

# Mount Roland Fauna

*Field notes: a work in progress*  
2023-2024

*Mount Roland Land Care* has been observing life on the mountain, hoping to discover what lives where and how things change over time. We want to share in the responsibility for caring for what we find. For that, we need to allow the mountain to become familiar to us, to invite its rhythms into our thoughts and behaviours, and to give some part of ourselves to what it needs.





Our approach contains several elements – close observation in person, camera placements in a range of habitats, sharing our work with others, and an openness to research and responses of various kinds. Below, you will find some lists of the life we have seen so far. In this document you will find examples of the fauna we have detected. In a separate document, you'll find plants and fungi. We only use photos taken in the Reserve or at its edges, most often captured by our remote cameras, and there are many gaps yet to fill.



These lists represent our care and interest. We'd be delighted if you took part, whether by sharing what you have also experienced or by suggesting further approaches we might take towards learning more. Be sure to include lots of detail.





If you are walking the mountain tracks, remember to be still awhile now and then along the way. Look for footprints. Listen to the calls. Peer into the branches and the leaf litter. Notice how life takes shape, how it adapts and thrives and struggles. You can use the online app, *iNaturalist.org*, to record what you find and to help with identification. Or you can send your photos, descriptions, suggestions, and any creative responses as well to MRLC.







Note that the “Sectors” in the lists relate to approximate shifts in vegetation type – they match the map given at the end. You don't need to remember this map. Just remember that if you see a creature you want to tell us about, also notice where it is and what kind of place it's in – tall trees, low shrubs, bare rock, under rocks, under ferns, at the top of the mountain... notice as much as you can!



**ALWAYS TAKE CARE – of yourself, of those you're with,  
and of the life on the mountain. One Earth. One pulse.**



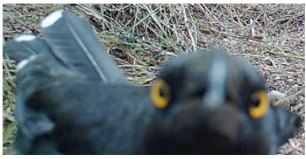


BIRD	Sectors	Obs type	Habitat / location details	Behaviour	Impression of population	Image
<i>Acanthiza ewingii</i> <b>Tasmanian thornbill</b> ≤ 10cm	<b>B, E, F, G</b>	Sighted; heard; camera (remote)	Low to mid-range branches; seem to prefer trees to open shrub land.	Short distance flight or light hops around the branches and ground. Call often ends with a liquid <i>wot-wot-wot</i> .	Many locations seem to support a small number of resident birds.	
<i>Acanthiza pusilla</i> <b>Brown thornbill</b> ≤ 10cm	<b>F, B</b>	Heard; camera (remote)	Low to mid-range branches; seem to prefer trees to open shrub land.	Uses mimicry to unsettle predators. Call otherwise a distinctive <i>too chooty choo</i> .	Seem to be fewer than for Tas thornbill.	
<i>Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris</i> <b>Eastern spinebill</b> ≤ 16cm	<b>A, D, E, F</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Mid-branches; caught on camera bathing at a seepage pool on the plateau (in a dry May)	Distinctive hovering behaviour when feeding. Call includes rapid piping.	Seems to be generally present but not in large numbers.	
<i>Acanthornis magna</i> <b>Scrubtit</b> ≤ 12cm	<b>A, E</b>	Camera (remote)	Mid to low branches as well as ground level in sheltered positions.	Seems shier than the scrubwren, appearing less often and for shorter periods. Call: a clear, variable whistle plus <i>tsit-tsit</i> sounds.	Not uncommon but appears far less often than the Tasmanian scrubwren.	
<i>Aegotheles cristatus</i> <b>Australian owlet-nightjar</b> ≤ 25cm	<b>perhaps A</b>	Uncertain sighting, 5/1/2024		Silent take-off, pre-dawn, of two birds from the ground; right size and shape.		


<i>Anthochaera paradoxa</i> <b>Yellow wattlebird</b> ≤ 48cm	<b>H</b>	Sighted	Mid branches and on the move through taller shrubs and lower trees.	Call a loud, chatty <i>kuk, kuk-uk</i> .	Occasionally seen, either solo or in small numbers.	
<i>Aquila audax</i> <b>Wedge-tailed eagle</b> ≤ 110cm (WS ≤ 250cm)	<b>C, D, E, F</b>	Sighted	In flight over plateau, regularly returning as if the area is inside permanent territory.	Often seen in pairs, circling or passing, using the lift, hugging the contours, and sometimes landing.	Permanent presence over the Fossey Mountains; frequently observed. Listed (NRE Tas) as endangered.	
<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i> <b>Fan-tailed Cuckoo</b>	<b>A</b>	Heard	Tall eucalypt forest	Call a slow trill, often descending.	Unsure	
<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i> <b>Grey shrike-thrush</b> ≤ 26cm	<b>A, E, H</b>	Sighted; heard; camera (remote)	Seems to prefer lower altitude and/or taller forest, but also present in thicker banksia / myrtle foliage on the plateau.	Inquisitive bird with a dominating call: a clear, resonant <i>o-o-o-o-wok-wok-wee, ee-wot-weeeo, wot</i> , and other variations.	Often seen and heard in the general area around the mountains and evidently present to some extent at altitude.	
<i>Corvus tasmanicus</i> <b>Forest raven</b> ≤ 53cm	<b>A, B, H</b>	Sighted	Various; seems to roam over many terrains.	Walks heavily; slow beat in flight; often harasses wedge-tails.	Strong presence in the area; not recorded here at altitude.	
<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i> <b>Laughing kookaburra</b>	<b>A, H</b>	Sighted	Open forest and grassland.	A perch and plunge hunter.	Strong presence in the area, but not at altitude.	
<i>Falco berigo</i> <b>Brown falcon</b> ≤ 50cm (WS ≤ 120cm)	<b>F</b>	Sighted; heard; ID uncertain (could be <i>peregrinus</i> ?)	In flight over plateau (light brown from below, small sharp head).	Hangs in mid-air when hunting; calls in flight.	Present repeatedly at times (eg, Oct 2023) but seems absent at others.	
<i>Melanodryas vittata</i> <b>Dusky Robin</b> ≤ 17cm	<b>H</b>	Camera (remote)	Low to mid branches in open forest.	Call a clear <i>wi-woooo-wo, wi-woooo</i> , or <i>phoo-ee</i> .	Known to be a vulnerable species, currently in decline.	




<p><i>Melithreptus validirostris</i> <b>Strong-billed honeyeater</b></p>	<p><b>D</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>A small opening in dense wiry bauera, tea tree, and buttongrass.</p>	<p>In other settings, known to be a sociable bird, chirping and chatting busily in groups.</p>	<p>A vulnerable species, currently in decline. Sighted only once so far in the survey and as a solo bird.</p>	
<p><i>Nesoptilotis flavicollis</i> <b>Yellow-throated honeyeater</b> ≤ 22cm</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote)</p>	<p>Mid-range branches. Extensive footage gained at a small seepage pool on the plateau, utilised by many birds during a dry period in May.</p>	<p>Flies cleanly and quickly over small to medium distances; a strong presence with a range of distinct vocalisations (<i>de-witt</i>, various <i>tonks</i> and trills).</p>	<p>Fewer in number than crescent honeyeaters at altitude but has an ongoing presence on the plateau and ascents; wide ranging.</p>	
<p><i>Ninox leucopsis</i> <b>Tasmanian boobook</b> ≤ 35cm</p>	<p><b>A, B, G, H</b></p>	<p>Sound recording (as posted to <i>iNaturalist</i>); also sighted and heard</p>	<p>Eucalypt forest on ascents; presence on plateau to be verified though calls can be heard from the plateau (potentially from the forest just below).</p>	<p>Active in low light; will occupy higher branches as well as mid-range.</p>	<p>In the foothills, in the warmer months, the calls are a familiar night-time sound. (Photo from just outside the reserve.)</p>	
<p><i>Pachycephala olivacea</i>, <b>Olive whistler</b> ≤ 21cm</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard; camera (remote)</p>	<p>Thick, diverse forest on the steep slopes of the ascents and under good-sized myrtles on the plateau; seems to be resident with a reasonably small territory.</p>	<p>Inquisitive though also a little cautious. Call a liquid <i>eee-choooo</i>, <i>ee-oo-wit</i>, <i>ee-oo-wit-wo</i>, as well as a long, high and haunting <i>eeeeee</i>. The latter carries piercingly through the forest. (Compare the Golden whistler's <i>i-i-i-i-oooit</i>)</p>	<p>Not uncommon in small numbers (seem to be present as 1 or 2 birds in specific areas).</p>	

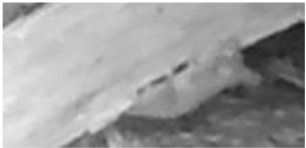


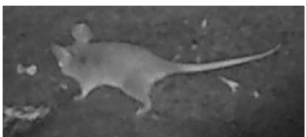

						
<i>Petroica rodinogaster</i> <b>Pink robin</b> ≤ 13cm	<b>All</b>	Sighted; camera (direct and remote)	Under branches of diverse forest, from the old, mossy myrtles on the plateau to the various forests of the foothills.	Curious, will often investigate human-made clicking sounds. Males can be seen with multiple females. Remote cameras most often record females and at many sites, <i>only</i> females, perhaps because they are more often at ground / camera level.	The species appears to be present in many areas of the mountain with small numbers at each site.	 
<i>Phaps chalcoptera</i> <b>Common bronzewing</b> ≤ 36cm	<b>A, B</b>	Heard ( <i>ooooom</i> call is seasonably present); camera (remote, though ID could be Brush or Common)	Light forest; the image at right is from a site beside a small waterway. A feral cat was recorded at the same location.	Largish, slow-moving ground dweller. Mechanically noisy at take off. Call a deep, slow <i>ooooom</i> , often answered by a second bird.	The Brush bronzewing is thought to be more common in Tasmania generally, but the Common's call seems to indicate at least some presence.	
<i>Phaps elegans</i> <b>Brush bronzewing</b> ≤ 33cm	<b>A</b>	Camera (remote); ID uncertain (Brush or Common).	Light forest; this sighting was also by a waterway.	Largish, slow-moving ground dweller. Mechanically noisy at take off. Call a rhythmic <i>oop oop</i> .	The Brush and/or Common bronzewing have only been recorded at lower altitudes.	
<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i> <b>New Holland Honeyeater</b> ≤ 18cm	<b>D, E, F, G (likely all)</b>	Sighted; heard	Active in mid to upper branches of plateau shrubs and trees.	Can be a noisy, forceful bird off the mountain but appears less dominant at altitude.	Regularly present but in smaller numbers than crescent honeyeaters.	






<p><i>Phylidonyris pyrrhopterus</i> <b>Crescent honeyeaters</b> ≤ 16cm</p>	<p><b>B, C, D, E, F, G, I</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard; camera (remote).</p>	<p>Active especially in upper branches of plateau shrubs and trees; mid-branches at lower altitudes. Seem to be resident but with a larger territory than, for example, the olive whistler or the thornbills. Constant, prolific calls over summer quieten to just occasional calls amid silence over winter.</p>	<p>Fast flight between trees and shrubs; rarely still. Calls dominate dawn chorus both just below and across the plateau and feature through the day.</p>	<p>A consistently strong population across and just below the plateau. Difficult to judge the range of individual birds.</p>	
<p><i>Platycercus caledonicus</i> <b>Green rosella</b> ≤ 36cm</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard; camera (remote)</p>	<p>Mid to upper branches as well as at ground level, widely dispersed across various terrains (tall or low shrubs, gums, myrtles).</p>	<p>Often in groups; can be solo. Swooping flight between branches.</p>	<p>Seem to be resident, possibly visiting the plateau from the slopes or residing in both. Present in all seasons. Remains, identified by feathers, have been encountered numerous times on the plateau – possible target for cats.</p>	


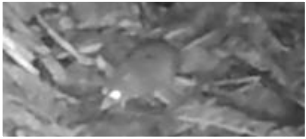


<p><i>Rhipidura albiscapa albiscapa</i> <b>Grey fantail</b> ≤ 17cm</p>	<b>All</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Seems to prefer the presence of trees, not just low shrubs. The only images so far captured on camera are from lower down on the O’Neills ascent.	Flits, almost hovering as it hunts for insects.	Generally present but not in high numbers.	
<p><i>Sericornis humilis</i> <b>Tasmanian scrubwren</b> ≤ 14cm</p>	<b>All</b>	Sighted; heard; camera (remote)	Spends a lot of time ground hopping and in lower branches in the shelter of, it seems, any kind of vegetation, dense or open, high or low.	Fossicks in moss and leaf debris, tossing top layers some distance. Most often solo, sometimes in pairs; adult young in tow in late summer to autumn.	Abundant across the mountain, easily the most-often captured bird on the remote cameras (which are at ground level). Active at all altitudes and across all terrains.	
<p><i>Stagonopleura bella</i> <b>Beautiful firetail</b> ≤ 12cm</p>	<b>D</b>	Sighted	A single sighting in buttongrass / eucalypt / teatree terrain near a stream on the plateau.	Observed in teatree branches.	Not abundant.	
<p><i>Strepera fuliginosa</i> <b>Black currawong</b> ≤ 50cm</p>	<b>All, less so at lower altitudes</b>	Sighted; heard; camera (remote)	Unsure whether individuals range across the mountain or have their own territories (broader than for smaller birds but not mountain-wide). Seems to be the latter. Encountered in all terrain from steep forest to buttongrass, alpine heath, and stony outcrops.	Very inquisitive; several birds have returned over days and weeks to investigate the remote cameras. Often solo or in 2s or 3s, collecting in higher numbers towards the end of autumn. Very vocal, including well into dusk (overlapping with boobook calls).	Seems stable across a wide area; generally present, especially on the plateau and at higher levels of the ascents. Seem to be absent during winter.	  
<p><i>Tadorna tadornoides</i> <b>Australian shelduck, Mountain duck</b> ≤ 72cm</p>	<b>G, H</b>	Heard	Flying over	Tends to remain high, circling or “perched” in high branches.	Observed only occasionally.	


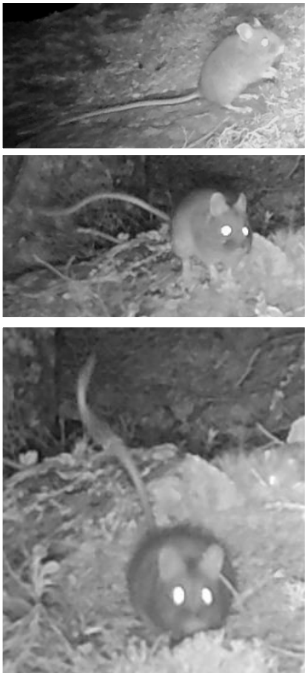

<p><i>Zanda funerea</i>  <b>Yellow-tailed black cockatoo.</b> Used to be <i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>. ≤ 66cm</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard</p>	<p>Observed at altitude in transit or for feeding (in banksias, for example).</p>	<p>Flocks tend to be small and chatty; flight erratic in loud and chaotic swoops.</p>	<p>Often seen but don't seem to be resident at altitude.</p>	
<p><i>Zoothera lunulata</i>  <b>Bassian thrush</b>  ≤ 29cm</p>	<p><b>All</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard; camera (remote)</p>	<p>Tends to walk or fly in short, low bursts, occupying leaf-littered ground under trees or shrubs.</p>	<p>Largely solo. Between short bursts of movement, the bird will freeze for extended periods, then dash and bob and freeze again. Well camouflaged. Call: high flute notes, <i>wooeee</i>, <i>woooooeeet</i>, <i>weooo</i>; also a very high <i>eeeping</i> whistle. Often silent.</p>	<p>Widespread, successful occupier of ground-level shelter. Almost as commonly present across the mountain as the Tasmanian scrubwren.</p>	




MAMMAL	Sectors	Obs type	Habitat / location details	Behaviour	Impression of population	Image
<p><i>Antechinus minimus</i>  <b>Swamp antechinus</b>  h+b/t: 12/8cm, 55g</p>	<p><b>D, E, F,</b>  <b>possibly A</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote). <b>Note:</b> while Swamp and Dusky antechinus both seem to be present on the mountain, it isn't always clear which is which.</p>	<p>Rocks and shrubs amid plateau heath and buttongrass.</p>	<p>The more lightly built Swamp antechinus can move with faster darting movements, as compared to the Dusky.</p>	<p>Images of antechinus are captured frequently across the plateau in well-sheltered (rock or myrtle), shrubby or mossy areas. There would seem to be more Dusky than Swamp antechinus with many healthy examples of both. So far always solitary.</p>	
<p><i>Antechinus swainsonii</i>  <b>Tasmanian dusky antechinus</b>  h+b/t: 12/10cm, f45, m65 g</p>	<p><b>C, D, E, F,</b>  <b>G</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote). <b>Note:</b> while Swamp and Dusky antechinus both seem to be present on the mountain, it isn't always clear which is which.</p>	<p>Understory, both of myrtle forest and of plateau copses.</p>	<p>Walks, waddles, scampers; stiff tail (shorter than for black rat, with a sharper nose than the swamp rat).</p>	<p>Images of antechinus are captured frequently across the plateau in well-sheltered (rock or myrtle), shrubby or mossy areas. There would seem to be more Dusky than Swamp antechinus with many healthy examples of both. So far always solitary.</p>	
<p><i>Cercartetus lepidus</i>  <b>Little pygmy possum</b>  h+b/t: 6/7cm, 7g</p>	<p><b>possibly B,</b>  <b>D, E, F</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote). <b>Note:</b> picking Little from Eastern pygmy possums by camera footage is tricky; size</p>	<p>As per the (perhaps more likely) Eastern pygmy possum.</p>	<p>Climbs, leaps, with more of a possum's swagger than a rodent's scuttle; the flexible tail is often in use (curling, balancing, etc).</p>	<p>Pygmy possums are frequently encountered, especially in sectors D and E. Suspect less presence for the Little than for the Eastern pygmy possum.</p>	

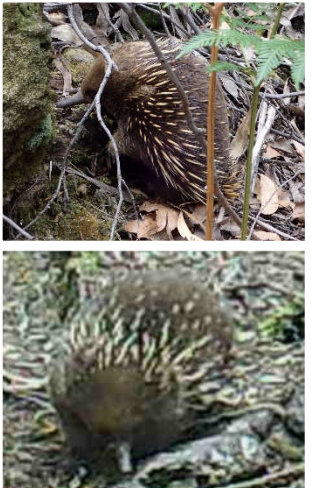

		comparisons suggest the Eastern is more often present.				
<p><i>Cercartetus nanus</i>  <b>Eastern pygmy possum</b>  h+b/t: 9/9cm, 30g</p>	<b>B, D, E, F, G</b>	Camera (remote); <b>Note:</b> picking Little from Eastern pygmy possums by camera footage is tricky; size comparisons with the antechinus and other small mammals suggest the Eastern is more often present.	Understory, both of forest and of plateau copses; also amid the stony, lower heath of the plateau.	Climbs, leaps, with more of a possum's swagger than a rodent's scuttle; the flexible tail is often in use (curling, balancing, etc).	Pygmy possums are frequently encountered, especially in sectors D and E. It is possible most, potentially all, are Eastern pygmy possums.	  
<p><i>Chalinolobus morio</i>  <b>Chocolate wattled bat</b></p>	<b>A</b>	Call detected	Airborne near O'Neills Creek	Call one of two detected in passing by chiropterologist Lisa Cawthen, April 2023. Both flying together.	Bats flying at dusk have been frequently sighted in the foothills of Mount Roland but not yet identified. There are 8 Tas species	
<p><i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>  <b>Spotted-tailed quoll</b>  h+b/t: f40/37, m60/45cm, f2, m4 kg</p>	<b>C, E, F</b>	Camera (remote)	Quolls have been recorded moving through a variety of habitats on the plateau, from under stone-sheltered myrtles to teatree copses in both high-heath and buttongrass areas.	Investigative and often fast moving. Quoll sightings increased over May and June (mating season), with one older male (thicker necked) showing some war wounds.	Listed (NRE Tas) as vulnerable; often difficult to detect by camera so may be higher numbers than survey suggests. All five sightings (over many months) were at sites where cats were also recorded.	 


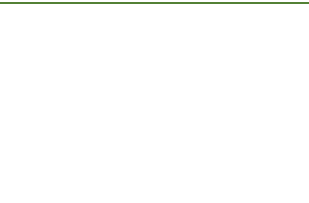

						
<p><i>Felis catus</i>  <b>Feral cat</b>  h+b/t: 45/30cm,  2-5kg</p>	<p><b>A, B, C, D,  E, F</b></p>	<p>Camera  (remote)</p>	<p>Cats have been filmed in multiple locations across the plateau and along the O’Neills ascent. There is evidence they are breeding and in 2024 sightings increased in the transition from summer to winter. Some of these increases were due to kittens moving apart from their mothers. Several repeat sightings in particular areas suggest there may be established territories.</p>	<p>As indicated by the colour footage from the remote cameras (as well as by the cameras’ clocks), the cats are active during the day as well as the night.</p>	<p>Expected to be across the mountain, cats are being recorded as a definite, established presence in all seasons. Co-existence with strong small-mammal diversity has been observed, though the dunnart has only been rarely seen. It is noteworthy that cats have been recorded at all sites where quolls have also been sighted. It is also noteworthy that there is no shortage of feral or free-to-roam cats at lower altitudes and no effective cat control in nearby communities.</p>	  
<p><i>Isoodon obesulus</i>  <b>Southern brown bandicoot</b>  h+b/t: 35/12cm,  f0.7, m1.2kg</p>	<p><b>C</b></p>	<p>Camera  (remote)</p>	<p>On an animal ‘highway’ under teatree and wiry bauera near buttongrass on the plateau.</p>	<p>This animal spent some time grooming and scratching before moving off through the moss and lichen.</p>	<p>A single sighting (June) over many months of surveying</p>	


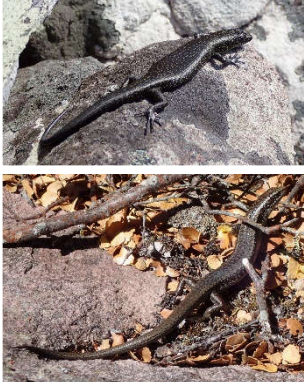

<p><i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>  <b>Bennett's wallaby, red-necked wallaby</b>  h+b/t: 80/75cm,  f11, m15kg</p>	<p><b>A, C, F, G, H</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote) – more marked hind legs, a longer tail and more contrast in colouring than the smaller pademelon.</p>	<p>Under forest canopy or low, open foliage.</p>	<p>Forager, often hidden through the day.</p>	<p>Doesn't appear to be as abundant as the pademelon but still frequently recorded across most areas. Neither have been recorded in the denser shrubs of sectors D and E.</p>	
<p><i>Mus musculus</i>  <b>House mouse</b></p>	<p><b>Possibly A</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote); ID uncertain (nose sharp enough for a dunnart)</p>	<p>Leaf litter in forest understory</p>	<p>Scampering</p>	<p>Unsure</p>	
<p><i>Ornithorhynchus anatinus</i>  <b>Platypus</b>  h+b/t: 43/12cm,  f0.9, m1.7kg</p>	<p><b>B</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>Single sighting a few metres from a stream in steep, lightly treed terrain at approx 800m in altitude.</p>	<p>The platypus crossed land quickly away from the recently dry stream and then, a few hours later, back towards the stream (assuming one individual)</p>	<p>Likely higher than suggested by the survey. Water-triggers make it impossible to point the cameras at the streams.</p>	
<p><i>Potorous tridactylus</i>  <b>Long-nosed potoroo</b>  h+b/t: 36/23cm, 1.3kg</p>	<p><b>F, G</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>Under myrtle in a heavily mossed area in the shelter of large boulders on the plateau, and amid large rocks to the side of the Mountain's steep northern ascent.</p>	<p>Foraging</p>	<p>One sighting of a single individual on the plateau in June; multiple sightings of at least two individuals (one with and one without a white tail tip) on the northern ascent in August.</p>	




<p><i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i> <b>Eastern ringtail possum</b> h+b/t: 33/33cm, 950g</p>	<p><b>D, G</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>Dense, steep, ferny myrtle forest for one sighting (Oct), and a teatree copse near buttongrass for the second (July); quite different habitats.</p>	<p>Both possums were on the move; exploratory.</p>	<p>Numbers would seem to be small; ringtails may also come to ground, into camera range, less often than other mammals.</p>	
<p><i>Pseudomys higginsii</i> <b>Long-tailed mouse</b> h+b/t: 13/16cm, 70g</p>	<p><b>A, B, C, D, E, F, G, likely all</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>Understory, both of forest and plateau copses, and in plateau areas sheltered by stone.</p>	<p>Leaps, climbs, runs with an almost hopping gait; tail very long and flexible, often looping when the mouse is moving.</p>	<p>Frequently recorded, almost always solo, across a range of habitats at all altitudes. Possibly noteworthy that the mouse has been absent from sites where black rats were recorded.</p>	
<p><i>Rattus lutreolus</i> <b>Swamp rat</b> h+b/t: 16/11cm, 120g</p>	<p><b>D, E, F, possibly A</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote). <b>Note:</b> broad-toothed mice are similar in appearance; so far the presence of swamp rats alone seems most likely.</p>	<p>Under tea tree and myrtle amid buttongrass and low shrubs on the plateau, and possibly amid leaf litter in lower forest (uncertain sighting).</p>	<p>Digging, sniffing, waddling, running; an investigative forager.</p>	<p>Several sightings at multiple sites – reasonably common; so far always solitary.</p>	





<p><i>Rattus rattus</i> <b>Black rat</b> h+b/t: 19/23cm, 280g</p>	<p><b>A, B</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote); nose more pointed than for a swamp rat and tail too long for an antechinus.</p>	<p>Leaf litter in forest understory.</p>	<p>Confident scurrying</p>	<p>Unsure; would expect a presence. Sightings so far confined to the lower areas of the O'Neills ascent.</p>	
<p><i>Sarcophilus harrisii</i> <b>Tasmanian Devil</b> h+b/t: 60/24cm, 6-8kg</p>	<p><b>A</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote)</p>	<p>Dense shade in steep, medium to tall forest in the lower western region of the Mountain.</p>	<p>On the move (the camera recorded one brief pass).</p>	<p>In a year of surveying, only one brief glimpse has been filmed. Devils are known to be easy to catch on camera so it would seem numbers in the area are very low.</p>	
<p><i>Sminthopsis leucopus</i> <b>White-footed dunnart</b> h+b/t: 10/7cm, 28g</p>	<p><b>F, G possibly A</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote); ID independently confirmed for two separate locations in sector F.</p>	<p>Between large, mossy rocks with added shelter from myrtle, scoparia or other vegetation on the plateau; amid the large forested boulders to the side of the Mountain's steep northern ascent; possibly also in leaf litter in the lower western forest (uncertain sighting).</p>	<p>Sharp, inquisitive, mouse-like movements, with ear notch and pointier snout distinguishing the dunnart from the house mouse.</p>	<p>Repeated sightings at established sites on the plateau have been sought with only small success and few sightings overall suggest numbers are small, relative to the other small mammals. Possible target for feral cats (known to be in the area).</p>	






<p><i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>  <b>Short-beaked echidna</b>  h+b: 43cm, 4kg</p>	<p><b>A, B, C, F, G, H, likely all</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote and direct)</p>	<p>Most terrain other than exposed rock; also no recordings as yet from denser vegetation in sectors D and E.</p>	<p>Very active in many areas, digging, leaf-sifting, roaming; often seem to be moving purposefully through an area, as if they know it well and have an agenda.</p>	<p>Abundant. Multiple solo visits at single sites are common, with some evidence that more than one individual (contrasting in size) can be active in a single area.</p>	
<p><i>Thylogale billardierii</i>  <b>Rufous-bellied pademelon, red-bellied pademelon, rufous wallaby</b>  h+b/t: 60/41cm, f4, m7 kg</p>	<p><b>A, B, C, F, G, H</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote)</p>	<p>All altitudes, under forest canopy or low, open foliage.</p>	<p>Forager, often hidden through the day.</p>	<p>Abundant. Neither pademelons nor Bennetts have been recorded in the denser shrubs of sectors D and E, but appear regularly elsewhere. Generally seen as solitary individuals.</p>	





<p><i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> <b>Common brush-tailed possum</b> h+b/t: 45/30cm, 3.5kg</p>	<p><b>A, E, F, G, H, likely all</b></p>	<p>Sighted; heard; camera (remote)</p>	<p>Low to high altitudes, under forest canopy, copses on the plateau, or in the shelter of taller shrubs and outcrops.</p>	<p>Forager, often hidden through the day.</p>	<p>Abundant</p>	
<p><i>Vespadelus regulus</i> <b>Southern forest bat</b></p>	<p><b>A</b></p>	<p>Call detected</p>	<p>Airborne near O’Neills Creek</p>	<p>Call one of two detected in passing by chiropterologist Lisa Cawthen, April 2023. Both flying together.</p>	<p>Bats flying at dusk have been frequently sighted in the foothills of Mount Roland but not yet identified. There are 8 Tas species</p>	
<p><i>Vombatus ursinus ssp tasmaniensis</i> <b>Tasmanian wombat</b> h+b/t: 100/2.5cm, 26kg</p>	<p><b>D, E, F</b></p>	<p>Camera (remote); scat</p>	<p>Seems only to be present on the plateau; tracks and scat are abundant through low and mid-to-high foliage. No dens sighted in the stony, often wet terrain – are they using rock shelters?</p>	<p>Footage of several wombats (so far always solo) at many sites across the mountain shows regular, purposeful movement to and from (presumably) feeding grounds. No direct sightings, day or night, dawn or dusk; all by remote cameras.</p>	<p>Footage suggests a good-sized population utilising established routes. While the camera was returned to the site of the full-pouched wombat shown at right, no out-of-pouch footage of the young wombat was secured in the months that followed.</p>	




REPTILE, FROG or CRUSTACEAN	Sectors	Obs type	Habitat / location details	Behaviour	Impression of population	Image
<i>Astacopsis gouldi</i> <b>Tasmanian giant freshwater crayfish</b>	<b>H</b>	Photographed	Reported crossing a driveway at the very edge of the Reserve at Kings Road (photo courtesy of T.Kelly).	Requires waterways with good stone and debris content, good oxygenation, and with good canopy (not too warm).	Listed (NRE Tas) as vulnerable	
<i>Carinascincus ocellatus</i> <b>Ocellated cool-skink</b>	<b>E, F</b> <b>(skinks are present in all areas, IDs uncertain)</b>	Sighted; camera (remote and direct)	Various, from leaf litter to exposed rock.	Rock baking / hunting / leaf scurrying	Abundant (unsure of which other or how many species are present).	
<i>Crinia tasmaniensis</i> <b>Tasmanian froglet</b>	<b>F</b>	Sound recording (available on <i>iNaturalist</i> ); note that the tadpoles shown here are yet to be confirmed as the same species.	Small pool near peak; calls also heard from track puddles (where tadpoles were photographed).	Frequent calling noted through Dec-Jan 2023-24; lowered water levels in Feb coincided with an absence of calls; calls returned in September after winter silence.	Seem to be present in small pockets, though perhaps are widespread enough across the extensive wet areas of the mountain to take advantage of deeper puddles when they appear.	

						
<i>Drysdalia coronoides</i> <b>White-lipped snake</b>	<b>B, D, F, G, likely all</b>	Sighted	Various, from low-foliage rocks to the steep understory of the ascents.	This small snake moves very quickly and quietly and tends only to be seen as it departs from close quarters. Active Spring to Autumn.	Common. Walkers need to watch their step in season.	
<i>Litoria ewingii</i> <b>Brown tree frog, Ewing's tree frog</b>	<b>A</b>	Sighted	Sighted in leaf litter in open eucalypt forest.	Sighted after dark (active in leaf litter) but is also known to be active in daylight.	Unsure	
<i>Notechis scutatus</i> <b>Tiger snake</b>	<b>A, B, F, H, likely all</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Various – often encountered sun baking in areas where shelter is also readily available.	Generally audible when moving but hard to see when still. Active Spring to Autumn.	Common. Walkers need to watch their step in season.	
<i>Tiliqua nigrolutea</i> <b>Blotched blue-tongued skink</b>	<b>A</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Leaf litter under forest	A heavy and slower moving but powerful lizard.	Unsure	

<b>INSECT, WORM or SPIDER</b>	<b>Sectors</b>	<b>Obs type</b>	<b>Habitat / location details</b>	<b>Behaviour</b>	<b>Impression of population</b>	<b>Image</b>
<i>Agromyzidae</i> family <b>Leaf-miner flies</b>	<b>Likely all</b>	Presence suggested by leaf mining (sighted); ID uncertain	Sighted primarily on eucalyptus leaves	Leaf-miner fly larvae mine the insides of leaves, as photographed.	Abundant	
<i>Anonychomyrma</i> family <b>Small swarming ants</b>	<b>C, D, E, F, likely all</b>	Sighted; ID uncertain	Readily sighted across the plateau; intense activity especially visible among lower shrubs and ground covers.	Ants quickly swam over any invading body. The bite is a light pinch.	Abundant	
<i>Araneidae</i> family <b>Orb-weaving spiders</b>	<b>All</b>	Sighted; camera (direct); ID uncertain	Various	Web builder	Abundant	
<i>Bombus terrestris</i> <b>Bumblebee</b>	<b>All</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Various	Bumblebees appear to be roaming widely but in small numbers (generally solo) in all terrains on the mountain.	Many (in the warmer months)	
<i>Calliphoridae</i> <b>Blow flies</b>	<b>All</b>	Sighted; camera (remote)	Various		Many (in the warmer months)	
<i>Cryptinae</i> family, tribe Cryptini	<b>A</b>	Sighted; camera (direct)	Open eucalypt forest		Unsure	
<i>Culicidae</i> family <b>Mosquitoes</b>	<b>All</b>	Sighted	Various	Quick to collect around potential food sources.	High numbers for brief periods, especially mid to late summer	

<p><i>Delena spenceri</i> <b>Huntsman spider</b> (one of various huntsman spiders)</p>	<p><b>F, H and likely elsewhere</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Uses crevices in stone for shelter.</p>	<p>Hunter</p>	<p>Unsure</p>	
<p><i>Ecnolagria grandis</i> <b>Honeybrown beetle</b></p>	<p><b>A, F, likely all</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Various</p>		<p>Unsure</p>	
<p><i>Fletchamia sugdeni</i> <b>Canary worm</b></p>	<p><b>A, B, G, H, I, likely elsewhere</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Various, though seems to require moisture as well as shelter</p>	<p>Most easily sighted on the ascent tracks and more sheltered plateau trails after rainfall.</p>	<p>Abundant</p>	
<p><i>Geometridae</i> family <b>Moths</b>, small and white</p>	<p><b>E, F</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote); ID uncertain</p>	<p>Common across the plateau; sighted night and day.</p>		<p>Abundant</p>	
<p><i>Grylloidea</i> family <b>Crickets</b>, both adults and nymphs (stripy brown legs)</p>	<p><b>F</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (remote); ID uncertain but adult with very long feelers</p>	<p>Stony areas with moss and/or grasses.</p>		<p>Unsure</p>	

<i>Isacantha dermestiventris</i> <b>Weevil</b> (one of various kinds of weevil)	<b>F</b>	Camera (direct)	On gum leaves		Unsure	
<i>Myrmecia forficata</i> <b>Inchman</b>	<b>Likely all</b>	Sighted	Various	Seen foraging solo; nest not detected.	Stable; seems less numerous than other ants.	
<i>Myrmecia esuriens</i> <b>Tasmanian inchman</b>	<b>F, likely all</b>	Sighted	Various	Seen foraging solo; nest not detected.	Stable; seems less numerous than other ants. Possibly more <i>M.esuriens</i> on the plateau than <i>M forficata</i> .	
<i>Myrmecia pilosula</i> <b>Jack jumper ant</b>	<b>Likely all</b>	Sighted	Various	Active nest builders / maintainers.	Abundant	 

<p><i>Pterolocera</i> (genus) <b>Caterpillars perhaps of Antheliid moths</b></p>	<p><b>F</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Observed crossing the openings created by the walking track</p>	<p>These caterpillars were frequently observed across the plateau through the months of autumn and spring.</p>	<p>Numbers imply a good population of parent moths.</p>	
<p><i>Russaplia albertisi</i> <b>Tassie hopper</b></p>	<p><b>F</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Various</p>		<p>Numerous, though ID remains uncertain</p>	
<p><i>Tabanidae</i> and/or <i>Tachinidae</i> <b>March and/or Bristle flies</b></p>	<p><b>F</b></p>	<p>Sighted</p>	<p>Various</p>	<p>Quick to collect around potential food sources, especially in the warmer parts of summer days.</p>	<p>High numbers for brief periods, especially mid to late summer</p>	
<p><i>Tasmaniacris tasmaniensis</i> <b>Tasmanian grasshopper</b></p>	<p><b>E, F</b></p>	<p>Sighted; camera (direct)</p>	<p>Low-to-mid height foliage across the plateau.</p>		<p>Many, though ID remains uncertain</p>	



## KEY

- A** Tall forest of *E.regnans* and *E.obliqua* (Mountain ash and stringybark, one dominant then the other, swapping several times in the ascent). Sector runs from Fossey Creek to O’Neills Creek as shown in **purple**.
- B** Myrtle beech and *E.delegatensis* subsp *tasmaniensis*, including some sassafras and celery top, moving into teatree and banksia. Sector runs from O’Neills Creek to just below Reggie’s Falls as shown in **dark blue**.
- C** Some tall, old banksia, thick tea tree, salmon-barked gums (possibly alpine yellow gums), a few celery tops, occupy the transition to the plateau and the Tas alpine yellow gums (et al). Sector runs from just below Reggie’s Falls to saddle / track intersection (with Van Dyke track) as shown in **light blue**.
- D** Open canopy but foliage still above head height, inc *E.coccifera* (Tas snow gum), tea tree and banksia. Buttongrass also present. Sector runs from Van Dyke track intersection to just beyond the table and seats (north of the plateau bridge over O’Neills creek) as shown in **dark green**.
- E** Thick, medium-height vegetation, not wholly distinct from D but for decreased buttongrass and increased copses of myrtle (tucked close to boulders). Sector runs from just north of table and seats to the turn in the track from NW to N onto lower foliage, as shown in **light green**.
- F** Low foliage with occasional copses of myrtle and a few low gums. Sector runs to the beginning of the Face Track descent, though contains many variations within it, including patches of higher foliage, larger copses of myrtle, and many fairly tortured *E.subcrenulata* (Tas alpine yellow gum) closer to the Face Track descent. Shown in **yellow**.
- G** Forest of myrtle, sassafras and many other species – dense and diverse. Sector runs from the lip of the plateau down to the transition from myrtle forest to eucalypt forest (*E.delegatensis*). The transition area is significant and could be considered an area in its own right, one of considerable diversity with many kinds of fern, moss, low-growing flowers, shrubs and small trees. Shown in **red**.
- H** Eucalypt forest (*E.obliqua*) on the steep lower slopes of the Face Track. Sector transitions into farmland and plantation and is weed impacted in the lower regions. Shown in **pink**.
- I** A return, in the scree-filled, descending crease of a Minnow River tributary, via ancient myrtles and tall scoparia, to the salmon-barked, multi-trunked gums of sector B-to-C. A few large celery tops and paperbarks are present. Shown in **mid green**.