

Countryside Critters



Monitoring forest wildlife

Overview

Wildlife monitoring in private native forests (PNF) has traditionally been very limited. This also includes monitoring in relation to private forestry operations.

To fill this gap, Forestry Research at NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has partnered with Local Land Services in North-East NSW to undertake wildlife surveys using latest technology. Wildlife includes nocturnal mammals, forest owls and diurnal birds.

Surveys began in 2019 and have continued since then.

Please consider joining our program!

Project in Action

Monitoring relies heavily on landholder participation.

Newly developed mini-acoustic recorders, 'Audiomoths', as well as camera traps and bat detectors, are mailed to participating landholders. These devices are then set in forest habitat on the property, retrieved after 10-14 days by the landholders and posted back to our Ecology team for analysis.

Hopeful Outcomes

This project will play a key part in monitoring changes to wildlife on private land. Where relevant, monitoring will also assess changes due to timber harvesting under the PNF Code of Practice for Northern NSW.

The surveys will for the first time provide an assessment of the status of key species on private land and monitor how that changes with drought, floods and fire.

The results will also be compared to acoustic monitoring in public forests in North-East NSW (Law et al. 2018).

Interested in Participating?

A Data Agreement will be provided to give you the confidence that any data collected on your land will remain confidential!

Please look out for our new web portal or contact the Ecology team via our project email: koalas@dpird.nsw.gov.au

A typically fragmented private forest landscape



Audiomoth – small acoustic device used in wildlife surveys



Authors

Dr Brad Law
Principal Research Scientist
NSW DPIRD | Forestry Research
Locked Bag 5123 Parramatta 2124

Glenyse Villanueva & Isobel Kerr
Biodiversity Technical Officers
NSW DPIRD | Forestry Research
Locked Bag 5123, Parramatta 2124

www.dpird.nsw.gov.au