Background.

The welfare of companion animals and their management in remote Indigenous communities has been an ongoing issue for many decades. With the introduction of European breeds, who, in comparison to the dingo, are much more dependent on the human hand for survival, are more susceptible to disease and more highly fertile, dog populations in remote indigenous communities have rapidly become very large and in many communities would be considered to be out of control. With this, many dogs are malnourished, carry various diseases (some of which can effect humans – are ‘zoonotic’) and tend to display territorial and aggressive behaviour.

In this setting, parasite infestations including fleas, ticks, mange and gut worm are invariably high. Poor dog health and management in conjunction with poor hygiene practices generally contribute to increased prevalence of animal borne disease infecting humans – resulting in skin disease, diarrhoeal disease and intestinal parasite infestations. High prevalence of Canine scabies (mange) is also a significant concern, with its ability to contribute to transient scabies in humans – a serious skin disease which can potentially result in Nephritis or Rheumatic Heart disease – life threatening diseases impacting the lives of many Indigenous Australians. This scenario is of grave concern for animal welfare, community health, safety and wellbeing.

Companion animals hold a significant importance for Aboriginal people – not only appreciated for their companionship, physical protection and as potential hunting aids, they play a very important part in Aboriginal culture. Many dogs are considered part of kinship, and they play a significant role in songlines and traditional dances. Despite this, there is often very limited knowledge and awareness regarding the health/welfare and ‘needs’ of companion animals. The cultural value placed on companion animals, particularly dogs, must be considered when exploring options for effective animal health service delivery.

Companion Animal Management is a core responsibility of Local Government, but the way in which the services are delivered and their resulting success varies widely across the Northern Territory, particularly in remote Indigenous communities. Until recently, it was not uncommon for this core responsibility to be addressed through ad hoc contracted veterinary services – whose primary focus was often culling. Culling involves the inappropriate and inadvertent euthanasia of random companion animals in communities. Other than being hugely disrespectful and inhumane, it’s well recognised, world-wide, that this method of population control is extremely ineffective and unsustainable – resulting in rapid repopulation as well as lack of trust towards service providers. This form of intervention also weakens the human-animal bond, disregards the sentient value of animals and discourages empathy & owner responsibility.
In 2010, East Arnhem Regional Council changed the way in which they delivered their Animal management services. Instead of contracted veterinary services once to twice yearly to each of the communities within their jurisdiction, EARC employed their own Vet/Animal Control Manager, Dr Emma Kennedy. The aim of the program was then to deliver more frequent, respectful, effective animal health services to the nine EARC communities, in conjunction with community education, and local capacity building through employment opportunities.

With this new approach, each of the nine EARC communities, including Angurugu, Umbakumba and Milyakburra received Veterinary/animal health services 2-3 times per year, with visits predominantly consisting of surgical desexing of companion animals, parasite control and various basic animal health treatments where possible. The aim was to achieve a slow and sustained reduction in dog populations, reduced parasitism and disease, reduction in aggressive/territorial/pack behaviours in community dogs, improvements in owner responsibility, improvements in community health and safety, and well as longer term positive impacts on environmental health.

Research indicates that animal management practices in rural and remote Aboriginal communities is most successful where:
- a respectful, culturally appropriate approach is taken to program design & delivery;
- community members are actively involved in program delivery and they can inform and direct the program design and delivery;
- a ‘learning and engagement-based approach’ is applied to build community awareness and buy in;
- Cross-cultural considerations are acknowledged when delivering animal treatments and management activities;
- a flexible approach is adopted to cater for local circumstance.

In achieving these ideals, it was evident that local community involvement through employment opportunities was imperative in achieving a more appropriate, effective and sustainable program.

Once trusting relationships with community members were developed, the program was considered far more successful in comparison to previous contracted service delivery, with obvious improvements in animal health and welfare – specifically improvements in body condition, and a reduction in parasite burdens. Although effective, the limited capacity of one staff member placed significant limitations on service delivery across the region. Community education was minimal and generally gained only through one-on-one discussions with pet owners; community involvement was fairly limited to infrequent casual employment opportunities.

It was for these reasons, in 2012, EARC partnered with AMRRIC (Animal Management in Remote and Rural Indigenous Communities) and, through Aboriginal Benefits Account funding, were able to develop and deliver the Animal Management Worker Program. This involved the employment of up to 10 Indigenous Animal Management Workers across the EARC communities – 2 of which were to be based on Groote Eylandt. Although a fantastic step towards a community driven approach to the program and capacity building within community, a major downfall was this limited supervision and training opportunities available to AMW’s. Many of the
AMW’s were enrolled in Certificate II in Environmental Health through BIITE, but unfortunately this course was inappropriate to their numerous/literacy levels and content had limited relevance to Animal Health and Management. With no other options for accredited animal health/management training for Indigenous community members, the majority of the AMW training was non-accredited/on the job training provided by the EARC Vet with some support from AMRRIC training staff. Unfortunately this was limited to training sessions every 2-3 months, a fairly ineffective training model.

In 2012, EARC gained financial support from GEBIE for EARC Animal Management Program on Groote Eylandt - funding of $70,000 per annum was received for three consecutive years (July 2012 – July 2015). This was to support the salary expense of a much needed Animal Management Supervisor position on Groote Eylandt. This position was to assist in the co-ordination and deliver of basic animal health services on Groote Eylandt, assist in training and support for local AMW’s, provide community education (specifically to the schools) as well as develop stronger relationships with key stakeholders on Groote Eylandt, to ensure a collaborative approach to animal health and management.

With housing not included with the position, the AM Supervisor was sourced locally. Although there was initial success in recruiting a local Alyangula resident with Animal Management/Wildlife experience as well as extensive experience working in Groote Eylandt communities, subsequent AM Supervisors were difficult to source – particularly given the limited pool of qualified applicants on Groote Eylandt. Ultimately this resulted in a lull in supervision. The lack of supervision during periods of re-recruitment was detrimental to the program – evidence that local Indigenous AMW’s were very much dependant on daily mentoring and supervision.

In 2014, with the EARC Vet/Animal Control Manager taking maternity leave, Council provided additional funding to enable the AM Supervisor to be a dual role as both Vet & Animal Management Supervisor, as well as the provision of housing in Angurugu. In January 2014, Dr Sacha Woodburn commenced on Groote Eylandt as Vet/Animal Management Supervisor. In addition to the supervisory role responsibilities, Sacha’s role also encompassed the delivery of regular Veterinary services to Groote Eylandt communities and Outstations as well as biannual veterinary services to the four other EARC communities of Galiwin’ku, Gapuwiyak, Milingimbi and Ramingining (maintaining basic population control during the usual Vets maternity leave).

Sacha’s veterinary services on Groote Eylandt extended well beyond the core responsibility and jurisdictional boundaries of the Council. Given the unique biodiversity of the Groote Eylandt Archipelago- the impact of companion animal populations, their influence on feral populations and the subsequent negative impacts on wildlife and conservation has been a greater focus of the Groote Eylandt based AM Program, in comparison to EARC communities elsewhere. With the development of strong relationships with the ALC Rangers, Veterinary services on Groote Eylandt extended to assist with the ALC’s Trap/neuter/release Program to assist in feral cat management.

Additionally, Groote Eylandt based veterinary services have been regularly utilised by Alyangula residents for animal health emergencies that were not amenable to waiting for the monthly visit from Katherine Vets.
Outcomes
In the past 3 years, there has been a significant improvement in the management of companion animal populations on Groote Eylandt. There are many variables that influence this positive outcome, namely, the improved approach to animal health service delivery over the past 5 years, but these benefits would not have been achieved without the support of a locally based Animal Management Supervisor to assist local Indigenous Animal Management Workers to perform their role. Moreover, it seems that many of the overwhelming benefits have been achieved in the past 18 months, through the employment of a locally based vet on Groote Eylandt, also acting in a supervisory/mentoring/training capacity.

Successes of the program can be reflected in various impacts and indicators - some of which can be quantitatively assessed, although, analysis and assessment of many of these indicators is beyond the capacity of the current program. Instead, many are based on anecdotal evidence as well as observation.

Impact 1: Companion Animal Health & Welfare
An effective and practical approach to evaluating companion animal health & welfare on a large scale requires assessment of animals from a distance, without conducting a full physical examination. The body condition of an animal can be assessed based on fat coverage, and a ‘Body Condition score’ be awarded on a scale of 1-9, where 1 is a skeletal animal and 9 is a massively obese animal. The skin condition of an animal can also be used as an indicator of general health and welfare. A ‘Skin Score’ is awarded on a scale of 0-5, where 0 is perfect skin/ coat condition and 5 is a dog with extremely inflamed skin and completely lacking a coat.

Body condition is often a direct reflection of general health and nutrition; skin condition often correlates directly to parasite infestation of the skin.

At the beginning of the EARC Animal Management program in 2010, thorough community assessments were undertaken to assess the condition and nature of the dog populations.

Although fairly crude, the following estimates were averaged across the Groote Eylandt communities and outstations from data collected in 2012 (see Table 1 & Appendix 1 for data):
- Average body condition score = 3.3/9 (‘very underweight/too thin’)
- Average skin score = 2/5 (moderate skin disease; moderate hair loss, moderate parasite burden)
- Approximately 30% of dogs were considered to have skin lesions consistent external parasite infestations - particularly scabies mange.

Over the course of the program, there has been a steady and sustained improvement in both body condition score (BCS) and skin condition score (SS). Using the specifically developed Ipad App to collect information on individual dogs, much more accurate data can be generated. The most recent data collected by EARC Animal Management Staff on Groote Eylandt suggests the following averages across the communities and Outstations of Groote Eylandt (see Ipad data in Appendix1):

**Body Condition Score:**
- 5.6% dogs have BCS = 1/9 (moderately underweight/thin)
- 27.0% dogs have a BCS = 2/9 (slightly underweight)
- 43.8% dogs have a BCS = 3/9 (ideal) ***
- 21.9% dogs have a BCS = 4/9 (slightly overweight)
- 1.7% dogs have a BCS = 6/9 (moderately overweight)

**Skin Score:**
- 91.1% = 0/5 (ideal, healthy skin)***
- 8.9% = 1/5 (mild skin disease, mild hair thinning – some evidence of parasite burdens)

This data suggests that the majority of the population is in ideal health – both in terms of weight and skin health. There are always deviations from the average, incredibly, quite a significant number of dogs overweight. This is something that is rarely witnessed in remote indigenous communities and is a testament to improved dog health and responsible pet ownership that has is not present in Groote Eylandt.
communities. There are understandably a few cases of skin disease that are difficult to treat – this may be due to the limitations of repeat treatment and owner compliance, or may in fact be complicated cases, beyond the scope of the program. A small and fairly insignificant percentage of the population are mildly underweight, but given the complex nature of dog health and management in this setting, these figures are actually quite remarkable.

In addition to Body Condition and Skin Score, general injury and disease prevalence can be a useful indicator of improved animal health & welfare. Transmissible Venereal Tumours – (a debilitating canine tumour, transmitted by mating, licking, biting and sniffing, predominantly effecting the genitalia) were not uncommon in the earlier days of the program. Now, with the majority of the Groote Eylandt dog population desexed and therefore a significant reduction in breeding, the tumour seems to have been eliminated from the Eylandt. Other injuries, particularly those inflicted through violence or aggression towards animals, including stabbings, hitting, boiling water burns also seem to be on the decline. This may be a reflection of improved attitudes towards dogs, or a population of dogs that are more companionable and easier to manage, therefore less likely to be subjected to acts of violence or anger. Motor vehicle injuries are less prevalent – possibly due to the change in the nature of the dog population – fewer dogs roaming the street, hence, fewer dogs susceptible to motor vehicle injuries.

Interestingly, the program more commonly is expected to provide services to address health concerns relating to an aging population, obesity and arthritis – a far better scenario than that presented five years ago.

**Impact 2: Reduced dog population density and desexing rates**

Low desexing rate generally contribute to a large, rapidly breeding, malnourished, ‘out of control’ population of dogs. Breeding/entire animals are generally poorer in condition, carry more disease, and with the ability to breed twice yearly, they are constantly contributing to a rising population that easily outgrows available resources (food/shelter/care). Breeding animals tend to be more territorial and aggressive, and as population numbers rise, resources become more and more limited contributing to further poor health, aggression, community safety risks and environmental contamination (through faeces, parasites and scavenging behaviour). This becomes a perpetual cycle of overpopulation, malnutrition, aggression and disease, whereby pet owners are unable to adequately attend to their pets, ultimately contributing to widespread animal welfare, public health and environmental health concerns.

Estimates of dog population across EARC communities of Angurugu, Umbakumba and Milyakburra earlier in the program would suggest a population of approximately 500 ‘companion/community’ dogs. In addition to this, an estimated 105 dogs were residing in the outstations of Bartalumba Bay, Malkala, Little Paradise and Four Mile. The average estimated desexing rate was approximately 40-50% across these communities and outstations.

Surgical desexing as a means of population control is recognised world-wide as the most effective and sustainable approach. In comparison to culling which is inhumane, disrespectful, as well as often resulting in rapid repopulation, surgical desexing sustainably eliminates breeding, contributing to a healthier, less territorial and more controlled dog population.

Since the EARC Animal Management Program, and more likely attributable to having a locally based Vet delivering effective and culturally appropriate animal health services, the communities and outstations of Groote Eylandt have experienced a slow and sustainable reduction in dog population size – consistent with predicted outcomes through a surgical desexing program.

The most recent data collected by EARC Animal management staff on Groote Eylandt, suggests:

- Total population of 395 dogs (a 35% reduction in estimated population size from 2010)
- Desexing Rates range from 79% to 89%, averaging 84.2% across the Groote Region (See Appendix1)
This suggests a massive 36.7% increase in desexing rates across the region - an incredible achievement that would possibly be considered higher than mainstream community rates. Desexing rates maintained above 80% are considered to maintain effective population control and contribute to a stable population.

Although dog populations seem to be very dynamic in aboriginal communities, with dogs continually moving between communities with their owners, high desexing rates have contributed to achieving a somewhat stable population.

A reduction in dog population density also directly influences animal health & welfare as well as owner responsibility. Pet owners feel far more equipped and capable of caring for fewer, healthier pets as opposed to the hopeless situation of catering for breeding, malnourished dogs and puppies (particularly when there were rarely animal health services available in the days of excessive breeding and sick puppies).

Impact 3: Improvements to community: public health, safety and wellbeing.

There are many ways in which dog populations can influence public health. Exposure to zoonotic diseases, dog bite incidents and impacts on psychological health and wellbeing are amongst the most obvious.

Maintaining dog health through regular parasite control is an important adjunct to maintaining family/community health. Not only due to the various zoonotic diseases shared by dogs and humans (for example gut worms, bacterial & protozoal infections, scabies, ringworm) consideration must also be given to the discomfort caused by flea and tick infestations around the home environment. Research suggests that improvements in dog health and reduction in canine scabies is likely to result in a significant reduction in chronic scabies cases in humans (crusted scabies). With improved dog health across the region, there has also been an anecdotal reduction in human Crusted Scabies cases – a very significant benefit for community health.

Unfortunately without an automated ‘dog bite register’ in the health system, it’s extremely difficult to obtain data on dog bite incidents in remote communities in the NT. Instead, we rely on clinics providing us with this information directly. Actually receiving data in regards to dog bite incidents is therefore subject to many variables – particularly the clinics willingness to forward the information, likelihood of a dog bite victim attending the clinic and also the victims willingness to provide information in regards to the bite/attack. Anecdotal evidence suggests a reduction in the incidence of dog bites in both Angurugu and Umbakumba, but this is based only on Health Clinic reports (or lack of reports). It does not reflect the incidents that may occur in community whereby the victim does not attend the clinic.

In regards to community wellbeing – there are many positive psychological benefits recognised in living with healthy, companionable dogs. Abundant research indicates the myriad benefits of the human/animal bond. Cardiovascular disease; allergy and asthma immunity in children; dementia; physical impairment; autism; depression, anxiety, stress including post-traumatic stress disorder; cancer; loneliness; boredom; loss and grief; developing empathy; self-esteem; violence prevention; child development; elderly care; social skills development; safety and security and the rehabilitation of incarcerated people are all areas in which can benefit from a strong human/animal bond. The Groote Eylandt Animal management Program has influenced a shift in the nature of the general dog population on Eylandt, and in comparison to the start of the program, dogs have definitely become more companionable, therefore encouraging the strengthening of this bond. Empathy for animals has also increased – more pet owners seem to be genuinely more caring towards their pets and interested in their wellbeing.

Although not a measurable indicator and currently exotic to Australia, the public health risks of a disease such as Rabies is a very real and frightening concept. Exotic disease surveillance and preparedness for an incursion is a very important component of a successful Animal management program in remote Northern Australian communities. If exotic diseases (eg Rabies) were to reach our borders, the most likely location would be Northern Australian coastline. Having dog populations at a more manageable level, with the ability to identify pets and their owners, as well as having capacity amongst local AMW’s to assist in recovery is therefore imperative when considering future management of exotic disease outbreaks.
Impact 4: Improvements in responsible pet ownership and provision of care

Adequate guardianship and responsible pet ownership encompasses the provision of food, water, shelter/protection, basic health care, avoidance of injury/cruelty and opportunities to exercise and have social interactions.

In November 2014, consultants were engaged to assist in the development of EARC Animal Management Program Policy & Procedures Manual. As part of its development community members of Groote Eylandt were consulted in regards to the existing Animal Management program that runs across Groote Eylandt. The consultants found that “it was widely acknowledged that the EARC Animal Management program has had positive outcomes in the communities it services. Community members commented on the improvements that had been made to animals in general since the program had been established and were appreciative of the service they had access to. There is definitely a huge shift towards appreciation of the vet/animal health services available to community members who have come to understand the benefits of healthy, happy pets.” Julie Croft from 'Croft Consultancy'

Improvements in animal awareness amongst community members is reflected in communities’ willingness to engage in animal health services, and them being more proactive in addressing their pets health needs. With a locally based vet on Eylandt, trusting relationships have been developed and community members have very much embraced the opportunity to engage in these services. The more regular sale of parasite control (tick collars, worm tablets, flea treatments) as well as dog/cat collars, and food bowls is a good indicator of this success. Although difficult to measure within the context of the current program, there has definitely been a visible increase in efforts of owners to provide more appropriate food and water sources for their pets.

Impact 5: Improvements in Environmental Health: reduced negative impact on wildlife

With a reduction in size and breeding capacity of companion animal populations on Groote Eylandt, there is an obvious reduction in the likely spill over into feral cat/wild dog populations on Eylandt. In addition, with the Groote Eylandt based vet position, there has been extensive collaboration with the ALC Rangers and significant contribution to the Trap/Neuter/Release Program for feral cat control on the Eylandt. Many vet hours have been provided in-kind to support this important program. Unfortunately, outcomes for feral animal management (specifically cats) are difficult to ascertain and are beyond the scope of the current Program. Baseline figures for cat populations (owned, un-owned/stray and feral) are unknown so it is not possible to draw accurate conclusions in regards to impacts. The current approach adopted by the ALC Rangers, using the Trap/Neuter/Release Methodology, is well recognised in its field for its benefits in achieving slow, sustainable change by significantly reducing the source of unowned and feral cats. Delivered concurrently with education programs, this approach encourages community engagement and support, ultimately influencing a more favourable and sustainable outcome for cat population management on Groote Eylandt, thereby also reducing negative impacts on biodiversity and conservation.

Impact 6: Improved public perception

Community members attitudes towards dogs has shifted significantly during the course of the program. With the knowledge and capacity to care for their pets, pet owners are more willing to take on this responsibility. Human-dog interactions are strengthened as is empathy towards animals. With improved awareness, there has also been a shift in mentality in regards to the keeping of certain dog breeds and reasons for keeping companion animals. Early in the program there was a strong desire to keep dogs purely as guard dogs, often keeping them entire to maintain their aggression and potentially even breed to supply the market. This was hugely concerning, particularly given the most popular breed seemed to be Pit Bull Terriers. Introducing these genetics onto Eylandt amongst the existing roaming dog population and dingoes was a recipe for disaster. Without enforceable by-laws to prevent or manage this, there was...
little that could be done to prevent this other than focus on education and discourage community members from this scene. Fortunately, with time, effective & informative service delivery and appropriate education, there has been a dramatic reduction in the number of inappropriate breeds (specifically pit bull terriers) kept as pets in Groote Eylandt communities and outstations (although unfortunately this is no longer the case for Alyangula). Most owners are now also willing to have their pets desexed as they understand the many benefits of the desexing program. A Malkala resident recently requested to have her dog female pitbull terrier desexed as she was concerned about its aggressive nature. She stated “these dogs are not safe for community. We shouldn’t have so many of these dogs on Groote”. This is a huge shift in perspective which has occurred in the last year and a half. In addition, community members seem to be making more appropriate selections in terms of size of dog. Small dogs (Chihuahua) are becoming a very popular breed. Being small, friendly, companionable, easier to feed & travel with in comparison to larger breed dogs, therefore making them the ideal pet. This change in mentality is also a positive indicator of the success of the program.

**Conclusion**

There have been widespread benefits to animal health & welfare, public health and environmental health attributable to the capacity of the Animal Management program on Groote Eylandt. Much of the programs success is a result of effective, appropriate supervision and mentoring of local Indigenous Animal Management Workers. With meaningful employment within the program, AMW’s are able to encourage a ‘community-driven’ approach to the program as well as ensure cross-cultural and appropriate engagement with community.

Improvements in animal health, population size, desexing rates and public perception is also directly attributable to a permanent Vet employed within the program, residing on Groote Eylandt.

The many positive outcomes achieved by the program would not have been possible without GEBIE’s financial support over the past three years. EARC are very grateful for the opportunity to partner with GEBIE in ensuring better outcomes for animal welfare and public health on Groote Eylandt. We look forward to the opportunity to continue this (and many other) effective partnership to ensure the continuation of such a vital service to Groote Eylandt.
Table 1: Groote Eylandt Communities & Outstation Dog Health & Population Assessment from 2012-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community/Outstation</th>
<th>Average Body Condition Score (0-9)</th>
<th>Average Skin Score (0-5)</th>
<th>Approx Pop’n size</th>
<th>Approx Desexing Rate</th>
<th>Body Condition Score (0-9)</th>
<th>Skin Score (0-5)</th>
<th>Pop’n size</th>
<th>Desexing Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angurugu</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>2.5/5</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>21.7%=4/9; 67.9%=5/9; 7.6%=6/9; 2.8% = 7/9</td>
<td>87.3%=0/5; 9.4%=1/5; 3.3%=2/5</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umbakumba</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>2.5/5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>16.2%=4/9; 58.1%=5/9; 17.6%=6/9; 8.1% = 7/9</td>
<td>83.8%=0/5; 9.6%=1/5; 6.6%=2/5</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milyakburra</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>2.5/5</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>10.4%=3/9; 50.6%=4/9; 31.2%=5/9; 7.8% = 6/9</td>
<td>79.2%=0/5; 13%=1/5; 7.8%=2/5</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malkala</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>33.3%=4/9; 44.4%=5/9; 11.1%=6/9; 11.1%=7/9</td>
<td>88.9%=0/5; 11.1%=1/5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bartalumba Bay</td>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>2/5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>83.3%=4/9; 16.7%=5/9</td>
<td>83.3%=0/5; 16.7%=1/5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>83%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Paradise</td>
<td>3/9</td>
<td>1-2/5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>14.3%=4/9; 57.1%=5/9; 28.6%=6/9</td>
<td>92.3%=0/5; 7.7%=1/5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Mile</td>
<td>4/9</td>
<td>1-2/5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%=5/9; 50%=6/9</td>
<td>100%=0/5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average across GE communities &amp; outstations:</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.3/9</strong></td>
<td><strong>2/5</strong></td>
<td><strong>605 (total)</strong></td>
<td><strong>47.5%</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.6%=3/9; 27.0%=4/9; 43.8%=5/9; 21.9%=6/9; 1.7%=7/9</strong></td>
<td><strong>91.1%=0/5; 8.9%=1/5; 8.9%=1/5</strong></td>
<td><strong>395</strong></td>
<td><strong>84.2%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB: ideals: Body Condition Score 5/9; Skin Score: 0/5; percentage of population desexed >80%