



## Summary of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual O'Reilly's Mammal Search – January 2005

**Mammals recorded:** 42 species (37 native and 5 introduced species)

As always, the rainforests, eucalypt forests, woodlands and valleys surrounding O'Reilly's Rainforest Guesthouse and Lamington National Park yielded a diverse array of mammals during the hectic, seven day schedule of activities. An integral part of the week is the trapping (catch and release) program, which this year provided some special rewards, making all the toil involved very worthwhile.

A real highlight of the week was the reappearance of the Hastings River Mouse at our regular monitoring site after an absence of four years. Although only two individuals were discovered, the fact that one of these was a mother with two newborn offspring was especially heartening. The challenge will be to determine what climatic and habitat-related factors are responsible for the marked fluctuations in population levels that occur in this threatened species. Unravelling this puzzle will make future Mammal Searches even more valuable and intriguing.

Perhaps as a result of the good rains over the preceding months, several other small mammals were breeding too. It was a delight to see those small but voracious marsupial predators, the Common Dunnart and Common Planigale, with tiny, naked, jelly bean-shaped young firmly attached to teats in rudimentary pouches on the mothers' bellies. Particularly exciting, a female Long-nosed Potoroo was captured with her pint-sized young 'at foot', before later being released successfully. The week's trapping program also provides an excellent opportunity to monitor the presence of this vulnerable species in the O'Reilly's area.

Participants were again fortunate to have the opportunity to get 'close and personal' with two of south-east Queensland's rare microbat species – the Golden-tipped Bat and Large-eared Pied Bat. These are exceptionally charismatic animals, with faces and fur colours it's hard to forget. Both have put in regular appearances over the years, so there's almost a risk of becoming blasé about them now!

Big thanks must go to everyone who helped in this year's Mammal Search, but none more so than the guest participants who worked hard, day and night, while calling the whole experience 'a holiday'. The QPWS staff from the Green Mountains office of Lamington National Park also willingly assisted with the monitoring program at Duck Creek Road. Glen Threlfo kindly agreed to check our pitfall traps at his place each day, saving us a huge logistical nightmare. All your efforts were greatly appreciated and contributed to making the week a tremendous success.

A detailed summary of the results of Mammal Search 2005 is provided on the following pages.

We hope to see you all again next year!

## Search locations and survey effort

### Total trapping effort:

1,235 Elliott trap-nights (ETN)  
 128 cage trap-nights (CTN)  
 54 pitfall trap-nights (PTN)

For microbats only -  
 19 bat trap-nights (BTN)

### Location codes:

Site codes used in the attached tables refer to the locations listed below. General habitat information is provided in brackets and, where relevant, the total trapping effort at particular sites is indicated (see abbreviations above).

A	O'Reilly's Rainforest Guesthouse and environs (buildings, lawns, trees and rainforest edge) – 30 ETN, 14 CTN
B	Old roadway to Tree Top Walk (rainforest) – 1 BTN
C	Track skirting Botanic Gardens en route to Main Border Track (rainforest) – 1 BTN
D	Wishing Tree Track along Morans Creek (stream, surrounding rainforest and regenerating rainforest) – 30 ETN, 17 CTN, 4 BTN
E	Morans Creek (stream through regenerating rainforest and pasture) – 19 CTN
F	QPWS car park area (rainforest and regenerating rainforest)
G	QPWS campground (lawns surrounded by rainforest and regenerating rainforest)
H	Lamington National Park Rd at 'The Big Hill' (rainforest) – 6 CTN
I	Luke's Farm Rd (rainforest) – 4 BTN
J	Lamington National Park Rd above Kamarun Lookout turnoff (rainforest)
K	Lamington National Park Rd below Alpaca farm (rainforest)
L	Lamington National Park Rd from Mt Cainbale area to Threlfo's (eucalypt forest)
M	Lamington National Park Rd at Threlfo's (disturbed eucalypt woodland) – 54 PTN
N	Lamington National Park Rd between 'The Racecourse' and the Sarabah Rd junction (open forest and cleared farmland)
O	Lamington National Park Rd between Sarabah Rd junction and Canungra Valley Vineyard (cleared rural residential land)
P	Canungra Valley Vineyard (creek through cleared farmland)
Q	Beechmont Rd, Witheren (treed gully in rural residential area)
R	Mundoolun Connection Road near Biddadaba Road junction (cleared farmland)
S	Upper Duck Creek Rd, at start of Cainbale Falls track (rainforest) – 75 ETN, 12 CTN
T	Upper Duck Creek Rd, west of ecotone (eucalypt forest) – 1100 ETN, 60 CTN, 6 BTN
U	Belson's Lookout Rd (eucalypt forest) – 2 BTN
V	Upper Duck Creek Rd at Dunne's Ledge (eucalypt forest) – 1 BTN
W	Lower Duck Creek Rd on flats (cleared farmland)
X	Darlington Park, Kerry Valley (treed parkland adjacent to river)
Y	Kerry Valley from Darlington Park to Duck Creek Road junction (cleared farmland)
Z	Kerry Valley near Kerry Church (culvert under road in cleared farmland)
A1	Kerry Valley in Junction Road area (predominantly cleared farmland)
B1	Kerry Road just south of Beaudesert (cleared farmland)



Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Method	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A1	B1	Total
<b>Pteropodidae</b>																																
Black Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>	C	O																	350												350
Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	C	O																	3500												3500
<b>Rhinolophidae</b>																																
Eastern Horseshoe-bat	<i>Rhinolophus megaphyllus</i>	C	B		1	2	3																1								7	
<b>Molossidae</b>																																
White-striped Freetail-bat	<i>Tadarida australis</i>	C	H	2																							1				3	
<b>Vespertilionidae</b>																																
Large-eared Pied Bat	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	R	B									1																			1	
Chocolate Wattled Bat	<i>Chalinolobus morio</i>	C	B									1																			1	
Eastern False Pipistrelle	<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	C	B									20											2								22	
Golden-tipped Bat	<i>Kerivoula papuensis</i>	R	B				1																								1	
Little Bent-wing Bat	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	C	B				2					8											2								12	
Large-footed Myotis	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	C	O																									12			12	
Gould's Long-eared Bat	<i>Nyctophilus gouldi</i>	C	B		1							1											7	1							10	
Large Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus darlingtoni</i>	C	B		5	12	4					28											36								85	
Eastern Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus pumilus</i>	C	B			1	1					5											4								11	
<b>Muridae</b>																																
Fawn-footed Melomys	<i>Melomys cervinipes</i>	C	E																			1									1	
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>	I	E,P											1									1								2	
Hastings River Mouse	<i>Pseudomys oralis</i>	V	E																				2								2	
Bush Rat	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	C	C,E,O	1			3				2			1								15	2								24	
Swamp Rat	<i>Rattus lutreolus</i>	C,O	E	1																			6								7	
Black Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	I	C	1																											1	
<b>Canidae</b>																																
Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>	I	H					1-2																							1-2	
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	I	O																1							1					2	
<b>Leporidae</b>																																
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	I	O																3							3	1	4		4	15	

