

Short report on the Glideways project (Ferny Grove - Brisbane City Council glider project) undertaken in the Kedron Brook Catchment, Ferny Grove, Brisbane City.



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Photo of Squirrel Glider by Narelle Power

Introduction and Scope

A glider survey was undertaken in bushland located on Tramway and Arbor Streets in Ferny Grove. The habitat is largely associated with Cedar Creek a tributary of Kedron Brook and is partly adjacent to Ferny Grove State High School. The primary aim was to determine the presence or possible presence and the suitability of habitat for glider species – particularly squirrel and sugar gliders.

Methods

A site investigation was undertaken with Brisbane City Council Officers to determine the possibility there were gliders in the area and locate any likely denning trees in the area. In total three spotlight surveys were undertaken on the following dates – 21/11/10, 8/1/11 and 9/4/11. Prior to the first spotlight survey, a one and a half hour presentation on local glider species, habitat requirements and survey techniques was undertaken.

Nocturnal spotlighting involved the use of a 50-watt spotlight with a fitted dimmer switch. Spotlighting commenced at dusk and lasted approximately two hours.

Ultrasonic call detection was also undertaken for microchiroptean bat species on the third spotlight only. This involved walking along transects following dusk for approximately two hours when microbats are leaving roost sites. Dr Martin Rhodes (a renowned bat researcher) performed the analysis of bat calls recorded.

Any species encountered incidentally during the spotlight surveys and during the initial site inspect, including several insect groups were also noted.

Note: All work will follow the guidelines provided for under the Scientific Purposes Permit Number WISPO1822104.

Results

Squirrel gliders (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) were recorded during two of the three spotlight surveys. On two occasions they were seen to volplane between trees. Other species recorded included – the common ringtail possum (in large numbers), the common brushtail possum and six frog species in addition to the abundant introduced cane toad. (see attached species list for details).

Although weed invasion is an ever present problem, overall the area was found to be relatively good for glider and possum species with numerous medium to large hollow bearing trees, with *Eucalyptus tereticornis*, *E. siderophloia* and *Corymbia intermedia* being the prevalent species. It is also likely that additional frog and numerous other reptile and insect species are present in the local area.

Weed removal and additional planting of larger canopy species and mid/lower canopy species including local *Acacia* spp. will further enhance the site and provide additional food sources and shelter for glider species and habitat for overall faunal diversity.

Site species list

Key to columns

Status

As listed in the Queensland Nature Conservation, Wildlife Regulation 1994 (Nature Conservation Act 1992).

E = Endangered, V = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened, = LC = Least Concern, (-) = Not protected, I = Introduced

OR

As listed in the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

CE*= Critically endangered, E*= Endangered, V*= Vulnerable, CD*= Conservation dependent

Method of identification

H = Heard, O = Observed, S = Other signs of presence (scats, traces etc.)

Density

Measure of abundance

Common (+++), Regular (++) , Occasional (+)

Site Species List - Tramway Street, Kedron Brook, Ferny Grove					
Mammals					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
PHALANGERIDAE	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common brushtail possum	O	++	LC
PETAURIDAE	<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	Squirrel glider	O	++	LC
PSEUDOCHEIRIDAE	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	Common ringtail possum	O	+++	LC
PTEROPODIDAE	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>	Black fruit-bat	O	++	LC
MOLOSSIDAE	<i>Tadarida australis</i>	White-striped mastiff bat	H	++	LC
Birds					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
COLUMBIDAE	<i>Ochophaps lophotes</i>	Crested pigeon	O	++	LC
CACATUIDAE	<i>Cacatua roseicapilla</i>	Galah	O	++	LC
PSITTACIDAE	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Little lorikeet	O	+	LC
PSITTACIDAE	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Rainbow lorikeet	O	+++	LC
HALYCONIDAE	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Laughing kookaburra	O	+	LC
PARDALOTIDAE	<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	Striated pardalote	O	+	LC
MELIPHAGIDAE	<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Noisy miner	O	+++	LC
DICRURIDAE	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	Willie wagtail	O	+	LC
CAMPEPHAGIDAE	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced cuckoo-shrike	O	++	LC
ARTAMIDAE	<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian magpie	O	++	LC

ARTAMIDAE	<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>	Pied butcherbird	O	+	LC
CORVIDAE	<i>Corvus orru</i>	Torresian crow	O	++	LC
ZOSTEROPIDAE	<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	Silvereye	O	++	LC
Reptiles					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
SCINCIDAE	<i>Lampropholis delicata</i>	Garden skink	O	++	LC
AGAMIDAE	<i>Physignathus lesueurii</i>	Eastern water dragon	O	++	LC
Frogs					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
HYLIDAE	<i>Litoria caerulea</i>	Green treefrog	O	+	LC
HYLIDAE	<i>Litoria dentata</i>	Bleating treefrog	H	++	LC
HYLIDAE	<i>Litoria fallax</i>	Eastern sedgefrog	H	++	LC
HYLIDAE	<i>Litoria gracilentia</i>	Graceful treefrog	H	++	LC
HYLIDAE	<i>Litoria latoplamata</i>	Broad-palmed rocketfrog	O	+	LC
MYOBATRACHIDAE	<i>Limnodynastes peronii</i>	Striped marshfrog	O	+++	LC
BUFONIDAE	<i>Rhinella marina</i>	Cane toad	O	+++	I
Butterflies					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
HESPERIIDAE	<i>Suniana sunias</i>	Wide-brand grass dart	O	++	-
PAPILIONIDAE	<i>Papilio a aegeus</i>	Orchard swallowtail	O	++	-
PIERIDAE	<i>Delias a argenthona</i>	Scarlet jezebel	O	+	-
PIERIDAE	<i>Delias nigrina</i>	Black jezebel	O	++	-

PIERIDAE	<i>Eurema hecabe phoebus</i>	Large grass-yellow	O	++	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Danaus p plexippus</i>	Monarch	O	++	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Danaus chrysippus petilia</i>	Lesser wanderer	O	+	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Euploea core corinna</i>	Common crow	O	++	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Junonia villida calybe</i>	Meadow argus	O	+	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Melanitis leda bankia</i>	Evening brown	O	+++	-
NYMPHALIDAE	<i>Tirumala hamata</i>	Blue tiger	O	+	-
LYCAENIDAE	<i>Zizina l labradus</i>	Common grass blue	T	+++	-
Cicadas					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
CICADIDAE	<i>Cicadetta hackeri</i>	Paperbark cicada	H	++	-
CICADIDAE	<i>Cicadetta oldfieldi</i>	Wattle cicada	H	++	-
CICADIDAE	<i>Pauropsalta corticinus</i>	Bark squeaker	H	++	-
Dragonflies					
Family	Genus and species	Common name	Method	Density	Status
AESHNIDAE	<i>Hemianax papuensis</i>	Australian emperor	O	++	-
HEMICORDULIIDAE	<i>Hemicordulia australiae</i>	Australian emerald	O	++	-
LIBELLULIDAE	<i>Diplacodes bipunctata</i>	Wandering percher	O	++	-
LIBELLULIDAE	<i>Orthetrum caledonicum</i>	Blue skimmer	O	+	-
LIBELLULIDAE	<i>Orthetrum villosovittatum</i>	Fiery skimmer	O	+	-
LIBELLULIDAE	<i>Tramea loewii</i>	Common glider	O	+	-

