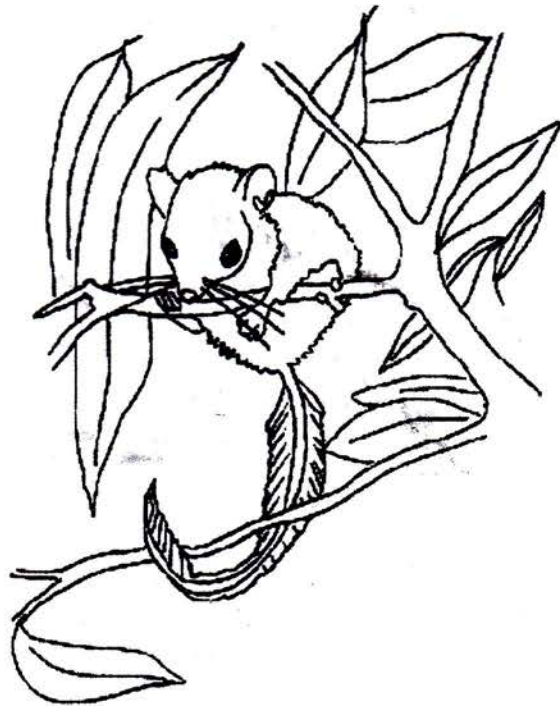


Hollow Log Homes



Wildlife Box Audit
Coolum & District Coast Care
MARCH 2006

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Introduction

47 boxes were checked in the Coolum area these boxes are placed in Yinneburra Bushland Park, Springfield Avenue Park, Point Arkwright, Yaroomba Bushland Park, the road reserve on the western side of the David Low Way at Point Arkwright and a reserve near the roundabout on Coolum-Yandina Road. The boxes were all checked for habitation of native species, as well as the state of wire attachments to trees, lid & hinge condition. The first three of these boxes were installed at Spring Field Avenue in March 2000, with subsequent installations in September 2000, at Spring Field Avenue, Yaroomba Bushland Park and Yinneburra Bushland Park in February 2003 and Point Arkwright and Coolum roundabout in April 2003. The boxes have all been checked on an annual basis by HOLLOW LOG HOMES with periodic checks from the ground being carried out by the members of Coolum Coast Care. Maintenance was carried out on the boxes at this audit with four boxes needing lids replaced and seven Boxes needing new hinges. The old hinges have been replaced with stainless steel ones so they should now last the life of the box. Sixteen boxes have been reinstalled using the Habisure system, allowing for 1-metre growth in the diameter of the tree. Usage rates for the boxes have increased markedly since the previous audit in December 2004 in all areas except Springfield Avenue, which already had a high occupation rate at 70%.

Results

Yinneburra bushland Park

December 2004 usage: 12.5%

March 2006 usage: 60% (6/10)

Box Number	Box type	Observations 01/03/06	Action taken if any
1	Small forest bird	No sign of habitation	
2	Small forest bird	Ring tail Possum denning in Box	
3	Possum	Common Brushtail possum in Box	Photo 1
4	Small Parrot	No sign of habitation	Reinstalled Box using Habisure system
5	Small forest bird	Evidence of possum using box, very smelly	
6	Small forest bird	Oval shaped birds nest in box. Possibly White-throated tree creeper	Reinstalled Box using Habisure system
7	Small Parrot	Brush tail possum in box	Photo 2
11	Small parrot	Box had fallen from tree	Reinstalled Box using Habisure system
	Glider	Galah chews reinstall	
	Triangular Kookaburra	Ring tail drey in box	Photo 3

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Yaroomba Bushland Park

December 2004 usage 26.6%

March 2006 usage : 47% (7/15)

Box Number	Box type	Observations	Action taken
9	Micro bat	Spiders in box, no web over entrance indicating box is used	
10	Small Parrot	No sign of habitation	
11	Dollar bird	No sign of habitation	
12	Dollar bird	No sign of habitation	
13	Feather-tail glider	Ants	Sprayed with eucalyptus & pyrethrum
14	Small parrot, scaly breasted lorikeet	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
15	Small parrot	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
16	Possum	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
17	Small parrot	Fresh Eucalyptus leaves indicating very recent use by Glider	
18	Possum - log box	Box had fallen from tree Skink in box possibly <i>Cryptoblepharus virgatus</i>	Reinstalled box using Habisure system
19	Micro bat	No Sign of habitation	
20	Micro bat	No sign of habitation	
21	Dollar bird	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
22	Small Parrot, scaly - breasted Lorikeet	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
23	Micro bat, hanging	No sign of habitation	Rewire box

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Springfield Avenue

December 2004 usage rate 70%

March 2006 usage rate 70% (7/10)

Box Number	Box type	Observations	Action taken
24	Glider	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider	
25	Red wing Parrot	Lots of scratches on lid and side of box , probably brushtail possum	Re wire using Habisure system
28	Possum	2 common Brushtail possums, mother and juvenile	Photo 4
38	Kookaburra	Kookaburras have successfully nested again this season.	Re wire using Habisure system, replace hinge with stainless steel
	Small parrot	Evidence of possum using box as den site	
	Small parrot		Re wire using Habisure system, replace hinge with stainless steel
	Small Parrot	Owlets have been observed in Box,	adjust box on tree
	Log box		Re wire using Habisure system,
	Triangle kookaburra	Feral European bee colony	Poison feral European bees and clean out box, rewire.
	Glider	Sugar glider present in box	Photo 5

Reserve near roundabout Yandina-Coolum Road

December 2004 usage rate 50%

March 2006 usage rate 100% (2/2)

Box Number	Box type	Observations
29	Large Log box	Evidence of possum using box
30	Micro bat	Small very dark coloured microbats using box

Point Arkwright

December 2004 usage rate: 29%

March 2006 usage rate: 57% (5/7)

Box Number	Box type	Observations
31	Possum	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider however leaves are flattened as if a possum has been sleeping on them.
32	Small parrot	No evidence of habitation
33	Dollar bird	Glider nest
34	Kookaburra	Feral European bees
35	Small parrot	Native beehive, photo 6

Road Reserve, western side David Low way Point Arkwright

Box Number	Box type	Observations
36	Small parrot	Eucalyptus leaves indicating use by Glider
37	Small forest bird	No sign of habitation

Coolum State Primary School

March 2006 box usage 100%

Box type	Observations	Action taken if any
Small parrot	Evidence of Brushtail possum using box	Replace lid and Hinge and reattached box in tree using Habishaw system
Dollar Bird	Evidence of Brushtail possum using box	Replace lid and Hinge and reattached box in tree using Habishaw system
Small parrot	Common brushtail Possum in box	Replace lid, Photo 7

Species discussed

Common name	Scientific name
Dollar Bird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
Australian Owlet- nightjar	<i>Aegotheles cristatus</i>
Laughing Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>
White-throated tree creeper	<i>Cormobates leucophaeus</i>
Sugar Glider	<i>Petaurus breviceps</i>
Ringtail possum	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>
Common Brushtail possum	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>
Micro bats	<i>Microchiroptera</i>
Wall skink	<i>Cryptoblepharus virgatus</i>
Native bee/sugar bag bee	<i>Trigona carbonaris</i>

Conclusion

All boxes are secure in trees, habitation rates of boxes and species diversity is increasing in all areas the average habitation rates across the nest boxes in this area is 72.3% this is excellent, increasing from 37.62% in December 2004

The event of a native beehive taking up residents at point Arkwright is a very special occurrence. Feral European bees still tend to present a problem in nest boxes as they do in tree hollows it is good however to see that once the box is cleaned out, native species will return straight away. Ten separate species are now using the boxes with this being the first audit to show evidence of microbats and native bees.



Photo 1
Common Brushtail
possum Box number 3
Yinneburra Bushland
Park



Photo 2 Common
Brushtail possum Box
number 7 Yinneburra
Bushland Park



Photo 3. Ringtail
possum drey inside
triangular box
Yinneburra Bushland
Park



Photo 4 , Mother &
Juvenile Common
Brushtail Possums,
Springfield Avenue



Photo 5. Sugar glider
Springfield Avenue



Photo 6 , Native bee
Hive Box number 35
Point Arkwright.

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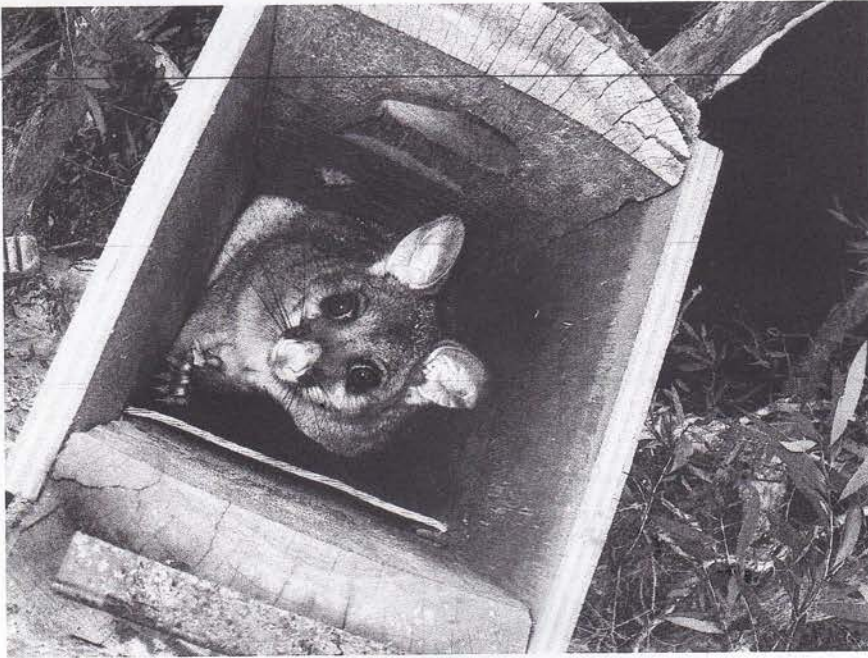


Photo 7 Common
Brushtail Possum,
Coolum Primary school

White Bay Area
Graham & David Goss
MARCH 2005

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