BIOBLITZ



CASUARINA COASTAL RESERVE WEEKEND OF 29 MARCH 2025

Survey 16: Microbats - Saturday 6:00 pm

What: Join local bat experts in surveys of the microbats of Casuarina Coastal Reserve. Activities include (a) surveys using handheld ultrasonic bat detectors to identify bat species by echolocation calls, and (b) observing leaders checking harp traps designed to catch and collect bats. If bats are captured successfully, participants will have the opportunity to see microbats up close while basic measurements of collected bats are taken by the survey leaders. Bats will then be released near their site of capture. Acoustic recordings of bats may be reviewed at the BioBlitz Base Camp prior to field surveys.



Leaders: Dr Nicola Hanrahan is a post-doctoral fellow in bat ecology and conservation at Charles Darwin University and is currently studying the ecology of Ghost Bats. Dr Damian Milne is a senior scientist at the NT Government's Flora and Fauna Division.

When: Saturday, 29 March 2025, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Where: Meet at Darwin Surf Life Saving Club at 6:00 pm for check-in and briefing. The survey will start at 6:30 pm and will be conducted between Rocklands Drive and Free Beach carpark in Casuarina Coastal Reserve.

Distance: Return walk of 1.6 km at night.

Difficulty: Moderate. Includes walking on bush trails at night by torchlight.

Who can attend: All ages, children 5-15 welcome with a parent/carer.

Number of participants: 10

Notes: Bring a torch, preferably a head-torch. Attendees are welcome to bring their own bat detectors. A small number of detectors will be available to share. Only science leaders will handle microbats and photography of bats will not be permitted. A list of what to bring and wear will be provided on registration.

