



Summary of the 12th Annual O'Reilly's Mammal Week – January 2006

Mammals recorded: 41 species (36 native and five introduced species)

Nobody could ever complain that there were not enough things to do during O'Reilly's Mammal Week. This year's event saw a wonderful line-up of trips, activities, guest speaker presentations, a workshop and face-to-face displays of animals, not to mention seemingly endless hands-on opportunities to capture mammals. The only justifiable complaint might be the toll inflicted by the accumulated sleep deficit by the end of the week. Come Saturday, some participants probably felt like they needed a holiday!

The main trapping site on Duck Creek Road proved bountiful, with the standout captures being two Hastings River Mice. As these were both young individuals, presumably the mums and dads were out there somewhere too. Swamp Rats and Eastern Chestnut Mice had disappeared from this site following a fire in late 2004 but both species made a resurgence this year. It will be fascinating to track the relative abundance of these three rodent species over the coming years.



Above: Hastings River Mouse

Trapping is always an exciting business, even in the rainforest beside the Wishing Tree Track where one might reasonably expect Bush Rat after Bush Rat. I'm not sure who got the bigger surprise though: those checking the Elliott traps or the Eastern Whipbirds inside them! Other highlights from this week were two Long-nosed Potoroo mothers (both with naked bubs on board) captured in the grassy eucalypt forest along Duck Creek Road, and three Golden-tipped Bats from rainforest-clad Morans Creek.

While on the topic of bats, true aficionados of the Microchiroptera may have had some grounds for disappointment because persistent wet weather during the week produced diminished returns from our harp traps and very likely contributed to a lower overall species tally. This didn't seem to bother everyone though. To quote one Mammal Week stalwart, "I don't give a damn about the mammals – I just come for the social interaction!" It would appear that we cater for everyone!

A huge and heartfelt 'thank you' goes out to all those on this year's crew who helped with the trap setting, checking and retrieving because your contributions to the annual Hastings River Mouse monitoring program and general mammal survey were valued greatly. Hopefully, all those early morning starts were worthwhile from your perspective!

Do come and join us for another action-packed week in January 2007! And for a detailed summary of the results of the event just concluded, read on

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	Total	
Pteropodidae																															
Black Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>	C	O														1000														1000
Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	C	O														3500						1								3501
Rhinolophidae																															
Eastern Horseshoe-bat	<i>Rhinolophus megaphyllus</i>	C	A,M,O	5																											5
Molossidae																															
White-striped Freetail-bat	<i>Tadarida australis</i>	C	H,O	2						1																					3
Vespertilionidae																															
Gould's Wattled Bat	<i>Chalinolobus gouldii</i>	C	A													1															1
Eastern False Pipistrelle	<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	C	B												3																3
Golden-tipped Bat	<i>Kerivoula papuensis</i>	R	B					3																							3
Little Bent-wing Bat	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	C	A,B					5	5						3	1			2			1									17
Large-footed Myotis	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	C	O													7															7
Gould's Long-eared Bat	<i>Nyctophilus gouldi</i>	C	B		1			2		4									9												16
Large Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus darlingtoni</i>	C	A,B	1	15		8	15	5	45				12	1				50		6										158
Eastern Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus pumilus</i>	C	A,B		2			9	5	2				3					13		1										35
Muridae																															
Water Rat	<i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i>	C	C						1																						1
Fawn-footed Melomys	<i>Melomys cervinipes</i>	C	E,P					7										2													9
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>	I	E,O	1																			2								3
Eastern Chestnut Mouse	<i>Pseudomys gracilicaudatus</i>	C	E,P																10	1											11
Hastings River Mouse	<i>Pseudomys oralis</i>	V	E																2												2
Bush Rat	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	C	C,E	3				28				1							14												46
Swamp Rat	<i>Rattus lutreolus</i>	C,O	E																26												26
Canidae																															
Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>	I	H,O										2-3						1												3-4
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	I	O																						2						2
Felidae																															
Cat	<i>Felis catus</i>	I	O			1																									1
Leporidae																															
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	I	O																				1		1		1				3

Other wildlife captured in traps during the week:

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	Total	
Birds																															
Eastern Whipbird	<i>Psophodes olivaceus</i>	C	E					2																							2
Reptiles																															
Three-toed Snake-tooth Skink	<i>Coeranoscincus reticulatus</i>		P				1																								1
Major Skink	<i>Egernia frerei</i>	C	E															3													3
Land Mullet	<i>Egernia major</i>	C	C															1													1
Friendly Skink	<i>Lampropholis amicula</i>	C	P																5												5
Garden Skink	<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>	C	P																1												1
Three-toed Skink	<i>Saiphos equalis</i>	C	P																2												2
Yellow-faced Whip Snake	<i>Demansia psammophis</i>	C	E															1													1
Amphibians																															
Striped Marsh Frog	<i>Limnodynastes peronii</i>	C	E,P															1	2												3
Scarlet-sided Pobblebonk	<i>Limnodynastes terraereginae</i>	C	P																1												1
Dusky Gungan	<i>Uperoleia fusca</i>	C	P																20												20
Cane Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>	I	P																1												1
Crustaceans																															
Lamington Spiny Crayfish	<i>Euastacus sulcatus</i>	-	C					1	3																						4



Search locations and survey effort

Total trapping effort:

1,260 Elliott trap-nights (ETN)
 111 cage trap-nights (CTN)
 80 pitfall trap-nights (PTN)

For microbats only -
 24 bat trap-nights (BTN)
 0.1 mist-net-hours (MNH)

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) – 9 ETN, 15 CTN, 0.1 MNH
B	Old roadway to Tree Top Walk (rainforest) – 1 BTN
C	Tree Top Walk
D	Track skirting Botanic Gardens en route to Main Border Track (rainforest) – 1 BTN
E	Upper Wishing Tree Track (rainforest) – 101 ETN, 8 CTN, 20 PTN
F	Lower Wishing Tree Track along Morans Creek (stream, surrounding rainforest and regenerating rainforest) – 6 CTN, 4 BTN
G	Morans Creek (stream through regenerating rainforest and pasture) – 15 CTN, 3 BTN
H	Balancing Rock Track (eucalypt forest) – 4 BTN
I	QPWS car park area (rainforest and regenerating rainforest) – 5 CTN
J	Top of Red Rd (regenerating rainforest)
K	Top of Morans Falls Track (regenerating rainforest)
L	Luke's Farm Rd (rainforest) – 4 BTN
M	Lamington National Park Rd from Mt Cainbale area to 'Lake Cainbale' (eucalypt forest)
N	Beechmont Rd, Witheren (treed gully in rural residential area)
O	Upper Duck Creek Rd near start of Cainbale Falls track (rainforest) – 50 ETN, 24 CTN
P	Upper Duck Creek Rd west of ecotone (eucalypt forest) – 1100 ETN, 38 CTN, 4 BTN
Q	Kurrajong Lookout Rd near Rose and Joe's Dam (eucalypt forest) – 60 PTN, 1 BTN
R	Belson's Lookout Rd (eucalypt forest) – 2 BTN
S	Upper Duck Creek Rd at Dunne's Ledge (eucalypt forest) – 4 BTN
T	Lower Duck Creek Rd on lower slopes (eucalypt forest)
U	Lower Duck Creek Rd on flats (cleared farmland)
V	Darlington Park, Kerry Valley (treed parkland adjacent to river)
W	Kerry Valley from Darlington Park to Duck Creek Rd junction (cleared farmland)
X	Kerry Valley between Duck Creek Rd and Junction Rd (mostly cleared farmland)
Y	Kerry Valley north of old Kerry Hotel (cleared farmland)
Z	Beaudesert outskirts (mostly cleared farmland)