



VICFORESTS PRE-LOGGING FAUNA SURVEYS 2011

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

PACKAGE 5

(6 coupes)

WILDLIFE UNLIMITED PTY LTD

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ACN 147 131 119

Survey Methods

Tracks and traces transects

Target Species: Long-footed Potoroo, Koala, large forest owls, Spot-tailed Quoll, Spiny Crayfish.

Tracks and traces transects were conducted along habitat corridors such as vegetated gullies with the aim of locating owl roosts and potoroo/bandicoot diggings. Transects of at least 500m were conducted at each coupe. Relevant findings were photographed and coordinates recorded. Scats and pellets were collected for analysis if encountered.

Transects targeting Spiny Crayfish were not conducted if creeks were dry, but cray holes were photographed and coordinates recorded when found within coupes. Searches for burrows and individuals in water pools and beneath rocks were conducted where possible.

Remote cameras

Cameras (Scoutguard & Moultrie passive infra-red) were maintained *in situ* for a minimum of 20 days, which is regarded as being a suitable timeframe to guarantee a 90% chance of species detection. Cameras were photographed *in situ* and coordinates and time of deployment recorded. Effort was combined for some coupes that were small and in close geographical proximity, ie, two cameras were deployed per coupe rather than the usual four

TARGET SPECIES:

Spot-tailed Quoll

Two camera traps were deployed at each coupe. Sites of habitat significance for Spot-tailed Quoll (large logs, riparian verges, rocky areas) were selected if present. Bait baskets containing Fox-off[®] free-feed baits were attached to poles for attracting predators such as quolls.

Long-footed Potoroo

Two camera traps was deployed at each coupe. Sites of habitat significance for Long-footed Potoroo, such as gullies with suitable thick vegetation were selected if present. Bait baskets were set up to contain a bait mixture (peanut butter, oats and pistachio oil) suitable for attracting omnivores such as bandicoots and potoroos.

Spotlighting and call playback

Target Species: Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl, Masked Owl, Greater Glider, Yellow-bellied Glider, all frogs

A minimum of 1km/1hr spotlighting was conducted along road/track corridors adjacent to each coupe, which may have included some distance on either side of the coupe boundary. Species and coordinates were recorded for each observation. Playback locations and spotlight transects were combined for some coupes due to close geographical proximity

The spotlighting transects included:

- an on-dusk 15 min listening period initiated at dusk
- a 20 min playback session of Powerful, Boobook, Sooty and Masked Owls
- a 1km/1hr spotlighting transect by 2 observers.

Results

Table 1 Summary of methods and significant results for six coupes in Package 5; X, no significant species detected; P, potoroo; O, owl; G, glider.

Coupe #	Coupe Name	District	Tracks/traces	Playback	Spotlight	Cameras
878-512-0004	ACME	Cann River	X	X	X	X
878-512-0003	Coyote	Cann River	X	X	X	X
878-512-0002	Road Runner	Cann River	P	X	X	X
827-519-0017	Wood Pencil	Orbost	P	X	X	P
827-519-0014	Rubyracer	Orbost	P, O	X	X	X
827-519-0016	Smoked Trout	Orbost	P	G	X	X

Tracks and Traces Transects

Table 2 Results of tracks and traces recorded for six coupes in Package 5.

Coupe No.	Coupe Name	Date	Surveyers	Observations	Easting	Northing	Comments
878-512-0004	ACME	4.5.11	AC, MC	Rocky outcrop	724920	5855109	Open woodland, allocasuarina, black wattle and geebung species
				Rocky outcrop	724823	5855076	Many rocky outcrops scattered through coupe - good habitat for
				Large patch of Lomandra	724377	5855208	spotted-tailed quolls
				Large patch of Gahnia	724383	5855251	Lomandra and gahnia good habitat for small mammals
878-512-0003	Coyote	4.5.11	AC, MC	Rocky Outcrop	725503	5855361	Open woodland, allocasuarina, black wattle and geebung species
				Lyrebird mound - many through coupe	725400	5855265	Many rocky outcrops scattered through coupe - good habitat for
				Patch of allocasuarina	725384	5855259	spotted-tailed quolls
878-512-0002	Road Runner	4.5.11	AC, MC	Large patch of Tree ferns	724958	5855516	Open woodland, allocasuarina, black wattle and geebung species
				Lots of wombat and lyrebird activity			Many rocky outcrops scattered through coupe - good habitat for
				Potoroo digging	724985	5855705	spotted-tailed quolls
							Some running water and stagnant pools in creekline bordering Coyote - may harbour crayfish, but not detected during this survey
827-519-0017	Wood Pencil	5.5.11	AC, MC	Brushtail Possum scat on log			Mixed age forest, including new regrowth along edge of coupe
				Wombat scats - many seen			Many tree ferns along creekline
				Deer rub on tree			
				Pack of dingos howling at dusk			
				Potoroo digging	628344	5839637	
827-519-0014	Ruby racer	6.5.11	AC, MC	Wombat flushed from under fallen log			Mixed age forest, including new regrowth along edge of coupe
				Brushtail Possum scat on log			Major creek running, may harbour crayfish, but none detected
				Many large fallen logs - good habitat			Fallen hollow logs good habitat for small-medium mammals
				Many ferns and blanket leaf along gully			
				Whitewash - possible owl roosting site	627483	5840235	
				Potoroo diggings	627708	5840399	
827-519-0016	Smoked Trout	5.5.11	AC, MC	Potoroo diggings	628546	5840947	No creeklines. Coupe surrounded by young regrowth
				Potoroo diggings	628620	5841158	
				Potoroo diggings	628564	5840961	
				Deer rub on tree	628564	5841023	
				Wombat scat	628620	5841158	

bold, observations of interest/threatened species

Remote Cameras

Table 3 Remote camera results for six coupes in Package 5

Coupe No.	Coupe Name	Date	Surveyers	Target species	Easting	Northing	Effective days in operation	Species identified
878-512-0004	ACME	4.5.11	AC, MC	Potoroo	724867	5855153	26	Bushrat Swamp Wallaby Lyrebird
				Quoll	724557	5854917	26	Wonga Pigeon Swamp Wallaby Wombat
878-512-0003	Coyote	4.5.11	AC, MC	Quoll	725503	5855361	26	Swamp Wallaby Brush-tail Possum
				Potoroo	724401	5855276	26	Bushrat Wonga Pigeon Eastern Yellow Robin Superb Blue Wren Brush-tail Possum Wombat
878-512-0002	Road Runner	4.5.11	AC, MC	Potoroo	724220	5855810	26	Wombat
				Quoll	724706	5855634	26	Swamp Wallaby Swamp Wallaby
				Quoll	725279	5855532	26	Brush-tail Possum Lyrebird
				Potoroo	724958	5855516	26	Swamp Wallaby Lyrebird
827-519-0017	Wood Pencil	5.5.11	AC, MC	Potoroo	628080	5839483	26	Lyrebird Swamp Wallaby
				Quoll	628270	5839539	26	Cat
				Potoroo	628308	5839703	26	Long-footed Potoroo Swamp Wallaby
				Quoll	628432	5839535	26	Lyrebird Brush-tail Possum Swamp Wallaby
827-519-0014	Ruby-racer	6.5.11	AC, MC	Quoll	627332	5840661	25	Swamp Wallaby
				Potoroo	627414	5840257	0	CAMERA FAILED
				Potoroo	627693	5840378	25	Swamp Wallaby
				Quoll	627729	5840593	25	Swamp Wallaby Wombat
827-519-0016	Smoked Trout	5.5.11	AC, MC	Quoll	628632	5841230	26	Swamp Wallaby
				Potoroo	628572	5840961	26	Swamp Wallaby
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bold , observations of interest/threatened species								

Spotlighting and Call Playback

Table 4 Results of call playback and spotlighting surveys for six coupes in package 5

Coupe No.	Coupe Name	Date	Surveyers	Coords E/N	Call Playback		Spotlighting			Comments
					Dusk listen results (no.)	Playback Results (No.)	Results (No.)	Easting	Northing	
878-512-0004	ACME	18.5.11	RB, MC	725286/5855744	Boobook Owl (1)	Owlet Nightjar (2)	Ringtail Possum (1)	725102	5855969	Effort combined for
878-512-0003	Coyote				Sugar Glider (2)	Boobook Owl (1)	Sugar Glider (3)	725102	5855969	ACME, Coyote and
878-512-0002	Road Runner				Lyrebird (2)			725174	5855913	Road Runner due to
					Pseudophryne sp. (>2)			725380	5855686	geographical proximity
827-519-0017	Wood Pencil	5.5.11	AC, MC	628081/5839238	Lyrebird (1)	Lyrebird (2)	nil			Thick young regrowth
						Boobook Owl (2)				along road/edge of coupe
										- difficult to see through
										to larger trees within coupe
827-519-0014	Rubyracer	5.5.11	AC,MC	628675/5841297	nil	nil	nil			Effort combined for
827-519-0016	Smoked Trout				Yellow-bellied Glider (1)	Yellow-bellied Glider (2)	Bobuck (2)	628486	5840676	Ruby Racer and Smoked
						Boobook Owl (1)				Trout due to geographical
										proximity and inability to
										access Ruby Racer directly
										due to closed track
bold , observations of interest/threatened species										

Appendix 1 Diurnal birds recorded for six coupes in Package 5

Diurnal birds	878-512-0004	878-512-0003	878-512-0002	827-519-0017	827-519-0014	827-519-0016
Australian Raven				X		
Brown Thornbill	X	X	X			
Crescent Honeyeater	X	X	X	X	X	
Crested Shrike Tit						
Crimson Rosella					X	
Cuckoo sp.	X	X	X			
Eastern Whipbird				X		
Galah						X
Golden Whistler				X	X	
Grey Fantail						
Grey Shrike Thrush	X	X	X		X	
Kookaburra				X	X	
Lewins Honeyeater				X		
Lyrebird	X	X	X		X	X
Pied Currawong					X	X
Rainbow Lorikeet	X	X	X			
Red Wattle Bird	X	X	X			
Shining Bronze Cuckoo					X	
Silvereye				X	X	
Thornbill sp.					X	X
White-browed Scrubwren	X	X	X			X
White-eared Honeyeater						
White-throated Treecreeper	X	X	X	X	X	X
Wonga Pigeon	X	X	X			
Yellow-faced Honeyeater					X	X
Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	X	X	X			