

Report on remote camera survey of *Potorous longipes* – Brown Mountain

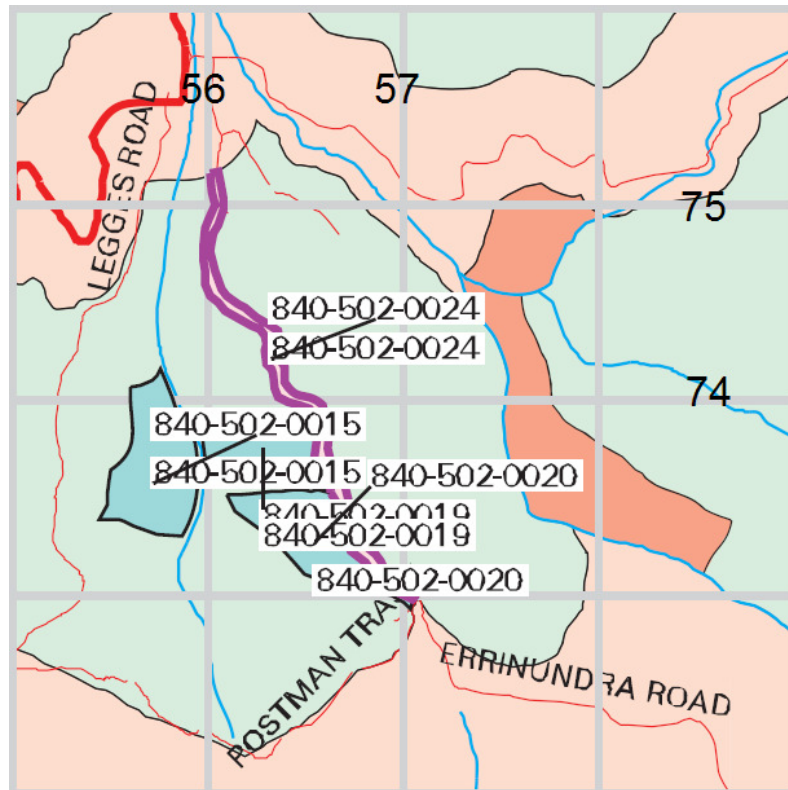
Study location	Between Brown Mtn. and Brown Mtn. Crk.
Coupe Numbers	840-502-0015 and 840-502-0019
Date of report	22/08/09
Organisations	Fauna and Flora Research Collective - East Gippsland Goongerah Environment Centre Environment East Gippsland
Aim of study	To determine presence/absence of <i>Potorous longipes</i>
Method of study	Baited remote survey cameras

Study location Brown Mountain: Between Legges Road and Errinundra Road (crossing Brown Mountain Crk.). The studied area is indicated in figure 1 (Coups 840-502-0015 and 840-502-0019).

Figure 1: Study area

(Detail from *Bendoc Forest District, Timber Release Plan Harvest Years 2004/2005 – 2008/2009*

Datum: AGD66)



Habitat description Cameras were placed in forest varying from cool temperate rainforest to mixed age wet sclerophyll forest dominated by a combination of *Eucalyptus dentiulata*, *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* and *Eucalyptus Obliqua* (Including *Eucalyptus croajingalensis*, *Eucalyptus viminales et. al.*).

The site yielding the *P. longipes* was wet sclerophyll forest

Date of study 05/05/2009 - 22/08/2009

Participants Andrew Lincoln, Joseph Henderson, David Caldwell, Rena Gabarov, James Black, Jill Redwood

Used method of Study 4 Moultrie and 5 Scout Guard cameras were placed out each with a pistachio essence and truffle essence based bait in metallic tea infusers. Cameras were downloaded at weekly intervals.

Results of survey A positive identification of *P.longipes* on one Moultrie camera in wet sclerophyll forest. Recording was on 21 August 2009 at 3:05 am.

Figure 2. is a still camera image of *P.longipes*.
Figure 3a-c. are detailed frames from the video recorded in conjunction with the image in Figure 2.

Camera Location:
55H 0655834 // 5874892
(UTM/UPS, GDA94)



Figure 2.

Figure 3a.



Figure 3b.

Figure 3c.

Summary

The discovery of *P. longipes* in the studied area is considered significant to the participating surveyors due to the current conservation status of this species;

“Conservation Status

Current Status

ESPA (1992) Endangered in Australia

CNR (1993a) Endangered in Victoria

SAC (1991) Threatened

The Long-footed Potoroo has been listed as a threatened

taxon in Schedule 2 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act

*1988.*¹

The area of this discovery is currently designated as a proposed logging coupe by VicForests under their *East Gippsland Forest Management Area – 15, Bendoc Forest District, Timber Release Plan Harvest Years 2004/2005 – 2008/2009* as coups 840-502-0015 and 840-502-0019.

The obvious conflict between the existence of a threatened/ endangered species, recognised at both the state and national level, and plans to log its habitat must be addressed without delay. The proposed logging of this area will negatively impact on the species and its required habitat, and hence should be placed under protection.

Authors

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A. Lincoln

¹ *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Action Statement #58*, Department of Sustainability and Environment, V.C. Thomas, S.R. Henry, and D.J. Baker-Gabb, 1994