



Issue 89

30 Jan. – 12 Feb. 2010

HOTLINE CALL SUMMARY (2 WEEKS)

Sighting reports	13
- Excellent	1
- Possible	12

Locations:

Lilydale, Stanley, Bridport, Tarraleah, Dover, Ulverstone, Yorktown, Middleton, Bradys Lake, Longford, Hadspen, Sheffield, Meander (2002)

Other reports:

Animal scat: Sheffield
Animal carcass: Bagdad, Miena
Animal kill: Stanley
Animal den: Squeaking Point
Vocalisation: Lagoon of Islands (2008)

Total Reports (2010):

Sightings	34
Other reports	23

FOX OUT HOTLINE:

2,130 reports since 2002

BRANCH MANAGER'S UPDATE

I have now been back for 2 weeks so I am over the initial shock from the return to work! Thanks to Peter, Nick and Matt for filling in while I was away and dealing with lots of ongoing issues. During my time away the Public Accounts Committee Report was presented and it is particularly worthwhile noting a couple of the comments in the Findings and Recommendations:

"The primary focus of the FEP must be to locate, bait and eradicate foxes. The precautionary principle should apply and as such this primary focus should not be unreasonably distracted by an on-going need to substantiate the presence of foxes".

"Nothing presented to the Committee suggested that the officers of the Department and members of the Taskforce, who have a complex role, undertake their duties and responsibilities with anything other than due care and professionalism"

"Critics and skeptics who solely base their comments on hearsay and conspiracy are a serious impediment to the work of the Fox Eradication Program".

Our key task in the next few months is planning and implementing the key recommendations of the Landcare Research NZ Review. A lot of planning has occurred and this will continue over the next few weeks. It is a complex and challenging task but one that I am sure we have the knowledge, skills and ability to achieve.

Staff News: Robyn is currently away on leave following a death in her family. She will probably be away next week as well. On a happier note, I am pleased to announce that Jodie Elmer will commence in the vacant Administration Officer position on 15 March.

The recruitment process is proceeding for number of other vacant positions including Field Officers (3), Community Liaison Officers (2), Tracking Dog Handler (1) and Technical Officer (1).

BRANCH ACTIVITY SUMMARY

INVESTIGATIONS & MONITORING

Investigations:
Middleton, Meander, Longford

Scat Detector Dogs:
Tarraleah, Frankford

Monitoring:
Wesley Vale, Spreyton, Cygnet

OPERATIONS

1080 Baiting Programs:
Wesley Vale – Phase 2

Fox skull collected near Interlaken

The evidence update this week about the fox skull has created quite a lot of interest. As was stated in the update, a member of the public, who indicated that the skull was collected in the Interlaken area, provided the skull to us. Beyond that we do not have any further information regarding the origin of the skull. See the website for details: www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/fox

Program Partners



Australian Government



Invasive Animals CRC

REPORT ALL FOX SIGHTINGS OR SIGNS OF FOX ACTIVITY: 1300 FOX OUT

- 24HR HOTLINE, ALL CALLS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND ALL INFORMATION IS VITAL -

CONTACT DETAILS

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