

WESTERN PYGMY POSSUMS

HOW IT BEGAN



This project started in June 2017, when a landholder brought a small mouse-like creature that had drowned in a bucket of water into the Landcare Office. This was not a mouse, its tail was curling around and its paws looked like they could grip onto things. It was a Western Pygmy Possum, could there be more of these critters out there?



COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS



We embarked on a community education and awareness project running eight workshops with over 150 participants to make over 300 possum boxes. The boxes were designed specifically for these tiny marsupials with the aim to get them out on properties and find out if they would be used and where the possums might be.



WHERE ARE THEY?



The boxes have been installed in many different types of vegetation across South Australia. Some landholders have monitored their usage with inspection cameras. There are six properties that have possums breeding in them and staying year-round. Some other critters found using the boxes are geckos, microbats, bird nests, a Dunnart, invertebrates and many species of huntsman that co-exist with the possums.



Get involved, make habitat boxes and get them out there, they will be used.

Revegetate, protect natural regeneration.

Control herbivores like goats and kangaroos.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?



This project is supported by the Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board through funding from the landscape levies.

Don't leave rubbish around that can capture water and drown animals, especially under trees.

Keep cats in at night and control feral pests like cats and foxes.



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YouTube video of project



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SA