

HFNC BEEAR STATE FOREST FAUNA SURVEY APRIL-JUNE 2012

HFNC EXCURSION REPORT for 19 May 2012 – results for the first month

The day was fine and cool at first, but windless and very pleasant. There were 12 members and one visitor present on the excursion. When we had finished with the inspection of cameras we undertook to pull the dozens of seedling *Hakea salicifolia* around a 3-4 m tall bush that we discovered in the drainage line some 300 m to the NE of Site 10. The bush was ring-barked but is carrying a large amount of seed in capsules and so future work will be needed to remove further seedlings. This species is from NSW and may have got here from a farm garden, courtesy of a Yellow-tailed Black-cockatoo.

We did not inspect the nest boxes at this time. All appeared to be as we had left them.

The SD cards were removed from each camera on 19 May and replaced with another. An on-spot check of the card was performed (using a digital camera for viewing) to determine whether the camera had been recording any images. In one instance (Site 9) there were no recorded images. The card was found to be viable (a photo could be taken and recorded in the digital viewing camera) and, since no shots were found from starting and stopping the mounted camera (as will happen when the camera is set to run), we concluded that the on/off button tag had not worked well. When re-erected and started again, the camera flashed when movement was made near the sensor, so it should function properly in the next month.

One camera (Site 3) was dislodged from its normal downward-focus, presumably by a Kangaroo or possum.

We renewed the 'lure' (a few drops of the solution of 79% linseed oil, 20%/pistachio oil and 1% vanilla essence) in the containers that had been placed at the base of each camera-tree.

We found Macropods (3 species), Brushtail Possum, one Sugar Glider, one Koala (an unexpected find), 1 cat and 1 Black Rat. There were also 4 species of birds: Australian Magpie, White-throated Treecreeper, White-cheeked Honeyeater and Scarlet Robin(?). The glider was identified on basis of size and shape/colour of tail.

Two folders of photos have been kept: (a) the complete set minus most start-up and changeover photos – a few clear shots retained for scale purposes (b) a representative set of the species seen at each site.

The table below provides a summary of the results of the first month's duration of the survey. Note that the number of photos recorded for each species does not indicate that there were that many individuals there. It was obvious that some individuals (possum and Macropods) stayed around for a dozen or more photographs while they sniffed and nuzzled the lure container!

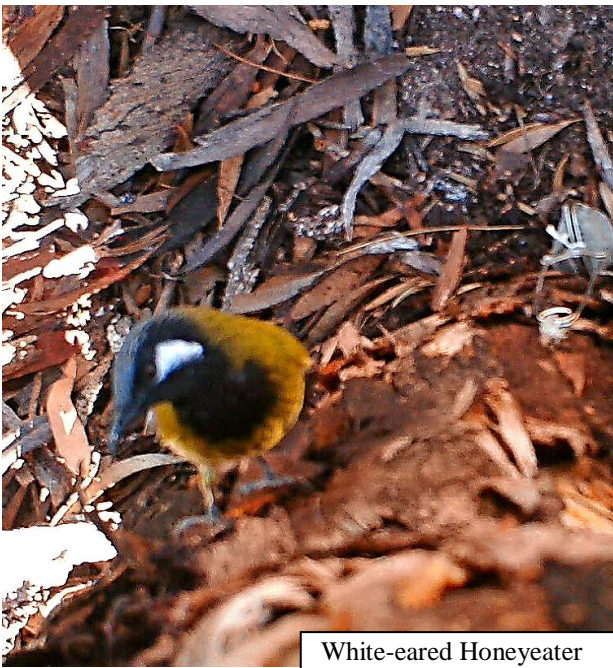
Species	Numbers of photos recorded at each of Sites 1-10									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	7	15	3			3	58			
Black Wallaby			17				14			
Red-necked Wallaby			6							
Brush-tail Possum		25	4		8	14				
Koala										1
Sugar Glider							5			
Feral Cat			5							
Black Rat								2		
Unidentified mammals		2								2
Australian Magpie	1			1						
White-throated Treecreeper						1				4
White-eared Honeyeater										1
Scarlet Robin?						1				
Photos with no fauna visible	0	14	8	1	1	0	6	3	F	6
Total No. photos taken (excluding installation and changeover events)	7	54	43	2	9	19	83	5	F	14
SD Card Number	01	02	03	04	05	11	12	13	14	15



Koala



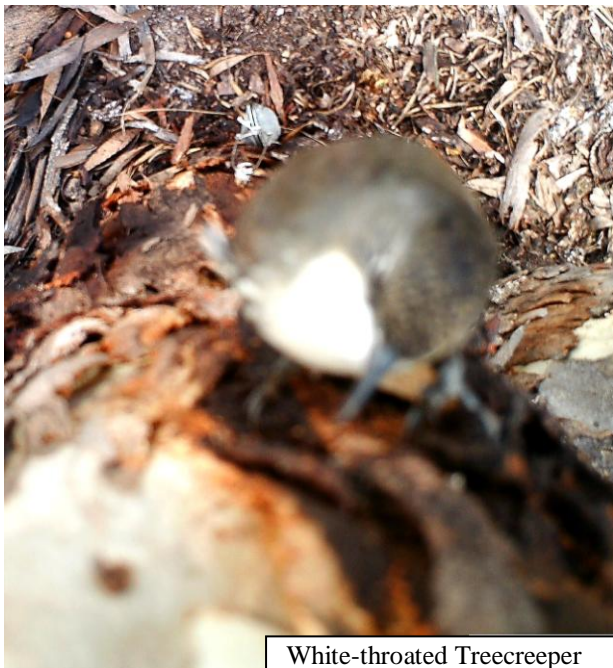
Black Rat



White-eared Honeyeater



Scarlet Robin?



White-throated Tree creeper



Australian Magpie



Brushtail Possum



KEEP GUARD

Red-necked Wallaby



Feral Cat



Sugar Glider



Black Wallaby



Eastern Grey Kangaroo