

RTI 039

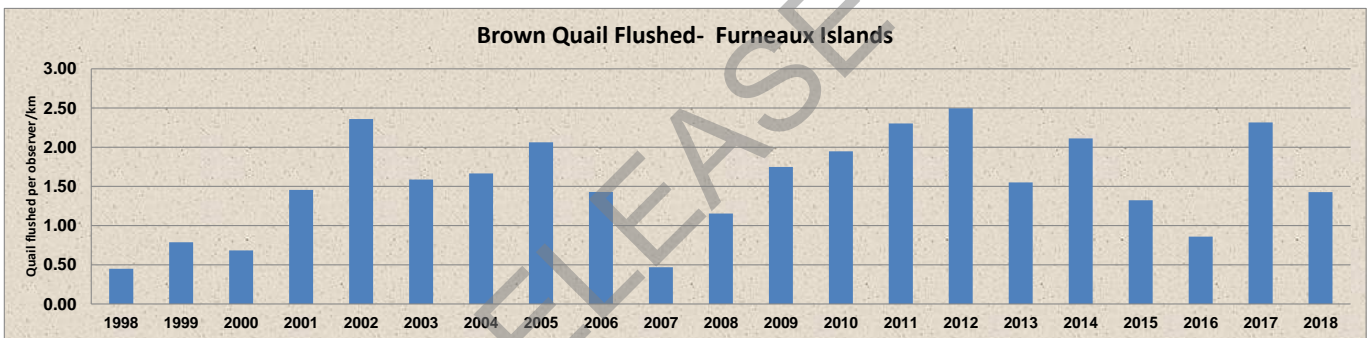
Authorisation Type	Species	Basis of sustainability assessment
CPP/Game Licence/Commercial Hunting Licence	Bennett's and Rufous wallaby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual spotlight monitoring of 190 x 10km transects across Tasmania: https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Spotlight%20Summary%20Report.pdf
CPP	Black Currawong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP	Black Swan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20Waterbird%20Surveys.pdf
CPP	Black-faced Cormorant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
Game Licence	Brown Quail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 9 offshore islands of the Furneaux Group where majority of harvesting occurs (graph attached).
CPP/Commercial	Brush-tail possum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual spotlight monitoring of 190 x 10km transects across Tasmania: https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Spotlight%20Summary%20Report.pdf https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Management%20Plan%20for%20the%20Commercial%20Harvest%20&%20Export%20of%20Brush-tail%20Possums%20in%20Tasmania%202015-2020.pdf https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Commercial%20Harvest%20Quota%20Report%20Brush-tail%20Possum%202019-20.pdf
CPP	Cape Barren Goose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring of gosling production and adult flock size to set harvest/cull quota (graph attached).
CPP/Game Licence	Chestnut Teal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20Waterbird%20Surveys.pdf
CPP/Game Licence	Common Pheasant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodic monitoring of cock birds on King Island since 1999 (graph attached). Introduced game species

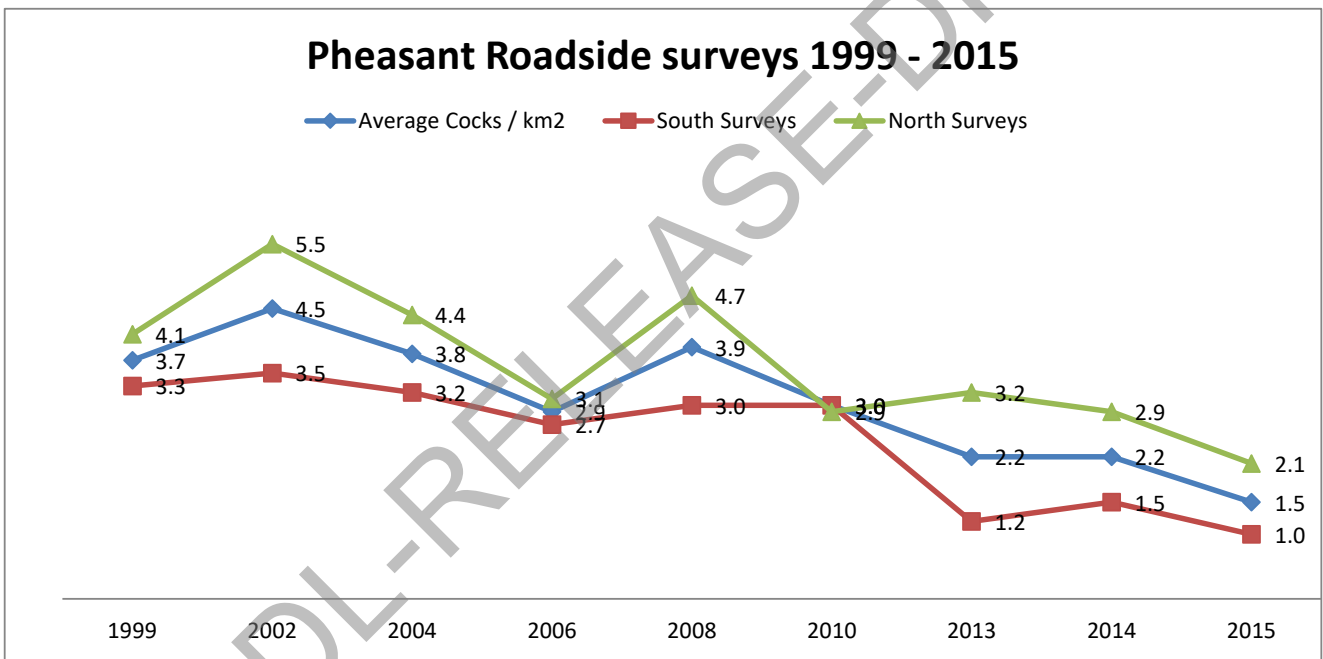
Authorisation Type	Species	Basis of sustainability assessment
CPP	Common Wombat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual spotlight monitoring of 190 x 10km transects across Tasmania: https://dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Spotlight%20Summary%20Report.pdf https://dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/Documents/M509500_Wombat%20Population%20Trends%20in%20Tasmania%201985-86%20to%202018-19_v2.1.pdf
CPP	Corella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No monitoring. Both Little Corella and Long-billed Corella are introduced species
CPP	Eurasian Coot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP/Game Licence	Fallow Deer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual spotlight monitoring of 190 x 10km transects across Tasmania: https://dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Spotlight%20Summary%20Report.pdf
CPP	Forester kangaroo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular monitoring of key populations in the Midlands (graph attached).
CPP	Galah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts on species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP	Green Rosella	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP CPP/Game Licence	Grey Teal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20Waterbird%20Surveys.pdf
CPP	Kelp Gull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species Birdlife Tasmania undertakes annual gull counts that are used to inform an assessment of take, for example: http://birdlife.org.au/images/uploads/branches/documents/TAS - YELLOW THROAT final final.pdf
CPP	Masked Lapwing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits issued to destroy nest/eggs on a case by case assessment of the impacts of species. As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.

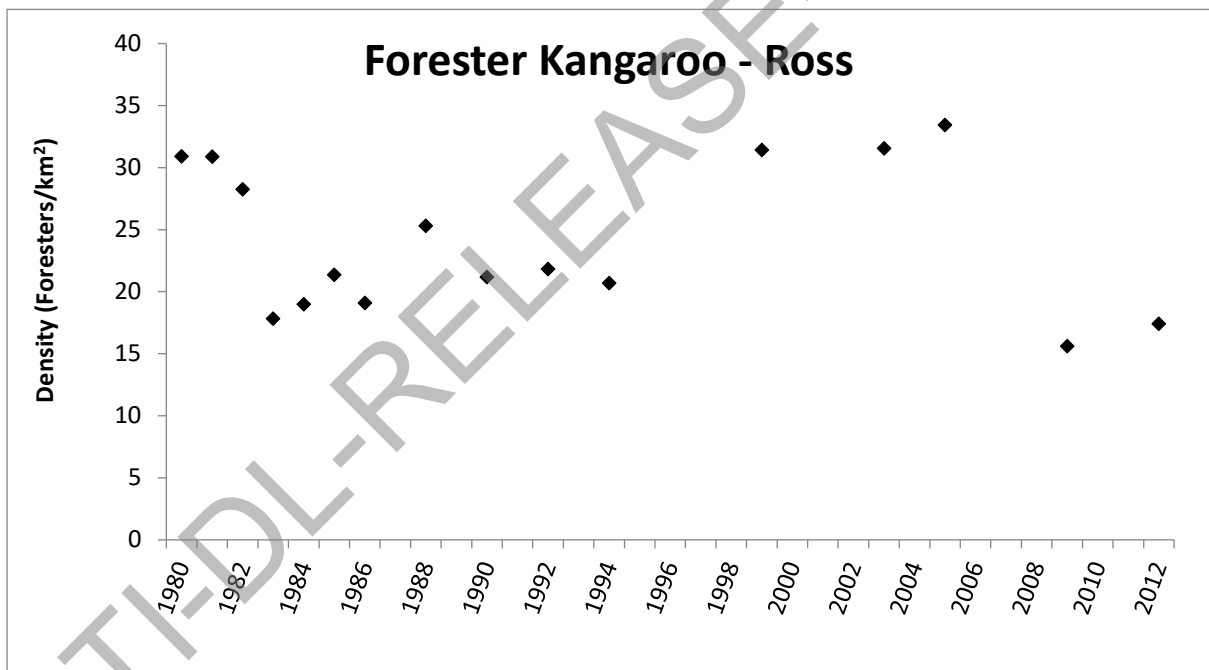
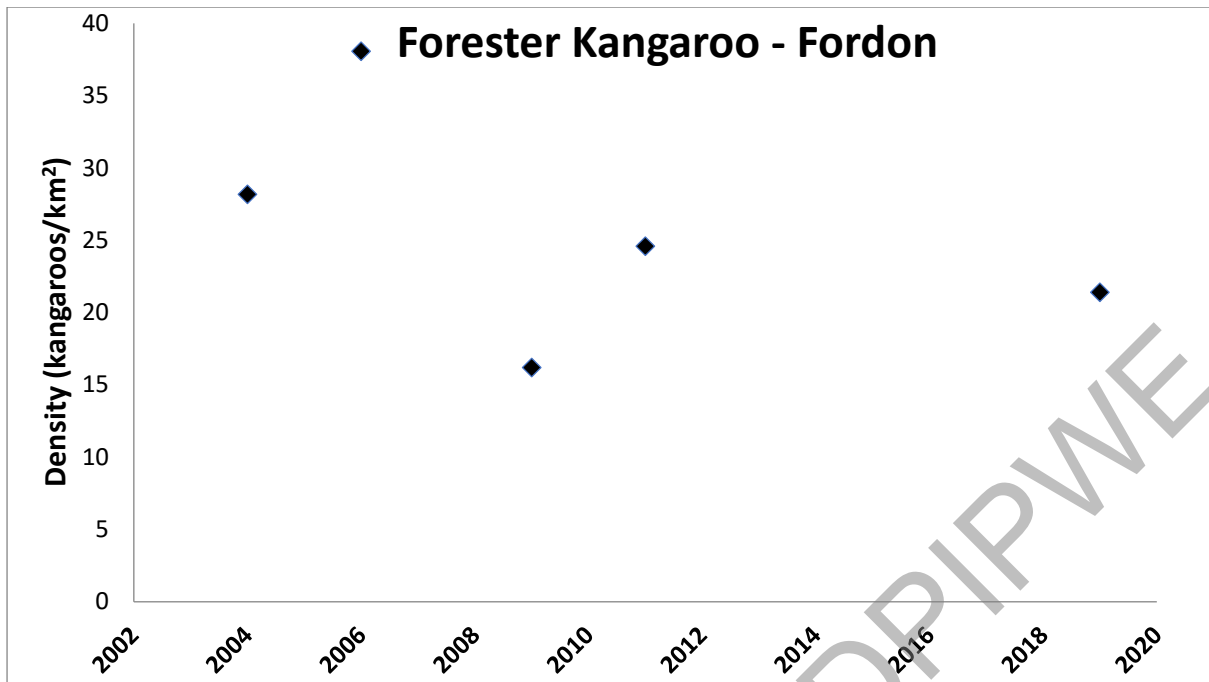
Authorisation Type	Species	Basis of sustainability assessment
CPP/Game Licence	Mountain Duck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dpiuwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20W aterbird%20Surveys.pdf
Game Licence	Muttonbird	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring of colonies. Most recent report attached.
CPP	Native Hen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP	Noisy Minor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits issued to destroy nest/eggs on a case by case assessment of the impacts of species. As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP/Game Licence	Pacific Black Duck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dpiuwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20W aterbird%20Surveys.pdf
CPP	Pacific Gull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species Birdlife Tasmania undertakes annual gull counts that are used to inform an assessment of take, for example: http://birdlife.org.au/images/uploads/branches/documents/TAS - YELLOW THROAT final final.pdf
CPP	Silver Gull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species Birdlife Tasmania undertakes annual gull counts that are used to inform an assessment of take, for example: http://birdlife.org.au/images/uploads/branches/documents/TAS - YELLOW THROAT final final.pdf
CPP	Silvereye	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring of populations in Coal and Derwent valleys (graph attached).
CPP	Welcome Swallow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permits issued to destroy nest/eggs on a case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.

Authorisation Type	Species	Basis of sustainability assessment
CPP/Game Licence	Wood Duck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual monitoring on 75 wetlands across Tasmania: https://dPIPWE.tas.gov.au/Documents/Statewide%20Waterbird%20Surveys.pdf
CPP	Yellow Wattlebird	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.
CPP	Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case by case assessment of the impacts of species As take is estimated at less than 5% per year, the population is therefore not monitored.

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			Ocean Beach colonies situated on fragile sand dunes.
2016	2 colonies located north of the Ocean Beach lookout closed and an alternative colony opened*	'Pensioners Rookery' Opened*	Closed due to storm impacts reducing area of colony by ½.
2016	3 Cape Sorell Colonies	Colonies remain closed.	3 colonies remain closed and under observation – investigating rehabilitation options.
2015	Big Green and East Kangaroo	Big Green Island Closed and East Kangaroo Opened	Harvest rotation and complaints from landholder.
2015	3 Cape Sorell Colonies	Alternate colonies opened on Ocean Beach (north of Lookout)	Colony degradation largely due to burning.
2014	Fort Direction	Closed for the season	Low burrow occupancy
2013	Councillor Island	Permanent Closure	Request from P&WS – recent returns show no harvest on the Island
2013	Cape Farewell and Cape Wickham colonies	Permanent closure	Reserved land leased to allow for the development of a golf course.
2011	Big Green Island	Closed for season	Low burrow occupancy
2010/11	Fort Direction	Closed for 2 seasons	Low burrow occupancy

As a result, the 2019 harvest season will see 42 colonies open to recreational harvest including 7 in the Hunter island Group in the north west, 16 on and around King Island, 15 in the Furneaux Island group and 4 on the West Coast. [Section 35](#)

Harvest levels

Over recent years, the number of recreational muttonbird licences sold has remained stable at around 900, with the exception of 2014. Based on returns received, average estimated take per year from 2011 to 2015 was 35,088 at an average of 46 birds per licence issued. A significant decline in numbers of adult breeding birds detected in 2013 led to very low burrow occupancy during 2014. As a result, there was a reduction in the number of licences issued (691) and a reduction in birds harvested per licence (16). In 2015, following a limited increase in bird numbers the number of licences issued (933) returned to normal levels.

The decline in bird numbers in 2014 led to the closure of all commercial shearwater harvesting with only 3,300 birds reported harvested compared to previous years where the commercial catch has sometimes exceeded 100,000 birds. [Section 35](#)

The recreational harvest however, does not reduce to the level that the commercial harvest does in years of low bird numbers. During years of low burrow occupancy, harvesters must travel further over sensitive colony areas where it is not possible to prevent damage to burrows, potentially killing the birds they contain, thereby exacerbating the impact of the harvest on the already low numbers of birds present. **Table 2** summarises the recreational harvest over recent years.

breeding failure is likely a result of a combination of high rainfall flooding burrows and significant predation of adult birds, likely by water rats was noted. Furthermore, the nearby jetty underwent an upgrade 2 years ago and this led to significantly increased lighting. Tasports are currently implementing an environmental management plan to reduce the impact of their activities on short-tailed shearwaters.

South East Tasmania

Fort Direction

Chick numbers at Fort Direction show a slight decline compared to last year however are still significantly above those seen previously and the long-term average for the colony

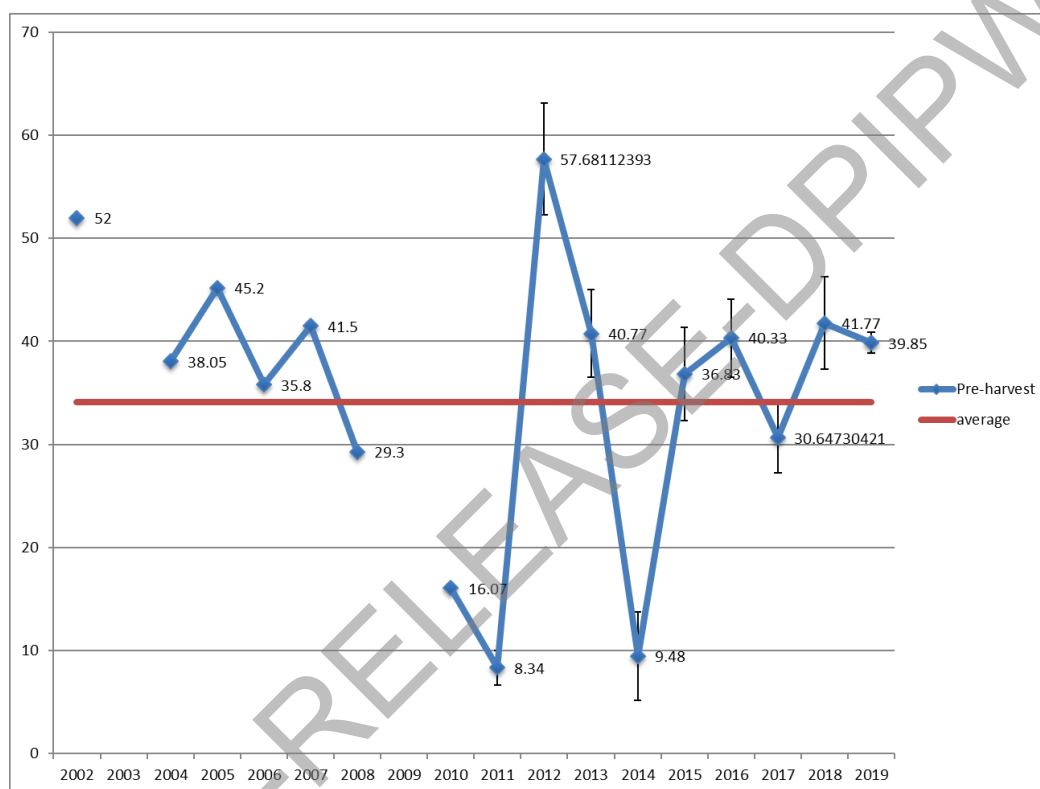


Figure 4: Trends in burrow occupancy of chicks shown as percentage occupancy per 100 burrows showing this year's season decreasing slightly when compared to the previous year but above the long term average for the 18 years surveyed.

Four out of the last five years have shown above average numbers of chicks at Fort Direction. The current burrow occupancy rate of 39.89% is well within parameters where harvest has previously been shown to be sustainable.

Density of occupied burrows across areas surveyed suggest a chick can be found every 0.236m² within the colony as shown in figure 5.

Conclusion

It appears that chick numbers in colonies around Tasmania have this year are generally above the declining average. However, rates of burrow occupancy were found to be within levels where harvesting without additional sustainability controls in place has previously been permitted.

Cooperation with external research providers is increasing our ability to gain understanding about a number of aspects of short-tailed shearwater biology, sustainability of harvest and increase monitoring efficiency and effectiveness. This should be encouraged and expanded as opportunities arise.

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Annual Cockatoo Monitoring, Coal and Derwent Valleys

