# Field Note Book 1983 – 1985

## Barrow Island and adjacent islands

Volume 1

Mr Keith Morris

Barrow Is CD 7/3/83

Dep Karratha 0925 with AAB Bumbridge, Bill Jacoby, Ray Authen and Stewart Wheeler (AMB) (WAWA visit once every 2 years)
BWI ~ 70 nm from KTA.
arr BWI 1010 - met by Harry Butler
room A 18 in new accom blocks.
- 100 new oil wells since last WAWA visit in 1981.
- contractors camps established
- problem with fresh water
  - 2000 ppm TDS.
  1 aquifer for the island.
- oilfield now extends north near valleys of Gash

part of the spotlighting transect.

Ballast ponds (1 & 2) and oil lagoon.
1 x Golden Plover
5 x RC Dotterel
3 x Greenshank
1 x Tattler.

20+ WBWS around main camp - roost in Tuart trees around oval.

Large V. giganteum near H.B's laboratory.

Triodia angusta on deeper sandier soils. T. wiseana elsewhere on rocky slopes

1 x Welcome Swallow near valley of Giants (Euc. petiolaris to 3m).

Soaks in creek - dug out by Europ - 1 dead. V. giganteum.

White Beach: fresh Green Turtle tracks and many nests on beach

Bandicoot, rabbit, euro Varanus tracks on beach.

Sev. Crested Tern + Silver Gulls on beach.

Cape Mallouet

2 x Curo (♀ + yah)
on rocks.

Many fresh turtle tracks
on beach, many turtles
in the shallows.

3 Curos sheltering under
cliff

1 x Red Cormorant

Boobs warren in limestone
under ficus

3 BS Dove.

John Wayne Country

3 V. giganteum on
beach.

Turtle hatchling tracks
on beach.

Ruddy Turnstone
Sooty OC
Silver Gull
Pied OC
1 dead green Turtle

Some Turtles have gone
inland over the 1st dune.

1 juvenile WBSE over
cliffs
1 Singing HE in Acacia
coriacea
1 Spinifex bird calling
1 Spotted Harrier.

Many WBWS and Welcome Swallows over oval and swimming pool at dusk @ 8:45

Spotlighting transects
1930-2200 - 2 teams
inside and field and outside air field.

| | (outside) AAB + G | (inside) HB + G |
|---|---|---|
| Antech. | 1 | 1 |
| Possum | 3 | 20 |
| HW | 25 | 53 |
| Euro | 2 | 4 |
| Boodie | 3 | 7 |
| Bandicoot | 16 | 24 |
| rodent | 6 | 2 |
| | 56 | III |

8/3/83

Up 0600
Breakfast at mess

Down to south end of island
— Middle Is.
Bandicoot Bay - Sooty Tern Island
Pied OC
1 dead Green Turtle on beach.
Middle Is Rattus rattus and Bandicoot Isoodon auratus tracks on beach.
2 Pied Cormorants
Rattus probably from poaching luggers ~ 100 years ago.

Set 3 poly drums and 1 PVC pipe as pit traps

on Middle Is. - 2 on beach, 2 behind first dune.
Baited with peanut paste.
1 Spotted Harrier over beach.
Osprey nest, 1 BS Pair

discussed banding program with Stewart Wheeler

2x Welcome Swallow
1x Osprey
1x Reef Heron

~25 dead turtles in blowout area on west side of the island.

1x Sanderling
1x Turnstone
1x Sooty OC.

Many bandicoot diggings amongst seaweed on beach.
- only few turtle tracks

2x Gull billed Terns
1x Brahminy Kite

Mutton bird burrows under Acacia coriacea shrubs.

1 Bandicoot skull picked up from sand dune on east beach.
Picked up by HB in boat 1100 on east beach

across to Boodie Is
1115 - lunch

1x Osprey
1x Spotted Harrier
10 BS Dove in
Cordia subcordata
clump - Kimberley sp
of plant - pearler?

Boodie + Rattus skulls
(Bettongia lesueur)
2x Brahminy Kite
1x Kestrel

Several turtle nests on
west beach.

1x Brahminy Kite

2x Welcome Swallow
1 pipit near abandoned
oil well - abandoned
13-2-83.

Beach on SW side of island
Rattus tracks very common
some Boodie, no Bandicoot

Pascoe Is - pied cormorant
silver gull
- reef heron

Rattus droppings and
runways
skull, tail and fur

returned to BWI 1425.

after dinner 1900

to Eaglenest Bay for turtle spotting - no good too much weed.

Back to John Wayne country

1 green dugong nest 2120.

6 eggs laid in 35 minutes.

back to camp 2230.

1 HW & hut boy vehicle sent out of main camp 2225 - elongated boat.

9/3/83

Up 0530

after breakfast to Middle Is to check pit traps - 1 Lerista bipes

1 Cteroton serventy

no Rattus or Isoodon

Back to barge landing area

1 WB SE

1 Spotted Harrier

poles carrying power lines used by birds of prey as vantage points

Trachosaurus road hill.

Biggada Creek

30 Cerro

1 Petrogale penicillata

Hydrosaurus tracks
2 dead Green Turtles
1 x Brahminy Kite
2 x Sacred Kingfisher
BS Dove
2 x Pelican
2 RW in club
1 Reef Heron
Few Crested and Lesser Crested Tern.

Cave 1430 - 1500
Euro
Boodie warren
Eptesicus pumilus
Taphozous georgianus
Trichosurus
guano.

Spotlight run 1900

HB outside 54 total
HAB inside 60 total.

10/3/83

up 0545.

Double Is - vegetation looks good.
2 x Pied OC
5 x Lesser Crested Tern
2 x Silver Gull.

Mutton bird burrows - not active.
many Rattus tracks droppings.
Kestrel, BS Dove

Amphibolus cardicostus

1x Reef Heron
1x Welcome Swallow
1x Whimbrel
15x Red Cormorant
3x Bridled Tern

Land snails. Rhagada sp
- Thenapupa sp.

North Double Is 0855
3x Reef Heron
Rattus droppings + tracks
Lesser Crested Tern
4 BS Dove
1 Osprey + nest.

Reef Heron - 2 grey
1 white

Boomerang Is. connects at low tide to BWI.
Rattus ? tracks ✓
WAPET library - references on island

Bell Bros airstrip abandoned 1966
nothing done for rehab.
1982 ripped some of the strip

Trodia angusta now growing on airstrip
T. pungens on each side

11/3/88

Up 0600.

Mangroves on east side near airport.
- hole blasted by

naval shell.
1 x Night Heron
2 Reef Heron
Gulls
Sooty OC
Pied OC
Pelican

1 young Green Turtle in pool.

Claypans - full with fresh water after rain
Cyclorana maini

Godwit
Turnstone
Pied OC

fresh water soak on west side - no go area for WAPET vehicles - dead end.

dep BWI 1500 - KA.
arr 1545.

- banting programs on Pascoe, Boomerang Muddle, Boodie Is.

(Trapping for Rattus)

Barrow Is ② 17/4/83

HB and Dennis King trapped Rattus on Boomerang Is after WAWA visit. (are they on main Barrow Is as well)

Met HB at KA airport 1015 dep for BWI 1045 C310 arrived 1130 - lunch.

checked out traps, boat and potential trapping sites near barge landing and Boomerang Is

1930 - 2045 Headtorching on Boomerang Is.

1 Rattus rattus on Ficus

1 Isoodon

Trichosurus on Ficus also skull + skeleton

looked at main incinerator and rubbish tip on way back to camp - no Rattus

Earlier we checked warehouses

Rattus ? tracks in sand on floor of warehouse HB did not agree. No rattus tracks on sand adjacent to Boomerang Is.

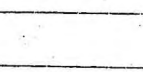
18/4/83

Up 0600 breakfast

after to landing 0800 to Boomerang Is

fresh Rattus tracks on beach.

Set 60 bait/pindone (150g) bait stations (plastic bags) in a grid pattern




more stations on rocky cliffs and near BWI.

0830 - 0930 all baits laid

Prepared Elliot traps

186 medium

120 small

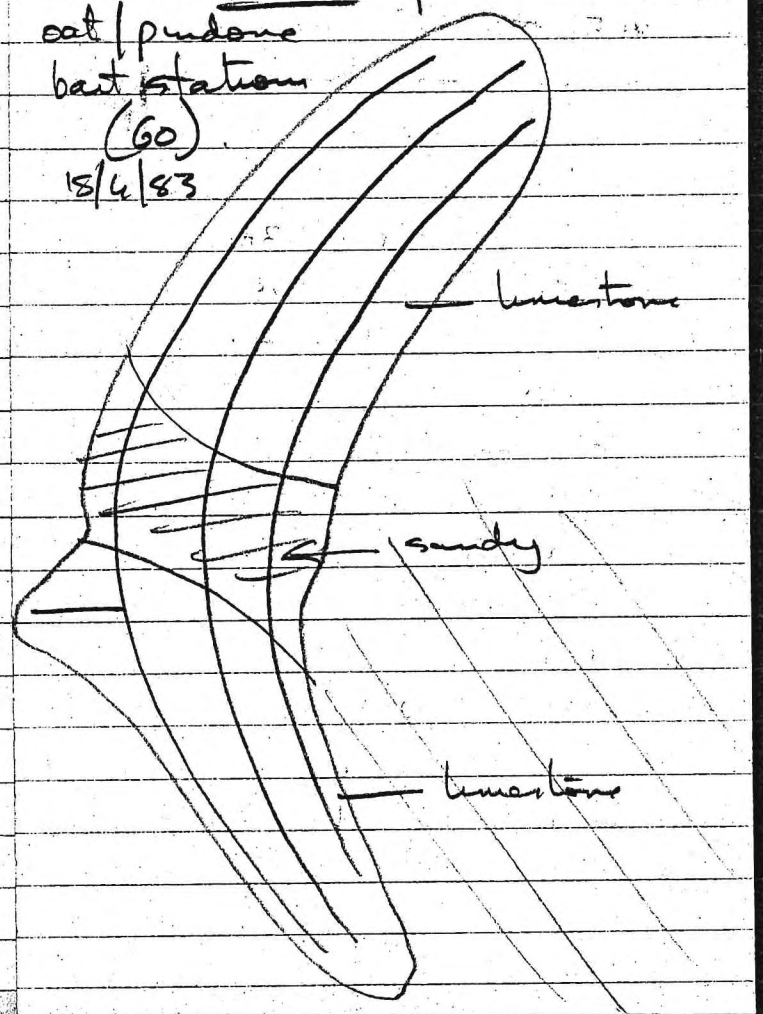
306 total.

31.5 mm of rain on Barrow Is in March

set traps in 2 parallel lines from Maltreus Point (S of landing) to nearly out Point (N of landing) 1500 - 1730
in 3:2 med : small.
- 1 line along the beach S long/shore
- other line on top of foredune
= 120 traps
also 20 traps in and around warehouses - base
20 traps around pipe area at landing
+ 2 extra at top
= 162 total

Boomerang Is

eat/prudone bait station (60)
18/4/83



8/4/83

Up 0600

checked TL's 0700.

KDM

① 4 Bandicoots
1 HW

② 6 BC
2 Bettong

③ 7 BC
2 Bettong
1 Pramm
1 A Macd.

~~④ warehouse 2 Zygomys~~
1 Pramm.

⑤ pipe area 1 A mac
1 Possum
1 Bettong
3 BC, 1 Pramm

HB

① 2 BC
2 P. nanus

② 1 Bettong

③ 7 BC
2 Bettong

Finished traps 0830

29 BC
1 HW
5 Pramm
8 Bettong
2 A. Mc.
1 Poss.
2 Zygom
48 / 162 traps
30% trap success

after lunch set 100 more traps north of landing → ant Point

40 in bay N of ant point lines ⑨

40 in bay S of ant point lines ⑩ + ⑪

20 sandhills over dunchays creek ⑫ + ⑬

relocated lines ①-⑦
back to camp 1730
2 Otentors grounds
1 BC in wraps

wrap total 162
100
262

20/4/83

up 0600
checked TL's (240)

① 9 BC
1 Bett

② 3 BC
2 Pramm

③ 7 BC

④ Pramm
3 BC

⑤ 6 BC
1 3y3

⑥ 4 BC
3 Pramm

⑦ 4 3y3

⑧ 1 Pramm
3 BC
1 Belting

⑨ 3 BC
4 Pramm
1 Belting

⑮ 2 BC

⑪ 1 Belting
1 BC
1 Pramm

⑫ 2 BC
1 V. acanth

⑬ 4 Pramm
1 BC

45 Bc
4 Belltona
17 Pnamm
5 Zygoma
71 / 262

27% success

checked Boomerang 1s.
0900 - 1000.
~50% of baits opened
rattan droppings around 1s

put 12 traps in each of the 3 warehouses at base camp = 36 43
another 7 at ODE camp

total traps 262
+ 43
305

21/4/83

up OSKS.
checked TL's

(1) 6 Bc
1 Belltona

(2) 2 Pnamm
2 Zygoma
1 Belltona
3 Bc

(3) 1 Zygoma
5 Bc
1 Ct. fallax
1 Ct grandis

(4) 3 Bc
1 Pnamm
1 Zygoma

(5) 4 Bc

(6) 5 Bc
4 Pnamm
1 Belltona

(7) 7 Zygoma
1 Pnamm
1 Belltona

(8) 5 Bc
1 a.mco
1 Belltona

⑨ 1 Zygoma
1 Pnam
2 Bc
1 Poss

⑩ 4 Bc

⑪ 7 Pnam
2 Bc

⑫ 3 Bc
1 Zyg

⑬ 2 Pnam

| | |
|---|---|
| general warehom | 1 Bc |
| | 1 Mus |
| mud warehom | 1 Zygo |
| pump " | 1 Zygo |
| ODE | 3 Bc |

43 Bc
5 Bellona
18 Pnam
13 Zygom
1 Poss
1 ant
1 Mus
88 total / 305
29%
success

22/4/83

Up 0530
checked TLs 24°

⑨ 2 Bc
2 Prawns

⑩ 3 Bc
3 Sygans

⑪ 7 Prawns
2 Bc

⑫ 2 Bc

⑬ 5 Prawns
2 Bc

⑦ 7 Sygans
1 Belted

⑧ 3 Bc
1 Sygan
1 Chelonia nydas hatchling

⑤ 3 Bc
1 belted

⑥ 2 Bc + 1
2 Prawns
1 Belted
3 Sygans

③ 3 Bc
1 Prawn

④ 4 Bc
1 Belted
4 Prawns.

① 7 Bc
1 Belted

② 3 Bc
2 Prawns
1 Sygan

mud 1 Bc
1 Sygan

general 2 Bc
1 Sygan

ODE 3 Bc

collected TLs ① – ⑧
(4 nights trapping no Raltim)

34 Bc
23 Prawns
15 Sygans
5 Belted
77

24% trap success

23/4/53

up DSLS

checked TWS

100

⑨ 3 BC
1 Bellring
1 Pram

⑩ 1 Bellring
1 BC
2 Jyzzers

⑪ 1 BC
1 Bellring
2 Prams

⑫ 2 BC
1 Jyzzer

⑬ 5 BC
2 Prams

general 1 BC
mud 2 Jyzzers
tramp 1 Jyzzer 1 BC
OOF 1 Jyzz 2 BC

23% trap success

lifted the remaining TC's 143 traps
+ 163
306 traps
counted into boxes.

Dep BWI 1600
in B212 helicopter
KA 1645 via
Lowendal Is.

[Trap Rattler + Isoodon for ADB]

Barrow Is (3) 1/8/83

Dep KA & HB and Rob Munn (Woodside) 1000 WPT (Islander) via Lowendal Is.

1 Humpback Whale 270° 1025 at 3000' ~10 nm east of Lowendal Is. wind 060/12

1 Manta ray, 1 Dugong between BWI and Lowendals

West coast BWI - several turtles in water + tracks on beaches. 1 turtle on beach.

arr BW 1030.

Set 60 Elliot traps on Middle Is - beach adjacent to BWI

6 lines of 10 traps
- beach
- crest of foredune
- over foredune.

Inspected Boodie + Middle Is
- fishing.

Fresh dead Green Turtle of east beach Middle Is.

6 pr of Green Turtle mating in shallows of Bandicoot Bay 1530

returned to camp 1600

prepared holding cage.

caught 8 Isoodon in rubbish area outside mess.

2/8/83

Up 0600

checked traps on Middle Is

5 x Isoodon

1 x Rattus

Ishing of Pascoe Is - camp

Turtle still mating in Bc bay

Inspected Boomerang Is for Rattus tracks - none seen.

Many possum tracks and Varanus tracks

No Isoodon tracks.

reset traps on Middle Is in afternoon

3/8/83.

up 0600

checked + lifted traps on Middle Is.

4 x Isoodon - 1 released

4 x Rattus

total 8 Isoodon

5 Rattus

to APB for Pundano testing

dep BWI 1530

arr KA 1630

Barrow Is (2). 16/10/83
(DWO dmqy on barge)
Dep KA with Phil Fuller 0830
WPT to BWI via
Monte Bellos.

Charter vessel "Nellie Melba"
anchored on north side of
Tremoulle Is. Many turtles
in water around Tremoulle
and a few on the beach 0915
Another vessel shelling in
bay on S o/ Hermite Is.
a few smaller turtles also.

1 Dugong between Monte
Bellos and BWI.
landed BWI 0945
met bay HB.
Back to camp to mix

up - Pindone (in oil) and oats:

100 ml pindone/oil : 1 kg oats

Spotted Harrier over camp
dead Tree Martin at camp.
after lunch to Double Is
to lay baits.
South Double Is done first.
150g oil/oats/pindone
laddled out onto ground
at 50 m intervals with
one in the middle also.

bait stations ran along
the N - S axis of island
used approx 35 kg
of oats on the island
and set another 25 o/later

from the dinghy on the
lee side (east) of both
north + south Double Is
oats in plastic bags thrown
into inaccessible places
from dinghy and top of
Is.

South Double Is

Pied OC

Beach Stn Curlew 2

nest c 1 egg

under Acacia near
beach

no nest, just depression

WBSE nest on west side

2 adults 1 flying young

Reef Heron - nest c 2 eggs
in limestone

2 other nests also c eggs

Osprey - nest & 2
adults no young
Caspian Tern x 2
Crested Tern x 20
Turnstone
Greenshank
Tattler
BS Dove
Tree Martin
Welcome Swallow
Silver Gull
Red necked Stint

Amphibolurus caudicinctus

Boomerang Is - no.
rattlen tracks
Possum tracks present
some bats still present.

Osprey 2 adults & 2
flying young
nest on north side
Sooty OC - protective
nest among rocks
Pied OC seen later
BS Dove 1 egg

17/10/83

Rep camp 0700 to
Double Is - north to bait
30 kg loose oats / pumdoms
and 20 1150g bags of oats
also baited western cliffs
of both north & south
Double Is
finished baiting 0830.

Reef Heron - 6 nests all
& 2 eggs

2x Osprey - nest
Silver Gull
Pied Cormorant
Common Sandpiper
Welcome Swallow
Tree Martin
BS Dove
Pelican x 2

6 man hours to bait
Double Is (both islands)

1 Brown Booby between
Mushroom + Double Is

Mushroom Rk
Breathing Kite
Osprey (nest)
seen Pied Cormorant

Silver Gull
Pipit
BS Dove
Welcome Swallow

Mushroom Rk not baited
- no sign of Rattus

Back to barge landing
retrieved dinghy

Biggada Grab
- 20 Euros

Turtle Bay many Green
turtles on water edge
1100 (high tide 0800)
Osprey nest + 2 young
1 V. giganteus on beach

near Osprey nest.

Whites Beach  Tattler
Turnstone
Silver Gull
Gull Billed Tern
many turtles.

Harcourt Bay  many.
Green Turtle mainly ♀
resting on edge of
water occ ♂ also
of John Wayne Country
- photo taken.
mating pairs in water
low tide 1600
north end of Is. Ti tree.
1 Harrier
back to camp 1600.

18/10/83

Rep Bandicoot Bay  0730
arr Boodie Is  0830
set up camp near
limestone bluff - N o/island

walked N -> S beach
1 dead green turtle and
saw other bones inland.
to limestone tip of
island (SE corner)
old oil well.
2 dead Rattus - 1 skull
collected.

Boodie Warren counts
limestone - entrances

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ⓒ | 12 | ⓑ 52 major |
| ⓒ | 43 | system |
| ⓑ | 57 | 164 |

many other minor systems

6

5

11

12

34

possibly others under Ficus but unable to count these.

1 Lophognathus gilberti on cliff shelf

Rattus throughout limestone area - nests & fresh veg in cliffs under overhangs.

Rattus tracks mainly in assoc with veg not in blow out areas.

Boodie + Rattus tracks on small beach on SE side of island.
collected Boodie skull

Boodies appear to be restricted to limestone area and immediate region of sandstone.
- could prob bait the remaining 2/3 of the island without worrying about Boodies.
- use 3 wheeler bikes?

Osprey nest 1 fledged young
on 2 adults
on sandolum
WBSE 2 adults
Reef Heron 1 old nest
1 nest & 2 eggs
white + grey phase
Sooty OC
Pied OC
Silver Gull
Greenshank
Whimbrel
Turnstone
Red necked Stint
Tattler
Kestrel 1 dead
Welcome Swallow
Red Cora
Common Sandpiper

Caspian Tern
BS Dover in Ficus

After lunch I continued
counting Boodie warren
entrances
- limestone ridge behind
camp - south beach.
47 + 56 = 103
(before osprey nest)
19 + 23 + 21 = 63
(after osprey nest)

5 Mutton bird nests
- many more on top
of limestone under
Ficus

Selected sites for

dusk obs for Boodie activity

- west end of limestone

22, 20 entrances

WBSE 2

Brahminy Kite 1

Large Dotterel 4

Lizard tracks in some of the Boodie burrow entrances

1630 set 38 Elliot traps (2 x 19) in lines/rows near camp to catch Rattus for eating trials by Boodie.

2 r Fairy Tern

1 Sooty OC } together

1 Pied OC } on reef

1 Crested Tern

4 Rc dotterel

3 Caspian Tern

1 Kestrel

1730 - 1910 - obs Boodie warrens.

# 1 Phil

# 2 Keith 1 Boodie 1635

2 Rattus 1650

many Welcome Swallows around at dusk.

19/10/83

Up 0600

dew overnight

many fresh Rattus tracks

checked TL's

2 x Rattus in foredune line

0 in other lines

1 set of Boodie tracks between Cordia clump and beach. These are the most western found so far.

high tide 0900 - to Pascoe Is to bait cats/predators in 150g packets - 50 baits used.

Walked along N side of Boodie Is

RC Dotterel 1

Pied OC 2

Silver Gull 4

Turnstone 7

Many Rattus tracks amongst S. longifolium - no Boodie tracks

Saw Green Turtle in shallows on beach (seaward) and mating - 1 bogged.

Crested Tern 1

Fairy Tern 20+

More Rattus tracks along seaward beach.

Turnstone 8
Sanderling 2

Old oil well site
Pascoe #1 in
middle of 15.

Beach Stn Curlew 2
acting defensively - nesting
Bar tailed Godwit 3

Pascoe 15 WBSE 2+2 juv
Osprey 2+1
Common Sandpiper
Reef Heron
1 grey
2 white
Kestrel
Welcome Swallow

Wt of Rattus caught
i ♂ 150 g
ii ♂ 145 g
both ± scrotal testes

Put 2 plastic carry
boxes inverted ± bait
underneath to see
Rattus + Boodie response
to covered bait station

also cleared sand areas
for tracks count.
- base of limestone
- old track up
limestone

Put 1 dead rat in
rock hole at base of

limestone cliff, the other near a warren.

BS Kite preying on Welcome Swallow over Ficus 1820

Obs Boodie warren near Pascoe #3 well site.
57 entrances
sunset 1825
not Boodies seen.

Walk back to camp
17 Rattus
1 ♀ shot 205 g
1 ♀ shot at camp 160 g

neither Rattus pregnant

load 1000

20/10/83

Up 0615
shifted dingy radio call
VHF - Burrows OK.

checked TL's
2 x Chaetocnemis sapatilla
1 x Leggada bispira
No rattus

1 set of Boodie tracks fresh near camp.

Bait feeding sites
#1 - near camp - boodie

tracks all around
but not touched no
Rattus tracks inside

#2 base of limestone
cliff many Rattus
tracks around box
1 Boodie tracks across
sand.

Transect up old WAPET
track to SE end.
7 Boodie tracks
of diff ages

Returned to camp via
base of limestone
- more Boodie tracks
21 in 500 m

Areas of greatest
Boodie activity seem to
be red soil areas

Biggada - WAPET work
boat c HB arr 1130
lunch & then

back to camp 1600.

sat at Boodie warren
near SE end.
5 Rattus only

transect along gravel road
2045-2130
① 26 Rattus 2 Boodie
② 25 Rattus 2 Boodie

1 Boodie near River
1 " Pascoe H.3
2 1st bend of track

shot 4 Rattus
3 ♂ 1 juvenile

21/10/83

up 0545
checked bait stations
bait missing in one,
½ eaten in the other
Rattus tracks inside
and out, Boodie
tracks only on outside

10 Boodie tracks
in swept area near
base of cliff

Rattus carcass eaten
by other Rattus

Rep Boodie 0700
Picked up by HB 0800
at BC bay

Checked Double Is for
Rattus tracks - still some
present
Boomerang Is - nothing

Camp 1100

Rep BWI 1430
KA 1530

Areas of Islands

Boodie Is 4.3 km x 2.2 km
approx 470 ha

~ 108 ha limestone

Muddie Is ~ 900 ha

Double Is north - 33 ha
south - 60 ha

Boomerang 15 ha

Pascoe 2 ha

Barrow Is (5) 18/2/85

WAWA visit HA Burbidge
Dave Mell
KDM, HB.

Turtle Bay 1940 (John Wayne C.)
3 turtles hauling out to nest.
Green Turtles

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| #1 | CCL 970 | CCW 835 |
| | track width 850 | |
| #2 | CCL 1250 | CCW 1110 |
| | track width 1200 | |
| #3 | CCL 965 | CCW 875 |
| #4 | CCL 1030 | CCW 965 |
| #5 | CCL 1010 | CCW 925 |
| #6 | CCL 970 | CCW 880 |
| #7 | laying near north end of beach. | |

55 eggs 2120

temp probe in nest
Ta 31 Ts 33 °C

#8 CCL 970 CCW 890
#9 CCL 1050 CCW 940
#10 CCL 935 CCW 855
#11 CCL 1030 CCW 1000
#12 CCL 1070 CCW 1010
laying 81 eggs
probe in nest
Ta 31·5 Tn 32·5.

#13 CCL 1000 CCW 960

19/2/85

John Wayne Country

#12 nest Ts 32·0 Ta 39·0
#7 nest Ts 32·5 Ta 39·5

? Brown Boobies nesting on Lowendal Is - HB ??

north point of BWI
3 V. gigantium

1540
#12 nest Ts 32·0 Ta 37·0
#7 nest Ts 32·5 Ta 37·5

1745-2145
Spotlighting run.
north 69 mammals HB + DM
south 67 mammals AAB + KDM

20/2/85

0830 to Lowendal Is

see Lowendal Is (2) in Notebook

returned 1150.

1430 Tuatha nests

#12 $T_s$ 31·5 $T_a$ 34·0

#7 $T_s$ 32·5 $T_a$ 34·0

Double Is 1200

South Osprey

Beach Stn Curlew

Crested + Lesser Crested Tern

Bridled Tern

Reef Heron - grey

No sign of Rattus - 20 baits

Bladdernia (purple flower)

North no sign of Rattus

1 young Bridled Tern among rocks.

Capparis fruit intact - food of Rattus.

2020 Tuatha nests

#12 $T_s$ 31·5 $T_a$ 30·0

#7 $T_s$ 32·0 $T_a$ 30·0

Green Turtle hatchlings emerging from nest - collected 8 for Dennis King - Varanus diet

21/2/85

Turtle nests 0700

#12 $T_s$ 32·0 $T_a$ 29·5
#7 $T_s$ 30·5 $T_a$ 29·8

very high tide overnight
(cyclone to the north)
#2 nest covered by
sea water - drop in
nest temp - salinity
prob fatal to the eggs.

Hacourt Bay 0750
Green turtle on beach
cc 950 ccw 880
1 V. gigantea 1·82m long

Cave: Eptesicus pumilus
1♀ & 2 young

Taphozous georgianus
flying

turtle nests 1620
#12 $T_s$ 33·0 $T_a$ 32·5
#7 $T_s$ 31·5 $T_a$ 33·0.

2015 - 2230 Spotlight run
north 76 mammals
south 95 mammals.

2330 some rain

1630 turtles hatching
65 caught + released
in surf - Silver Gulls
got most
4 dead young in nest
5 infertile eggs 54 TOTAL

22/2/85

turtle nests 0845

#12 $T_n$ 33.5 $T_a$ 33.0

#7 $T_n$ 31.5 $T_a$ 33.0

Sea water 30.0°C

Dep BWI 1500
KA 1600.

Boodie Is - baiting for Rattus

17/5/85

Phil Fuller, Don Munro KDM
load Mermaid Marine
visited LEAH with
equip for Boodie Is.
1500 - 1630
Problem with DWO dinghy
outboard - motor to be fixed

Dep Kanes Marina 2100
Tim Carver, Graeme ?

18/5/85

arr Boodie Is 0900
all loaded gear on
north beach - camp
near Cordia clump
arrange to be picked up
Thurs 30/5/85 0700

Mal Thornton WAPET
working on Pascoe #3
well - closing down.
- offered use of 4WD
for positioning baits
and covers.

RC dotterel nest 2 eggs
near camp in open sand/rock
2 Pied OC
2 Sooty OC
2 Caspian Tern
sev Crested Tern
2 BS Kite
sev Welcome Swallow
2 Reef Heron (white/grey
2 Osprey
several Rattus tracks
on beach near camp.

2 Kestrel over limestone
2 Spotted Harrier
Silver Gull
9 BS Dove

Positioned oats + covers
along tracks with vehicle
400 baits (5 bags x
80 baits).
baits are oats
impregnated ~ 0.17 mg
Pindone/oat
150g oats/bag

tracks along limestone
ridge 1.4 km long
⇒ baits and covers at
280 m intervals (x5)
~1400

# POISON

**Not to be Taken** **Keep out of reach of Children**

**Read Safety Directions before opening**

**PINDONE IMPREGNATED OATS**

**Active Constituents:** 2 pivalyl 1,3-indandione
0.17 mg per oat (2.8 grams per kg)

**FOR USE AS A RABBIT POISON ONLY**
**BAIT TO CONSIST OF ONE PART POISONED OATS TO FIVE PARTS NON-POISONED OATS**
**SUITABLE FOR USE AS A BAIT TRAIL AND IN BAIT STATIONS**

**NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY PURPOSE, OR IN ANY MANNER CONTRARY TO THIS LABEL, UNLESS AUTHORISED UNDER APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION. USE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS BY THE APB.**

**THIS MATERIAL MAY BE HANDLED, MIXED AND LAID ONLY BY OFFICERS OF THE AGRICULTURE PROTECTION BOARD**

**POISONOUS IF TAKEN INTERNALLY OR "INHALED"**

**Safety Directions:**

1. Keep away from food and animals.
2. Use protective clothing and gloves when handling.
3. Wash hands and exposed skin before eating, drinking or smoking.
4. Avoid inhaling.

**First-Aid:**

If poisoning occurs contact a doctor or poison information centre.
If swallowed induce vomiting.
Use Ipecac Syrup (APF) if available.

ANTIDOTE: Vitamin $K_1$

kg NET

1 Pied Cormorant
20 Caspian Tern on reef
Silver Gull
Jnr Crested Tern
1 Spotted Harrier
2 Pipit
2 Rufous Bettong
2 Sooty OC
2 Red OC on reef
4 Bonny Tern
1 pr Brahminy Kite
dropped vehicle beetle by
Boodie 3 - wallaby by
old Hare pit
Sav mutton bird burrows
Boodie + Rattus tenius
Buffel Grass around Boodie 3

Walked to old soaks
- scooped out
water brackish - mutton
bird nests nearby.

Scaevola spinescens Flowers
Eulalia fulva
Cleome viscosa
Spinifex longifolius
Ficus

determined 3 transects
for Rattus + Boodie count
① limestone track
② sanddune track
③ beach → w.
each approx 1000 km

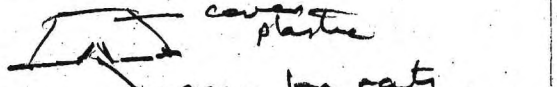
1 dead Rattus on old
sanddune track
new Boodie tracks crossing

1915-2030 transects
① out 17 Rattus 0 Boodies
in 22 Rattus 0 Boodies
② out 4 Rattus (39) Humping ? Boodies
in 1 Rattus 0
③ 1 Rattus 0 Boodies
0 Rattus 0 Boodies

19/5/85.

up 0730
radio sked 0830
± Kevin - nothing heard.

Began setting baits in
limestone 0900.




KDM ... 166 last station
Dan ... 111
Phil ... 110 TOTAL 387
50 m (two pace) intervals
finished 1300 ~~last~~ covers over

back to camp for lunch.

Peter Ford and Gary Devaney visited from BWI. 1330

Brown Falcon over camp
1 min WBSF
4 Osprey
Reef Heron
Pied, Sooty OC on reef.

Another soak found between sand dune and #3 Passage
2 small areas of water - dug out by animals
set last stn nearby.

3 Keylard } over
2 BS Kite } transition

set another 40 last station & covers along old sand track.
+ 387 = 427 total
& covers.

1500 Phil took last to other end w/ island & front end loader (WAPET)

15 bags each 80 baits
= 1200 baits for
rest of island.
bags dropped off at
200 m intervals

White faced Heron on reef.
4 large Sandplovers
Re Dotterel

Shower time 1.

2000 - 2100 hours

① out 30 Rattus 6 Boodie
KOM in 23 Rattus 3 Boodie
② out 2 Rattus
in 1 Rattus
③ out 1 Rattus
in 1 Rattus

The 1 Boodies seen on transect were all different animals
6 were seen on 1st cover
in Alnitylon (yellow flowers)
patch feeding, 1 then
another 3 Boodies seen
near #3 Pascoe also
in Alnitylon.

Rattus climbing over
rig at Pascoe #3.
pair, one chasing the
other.

1 Boodie seen eating
bait at station on transect
tracks. - baits had been
pulled to entrance of
cover

22/5/86

up 0730 very windy E.
radio ahead ch 3 - no good
ch 2 - Module 27 John Mutter
at Shanks Bay ... OK.

Lizard caught last night
at camp Sphenomorphus
isolepis - released.

set 480 baits in
sandy portion of inland
(not covered)
1.2 km from camp

2 Tree Martin over camp
1 Tattler
1 Godwit.

high tide floods inland
areas of island - saw
Caspian and Crested Tern
2 Beach Stn Curlew.
+2 on reef.

Bait check: (mostly) eaten
after 24 hrs

| | touched | not touched | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Km | 72 | 61 | |
| Pml | 70 | 30 | |
| Dm | 52 | 33 | |
| | 194 | 124 | 318 |

61% touched
39% untouched.

transect 2015-2125.

① Dan out 2 Rattus + Boodie in 1 Rattus

② Eric out 3 Rattus in 2 Rattus

③ Phil out 1 Rattus

Rattus drowning out of pot at night.

Boodies (cont) 21/5/85

up 0715.

3 WBWs over camp

2 Brushtail kults over Cordia

15 WBWs over cordia

3 Crow over sand beach.

set another 480 baits at NW end of inland Phil - I set 120 baits along the SW coastline

= 600 total

+ 480

1080 on sandy portion.

~ 120 baits left to be set later.

Rattus rest under boat debris on SW beach

in seaweed.
also 1 Heteronotia binoei

1 Ct varialibus caught at camp.
2 Fairy Terns at camp

Open sandy depression west of Cordia clump moist - dug down 6" and fresh water appeared collect some for analysis

3 BS Kite sitting in Cordia
4 BS Dove on transect
- very common around the island ? affected by hunting or not.

Rattus at camp did not appear tonight.

Transects 1945 - 2045

① Phil out 14 Rattus 0 Boob
in 11 Rattus 1 Boob

② Don out 1 Rattus
in 2 Rattus

③ Kim out 1 Rattus
in 10 Rattus
2 Beach Stn Curlew

1 large sandplover
1 Tattler on reef
in afternoon.

Boodie Is (Cont) 22/5/85

up 0700

To BWI 1045 for shower + lunch

B212 helicopter

pm 1 large sandplover on reef Pied + Sooty OC.

Swept sand between camp and Cordia

3 Turnstone
1 RC Dotterel
3 Redshanked Stint on reef.

Transects 1045 + 2030.

① Kasm out 10 Rattus 5 Boodie
In 18 Rattus 2 Boodie

② Phil out 1 Rattus
3 Rattus

③ Dan out 3 Rattus
0 Rattus

Rattus and Boodies still abundant

23/5/85

Up 0645.

Many Rattus tracks around camp esp around water jerries and damp sand.
- also some on beach.

1 Boodie tracks around camp, some baits around camp untouched not ~~touched~~

Many of the Rattus tracks indicate heavy tail / body drag - effects of Pindone?

Don + Phil checked out Pascoe Is for Rattus - nil sign

WAPET jungalang drilling equipment prior to loading on barge -
Methyl Bromide (Bromomethane)

Middle Is 1000 + 1045

2 x Welcome Swallow
1 x Tree Martin
1 x Caspian Tern
2 x Pied OC
1 x Godwit
1 x RC Dotterel
4 x Pied Corm +6
30 x Crested Tern
Silver Gull 50+30
2 Red necked Stint
1 Kentish

Salsola kali
Spin. longifolia
Scaevola crassifolia
Atriplex isatidea
Ipomoea pes caprae.

Acacia coriacea

Rattus sp. Isoodon tracks very common
- digging on beach among seaweed

Pascoe Is
WBSE new nest
7 BS Dove
4 Reef Heron 2 Grey 2 White
4 Welcome Swallow
8 Red Coms
1 Silver Gull

collected water samples from FW + SW soaks on Boodie Is
1 Geminatophora gilberti

transects 1965-2030 calm

① Don + out 13 Rattus 1 Boodie
In 15 Rattus 3 Boodie
② Phil out 1 Rattus
In 0
③ Ken out 1 Rattus
In 0

Don brought 1 Rattus back from tracks in Limestone
- very near death
bleeding from mouth + anus.
160 g ♀, full stomach, not preg or lactating
many of the Rattus looked lethargic + slow

24/5/85

up 0700

checked bait station in limestone - rebaited

touched untouched

KDM { 103 11
114 total
78 rebaited

1 BFCS over limestone
1 Hornfelds Bronze Cuckoo calling

Ian Maynard taking over from Mal Thornton

1 Rattus hauled on sand near Beadle #3

very weak, bleeding
Blood at nearly bait station

A. coriacea flowering

Don collected a dead Leiolis burtoni from a bait station.

Phil saw 1 Gavia gilberti

Phil 163 total
156 touched
7 not touched
48 rebaited

Don 113 touches
7 untouched
120
25 rebaited.

397 ~~total~~

set another 14
bait stations in
limestone from sand
dune

1 ♂ rattus dead
135 g.

transects 2000 - 2100

(1) phil out 2 Ratt 2 Boods
In 6 Ratt 3 Bood

(2) KM 0

(3) Don 1 Rattus out.

phils transect out
was disturbed by
vehicle going to
Boodie # 3
The Boodie's seen
were 4 diff animals.

Boodie Is Coast 25/5/85

up 0645

set rest of baits
240 in sandy
portion of island.
north of Cordia

2 dead Ralfin found
still many tracks

1 White tailed Tropic bird
overhead → S
1 White faced heron.

~100 Caspian, 100 Crested
Terns sitting on sand
at entrance to
tidal inlet.

1 Eurodin sapatulus
found dead near
WAPET fumigation
site

1 Beach Stone Curlew } rodent
2 Ruddy Turnstone } near
lamp

Transects 2000-2100

① 4 Rats in Boodie
1 in 4 Rattus 3 Boodie
all Boodies were duff ammies
1 family group ♀♂ + yak.
3 dead rattus found.

② Dam 0
③ Rat 0

26/5/85

Muddle Is 1330 - 1530

Muddle Is #1
abandoned 1982

Two WBSE 1
Pied Comm
2 POC
2 SOC.
sev Welcome Swallow
1 Osprey
2 RC Dotterel
WBWS 1
Kestrel 2
Singing HE 1
in A. comacea
BS Dove in A. comacea

Osprey nest - 2 adults
2 eggs

Olearia axillaris

Varanus tracks on
sand V. gouldi?
hares in droppings

Scaevola crassifolia
Spin. longifolius

Caspian Tern
Crested Tern
Cormorant
Red Heron 2 grey
Tree Martin 1
50 Pied Comm north
end of Muddle Is
4 BT Godwit
2 Turnstone
Silver Gull

WBWS
1 Brachinumy Kute

transect 1930-2030.

① out 2 Ratten 1 Boodie
In 4 Ratten
② 0
③ 0

2 Ratten on transect nearly dead.
2 dead Ratten along ③
1 dead Ratten at barge loading mite.

27/5/85

up 0700.
BFCS on Cordia.
BS Kite
Horsfield Bronze Cuckoo calling
BS Dove
Kestrel.

Genus Gilberti along track

overt sex areas
lot of Boodie tracks around bait stations.
sev BS Doves on transect

6 BS Doves eating oats /pindone at Boodie #3.

lot of Boodie tracks near Boodie #3

No fresh Rabbit tracks in Limestone area

Cordia flowering yellow/orange

1 Wilson Storm petrel off Pascoe Is.

1 pr Brahminy Kite
1 BS Kite
1 dead Kestrel

large stick nest in Cordia - Osprey?
- Brahminy Kite

BS Doves in Cordia

Boodie tracks around Cordia

transects

① out 1 Rabbit 2 Boodies
in 2 Rabbits 2 Boodies

② 0

③ 0

2 Boodies in gully behind pallets, 1 in Abutilon thicket, 1 near TO to limestone platform.

28/5/85

up 0700 some rain cloud
6 fairy Tern flying along beach

RC battered on eggs

Still saw BS Doves feeding at bait station - no effect yet

lot of Boode tracks, no Rufous around bait station

Willie Wagtail 1
Sacrostarnus, Cleome flowers
BFCS.
2 yellow white eye in Fig
2-3 White tailed Warblers in Fig
Rufous songbirds in Fig
♀ Rufous whistler in Fig
BFCS.

transect
① out 1 Rufous 1 Boodie
in 2 Rufous 2 Boodie
② 0
③ 0