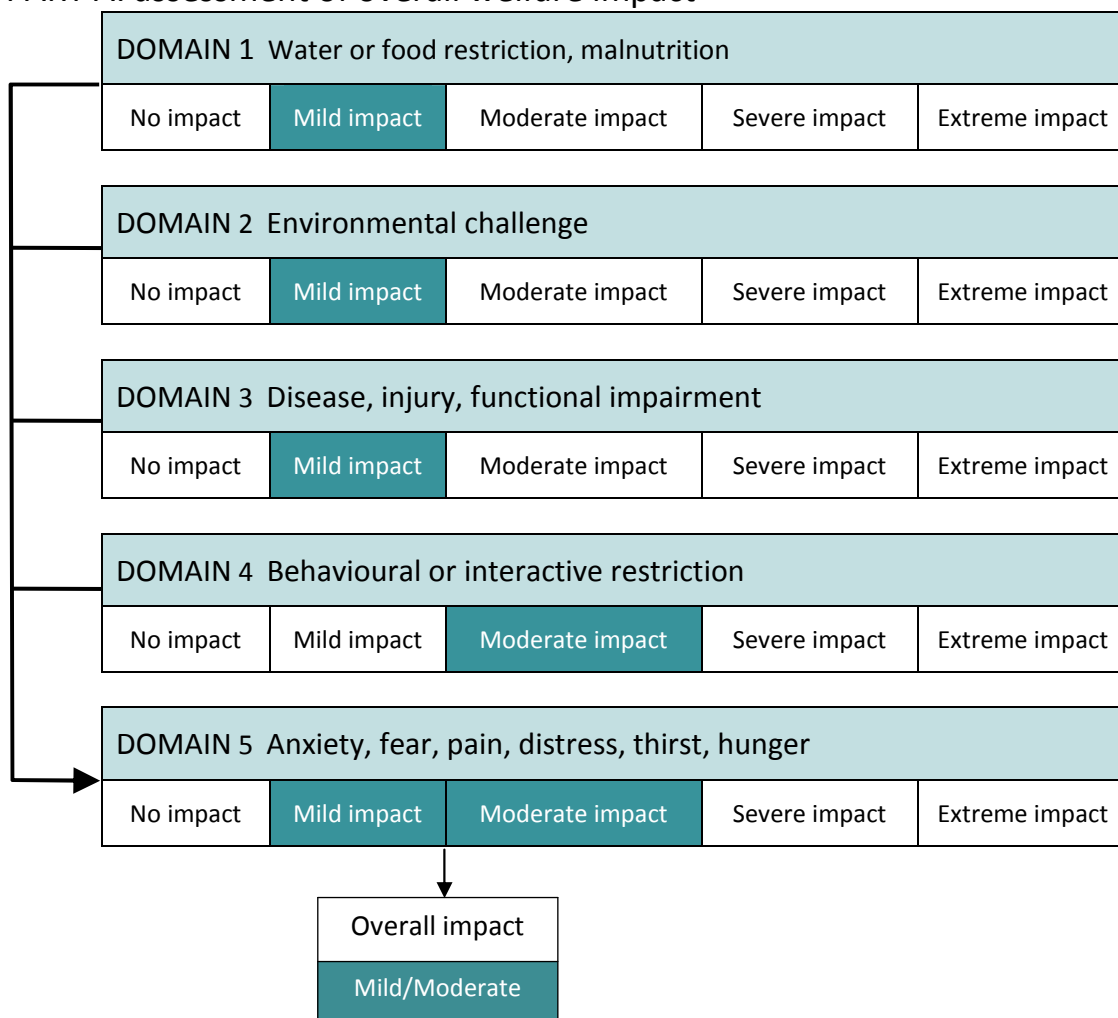


Control method: Mustering of feral camels

Assumptions:

- Best practice is followed in accordance with the standard operating procedure CAM003.
- The assessment applies from the beginning of contact with the herd to when they are contained in yards (i.e. up to the point of shutting the gate). It does not cover actions after arrival in yards such as separating different classes of camels, as these will vary depending on the fate of camels (e.g. transported for slaughter or relocation, shooting in yards).
- Mustering is completed within daylight hours and that feed and water is provided on completion of mustering according to the standard operating procedure.
- The assessment of the impact of mustering should not be considered in isolation from subsequent stages (i.e. the period held in yards, drafting, shooting or transporting). The cumulative effects of these stages will compound welfare impact. Assessments of these stages are beyond the scope of the current assessment.
- Aerial and ground mustering are often used in combination so they are considered together here.

PART A: assessment of overall welfare impact



DURATION OF IMPACT				
Immediate to seconds	Minutes	Hours	Days	Weeks

SCORE FOR PART A:	4-5
Summary of evidence:	
Domain 1	There is some opportunity to feed on the way. The camels are being moved along within their normal environment and range so resources are available to them as they would be in absence of mustering. There will be some water loss with increasing exercise.
Domain 2	As above. Within normal ranges.
Domain 3	Assumes mustering is carried out without placing additional stress (i.e. that the pace is appropriate). Less susceptible to flightiness than other species during mustering. There is the potential for injuries to occur during funnelling and yarding stages.
Domain 4	Mixing of different groups is not a problem although bulls in rut must be either left out of the muster or, if inadvertently captured, must be kept separate from other animals until they can be released or euthanased ¹ . The camels are not moving as fast as during aerial shooting. The most stressful stage of the procedure will be when camels are channelled into the yards.
Domain 5	Assuming that impact is measured up to when the gates are shut, camels are likely to experience mild to moderate levels of anxiety and fear as they are being driven into yards.

PART B: assessment of mode of death

Not performed – non-lethal method

Summary

CONTROL METHOD:	Mustering of feral camels
OVERALL HUMANENESS SCORE:	4 - 5
Comments	

Bibliography

1. CSIRO Publishing (2006). Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: The Camel. at <<http://www.publish.csiro.au/pid/5204.htm>>