



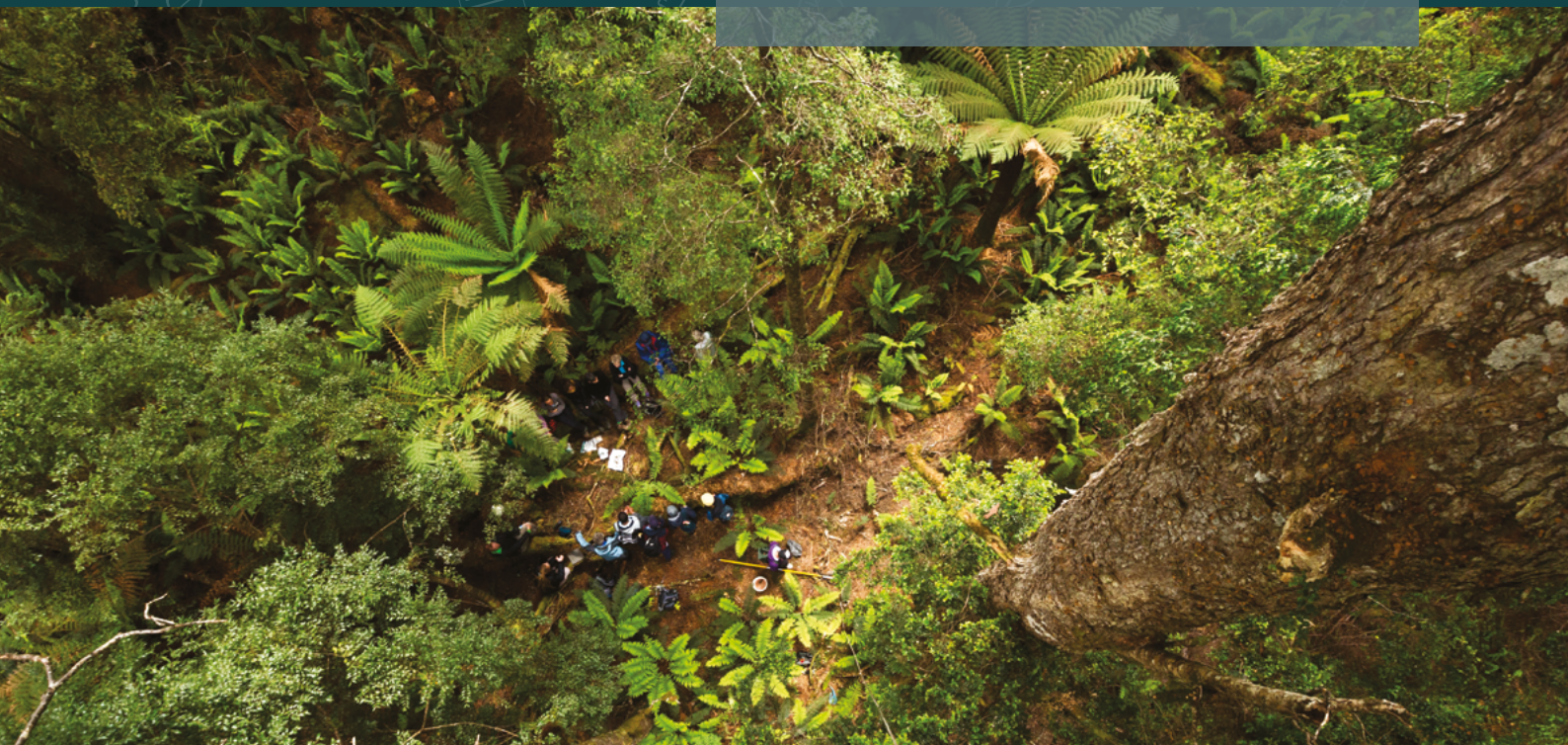
BOB BROWN  
FOUNDATION  
ACTION FOR EARTH

TAKAYNA / TARKINE

BIO  
BLITZ

# INFORMATION GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS

THURSDAY 23RD - SUNDAY 26TH  
NOVEMBER 2017



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BioBlitz is held on the traditional lands  
of Tasmanian Aboriginal peoples.



# Welcome

This info pack provides key information about the Tarkine BioBlitz 2017. We hope you find the experience rewarding and enjoyable.

# Introduction

Bob Brown Foundation's Tarkine BioBlitzes are well established. They provide a unique forum for experts to share their knowledge and for non-experts to engage in hands-on discovery of the natural world.

Tarkine BioBlitz aims to bring together scientists, naturalists and citizens for a few days of discovery, knowledge, sharing and fun in the diverse ecosystems of the Tarkine. We will be cataloguing the biodiversity we discover, adding to the scientific knowledge of this region.

At the Bob Brown Foundation, we are campaigning for the Tarkine to be given secure reserve protection as a National Park and listed as an extension to the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. We have a great campaign team, Jenny Weber, Manderlee Anstice and Jasmine Wills in Hobart, Scott Jordan in Burnie and Emma Wasson in Melbourne, all working on the Tarkine campaign. Our Foundation is organising many cultural, eco-tourism, advocacy and awareness raising activities with which we are leading the campaign. Our aim is to build a national and international campaign to protect the Tarkine. It is one of the world's last wild places.

Tarkine BioBlitz is being held by the Bob Brown Foundation to engage scientists and naturalists in the Tarkine, build knowledge about the ecosystems and species that call it home, provide an avenue for the public to experience the Tarkine, and to learn, share and assist in the discoveries that a short intensive time in a natural place can provide.

# Organising Team

Organisers of the Tarkine BioBlitz are a small team of Bob Brown Foundation campaigners and volunteers. 18 people have been helping with the planning and organising. This team will be available for assistance during the event.

Please seek assistance and ask questions of the following people and we will endeavour to assist.

## Jenny Weber

Campaign Manager with Bob Brown Foundation is the key organiser on behalf of the Foundation. On Thursday and Friday, Jenny will be at base camp and in the field on Saturday and Sunday. Contact Jenny: 0427 366 929

## Nick Fitzgerald

Volunteer Scientist who has helped coordinate all the field experts, survey leaders and naturalists. Nick has coordinated our first WildBlitz, is a member of the coordinating team liaising with the scientists and will also be leading plant surveys. Contact Nick: 0431 663 545

## Scott Jordan

Our Foundation's campaigner based in Burnie and a long-time campaigner with Save the Tarkine. Scott will be based with the school group on Friday, base camp manager on Saturday and in the forests on Sunday. Contact Scott: 0428 300 324

## Steven Chaffer

Our Foundation's CEO will also be at the event. His role will be support base camp, driving some days to the field and base camp manager on Sunday. Contact Steven: 0408 855 261

## Emma Wasson

Our Foundation's campaigner based in Melbourne will be a field site coordinating assistant and driver during the weekend.

## Survey Leader Assistants

Tristan Derham and Tiana Pirtle are volunteering to assist survey leaders. They will be out in the field and available at night at base camp. Contact Tristan: 0420 336 134

## Field Site Coordinators

A team of people will be your coordinators out in the field and responsible for all field logistics.

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
COAST	Erik Hayward  Daniel Panek Nicole Anderson	Nicole Anderson, Colette Harmsen	N/A
FOREST	Erik Hayward	Jenny Weber and Jen Spencer	Erik Hayward  Nicole Anderson
PLAINS	N/A	N/A	Jessie Westbury and Jen Spencer
FRESHWATER	Jessie Westbury & Jen Spencer	Daniel Panek & Kenna Reid-Clarke	Danny Carney & Tiana Pirtle
ASTACOPSIS	N/A	Erik Hayward	Jenny Weber

Our extensive volunteer team also include;

- Lisa Searle – Kitchen Coordinator, First Aid Manager at base camp
- Nicole Anderson – First Aid in the field and Field Site Coordinator
- Jessie Westbury – Field Site Coordinator
- Daniel Panek – Field Site Coordinator
- Colette Harmsen – Base Camp assistant
- Laura Pfundt - Volunteer Coordinator
- Danny Carney - Data Room Coordinator
- Jasmine Wills - Transport Coordinator

# Overview of the Tarkine Bioblitz

The Tarkine BioBlitz will be held over four days, 23 - 26 November 2017.

Thursday 23rd is an orientation and preparation day for survey leaders. Participants are encouraged and welcome to arrive on the evening of 23rd November. Three field sites have been selected to allow us to explore some of the diverse ecosystems of the region within easy reach of our event hub, the base camp. The coastal (Dartys Corner and Sundown Point) and inland (Sumac threatened logging area and Dempster Plains) field sites will be the focus of our field surveys over 2 ½ days, with all-day field trips plus some evening and dawn surveys.

Surveys are restricted to 10 – 14 participants per survey. Transport between base camp and field sites will include 12-seater buses and some car-pooling.



## **[inaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org)**

Download this app for your device and create a user account.

You will then be able to help us collect data in the field and follow the progress of the BioBlitz.

## **iNaturalist**

Over the course of Bio Blitz we will see nature at its finest, and we want to identify everything we see. Many of you come with great stores of knowledge already, and some genuine experts in their fields will be there too. But all of us can help in the identification process and one of the tools we will use to help us achieve this is a ground-breaking website and application called iNaturalist.

iNaturalist provides a place for us to record and organise the data we collect in the field. More than that, it is also an online social network where nature enthusiasts from newbies to experts can share their observations to help each other learn about the world around them. It's not perfect, but we think it is a powerful tool for citizen science and can help us better understand and build our case for takayna / Tarkine protection. You will be able to see not just what you observed, but also what everyone else did, and it is a great way to keep in touch with your Tarkine friends and continue learning and contributing after the event.

As a tool it is easy to use, and can be used on smart-phones, tablets and on computers in both online and offline settings. During BioBlitz we will hold sessions to familiarise you all with the program, but we recommend you download the app prior to arriving so that you can have a play with it yourself. You will need to set up an account and then you will be able to join our project. Please search for Tarkine Bioblitz 2017 or follow this link:  
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tarkine-bioblitz-2017>

Using iNaturalist is not compulsory, and our field assistants in each location will be there to help capture what we find in the field for those who prefer to record what they see in other ways. For those of you who give it a go, you can find many easy to follow tutorials via the iNaturalist website.

You can see our 2016 BioBlitz project here:  
<https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/tarkine-bioblitz-november-2016>

## Running of the Event

Upon arrival at base camp you will be registered for the BioBlitz. Participant inductions for new arrivals with some of the organising team will be offered at Thursday 7:30pm, Friday 7:30am, Friday 6pm, Saturday 7:30am.

If you arrive late in the evening on Thursday or Friday, please have breakfast at 7am the following morning and be ready for the 7:30am information session.

Daily preparation briefings will be held at 8am for the coast and 8:30am for the plains and forest. Please bring all your equipment and day pack ready for departure to these briefings.

Each morning after breakfast, the coast, forest and plains groups will travel in convoy from base camp to the field site locations.

At the end of the day, all the participants will return back to base camp for dinner and events. During the evenings there will be data entry going on in the auditorium and you are all welcome and encouraged to participate in this activity.

Small groups will take part in dawn and night surveys. We are limiting the numbers of people on the night surveys to minimise road kill risk to the very mammals we are trying to save and also to minimise risk for the participants and pressure on the survey leaders. Please be understanding that interest will likely exceed the number of spaces on the night surveys. We have some great presentations at base camp in the evenings with some of our survey leaders.

On Sunday morning everyone will depart from base camp to head out for morning surveys. A small team will remain at base camp to clean up and lock up. So be ready early on Sunday morning to depart, all packed up and set to embark on the final day of 'blitzing'. You will be returning to base camp after the Sunday field trip at approximately 1pm. Your gear may be stored in the reception area at base camp until then.

## Base camp

Riverbend Youth Centre 358 Trowutta Rd,  
Scotchtown TAS

Riverbend is situated 6 km south of Smithton on Trowutta Road in a beautiful riverside setting. The centre consists of a large complex all under one roof. There is a great big kitchen and dining room, and an auditorium where our BioBlitz data adventure will be set up, for all to participate and enjoy. Our evening events will be held in a large room with a screen and projector.

## Accommodation

Accommodation at the Riverbend Youth Centre is in dorms with shared bathroom and toilet facilities. If you have booked a dorm you will need to bring fitted sheets, pillow and sleeping bag. There is room for camping and campervans.

## Meals

Lisa Searle is our kitchen coordinator. The kitchen will be run entirely by volunteers. All meals will be vegan, with no animal products, no dairy and no eggs. There is a fridge in the dining area for participants to store any non-vegan snacks. This fridge is small so only put small items in it. We will be providing breakfast and dinner on site at the base camp. We will also be providing packed lunches. If you have booked lunch please bring some non-disposable packaging or a lunch box for your lunch.

There will be no hot drinks provided at the field sites but if you would like to bring a thermos you can fill it up with tea/coffee/hot water before heading out.

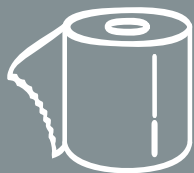
## Shopping and Facilities

### Petrol Stations

- Shell, Brittons Rd just as you enter Smithton off the Bass Hwy
- BP, cnr Goldie St & Emmet St near centre of Smithton
- Caltex, cnr Nelson St & Rocklyn Rd towards Smithton centre from the roundabout with Trowutta Rd/Bass Hwy

### Facilities

- Groceries, IGA Emmett St, Country Market (green grocer) crn Emmett & King St, Woolworths Nelson St
- Emmett St has a few cafes - suggest Time Out on Emmett.
- There is also the Reject Shop on cnr Emmett/King Sts for various odds & ends.



Public toilets are located in town on Smith St near the Police Station. More public toilets are located in the car park for the Duck River Jetty off East Esplanade.

## Social Media

Throughout the weekend we will be broadcasting the event through the Bob Brown Foundation's online media.



We have a blog at:  
**[bobbrown.org.au/bioblitz](http://bobbrown.org.au/bioblitz)**  
and you are encouraged to submit photos and stories for this blog.

If you use Facebook and Twitter please follow and share our activities from the Bob Brown page on Facebook and @BobBrownFndn on Twitter. Spreading the word will spread the impact.

Photographs and video of the event may be used online or elsewhere by the Foundation, such as published reports and campaign materials. If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed please let Jenny Weber know.

Please speak to Manderlee Anstice during the event about providing materials for the blog. We would love your brief reports about what you found out in the Tarkine.

Hashtag suggestions:

#tarkine  
#takayna  
#bioblitz  
#tarkinebioblitz  
#bbf  
#bobbrownfoundation

## What to bring?

### Staying at base camp

- ☐ Sleeping bag
- ☐ Clean linen
- ☐ Reusable storage containers  
for your lunch
- ☐ Toiletries and towel
- ☐ Powerboards

### Everyone

- ☐ Wet weather gear
- ☐ Walking boots
- ☐ Sun hat
- ☐ Sunscreen
- ☐ Water bottle 1L

### Useful items

- ☐ Hand lens
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Field guides
- ☐ Camera with good close up macro
- ☐ Head torch
- ☐ Smartphone with apps downloaded
- ☐ Tablet
- ☐ Day pack and thermos flask
- ☐ Coffee plunger and coffee for personal use

### Optional

- ☐ Op shop formal wear for Friday night 'fun' dinner



# Field Sites

## Overview map of field sites and base camp (from thelist.com.au)

### Field Site Facilities

There is no shelter at the field sites so you will need to take plenty of clothing to protect you from rain, sun and wind. Remember the Tarkine can have four seasons in one day!

A camping toilet will be set up at each field site. Drinking water will also be available but you will need to provide your own water bottle. There are also bootwash stations to clean your boots before and after going into the bush (see Biosecurity section below).

A site coordinator will be at each site during all survey times.

The coastal site is in the Arthur Pieman Conservation Area managed by Parks and Wildlife Services. The Frankland rainforest and Dempster Plains sites were State Forest but are currently zoned Future Potential Production Forest which is managed as Crown Land or PTPZ which is managed by Forestry Tas.



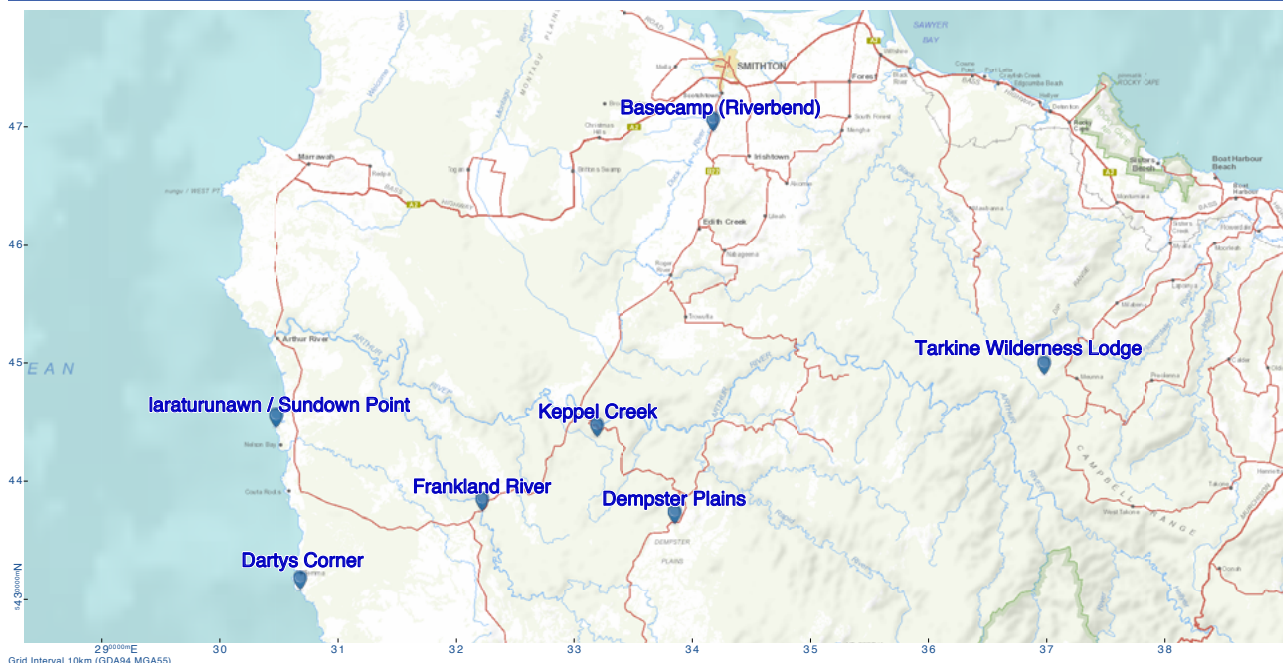
bioblitz17

LandTasmania

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User: tasbotanic@gmail.com

Page: 1 of 1



[www.thelist.tas.gov.au](http://www.thelist.tas.gov.au)

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## Darty's Corner

To get to Darty's Corner, we are parking at Temma and walking to the site along the coast for 2km, an easy 30-40 minute walk. This area on takayna/Tarkine coast encompasses a mix of rocky and sandy shoreline, with two creeks and a variety of coastal vegetation.

## Iaraturunawn/Sundown Point

Located around seven kilometers south of Arthur River, Iaraturunawn/Sundown Point is accessed via Nelson Bay by unsealed road and a short walk.

Rich in Tasmanian Aboriginal history, it is important to take extra care while exploring this area.

Facing directly west onto the Southern Ocean, the uninterrupted roaring 40's sweep over the landscape, creating a variety of coastal habitats among the rocky outcrops and coastal vegetation.

There are several shacks among the vegetated dunes and the short beach is bordered by rocky outcrops. Sundown Creek is a short walk north of the shacks bordering a state reserve, where there is a long stretch of coast extending about 8km north towards the mouth of Arthur River. Diverse plant and bird communities can be found along this site however it has been subject to contamination in the past. If you are particularly lucky (and you keep your distance), you might spot a wombat munching kelp on the beach.

## Sumac Forest (Keppel Creek Forest)

Located south west of the Sumac Lookout at Arthur River, this field site features threatened stands of tall wet eucalypt forest. This area was recently added to Forestry Tasmania's logging schedule for 2018.

The majestic trees found at this site are over 350 years old and evidence (scats) of Quolls and the endangered Tasmanian Devil can be seen along the roads. Mossy burls, giant ferns and open walking - there is great potential for discovery in this area!

Due to the nature and age of this forest, tree fall and getting lost are significant risks at this site so caution is advised.

## Dempster Plains

The study site is in the northwest of Dempster Plains, near the lookout on Sumac Road. Dempster Plains is an extensive area of buttongrass moorland and heathland surrounded by rainforest and eucalypt forest.

The field site encompasses the transition from moorland to a patch of wet forest in a gully. There is a narrow ecozone with bauera and bracken fern between the buttongrass and forest. There is a drier forest adjacent to the buttongrass, with signs of fire from some decades ago. Moving downhill to the east there is mature wet eucalypt forest with an understorey of rainforest plants. Further down towards the south east is more mature myrtle beech and large manferns and a swampy area with the notorious horizontal scrub.

It is quite easy walking between the different ecosystems - the buttongrass heathland is short and easy navigation; there is a little bit of debris encountered on the border of the woodland but once through this there is 'park like' and rather clear ground. The swampy area is, of course, wet and muddy. It is a reasonably steep downhill slope to the swampy section.

## Freshwater Field Site - Frankland River

Flanked by ancient rainforest, the upper Frankland River is a critical habitat for the Giant Freshwater Crayfish (*Astacopsis gouldi*).

Upstream of this site are intact myrtle rainforests, imminently threatened by logging. Other vegetation surrounding the freshwater field sites include ancient eucalyptus and open moorland. These forests are a vital part of creating the stable, brackish habitat that the Freshwater Crayfish love!

## Transport and Car Pooling

- From Burnie to Riverbend campground:  
Approx 1 hour
- From Launceston to Smithton:  
Approx 3 hours
- From Hobart to Smithton:  
Approx 6 hours
- From Riverbend base camp to Dartys Corner:  
Approx 1 hour and 10 minutes
- From Riverbend base camp to Dempster Plains:  
Approx 1 hour
- From Riverbend base camp to Sumac Forests:  
Approx 1 hour.

Transport to and from the base camp to the field sites each day will be in hire vehicles driven by our organising team members. This is designed to reduce travel time and logistical issues with car-pooling.

## Data Collection

The primary aim of our field work is to come up with a species list for each site. How individual surveys tackle this is up to the survey leaders. Plants and invertebrates that aren't identified in the field will be photographed or collected for later identification. Survey leaders, or their appointed scribes, will record species electronically **using the iNaturalist app** or on a data sheet in the field. Participants are encouraged to

photograph species they find using iNaturalist so they can be added to our BioBlitz species list. Unidentified species can be photographed in the field so that experts can identify them later.

The final species lists from the BioBlitz will be submitted to the Natural Values Atlas and the Atlas of Living Australia, making the data available online and contributing to the knowledge of Tasmania's biodiversity.

If you would like to learn more about using the iNaturalist app, there will be sessions on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 5pm in the Data Room.

## Equipment and Library

At base camp there will be a workspace with microscopes, computers with access to online taxonomic resources and a library of books to help us identify the various plants and beasts collected during the BioBlitz.



**Bring along your laptop to help with data entry or any books to add to the library for the weekend.**

## Biosecurity and Permits

Tasmania, and the areas we will be visiting for the Tarkine BioBlitz, are home to an amazing variety of species and ecosystems which remain intact and in relatively pristine condition. To ensure that we don't compromise the integrity of these places through our survey work, it's essential that we all apply some basic biosecurity principles to prevent the introduction of any new weeds, diseases or pathogens.

Fortunately, effective precautions are relatively simple, but it's still essential to plan ahead to ensure you **check, clean, dry** your equipment before joining us on the Tarkine BioBlitz.

1

**CHECK** that your equipment is free of any weed seeds or organic matter

2

**CLEAN** your equipment thoroughly to remove any soil or mud

3

**DRY** your equipment prior (or if you can't dry it, then **DISINFECT** it)

See NRM South's website for more info:  
<http://nrmsouth.org.au/biosecurity/walkclean>

Permits for collecting flora and invertebrates have been issued by the Tasmanian Government (DPIPWE) and IFS to cover the event. The permits do not cover threatened species, vertebrates or marine fauna.

## Useful links

Key to Tasmanian Vascular Plants:

<http://utas.edu.au/dicotkey>

Flora of Tasmania Online:

<http://demo1.tmag.tas.gov.au/index.html>

Facebook - Tasmanian Insects and Spiders:

[http://facebook.com/groups/](http://facebook.com/groups/TasInsectsAndSpiders)

[TasInsectsAndSpiders](http://facebook.com/groups/TasInsectsAndSpiders)

Facebook - Tasmanian Flora:

<http://facebook.com/groups/tasmanianflora>

Facebook - Tasmanian Fungi:

<http://facebook.com/groups/tasfungi>

Facebook – Tasmanian Orchids:

<http://facebook.com/groups/447398148693222>

Facebook – Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club:

<http://facebook.com/groups/1191446447538283>

Insects of Tasmania:

<http://sites.google.com/site/insectsoftasmania/home>

Tasmanian Spiders:

<http://tasmanianspiders.info/index.html>

What bug is that?:

<http://anic.ento.csiro.au/insectfamilies/>

Natural Values Atlas:

<http://naturalvaluesatlas.tas.gov.au>

Bowerbird:

<http://bowerbird.org.au>

Atlas of Living Australia:

<http://ala.org.au>

ResearchClean:

<http://nrmsouth.org.au/biosecurity/researchclean>

## Apps for iOS and Android

iNaturalist:

[www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org)

The Waterbug App:

<http://thewaterbugapp.com>

Atlas of Living Australia mobile app:

<https://www.ala.org.au/who-we-are/downloadable-tools/ala-mobile-app/>

Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service frog call and bird call apps: Frog Log (iOS only) and A Bird in the Hand:

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/?base=7715#1>

## Maps

Basic maps of the Tarkine and the field sites are provided as separate PDFs. An interactive map of the BioBlitz sites can be viewed at:

<http://maps.thelist.tas.gov.au/listmap/app/list/map?bookmarkId=99651>

Placemarks show the base camp and field sites.

The 'Layers' control on the right of the map allows you to view various layers, including vegetation map and species records (from the Natural Values Atlas).

You can also add a variety of extra layers, and change the basemap (NB some layers only display when zoomed in).



**If you can, try downloading these apps and maps before arriving at Bioblitz.**



# Survey Leaders and Assistants

## Dr Peter McQuillan

Peter is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Tasmania in the Discipline of Geography & Spatial Sciences (School of Land & Food). He is an entomologist with a keen interest in the diversity of invertebrates and their conservation in both natural and agricultural landscapes. He studies the interactions between plants and invertebrates, including pollination ecology, herbivory and the ecology of invasive pests. He is especially interested in the use of invertebrates as indicators of environmental change in natural environments as well as cities and farms. Along with his undergraduate and postgraduate students, Peter works on a wide range of biodiversity and conservation challenges that involve Tasmania's outstanding invertebrate fauna and its role in the environment.

## Dr Paddy Dalton

Paddy Dalton is currently an Honorary Associate in the School of Biological Sciences, University of Tasmania, after spending 44 years as a Lecturer in Botany. His teaching and research concentrated on the structure, taxonomy and ecology of the non-flowering flora (ferns, mosses and liverworts). His excellence in teaching has been recognised in university and national awards. Paddy's passion for the study of mosses and liverworts has taken him on extensive field work across Australia, North and South America and New Zealand. He has studied at the National History Museum, London, Herbarium Berlin-Dahlem Botanical Garden and the Institute of Systematic Botany, New York Botanical Garden. His research has resulted in publications in collaboration with Australian and overseas bryologists.

## Sarah Lloyd

Sarah Lloyd is a Tasmanian naturalist, writer and photographer whose passion for natural history began in early childhood with a love of birds. In 2008 Sarah initiated 'A Sound Idea', a project to monitor bush birds using digital sound recorders and numerous volunteers who have made (and continue to make) recordings from Tasman Island to King Island and about 100 locations in between. Her interests have broadened in recent decades to include plants, fungi, invertebrates and bryophytes. In 2010 Sarah started exploring the little-known world of myxomycetes (also known as plasmodial or acellular slime moulds) in the wet eucalypt forest that surrounds her home at Birralee in Northern Tasmania. She is the editor of the popular and well respected The Natural News produced by the Central North Field Naturalists.

## Greg Martin

Nature enthusiast. Committee member of Australia and New Guinea Fishes Association Victoria as ANGFA Vic Field Trip officer. Editor of the ANGFA Vic journal VICNews. Layout/Designer of the ANGFA National journal Fishes Of Sahul.

## Christopher Carr

Christopher Carr is an entomologist with a special interest in insect conservation and beneficial insects in agricultural landscapes. Having taught insect-plant interactions at UNE and co-hosting annual "Insects at Night" presentations at the Woodford Folk Festival, he has previously worked at the NSW DPI for 12 years, is currently writing up his PhD and is an IPM consultant for the Northern Rivers Macadamia industry and adjunct at Southern Cross University.

## Helen Robertson

Helen lives in Rocky Cape Tasmania and is a retired zoologist. She now runs Eagle Roost Farmstay B&B. She is passionate about sustainable living, bushwalking, gardening, and has a special interest in fungi and invertebrates.

## Robert Pergl

Robert grew up on a bush block in the Dandenongs, spending time often volunteering at the southern Dandenongs community plant nursery. He has been involved in botanical survey field work and the bush regeneration industry, and is currently working with Melbourne Water NRM crew. He is interested in identifying plants, vegetation types, the environmental implications of weeds and best practice bush regeneration methods.

## Todd Walsh

Todd is a Smithton boy originally and used to catch and eat Giant Freshwater Lobster. He worked around Australia in aquaculture for 20 years and then returned to Tasmania in 1997 to find a ban on lobster fishing. After investigating what was going on, he ended up spending the next 20 years researching and trying to save the Giant Freshwater Lobster.

## Frank Bird

Frank is currently undertaking a Bachelor of Science at the University of Tasmania. Frank has been involved in a variety of fauna surveys throughout Australia and even found himself catching butterflies for a friend's research project in Bulgaria. Frank has assisted in biodiversity surveys in the Simpson Desert, Tanami Desert and the Kimberley.

## Stuart Rose

Stuart Rose has recently completed an Honours degree in Biological Sciences at the University of Tasmania, investigating Gondwanan forest relics and anthropogenic climate change. He has significant passion for the natural world (particularly entomology and botany), and has been involved with various projects such as cataloguing the Warra database collection at TMAG and working with CSIRO, assisting research into colony collapse disorder and micro-chip bees.

## Nick Fitzgerald

Nick is a plant ecologist and geographer currently undertaking postgraduate studies at UTas looking into the subantarctic vegetation of Macquarie Island. Nick has worked extensively in Tasmania with government and NGOs, doing both fieldwork and conservation planning and advocacy. The Tarkine has been the focus of Nick's attention for forest carbon research, conservation planning and, recently, BioBlitzes.

## David Hamilton

David originally hails from Scotland, but has been in Australia since 2011. Since being here he's conducted research on animal behaviour in the Kimberley, the Northern Territory and the ACT, before heading down to the more Scottish climate of Tasmania. His current research focuses on patterns of contact in Tasmanian devils, and how we can use them to better understand and mitigate the spread of devil facial tumour disease.

## Theresa Sainty

Theresa is a pakana woman, who has been alternatively employed or engaged as a consultant for almost 2 decades by the TAC to linguistically retrieve Tasmanian Aboriginal language from documentary records and community knowledge.

As well, Theresa worked with the Department of Education in Aboriginal Education Services for 12 years, where she was responsible for advising educators on how to include (Tasmanian) Aboriginal perspectives in their learning programs, and providing advice/developing programs to facilitate that in line with the Australian Curriculum Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures cross curriculum priority.

This included developing and delivering PL for DoE staff and to outside agencies and departments.

# Program: Base camp

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY & SATURDAY	SUNDAY
All day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrival of participants, volunteers and survey leaders.</li> </ul>		
7:00–8:00am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breakfast</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breakfast</li> </ul>
8:00am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coast briefing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coast briefing</li> </ul>
8:30am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coast depart base camp</li> <li>Dempster and Rainforest briefing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coast depart base camp</li> <li>Dempster and Rainforest briefing</li> </ul>
9:00am		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest and Plains departure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest and Plains departure</li> </ul>
1:30pm – 5pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey Leader orientation</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 pm - Return to base camp to collect baggage</li> </ul>
2pm			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depart base camp</li> </ul>
3:00pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depart 3:00pm</li> </ul>	
4:30pm or 5pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arrive at base camp</li> </ul>	
4:30pm – 9pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DATA ROOM OPEN AND ACTIVE</li> </ul>	
5pm – 6pm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solid data time for some people</li> <li>iNaturalist workshop (15min)</li> </ul>	
6 – 7:00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dinner</li> <li>iNaturalist workshop (15min)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dinner</li> <li>6 - 6:30pm - New Arrivals Induction</li> </ul>	
7:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Induction to Tarkine BioBlitz</li> <li>Bob Brown Foundation &amp; Tarkine campaign</li> </ul>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>FRIDAY NIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Campaign brief with Jenny Weber (15min)</li> <li>Wild Blitz updates</li> <li>Theresa Sainty - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre</li> <li>Sarah Lloyd - Slime moulds</li> <li>Paddy Dalton - Bryophytes</li> </ul> <p>SATURDAY NIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BioBlitz wrap &amp; thanks &amp; Wild Blitz updates</li> <li>Theresa Sainty - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre</li> <li>Sarah Lloyd - Birds</li> <li>Todd Walsh - Astacopsis gouldi, World's Largest Freshwater Lobsters</li> </ul>	

# Program: Sites

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
COAST	<b>SUNDOWN POINT - DAY (2 X 2 HOUR SESSIONS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds - Sarah Lloyd and Ron Nagorcka</li> <li>Invertebrates - Chris Carr</li> <li>Plants - John Davies</li> <li>Bryophytes - Paddy Dalton</li> <li>Orchids - Janine Cranney</li> <li>AM: Carnivore trapping - Channing Hughes</li> <li>PM: Mammals/camera pickup - Sebastien Comte</li> </ul>	<b>DARTY'S CORNER - DAY (2 X 2 HOUR SESSIONS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds - Cat Hamilton</li> <li>Invertebrates - Peter McQuillan</li> <li>Plants - Rob Pergl</li> <li>Orchids - Spikey Riddoch</li> <li>Cultural Heritage takayna / Tarkine - Theresa Sainty</li> <li>Frogs - Shannon Troy</li> </ul>	
FOREST - KEPPEL CREEK	<b>NIGHT (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invertebrates - Peter McQuillan; Chris Carr</li> <li>Spotlighting - Seb Comte</li> <li>Frogs and owls - Shannon Troy</li> </ul>	<b>DAWN (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds - Cat Hamilton</li> </ul> <b>DAY (2 X 2 HOUR SESSIONS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invertebrates - Chris Carr</li> <li>Plants - Nick Fitzgerald</li> <li>Birds and Slime Moulds - Sarah Lloyd</li> <li>Bryophytes and Ferns - Paddy Dalton</li> <li>AM: Fungi collection - Julie Fielder</li> <li>AM: Carnivore trapping - Channing Hughes</li> <li>PM: Mammals/camera pickup - Sebastien Comte</li> <li>PM: Fungi ID (Back at Base Camp) - Julie Fielder</li> </ul>	<b>DAY (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Canopy demonstration - Steven Pearce</li> <li>Plants - Rob Pergl</li> <li>Carnivore trapping - Channing Hughes</li> </ul>
FRESHWATER	<b>DAY (2 X 2 HOUR SESSIONS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish - Greg Martin</li> <li>Invertebrates - Stuart Rose</li> </ul>	<b>DAY (2 X 2 HOUR SESSIONS)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish - Greg Martin</li> <li>Invertebrates - Stuart Rose</li> <li>Astacopsis gouldi - Todd Walsh</li> </ul>	<b>DAY (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish - Greg Martin</li> <li>Invertebrates - Stuart Rose</li> <li>Astacopsis gouldi - Todd Walsh</li> </ul>
PLAINS - DEMPSTER PLAINS		<b>NIGHT (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spotlighting - Seb Comte and Helen Robertson</li> <li>Frogs and owls - Shannon Troy</li> </ul>	<b>DAY (1 X 2 HOUR SESSION)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Birds - Cat Hamilton</li> <li>Invertebrates - Peter McQuillan</li> <li>Bryophytes and ferns - Paddy Dalton</li> <li>Orchids - Janine Cranney</li> <li>Plants - John Davies</li> <li>Mammal traces - Helen Robertsons</li> </ul>

# Health and Safety

## Emergency Phone Numbers

- For life threatening emergencies call: 000
- A helpful mobile phone app for emergencies (This app is handy as it provides a Lat/Long GPS reference for the caller to read out to the operator):  
[triplezero.gov.au/Pages/EmergencySmartphoneApp.aspx](http://triplezero.gov.au/Pages/EmergencySmartphoneApp.aspx)
- Jenny Weber: 0427 366 929
- Nicole Anderson: 0408 099 286
- Satellite Phone: 0011 8816 5147 3907
- Smithton Hospital: 6452 4650
- Smithton Doctors Surgery: 6452 2555
- SES: 132 500
- Police (non urgent): 13 14 44

## Phone Coverage (or lack thereof) & Communications

Mobile phone coverage is patchy and unreliable on both Telstra and Optus networks. Generally there is no reception in river or valley locations such as the Frankland River or Keppel Creek. Some coverage is possible along the coast, especially on elevated sites. There can be patchy but unreliable coverage at elevated inland sites. Site Coordinators will carry a satellite phone in case of mobile reception unavailability or lapse, or battery running low. In areas with no or patchy reception, and in cold and windy conditions, mobile phones may lose battery capacity very quickly. It is best to either shut off mobile phones, or change to 'airplane mode' to preserve battery life when in the field.

It is also wise to carry back up power source such as a battery pack if using a mobile phone to take photographs, post to social media etc.

## Roads & Traffic

The drive time between base camp at Riverbend and Sumac Forests or the coast can be up to 60 minutes depending on road conditions. The road is sealed however has significant deterioration in some sections, so care is required. The road goes through remote areas with limited mobile phone reception. The road to Temma and on to Dartys Corner is gravel road and narrow so care is advised to be alert for oncoming vehicles.

The drive time between base camp and Eva Point is approximately 1hr 15mins depending on road conditions. The road is sealed for 70km to Couta Rocks then a good gravel road continues 8km to Temma. After this, access is via the Sandy Cape track for 1km and the Dartys Track for another 1km - this is a 4WD only area with permits required from PWS. The track condition is relatively easy 4WD standard with care to negotiate some rocks and some soft, deepish sand. Parking is at Dartys Corner with the rest of the travel to Eva Point on foot across a small beach to the marsupial lawn covered dune area. There is very limited mobile phone reception along this route.

## After Dark Driving

All the roads have high risks for dusk to dawn roadkill, therefore a speed limit suggestion of 45kph is recommended if driving between dusk and dawn. There are roadkill mitigation rumble strips on the road at various places, but these are not completely reliable at scaring off wildlife - so drive carefully.

## Weather/Environment

In November, the area is still experiencing "spring" weather conditions which may mean four seasons in one day. Or in one hour. The long range forecast is



for high-moderate chance of rain during the BioBlitz weekend. Temperatures can range from around 10 degrees to maximums in the low to mid 20's. Wind can be anything from calm to Gale Force with associated wind chill factors. The UV alert rating may well be in the moderate to extreme levels during daylight hours. In addition to rain, hail may occur at this time of year.

Dartys Corner and Sundowner Point Environmental Hazards include:

Exposure as above (there is no significant tree shelter), sharp foreshore and offshore rocks, unstable Big Eel creekbed rocks, slippery Big Eel creek shoreline rocks and rock pools, unstable footing on the boulder shoreline, dark creek water making it difficult to determine creek depth, possible strong creek currents, snags and logs within the creek, coastal tidal wave surges and wave impact, risk of severe sunburn, cuts/scrapes/bruises/lacerations from rough scrub. Drowning is certainly possible in both the Big Eel creek and the foreshore waters.

If boats are to be used, then competent and licensed boat operators must be present and in control of any water vehicle.

Dempster Plains Environmental Hazards include: Exposure as above, however there is reasonable shelter within the forested zones, uneven footing amongst buttongrass and forest floor debris, cuts/scrapes/bruises/lacerations from rough scrub and risk of disorientation and getting lost.

Sumac Forest Environmental Hazards include: Risk of serious injury or death from tree fall. The combination of record rain and wind has destabilised many trees, even ancient ones which have seen everything have been falling, sometimes without warning. Avoid going into forested areas in times of high winds. Be extremely careful climbing over fallen trees as they may still be unstable and move. Additionally, old, heavy branches high in the canopy may have been weakened by rain promoted fungal rot, wind, or trauma from other falling branches and can at any time fall, causing significant injury or death (it is a known cause of severe injury

and death in forestry workers, even recently!). Also, the forest can be extremely disorienting and getting lost is a real possibility. A search and rescue could be very difficult in this region. Stay to familiar areas and always with a companion and means of communication. The river may be full or even in flood mode. The currents may be invisible but swift, strong and deadly. Submerged logs and rocks pose significant danger of getting caught underwater and drowning risk is high. You are advised against entering this river in its current state. Work done in the shallows, rockpools and river edge must be done with caution not to fall into the flowing part of the river.

## Snakes/Bees/Ants etc

All sites will likely contain nearly the full spectra of venomous animals in Tasmania, namely elapid snakes (Tiger and Copperheads), Jack Jumper Ants, European Wasps, Bees, Spiders of various sorts, and perhaps Platypus (unlikely at Dempster Plains). In addition, the Eva Point site may contain venomous marine species such as Blue Ring Octopus, Stingray and Gunyards.

All fungi should be considered poisonous and not eaten!



**If someone is bitten or stung then  
remove the person and everybody  
else from the offending creature -  
do not try to capture it!**

Snakebite is a medical emergency even if the bitten person appears well. First Aid is to immobilise the person if it is safe to do so and call 000, giving the location and nature of the emergency. It is more important to immobilise the person than to bandage the bitten limb. Even if well bandaged, the bitten person is not to walk unless to escape from a more life threatening situation.

Marine creature stings and envenomation may be life threatening or extraordinarily painful and are medical emergencies. In the case of Blue Ring Octopus (BRO) envenomation, the only sign may be a seemingly unconscious person. Initiate CPR if no pulse or expired air resuscitation if there is a pulse but no breathing, immediately - the BRO venom does not usually stop the heart first but stops the breathing. CPR is required if there is no heartbeat. Seek site first aid officer immediately for advice.

Stingray/fish stings and envenomation are extremely painful and the pain responds well to hot (45 degrees or as hot as the person can tolerate) water application to the sting. Do not apply boiling water!

Anaphylaxis to bites, stings and food etc. will be discussed in the Personal Health Matters section

## Water

It is advised people carry their own drinking water sufficient for the day. Drinking water from natural watercourses may pose risks due to local contamination, (toxic contamination in the case of Sundown Point), salinity and cause gastrointestinal disease in susceptible people. Generally, water sourced in the wild is advised to be treated by boiling. It is worth reminding that drowning can occur in even shallow water! Drowning risk is increased if alcohol is being drunk.

## Injuries

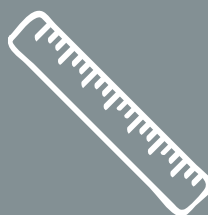
The most common injuries in the wilderness are twisted ankles, cuts and bruises. More severe injuries possible in these areas are fractures, internal organ damage and head injuries from falls, or the remote risk of being fallen upon, say by a tree. The scrub, sharp rocks and unstable footing make a twisted ankle a highly likely eventuation so care is necessary when moving over unstable terrain. It is important not to get carried away with sighting a potential new species only to fall and break a bone or get knocked out in the process.

Managing severe trauma in either of these areas is a risky and difficult exercise, so preventing injury is paramount to keeping everyone safe, as rescue often incurs risk to the rescuers.

## Getting Lost

People are encouraged to have access to a mobile phone, compass, calibrated GPS and maps of the areas they are going into.

The most likely time for people getting lost will be after dark when disorientation, even on the coast, can occur. Each Site Manager and Team Leader should be aware of who is where in their groups. People should avoid going off on their own, except



**People are encouraged to have access to a mobile phone, compass, calibrated GPS and maps of the areas they are going into.**

to designated toilet areas, and let someone know where they are going. After dark, close contact with the group is imperative.

During the day, disorientation is also quite possible at the Dempster Plains site in the forested area and the Sumac Forest. Briefing on the area, and surveyors tape may be utilised for groups to assist with navigation and getting one's bearings. Briefing on what to do if you become lost will be part of the orientation.

## Personal Health Matters

People with chronic or serious medical conditions, which may affect their or others safety, are encouraged to discuss these personally, and in confidence with Dr Nicole Anderson. Having a medical condition does not disqualify from participation but may mean some extra precautions or logistics are put in place to ensure everyone enjoys the activities safely.



**People with chronic or serious medical conditions, which may affect their or others' safety, are encouraged to discuss these personally, and in confidence with Dr Nicole Anderson.**

Anaphylaxis may occur in anyone with or without a previous allergy. Common allergens are Jack Jumper stings, wasp and bee stings, and certain foods. It is a medical emergency. Both Site Managers will have adrenalin

and salbutamol at hand in order to administer treatment rapidly as this condition can cause death well before the ambulance arrives at the site.

Signs of anaphylaxis include:  
(but not all may be present)

- difficulty breathing and/or wheezing
- swelling of the lips and/or tongue and/or throat
- intensely itchy rash occurring anywhere on the body, or all over it, often wheals and hives
- blue/grey colour to the skin and/or mottling
- unconsciousness

First Aid is to remove the person from the cause if possible (eg Jack Jumper nest), or get the cause far away (eg food allergen). Contact Site Manager immediately. Call 000 giving location and nature of the emergency while First Aid (adrenaline EpiPen) is administered.

## Toilets

Try to get your toileting done before heading out to the field. As these are sensitive natural areas with water catchments, we do not want solid waste to be contaminating these areas. There will be a bucket toilet set up at each field site with a 'campshower' tent around it. There will be toilet paper and hand sanitizer available in each, however it is recommended people carry their own personal hand sanitizer in the field anyway, in case of handling animal scats etc.

Wishing all involved in this wonderful Tarkine BioBlitz a delightful and safe experience!