

Humane Dog & Cat Population Management 4th International Conference - Virtual 2023 - DAY 1			
#	Question	Answer	Answer Name
1	In reality, there would be multiple or even numerous predictors affecting the population. Does this makes the calculation or estimation very much more difficult and how to make the model more accurate?	Search for the "DC Cat Count Tool Kit" . Some good info on how to start. ICAM materials are great also. We usually include many predictors in models, and undergo a "model selection" process to determine the combination of predictors that does the best job of explaining the data. This is a normal practice. The difficult arises because many predictors are correlated with one another, so figuring out what is the actual cause of the patterns seen can be complicated. Also note that as the number of predictors used in models increases, so does the need for samples. Usually the number of samples we can collect is limited so the idea is to best explain the data with the simplist model possible. Parsimony.	John Boone Tyler Flockhart
2	can we apply the numbers (outcomes) to other areas/ countries?	At first, you should only draw inference about the area you sampled. Over time, you may be able to extend the inference based on multiple efforts	John Boone
	What exactly were the results on Maui?	We are in the process of analyzing these data right now. We expect to have the results finished by end of summer and we will likely publish the findings later this year.	Tyler Flockhart
3	Is there material available on how to start data collection on a new site?	Seach DC Cat Count Toolkit, which has some great introductory mateial. ICAM resources are great as well.	John Boone
4	We are to open an animal clinic in a few months in a new location, so we still have some time for data collection.	Check this webinar for how to use Talea - https://www.icam-coalition.org/webinar-talea/	Elly Hiby
5	Can these models be customized on corruption? Where commercial companies have made a business from dog capturing and therefore natural distribution does not apply accurately, since they have laws that allow them and there is proof they carry dogs around the country?	I am not sure if these models would be suitable for answering that question. I think I would need to know more about what happens with dogs and how dogs might be counted/measured.	Tyler Flockhart
	have you tried the talea app?	Yes.. It's great!	John Boone
6	Is there a App where we can have for free and use for the data measerement of strays in them locations?	Yes, Talea is great for dog and cat counts. I'm not sure if it's always free or not, but contact ICAM.	John Boone
	Did you use camera traps or other equipements in this process/study?	Yes, we used three different methods to collect data: walking transect surveys, camera-trap data, and what we termed "complete counts" which included multiple visits to the same site to determine the maximum number of individuals at a site	Tyler Flockhart
7	based on this if the neutering is not carried on in large scale, entire adults will take over and start re-populate?	This is definately a possibility, though there will likely be a carrying capacity of that area, and as the neutered dogs will still consume resources, the population will not be able to increase too much and immigration will not continue unchecked	Helen Fielding
8	if we do not use ear tipping or any other external recognizable markings, do you have any tips for recognizing intact females?	If you arn't ok using long term-marking, it becomes difficult. Tattoos or RFID chipping can work if you have the dog in hand. I've had success with cattle-focused spray paint for short term marking	Andrew Yoak
	can we attribute no change to increased whelpings ? There appears to be little change in the number of puppies though!	We didn't see any difference to the seasonality of lactating females, but this might occur over time. And as you say, there were decreased pups seen, therefore this is potentially not the mechanism	Helen Fielding
9	Hi Helen will be as well a good idea to have an Project parallel to the neuter ones... for registration of the pets with owner?	Absolutely, I think the study shows that sterilisation is not sufficient on it's own to reduce population, and needs to be combined with other strategies such as registration of pets and reducing abandonment	Helen Fielding

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10	How did you get the government and local communities on board	This was thanks to the relationship that Worldwide Veterinary Service has with the local government in the area. We contacted local community groups before the study to ask permission and made sure to make time to speak to local residents about what we were doing. Though it was difficult at times to explain why so many surveys were done, especially in control sites. Our team were very good at explaining the study and how it could help.	Helen Fielding
11	I will like to ask if you think a higher sterilisation level could result in a bigger difference in adult count? Would the life span of dogs always confound the adult count, since sterilised adult dogs will remain in the population, as a measure for impact of sterilisation?	I think that a higher sterilisation coverage may make a difference. However, the study shows that in reality this is very difficult in some places. We were not able to access the whole population to neuter and there has to be a threshold for how much time and resources are spent getting the remaining ~30% dogs, they are often the hardest to catch and sterilisation may become prohibitively expensive. Whilst we don't have accurate survival data for the lifespan of dogs, I agree that this will be difficult to disentangle extended survival and counts at this stage. Individual recognition of dogs would really help us understand this better.	Helen Fielding
12	Hi, thanks for a nice presentation and valuable study. How does one ensure that all dogs are brought for sterilization and not hidden.	Great question. Unfortunately we can't. And this is why surveys are so important to see what dogs we have missed. Our teams did their best to search, but ultimately I think there will always be some dogs that are missed.	Helen Fielding
13	Do you do pediatric sterilization? If not, when you encountered puppies during the first months do you keep them until they are okay to be sterilized? Or do you just count them?	We sterilised dogs when estimated to be over 5kg. All puppies were counted if they were seen	Helen Fielding
14	Thanks Helen have you got feedback from the communities on the status of dog population?	Yes we do and the analysis is happening soon. We did three surveys in neuter and control sites, one before and two after sterilisation, asking about people's opinions of free-roaming dogs and sterilisation - so watch this space!	Helen Fielding
15	What percentage of dog should be sterilized initially to get the optimum impacts of reducing the total number? (As the role of thumb) Suppose, the selective area is a small island.	Check Andy Yoak's presentation coming next - he will describe an online model you can use to work this out for your specific location - its will depend on breeding and survival rates.	Elly Hiby
16	Hi Hellen, thank you for the presentation. Did you see at your study any change of the human-dog interaction in the neutered vs controlled areas?	Unfortunately, we didn't measure this directly. However, we did ask the local residents their perceptions of free-roaming dogs before and after in both neuter and control sites and will be analysing this data soon! Keep an eye out!	Helen Fielding
17	How much are the coast for all the work you do from catching until release? Thank you	WVS estimates about \$14-18 US dollars per sterilisation but this can rise due to fixed costs if only a few dogs are being caught - this is in field clinics. Please follow @fieldinghr on twitter for a paper that is soon to come out on catching rates and costs of sterilisation	Helen Fielding
18	'@Helen Fielding "in Chile we mark sterilized males and females with Teo's tattoo of his ear. The use of a microchip is also mandatory." Google translate from Spanish	Thank you! That's great. we did also microchip the dogs too. The ear notch is so useful because it can be seen from afar on surveys without the need to capture the dog	Helen Fielding
19	When will the survey apps be available on iPhone or iOS? ~Dr Steyn	We are sorry that Talea is not yet available for iOS - we are fundraising for this at the moment.	Elly Hiby

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20	question to Helen.Tell me, please, what confirms the positive dynamics of the reduction in the population of homeless animals? How will you evaluate the effectiveness of your work?	So far, I think the study has shown that sterilisation is not the only factor in reducing free-roaming dogs and that in order to make a difference to population size, we need to address all sources of dogs, not just those born to free-roaming dogs. We are finishing the analysis now and hope to publish the study after peer review in an open access journal.	Helen Fielding
21	For Helen Fielding- How soon do you expect to have a publication on your work? Thank you. This is really great stuff. It's so important to do this kind of work in a scientifically sound way with the randomized control trial. As Ely Hiby said, the "Gold Standard" of DPM work.	it has been a massive team effort and huge thanks to WVS, Mission Rabies and Dog's Trust for funding the project. We are just finishing the analyses but hope to submit to a journal soon. Please follow me on twitter @fieldinghr for updates on publications!	Helen Fielding
22	<p>Namaste. Thank you Soi Dog</p> <p>I have a couple of queries:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You mentioned 9members per team. Are these members also engaged with the Dog Census or you have a separate team? 2. Is your CNVR same day release ? <p>If yes, how do you conduct post monitoring ?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. I am guessing that your team catches dogs using nets or by hand. When loading the dogs into the truck we get criticism that dogs should not be held by the scruf of th neck. If you can share your experience that would be very much appreciated. 4. Lastly the dogs caught using a net have to be loaded into a truck. Presume you use catch poles to shift caught dogs in a net into a van <p>Shall await to hear.</p> <p>Namaste, Khageshwaar HART Nepal</p>	<p>Namaste Khageshwar,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. yes our dog catchers do surveys too 2. yes same day release; unless we have complications or need large incision - eg if pyometra or abortion - then we keep for care for a few days till ready to safely go back. We are in contact with feeders 3. hands, nets, cages and darting - quite a bit of darting <p>Can scruff but we use muzzles to protect our dog catchers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. We do not use poles, we load dogs together and if puppies, or aggressive dogs they are in separate cages. 	Ala Izydorczyk
24	'@Tuntikorn Rungpatana The State Veterinary Service of Ukraine states that a minimum of 14 days should elapse between the surgical operation of the animal, with the use of antibiotics and anesthesia, and the vaccination against rabies. This is justified by the fact that a weakened organism will not be able to fully develop the required amount of antibodies to rabies in an animal. How many days between all manipulations do you have? Have studies been carried out to determine the amount of antibodies to rabies in animals?	<p>I don't know of a study off the top of my head, but it is very much the common thing to do surgery and shots same day. I know that those dogs have been caught and tested and produced sufficient anitbodies.</p> <p>Regarding the question concerned about response to vaccination at the time of surgery . . . there is good evidence there is a robust immune response occurs even at the time of surgery, so there is no reason not to vaccinate at the same time. However the quality of the rabies vaccine may be a factor in nonresponse. Here are two papers on cat TNR and vaccination for example (dogs would be similar):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effects of anesthesia and surgery on serologic responses to vaccination in kittens: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18593319/ 2. Response of feral cats to vaccination at the time of neutering: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/17199493/ 	<p>Andrew Yoak</p> <p>Julie Levy</p>

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25		Due to we're facing with half of million dogs pupulation in Greater Bangkok, so the fact is no one cannot keep all dogs for 14 days! and some feral dog have only this chance for shot. So, I agree to do neutered with shots in same day.	Tuntikorn Rungpatana - Dr Oob
26	what is the best method of capturing ferral dogs?	I'm not sure that this question was for me but in the work of WVS we have found a combination net catching and hand catching is efficient. Trap-cages were used when we were struggling to capture dogs by the first two methods and is likely to target the more wary dogs, however it does take much longer.	Helen Fielding
27	If they are below 5 kgs and if they are stray, do you mark them? Were you be able to back to them?	We didn't mark them in anyway. The surveyors did not ever capture or interact with the dogs in the study. We would have missed those dogs.	Helen Fielding
28		yes we mark them all - tattoos. Though we are starting to ear notch now:) (a little trouble with owners and ear notching, so we compromise and tattoo only - but we will have a campaign to change people's attitude to this - if free-roaming we need to know if they are done or not!)	Ala Izydorczyk
29	Ely, Can you provide a link in the chat to where you are fundraising for IOS for the Talea App.?	We don't have a link for this. We are looking for grant funding and have a proposal I can share over email.	Elly Hiby
30	For Dr. Obb or Ala- Have you published your work in any journals? I would love a reference. Great work. Sets a good example for a large metropolitan city.	https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/13/11/1726	Elly Hiby
31	How the human and dog relationship analysis done? Can u explain a little bit about variables?	We looked at signs of ownerships when surveying - such as collar, t-shirt, water bowl put out for the dogs, positive interactions with people like playing, etc - this does not mean that someone is the legal owner of the dog, but shows that someone cares about the dog/ has interest in the wellbeing of this dog. We have seen signs of ownership go from 32.5% in 2016 to 68.5% in 2022. We also conducted Attitude surveys asking people about their relationship to dogs, and we did these in intervention areas and in areas where we did not do CNVR' there were differences in opinion. People noticed that there were less dogs and they were having less troubles with dogs in areas where we did CNVR & they were not aware of this fact (ie naive group) - no change in areas without intervention.	Ala Izydorczyk
32	What is the cost per dog sterilised (male and female dog)	approx 20-22 usd per dog, including vaccination/ staff costs/ petrol etc --> will be higher per dog if you do not reach your daily targets due to fixed costs	Ala Izydorczyk
33	for Dr.Oob how many round do you recheck the number at the same area to correct the number?	We do pre clinic survey within a month of reaching the new working area. And do post clinic survey before end of each round, for check percentage then move forward to adjacent area. So, in some area we had done pre&post clinic survey for 3 rounds already.	Tuntikorn Rungpatana - Dr Oob
34	what is the life span of the sterilised vs entire dog	There isn't great empirical evidence for this. The Reece study showed that female sterilised dogs in India was about 3.5 years but we don't have good data for entire dogs that don't have human caregivers. In our study, we tried to do mark-recapture with microchips but logistically it was very difficult and the data may not give us what we need. Your photo mark-recapture work may help though!	Helen Fielding
35	how can we get access to the tracking app	https://www.icam-coalition.org/tool/talea-street-survey-app/	Andrew Yoak

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36	Thank you so much for developing the agent based model for street dogs. This is very helpful. I will like to ask, how do we can assess if the stimulation reflects the situation on the ground and would give real life predictions?	<p>This model is the 2.0 version of a model that was built originally about Jaipur, India. It was tested and pattern matched with that city to show it matched real world trends.</p> <p>Basically, we had the model do what the real world NGO did and checked if they matched .</p>	Andrew Yoak
37	can we use the tracking app as an NGO cactus foundation Africa 🌍	Do you mean to do dog or cat street surveys? Check this webinar for how to use Talea - https://www.icam-coalition.org/webinar-talea/	Elly Hiby
38	'@Andy: in Aruba, since introduction of a dog control centre, euthanasia by the government decreased significantly. considering the many unwanted animals (dogs and cats) and the increasing number of dog bite incidents, euthanasia cannot be reduced yet to 0%. the needed education for the community will be restarted soon. the foundations do TNR since the government's funds are limited. should I try to convince them to TNR only females? of should I leave them so whatever they are doing at the moment?	<p>It would depend on what they do now, but if your funds are limited then yes female-only tnvr is the clear winner. Males are easier and less costly generally to sterilize, but the effect of their sterilization on the population change is very limited.</p> <p>Males should get a rabies shot and thats really it until your struggling to find intact females.</p>	Andrew Yoak
39	Hi Conrad do you make only vaccination or together with neuter release project? thank you	We only assist in rabies vaccinations.	Conrad Freuling
40	Thanks Andy. Besides survival rate, would we require reproductive rates (average litter size and frequency of breeding) to populate the model? How about migration or dispersal rates?	<p>You can use the reproduction rates in the model (taken from a great study in Jaipur, India) or we could alter those to your local conditions.</p> <p>We don't have migration per se, but abandonment from owned dogs to the modeled street population is effectively the same.</p>	Andrew Yoak
41	Thak you. Recordings will be available?	All videos will be uploaded to the conference website at the end of each day	Elly Hiby
42	Would forming dog clubs be an alternative in areas here people are reluctant to sterilize and clubs can be used to educate and hopefully get pets sterilized?	Yes, dog clubs can be a great means to help educate the population about responsible dog ownership and other non-surgical means to contribute to population management (such as through education and isolation during heat). This model has shown great success in Sierra Leone for example.	Terence Scott
43	did you need to convince the locals that the oral vaccines are safe other to say you are not killing their dogs? especially they didnt like to neuter the dogs.	Well, we had to inform the veterinary staff first and announced the campaigns, but there was no hesitation from dog owners.	Conrad Freuling
44	Hi Conrad, thank you for your presentation. Regarding the distribution of ORV baits, how would you ensure that in a scenario where baits are distributed to a group of dogs, that a single dog does not consume more than one bait (which I assume may be a possibility)? - this is for the distribution of baits to free-roaming dogs	This is a very common situation, but with some knowledge on dog behaviour and expertise you can distribute several baits at a very short interval so that the dominant one (baited first) will not eat all baits.	Conrad Freuling
45	Hello Dr. Terence, I was a GARC Field Veterinarian in a project in Ilocos Norte, Philippines in 2012-2013. My question is, have you studied(or are there any studies) the economics of rabies yet? For every decline in rabies case in human or in dogs, how much would it cost?	Yes, there are a variety of scientific publications available that address the cost-impacts of eliminating rabies. This includes the RabEcon models and various others. This is all publicly available scientific data.	Terence Scott
46	If possible, the different slides presentations can be shared with others for additionnal uses like education of our community	We will be sharing the presentations as videos embedded on our conference webpage.	Elly Hiby

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47	We are running a spay and neuter project in Namibia and I would like to know how you come to the solution people in Namibia don't want to have their dogs numbers controlled through spaying? We have a total opposite experience.	That's very interesting and we should connect to exchange experiences. Our options come from personal conversations during local stakeholder meetings and a KAP study which will hopefully be published soon.	Conrad Freuling
48	Are there any tools for engaging local government?	Yes, these surveillance tools from GARC can be used to advocate for improved rabies / population management programs, helping to engage with them and show, with tangible data, that it is possible and effective. This has been successful in many countries around the world where we have supported NGOs and local partners.	Terence Scott
49	I am part of an organisation that offers spay and neuter to no and low income families in Namibia and we cannot keep up with the demand. How do you come to the conclusion that Namibian's do not want their animals fixed to reduce the stress on them to endlessly provide? Especially in areas where there are no veterinary facilities for kilometers.		