



RIVERCONNECT

TREE HOLLOW SURVEY

Tree hollows are holes or cavities in trees that provide important shelter and breeding sites for many animals.

Hollows used by animals range from less than 2 cm to more than 30 cm in entrance diameter. There are many bat species, arboreal marsupials (possums), about bird species and an unknown number of invertebrates that use hollows to varying degrees. This includes species that are listed as threatened such as the Squirrel Glider.

Introduced species use hollows, including serious pests such as the common starling. It is important to consider these introduced species when thinking about hollow demand because they compete with our native hollow-users.

Searching for Hollows

When doing hollow surveys it is a good idea to:

- use a good pair of binoculars
- do searches in good weather
- move around to find the best vantage point and try to look at the tree from all angles.

Plotting Tree hollows

How to use the *etrex* Garmin GPS Unit to plot Waypoints

To start

Turn on by pressing the 'Power' button (bottom right).

Wait until the satellites are located

Scroll through pages using 'Page' button (top right).

To take a reading of UTM co-ordinates.

Find menu page and scroll to *Mark* using the 'Arrow' keys (top left). Press the 'Enter' button (bottom left).

Look at lower part of screen to see the x, y coordinates. Notice the number 55 - the zone we are in.

Record the coordinates:

- The 6 digit number starting with 3 is the x coordinate.
- The 7 digit number starting with 5 is the Y coordinate.

To save this waypoint press Enter.

Tree Hollow Survey

Name / School:

Date:

Location:

List the hollows you see into the table below:

	Tree species	Diameter (cm)	Location Details	X-coordinate (3_ _ _ _)	Y-coordinate (5_ _ _ _)	# hollows
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
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Sources: Tree Hollows in Tasmania, A guide. Published by the CRC for Forestry and the Forest Practices Authority, November 2009 (<http://www.crcforestry.com.au/downloads/hollows-booklet-241109.pdf>)