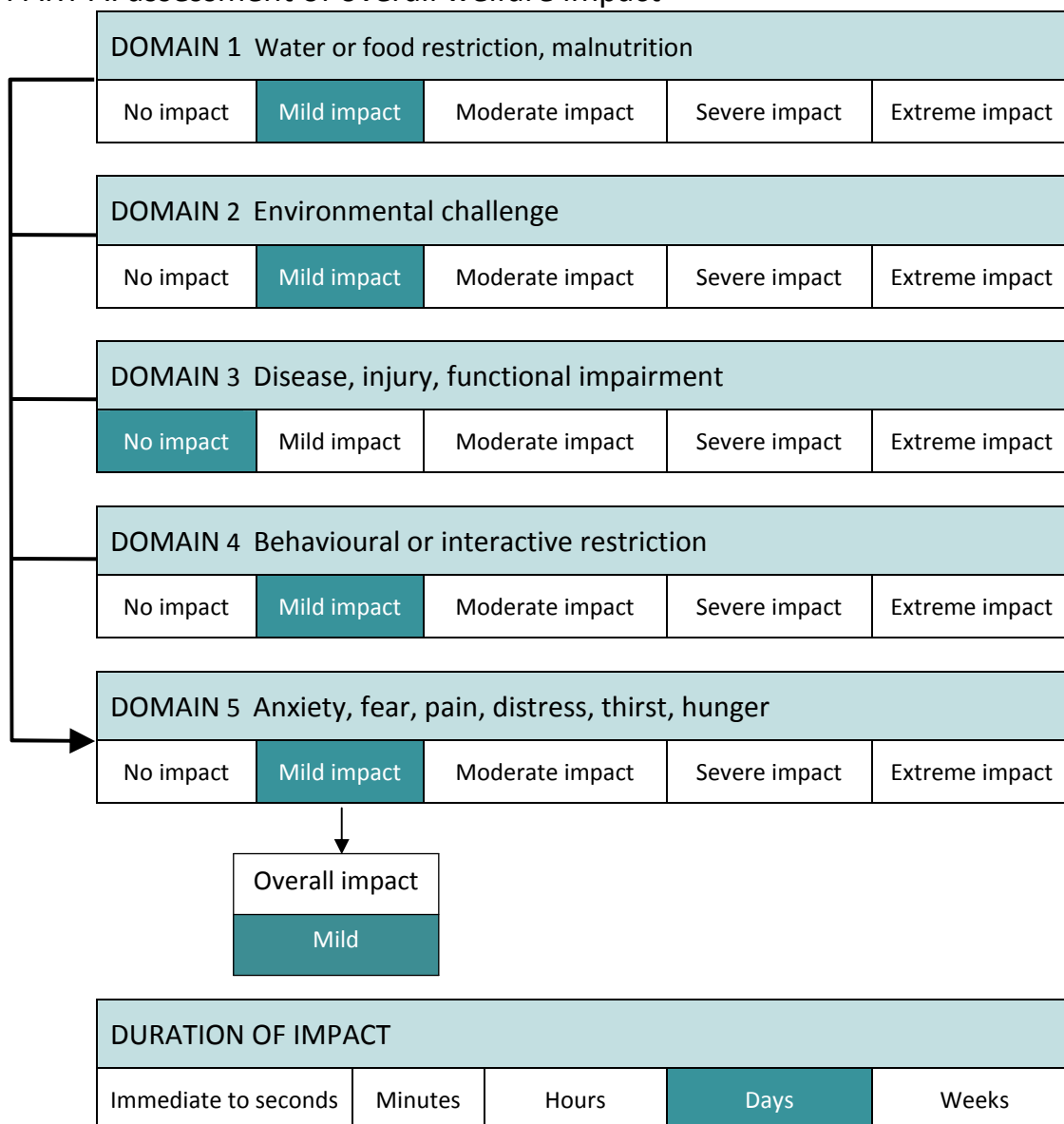


## Control method: Trapping of feral goats

Assumptions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Best practice is followed in accordance with the standard operating procedure GOA004.</li> <li>▪ This assessment applies from the time of entering the trap until traps are checked and the goats moved to the next stage (which could be any combination of holding, drafting and transporting, shooting).</li> <li>▪ The impact of trapping should not be considered in isolation from subsequent stages (i.e. drafting and transporting, shooting). The cumulative effects of these stages will compound welfare impact. Assessments of these stages are beyond the scope of the current assessment.</li> <li>▪ Traps are checked daily and that water is provided. Although preferred, it is not always possible to provide access to food or shade. Removing trapped goats from the trap yard every day reduces overcrowding and associated stresses and allows shy animals access to the water point.</li> <li>▪ The traps could be operating over several days to allow goats to accumulate in the confined area.</li> </ul>
--------------	--

### PART A: assessment of overall welfare impact



<b>SCORE FOR PART A:</b>	<b>5</b>
Summary of evidence:	
Domain 1	No impact on water but food restriction is possible. If there is a suitable period of training to allow animals to become familiar with the trap yard and accustomed to drinking from the water source there should be no problems with animals accessing sufficient water. If animals are reluctant to enter a trap there are anecdotal reports that they will leave to find another water source.
Domain 2	Dependent on whether shade provided. Not always possible. Goats are relatively tolerant of heat.
Domain 3	The animals are not under pressure, so injuries are not likely. Young kids could get trampled underfoot especially when the adult animals are stressed (e.g. in the presence of humans and working dogs, if trap becomes overcrowded).
Domain 4	No problem with mixing groups of goats compared with other species. Although the goats are contained they usually do not appear to be agitated by this, however some aspects of their behaviour will be restricted.  Dependent young will get separated if they do not accompany their mother into the trap and could die of starvation <sup>1</sup> , although some trap designs allow the movement of kids in and out of the trap.
Domain 5	When goats are trapped in a yard that has been well planned and well constructed using suitable materials they appear to mostly remain unstressed even where several small flocks with their own bucks are mixed together or when they are confined with other livestock species or non-target animals (e.g. macropods, emus) <sup>1</sup> .  Goats are likely to experience mild levels of apprehension, anxiety/fear as they are being moved into holding pen or loaded onto truck. Previous human contact would be limited.

**PART B: assessment of mode of death****Not performed – non-lethal method****Summary**

<b>CONTROL METHOD:</b>	<b>Trapping of feral goats</b>
<b>OVERALL HUMANENESS SCORE:</b>	<b>5</b>
Comments	

**Bibliography**

1. Bellchambers, K. (2004). *Improving the development of effective and humane trapping systems as a control method for feral goats in Australia. Project no. 40469.* (Department of the Environment and Heritage through the National Threat Abatement Component of the Natural Heritage Trust: Hawker, SA).