

The LAMP Post



Squirrel Glider Survey

As part of the planning process for the LAMP Project we are keen to collate information from landholders about Squirrel Glider sightings regardless of whether it was a recent sighting or from a number of years ago.

At the end of this newsletter is a Squirrel Glider Survey form. The data we collect from this form will help guide us in planning targeted works.



Photo by Peter Merrit: Squirrel Glider

Celebration BBQ

On Friday the 17th of February the landholders involved in the first round of the project from the Stony Park area joined with the project team and steering committee members to have a celebratory BBQ. A big thank-you to Keiran and Louise for allowing us to take over their lovely verandah for the evening.



Creative kids

In late 2016, three Year 6 Burrumbuttock Public School students interviewed several landholders from the Stony Park area that were involved in the first round of project works. The students have done a wonderful job of creating a booklet celebrating the landholders contributions to Squirrel Glider conservation. Well done students!

The booklet is part of the Creative Catchment Kids initiative and can be viewed on the Enviro-Stories website at:

<http://library.envirostories.com.au/catalogue/squirrel-glider-lamp-project/>



Photo by Manifeasto: Darcy Norris, Ethan Hunt, Hailey Pitman

Fast Fact

Ever wondered what noise a Squirrel Glider makes?

A gurgling chatter, nasal grunt and a repetitive short gurgle are some of the descriptions noted in literature.

On the top right hand side of the website below is a sound recording of a glider. Worth having a listen too! Note: You may need to turn the volume up

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedSpeciesApp/profile.aspx?id=10604>

Next round of works begin

The next round of project works have commenced on 9 properties in our second target area to the north of the Burrumbuttock township. Soil will be deep ripped, fencing will be installed and just over 10,000 new plants will go into the ground this year.



Photo: new fence location being measured and marked

What's happening on the corner?

As part of the next round of works, the patch of suckering Elms within the town center will be removed. Lou Bull, Project Officer with Petaurus Education Group (PEG) said "This site is not only an intersection for cars but also for connecting corridors of vegetation from all directions. We have the opportunity to strengthen the connection by removing the Elms and replacing them with local Eucalypts".

Greater Hume Shire will help with removal, the Rural Fire Service will help with some burning off and the landholder will support new plantings. When works happen it will look dramatic but longer term the site will improve Squirrel Gliders movement.



Photo: Elm suckers to be removed on the corner of Urana Road and Howlong-Burrumbuttock Road

Recent Research

The LAMP project was mentioned in a recent scientific paper produced by ecologists from the Australian National University titled: *Conserving and restoring endangered southern population of the Squirrel Glider (petaurus norfolcensis) in agricultural landscapes*.

The paper has some great information about the ecology, behaviour and habitat requirements of the Squirrel glider as well as outlining some recommended actions and opportunities for conservation of this species.

The paper can be viewed at:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/emr.12245/full>



Photo by Peter Merrit: Squirrel Glider

More information

Project Team:

Lou Bull, Project Officer, Petaurus Education Group, 0458 240 634, loubullpetaurus@gmail.com

Tracy Michael, Land Services Officer, Murray LLS 02 6051 2211, tracy.michael@lls.nsw.gov.au

Or visit:

<http://www.wirraminna.org/projects/squirrel-glider/>

<http://murray.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-region/programs-and-projects/squirrel-glider-lamp-project>

The LAMP Project is supported by Murray LLS through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and the NSW Government



Local Land
Services
Murray



Squirrel Glider Survey

Have you seen a Squirrel Glider?

We are asking Burrumbuttock landholders to complete a short survey to tell us whether they've seen a Squirrel Glider in their area. Squirrel Gliders often live on private land, so the assistance of landholders is very important to help us to understand their distribution.

Squirrel Gliders

Squirrel Gliders (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) are a mid-sized possum reliant on tree hollows for shelter and nesting. Habitat fragmentation has contributed to their decline in the Murray region and subsequent listing as a threatened species.



Large gaps between trees and patches of vegetation affect the movement of gliders across the landscape, interrupting their breeding and feeding activities. Squirrel Gliders may be mistaken for the Sugar Glider (*Petaurus bevicesps*). However, Squirrel Gliders are larger and have a much bushier tail and whiter belly. Squirrel Gliders are more common in the Burrumbuttock area.

Squirrel Gliders in your area

The Squirrel Glider Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) project aims to improve habitat and create connectivity across the landscape to enable gliders to safely find food and nest sites. We are currently funding revegetation works in targeted areas in the Burrumbuttock region. The Squirrel Glider LAMP project is a partnership between Petaurus Education Group Inc., Murray Local Land Services, the Office of Environment and Heritage, Greater Hume Shire, West Hume Landcare, Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre and Burrumbuttock landholders. The project is funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and Catchment Action NSW.

How this information will be used

The data collected will be used to plan targeted works for Squirrel Glider conservation. All information provided, including your contact details and the locations of Squirrel Gliders, will only be used by Murray Local Land Services and Petaurus Education Group Inc. for the purpose of this project and will not be provided to any third party. Estimations of Squirrel Glider populations and maps showing their approximate locations may be published, but will not contain information about individual landholders.

If you are short on time, feel free to call the project officers and report your sighting over the phone.

Survey Return

To return your survey, please email: tracy.michael@lls.nsw.gov.au or post to:

Tracy Michael
Reply Paid 797
Murray Local Land Services
Albury, NSW, 2640

Further Information

For more information about this project, please visit:

<http://www.wirraminna.org/projects/squirrel-glider/>

Or contact the Project Team:

Lou Bull on 0458 240 634 or loubullpetaurus@gmail.com

Tracy Michael on (02) 60 51 2211 or tracy.michael@lls.nsw.gov.au

If you find an injured Squirrel Glider contact WIRES on 1300 094 737

Thank-you for taking the time to complete this survey

Squirrel Glider Survey

1. Squirrel Gliders in your area

a) Have you ever seen a Squirrel Glider in your area?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I think so ☐ I'm not sure

If you answered "yes" or "I think so", please mark an approximate location on the map on the next page.

b) Can you describe the location and circumstances of your sighting(s) (e.g., observed gliding across the road while driving):

c) If you would like to report a sighting from a location not shown on this map, please describe here:

d) Was the Squirrel Glider you sighted: ☐ Alive or ☐ Dead
What were the circumstances: (tick all that apply)

☐ gliding across road ☐ gliding across farmland ☐ in remnant vegetation
☐ in planted vegetation ☐ in paddock tree ☐ caught on barbed wire,
☐ in a nest box ☐ brought in by pet ☐ on side of road ☐ on the ground

e) When was the last time you saw a Squirrel Glider in your area?

☐ less than 12 months ☐ 1-2 years ago
☐ 3-5 years ago ☐ more than 5 years

f) Of the threats to Squirrel Gliders listed below, which do you consider the greatest threat? Rank 1-6 from highest to lowest.

☐ Cats ☐ Foxes ☐ Loss of habitat ☐ Insufficient nesting hollows
☐ Barbed Wire ☐ Other:

g) Do you think threats have increased or decreased over time and why may this have happened?

h) Do you have any general comments/suggestions/feedback?

2. Squirrel Glider works

a) Are you interested in undertaking a Squirrel Glider project on your property?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Maybe

b) What type of works would interest you if funding was available?

☐ Fencing ☐ Revegetation ☐ Planting paddock trees (protected by tall wire tree guards) ☐ Installing nest boxes ☐ Replacing barbed wire with plain wire
☐ Squirrel Glider surveys

3. Your contact details ☐ I wish to remain anonymous

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

3. Request more information

☐ I am happy to be contacted further about my sighting
☐ I would like to receive the Squirrel Glider LAMP newsletter
☐ I would like to receive the Murray LLS Newsletter (quarterly)
☐ I would like to know if there is funding available for Squirrel Glider work on my property

Squirrel Glider Survey

Please mark on the map to indicate approximate location(s)

