

PRACTICAL WAYS TO MEASURE IMPORTANT DOG POPULATION PARAMETERS

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In using non-surgical products to control reproduction we aim to impact on the dog population in some predetermined way. Monitoring changes in the dog population will allow us to evaluate whether we have achieved the desired change, however these methods of monitoring should ideally require a relatively small investment of time and resources as compared to our intervention activities. In this presentation I will share my experience of working with different methods, expanding on those that I have found to be the most accessible and meaningful in different environments. I will include methods of measuring dog population size and density, dog welfare, zoonotic disease and public perception of dogs, the latter a factor that is commonly missed and yet can provide invaluable evidence of success when lobbying for sustaining effective programmes.