

## Common Brushtail Possum (*Trichosurus vulpecular*)

Robyn Howard



Photo: Wikipedia

There are three different species of possum at the Wetlands Sanctuary – Common Ringtail Possum, Short-eared (or Mountain) Brushtail Possum, and Common Brushtail Possum which is the most commonly seen. All species are nocturnal, but during the day, the drey (looking like a nest in the canopy) of the Ringtail may be seen. It is able to carry material for the drey in its prehensile tail. Both Brushtail species cannot build dreys and roost in hollows. The colour of the Common Brushtail Possum varies greatly and may be from almost black to a bright almost orange shade. They feed on leaves, flowers, and fruit, with mistletoes often providing good sustenance.

Squirrel Gliders have also been identified at the sanctuary.