

Sugar Glider Box Check February 2012

Because of the weather the February check took place on Thursday March 1st

Asha was tied up with orientation week so it was just Kara and I to do the checking this month.

Waiting for Kara to arrive I heard three striped marsh frogs in the pond at the picnic area, I have only heard common froglets there in the past.

Kara soon arrived and we headed down to pick up the ladder it was clear that we would not be checking BW6 and the newly repaired box 10 across the creek as the



water level was too high. I took some water

samples for testing but with the turbidity so high ($400\text{NTU} \geq$) due to the amount of rain we have had over the past week I was only able to do conductivity, pH and temperature tests.

The first box we checked MF9 was hanging on quite firm with one screw but with three gliders in residence we left it alone to be fixed up another day



MF9

The next one box 2 had three, one of them maybe the one with a wall-eye on the right side of the face that Robert Bender has seen many times in bat box



7 **Box2**

MF7 had one and there were a few ants hanging around. Kara checked it out and noticed a dead young which she removed



It was too decayed to keep.

MF6 was home to a rat , the box is secure but the lid needs re-hinging (leave it be for now it's home for someone)

Box 5 which usually has old sleepy ringtail inside was empty so I took it down to put on a lid.

One of the new boxes that Robert purchased a few months back (SG1) has bees, there are now 5 boxes that have bees. SG1, SG6, MF3, 7 and 4

MF5 that had them last month was completely free so I took it down to remove the honeycomb and repair for next month. Robert tossed in poison bait in December so



this might be the way to go.

We replaced box

6 that I fixed up adding a piece of carpet to the inside of the lid in the hope that it would deter bees attaching the honeycomb.



Bat box 7 has for some time had three gliders in residence so I was sure they would be in today.

When I opened the lid they were all looking at me and not one had a deformed eye, by the time I got my camera set they were out through the bottom and gliding across to the closest tree and quickly climbing to the top



Lidless box 8 had a ringtail and at least one young, last month the mother was wide awake and shot up the tree when we peered inside, now with offspring she is more



inclined to stay still and protect.

Protective mother

One of the new boxes SG4 was infested with ants so I propped it open and they



soon came pouring out.

MF4 was home to 4



gliders

Snug as a bug in a rug MF4

After the check we had a quick look along the track to the Tessellated Pavement where there are half a dozen or so boxes that we are going to assess next month

Sugar Gliders (*Petaurus breviceps*)

Organ Pipes National Park

Date – 1 March 2012

Box	GLIDERS	COMMENTS	Action Required
2	3		Lid needs rehinging
MF7	1	1 Dead young glider, few ants	Remove box and repair
MF6		1Rat	Lid needs rehinging
5		No Lid	Removed for repairs
SG1		Bees	Remove bees
SG2		Bark material in box	None
6		Box reattached same aspect	None
Bat box 7	3	Gliders escaped to close tree and climbed to canopy	None
SG3		Many ants	Lid was propped open
8		Ringtail with 1 young	none
MF5		Lots of honeycomb but no bees	Removed for repairs

SG5		Few ants	Lid was propped open
SG4		Many ants	Lid was propped open
MF4	4		None
SG6		Bees	Remove bees
MF3		Bees	Remove bees
7		Bees	Remove bees
4		Bees	Remove bees
MF9	3		Reattach box prune back shrubs
BW 6		Unable to check, high creek level	None
10		Unable to check, high creek level	None
Total 21			

A good day with 14 gliders found and two boxes removed for repair. Robert Bender on his Bat check took home box 3 that had fallen so next month they will be three more homes.

Next box check Saturday March 31st



