

NFDAP Steering Committee Meeting Communiqué

Meeting 1: Monday 16th December 2025

Venue: Virtual **Attendance:** 14 members, 2 observers

1. Introduction

The NFDAP Steering Committee met on 16th December 2024 to accept the committee's terms of reference, share updates on activities from across the country and progress towards the Action Plan as well as proposed future activities.

2. Key Decisions & Outcomes

- The terms of reference was approved by the Committee
- Members summarised the successes of their state/sector over the past 12 months, and highlighted challenges ahead.
- The Coordinator provided an update on activities under the NFDAP over the past 12 months, including
 - Awareness campaigns and materials, large and small forums, meetings and workshops, trials on control tools and strategies, development of an interactive map, and foundational activities for a Containment Buffer Zone Program.
- The Coordinator proposed future activities under the NFDA, including
 - Continuing awareness campaigns
 - Expanding guides, website content, and newsletters
 - Strengthening networks via meetings, workshops, and champions
 - Identifying priorities for the Containment Buffer Zone and seek funding
 - Enhance cross-border networks
 - Develop peri-urban best practice, and operation guides
 - Promote developing thermal aerial strategies
 - Look for opportunities to review key site management plans

3. Action Items & Next Steps

- **Regularly update members on NFDAP activity progress** – Assigned to: National Deer Management Coordinator – Ongoing
- Advocate to continue NFDAP activities – all
- **Investigate** – Assigned to various members
 - Better coordination of research networks and projects
 - Improve understanding of economic value of feral deer control
 - Opportunities to provide extension material to distribute to farming groups
 - Behaviour changes to increase cross-tenure deer control
 - Co-funding for containment zone and deer control projects
 - Continuation of the Coordinator Program

4. Closing Remarks

The committee reiterated the importance of supporting the continuation of the Coordinator Program and proposed NFDAP activities.

Approved by: Chair