specialised skills such as shooting, should be left to professionals. Please contact your local [Biosecurity Officer](#) for more information.

Pest species	Forest birds	Coastal/ground nesting birds	Lizards	Insects	Forest plants	Dune plants
Rats						
Mustelids						
Possums						
Feral cats						
Hedgehogs						
Mice						
Goats, deer						
Pigs						
Rabbits						
Wasps						

 = key targets to reduce impact

 = direct impacts

 = indirect impacts