

THE RAKALI COMMUNITY SURVEY: IDENTIFYING THREATS THROUGH COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Between December 2014 and March 2015 WWF in collaboration with the Department of Parks and Wildlife collected rakali (*Hydromys chrysogaster*) sightings from the public as part of a widely advertised citizen science project. The rakali, also known as Australian water rat, is one of the few amphibious animals in Australia that have successfully adapted to a semi-aquatic lifestyle, occupying both fresh and marine waters. Rakali are a very elusive species, notoriously difficult to study. The aim of the Rakali Community Survey was to educate the community about this native rodent, whilst obtaining distribution data and identifying potential threats. Dr Sabrina Trocini, the Rakali Community Survey project coordinator, will discuss the results obtained during this survey and outline research and management priorities for the species. Citizen science offers an incredible opportunity to collect monitoring data on a large spatial and temporal scale and to detect changes in frequency and distribution of easily observable threats to wildlife species.

Who: Sabrina Trocini

When: 25 August 2016

Time: 6pm

Where: 170 Camboon Road, Malaga.

Tickets: Public \$15 Members \$10 Volunteers \$5