



Summary of the 13th Annual O'Reilly's Mammal Week – January 2007

Mammals recorded: 46 species (41 native and five introduced species)

Who says '13' is an unlucky number? Any superstitious types who stayed away from the recent Mammal Week simply because it was the thirteenth year since the program's inception did themselves a great disservice! The gods truly smiled upon us, and participants were rewarded with an impressive tally of mammal species and some outstanding views of several creatures that should stay in our memories for a long time to come.

Another indication that no black magic was involved was that the annual monitoring program in the open forest along Duck Creek Road yielded two prized Hastings River Mouse individuals, the real target of all the trapping effort, along with a record number (49!) of Swamp Rats and a half dozen other mammal species – all less than two weeks before the entire side of the mountain, including our standard trapping grid, went up in flames, leaving no ground layer vegetation whatsoever. Had dark forces been conspiring against us that fire, which started lower in the valley, would have come just before or, worse still, during the week of activities! Nevertheless, it was dreadful fortune for the terrestrial animals living in the forest and we can only wonder what became of them during the blaze.

Australia's iconic species were well represented this year, with somewhat murky but still thrilling, twilight views of two Platypuses in the Albert River and an eleventh hour sighting of a Koala. The circumstances of the latter seemed highly suspicious, if not downright rigged, given that it was Marie who spotted the individual in 'Marie's Garden' on Duck Creek Road. Other regular mammals proved to be a battle this time round. Most notably, Red-legged Pademelons were extremely elusive. Except for a chance encounter with a single individual as we drove along the Lamington National Park Road, these rainforest denizens failed to show themselves in their usual haunts, leading to speculation about population declines and hypotheses about the possible causes – something to keep an eye on in future years.

A healthy number of insectivorous bat species (14) was recorded, although admittedly four of these were only added to the list by detecting their ultrasonic calls with specialised equipment. Of special interest was the Eastern Broad-nosed Bat, a species seldom captured in harp traps during Mammal Week. More surprising was the location it was caught. This species is normally associated with open forest habitats and yet was picked up deep inside the rainforest on Luke's Farm Road. It pays not to make assumptions about wildlife!

Once again, all the hard work and dedication of the participants were instrumental to the success of the program. Rest assured your sterling efforts were greatly appreciated. As each year passes, it seems we refine the art of burning the candle at both ends a little more!

The program for Mammal Week no. 14 is already being prepared and we hope to see you there next January. But, as a reminder of the fascinating finds from this year's event, the next few pages provide a detailed summary.

Ian Gynther

Mammal Search, 21-27 January 2007, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat – Summary of Species Recorded

1. 'Status' codes refer either to conservation status under Qld legislation (C, common; R, rare; V, vulnerable) or to species that are exotic to Qld (I, introduced).
2. 'Method' codes indicate how species were recorded: A, Anabat call detection; B, bat trap; C, cage trap; E, Elliott trap; H, heard; M, mist-net; O, observed; P, pitfall trap; R, remains (body or bones); S, signs (e.g. feeding remains)
3. Remaining column letter codes indicate the sites at which the various species were recorded. Refer to the final page for corresponding site descriptions.

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	C1	D1	Total				
Ornithorhynchidae																																						
Platypus	<i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>	C	O																																2			2
Dasyuridae																																						
Subtropical Antechinus	<i>Antechinus subtropicus</i>	C	E,O	2				9																														11
Common Planigale	<i>Planigale maculata</i>	C	P																								6										6	
Common Dunnart	<i>Sminthopsis murina</i>	C	E																						1												1	
Peramelidae																																						
Northern Brown Bandicoot	<i>Isoodon macrourus</i>	C	C																							1											1	
Long-nosed Bandicoot	<i>Perameles nasuta</i>	C	O																					1	1												2	
Phascolarctidae																																						
Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	V*	O																																1			1
Petauridae																																						
Sugar Glider	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>	C	O		1																																1	
Pseudocheiridae																																						
Greater Glider	<i>Petauroides volans</i>	C	O																							2											2	
Common Ringtail Possum	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	C	O	5	2		3					2																									12	
Phalangeridae																																						
Short-eared Possum	<i>Trichosurus caninus</i>	C	H,O	2			2																														4	
Common Brushtail Possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	C	O														3																	4	15	2		24
Potoroidea																																						
Long-nosed Potoroo	<i>Potorous tridactylus</i>	V	C																							2												2
Macropodidae																																						
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	<i>Macropus giganteus</i>	C	O																		14													18	12		44	
Whiptail Wallaby	<i>Macropus parryi</i>	C	O														1	2																			3	
Red-necked Wallaby	<i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>	C	O																1	1															3		5	
Red-legged Pademelon	<i>Thylogale stigmatica</i>	C	O										1																								1	
Red-necked Pademelon	<i>Thylogale thetis</i>	C	O	18			2			14	6																										40	
Swamp Wallaby	<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	C	O																							1												1

* Southeast Queensland Bioregion only

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	C1	D1	Total	
Pteropodidae																																			
Black Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>	C	O																	✓#														✓#	
Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	C	O																	✓#														✓#	
Rhinolophidae																																			
Eastern Horseshoe-bat	<i>Rhinolophus megaphyllus</i>	C	M,O	2																														2	
Molossidae																																			
Eastern Freetail-bat	<i>Mormopterus sp. 2</i>	C	A														1																	1	
White-striped Freetail-bat	<i>Tadarida australis</i>	C	A,H	4													2														4			10	
Vespertilionidae																																			
Gould's Wattled Bat	<i>Chalinolobus gouldii</i>	C	A														2																	2	
Eastern False Pipistrelle	<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	C	B		1								9																					10	
Golden-tipped Bat	<i>Kerivoula papuensis</i>	R	B										1																					1	
Little Bent-wing Bat	<i>Miniopterus australis</i>	C	A,B		1							8	7				2								2									20	
Common Bent-wing Bat	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	C	A														1																	1	
Large-footed Myotis	<i>Myotis macropus</i>	C	O																													10		10	
Gould's Long-eared Bat	<i>Nyctophilus gouldi</i>	C	B				8					5	2												1									16	
Greater Broad-nosed Bat	<i>Scoteanax rueppellii</i>	C	A														2																	2	
Eastern Broad-nosed Bat	<i>Scotorepens orion</i>	C	B										1																					1	
Large Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus darlingtoni</i>	C	A,B	1	11	4						27	55				1																	133	
Eastern Forest Bat	<i>Vespadelus pumilus</i>	C	A,B		1							6	11				1																	27	
Muridae																																			
Water Rat	<i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i>	C	S									1																						1	
Fawn-footed Melomys	<i>Melomys cervinipes</i>	C	E,O					4								1																		5	
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>	I	E	1																														1	
Eastern Chestnut Mouse	<i>Pseudomys gracilicaudatus</i>	C	E,P																						8	1								9	
Hastings River Mouse	<i>Pseudomys oralis</i>	V	E																						2								2		
Bush Rat	<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	C	C,E,O	4				15	1		1				1										5	4								31	
Swamp Rat	<i>Rattus lutreolus</i>	C	E																							49								49	
Canidae																																			
Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>	I	H	2																														3	
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	I	O																													1		1	
Felidae																																			
Cat	<i>Felis catus</i>	I	O													1																		1	
Leporidae																																			
Brown Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>	I	O																													5	5		10

Brief visit only – number of individuals not counted

Search locations and survey effort

Total trapping effort:

1,218 Elliott trap-nights (ETN)
 134 cage trap-nights (CTN)
 100 pitfall trap-nights (PTN)

For microbats only -
 22 bat trap-nights (BTN)
 0.5 mist-net-hours (MNH)

Location codes:

Site codes used in the preceding 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 Retreat and environs (buildings, lawns, trees and rainforest edge) – 30 ETN, 12 CTN, 0.5 MNH
B	Tree Top Walk and old roadway to start of walk (rainforest) – 1 BTN
C	Track skirting Botanic Gardens en route to Main Border Track (rainforest) – 1 BTN
D	Main Border Track from track start to Botanic Gardens connector (rainforest)
E	Upper Wishing Tree Track (rainforest) – 88 ETN, 20 CTN, 40 PTN
F	Morans Creek near glow-worms (stream through rainforest) – 8 CTN
G	Morans Creek near Red Road crossing (stream through regenerating rainforest and pasture) – 20 CTN
H	QPWS car park area (rainforest and regenerating rainforest) – 10 CTN
I	Top, disused section of old Red Rd (regenerating rainforest) – 6 BTN
J	Luke's Farm Rd (rainforest) – 6 BTN
K	Lamington National Park Rd between the Big Hill and Duck Creek Rd junction (rainforest)
L	Lamington National Park Rd above Lahey's Memorial (rainforest)
M	Lamington National Park Rd below Alpaca farm (rainforest)
N	Lamington National Park Rd from Mt Cainbale area to 'Lake Cainbale' (eucalypt forest)
O	Lamington National Park Rd on lower mountain slopes (eucalypt forest)
P	Lamington National Park Rd between Sarabah Rd junction and Canungra Ck crossing (cleared rural residential land)
Q	Beechmont Rd, Witheren (treed gully in rural residential area)
R	Biddadaba and Boyland areas (cleared farmland)
S	Entry road to Luke's Farm from Duck Creek Rd – 1 BTN
T	Upper Duck Creek Rd near Lukes Farm overlook (rainforest)
U	Upper Duck Creek Rd near start of Cainbale Falls track (rainforest) – 24 CTN
V	Upper Duck Creek Rd west of ecotone (eucalypt forest) – 1100 ETN, 40 CTN, 4 BTN
W	Kurrajong Lookout Rd near Rose and Joe's Dam (eucalypt forest) – 60 PTN
X	Belson's Lookout Rd (eucalypt forest) – 2 BTN
Y	Upper Duck Creek Rd at Dunne's Ledge (eucalypt forest) – 1 BTN
Z	Lower Duck Creek Rd at 'Marie's Garden' (eucalypt forest)
A1	Lower Duck Creek Rd on flats (cleared farmland)
B1	Darlington Park, Kerry Valley (treed parkland adjacent to river)
C1	Kerry Valley from Darlington Park to north of old Kerry Hotel (cleared farmland, including culvert under road)
D1	Beaudesert outskirts (mostly cleared farmland)