

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of August 2008

Tom Harley's report on the shooting of horses at Fraser Downs Station south of Broome.

I was asked to go down to Bidyadanga community on Fraser Downs to photograph horses which had been shot last week without permission from the traditional owners.

From Bidyadanga I traveled south with Donald Grey, his wife and son.

The first horse was seen near the road in the bush with a large amount of blood from the horses back and neck with obvious bullet holes in the stomach. One leg had all the skin shredded, probably from barbed wire and it had died an agonizing death having thrashed around considerably before dying. This horse was some distance from where the next lot of horses were found over an area of approximately 50 hectares, 43 horses were seen on the flood plains not far from watering troughs and yards.

A few foals were also seen and the smaller ones in particular had been shot in the head but a couple had no visible wounds and may have died of thirst.

Some mares had partly given birth or aborted in the death throes.

After seeing this many horses it was too distressing to continue and we returned to Bidyadanga.