

City of Melville

Cat Management Plan 2022–2026



Claire Greenwell, PhD

Purr-fect Companions

- Important companion animals
- Physical and mental health benefits
- Popular pets, ~27% households
- 4.9 million cats nationally
- 3.5 million (71%) free-roaming



Free-roaming Cats

- Kill an average of 186 animals per year
- ~83 million birds, reptiles, mammals
- Urban pet cats kill 28–52 times more animals per km² than feral cats
- Predation of pets
- Fighting, toileting in gardens, disease transmission



Australian Fairy Tern

- Mandurah 2018
- Desexed free-roaming cat
- ≥ 6 adults, 40 chicks killed
- Colony 222 birds abandoned



Marauding Cat Destroys Colony Of Threatened Australian Seabirds



GrrlScientist Senior Contributor  

Science

Evolutionary & behavioural ecologist, ornithologist & science writer



Claire Greenwell

- Threatened coastal seabird
- Colony at Point Walter



Australian Fairy Tern

Open Access Article

Cat Gets Its Tern: A Case Study of Predation on a Threatened Coastal Seabird

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New laws to stop domestic cats roaming could save fairy tern population

By [Jessica Warriner](#)

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Indoor Lifestyle

- Less risk of injury and disease
- Live up to 4 times longer
- Improved animal welfare
- Less social conflict



Moving Forward

- Fremantle Cat Management
Amendment to local law
- Proposed cat prohibited areas to
include all public land
- Provision to deal with nuisance cats

