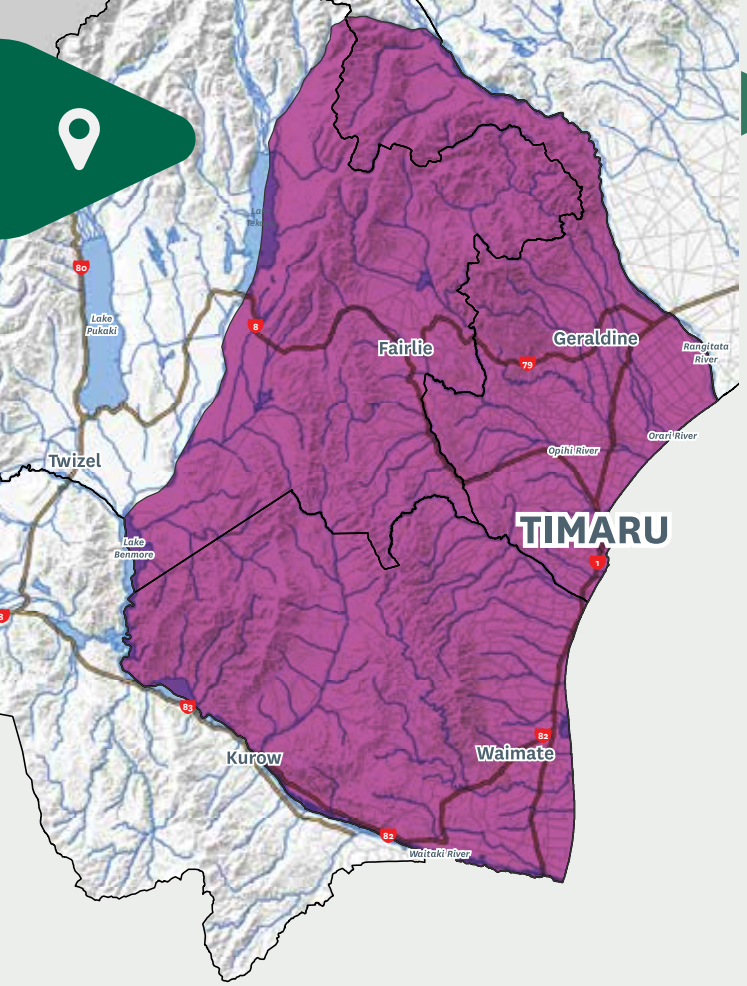

WALLABY CONTAINMENT AREA

Bennett's wallabies occupy more than 450,000 hectares of land in South Canterbury, centred around the Hunter Hills, Albury, Kirkliston and Two Thumb Range. More recently, wallabies have spread south of the Waitaki River and west of Lakes Benmore and Tekapo. Wallaby populations are not known to exist in the wild, north of the Rangitata River.

Guilford Scale

This scale assesses wallaby population levels.

1. No faecal or track sign seen but area known to be within feral range of wallabies.
2. Infrequent faecal sign seen. Track sign absent. One or two pellet groups seen when traversing 100m. Unlikely to see any wallabies.
3. Frequent faecal and track sign seen, but only in isolated pockets. Likely to see some wallabies.
4. Faecal and track sign very obvious and consistent. Tracks well used. High probability of seeing wallabies.
5. High densities of faecal and track sign distributed almost uniformly. Tracks well used. High probability of seeing wallabies.

HELP CONTAIN WALLABIES!

If you see a wallaby (dead or alive) outside the Wallaby Containment Area, call us immediately or visit www.ecan.govt.nz/wallaby to report your sighting. See map of containment area overleaf.

More information
www.ecan.govt.nz/pests
(pages 44 to 46 of the plan)

Environment Canterbury Regional Council
Kaunihera Taiao ki Waitaha

Contact us on:
0800 324 636 or
biosecurity@ecan.govt.nz

E18/6756

Bennett's Wallabies

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Bennett's Wallabies

(Macropus rufogriseus rufogriseus)

PEST STATUS:
Sustained Control Programme

The objective of this programme is to keep populations of Bennett's wallabies at or below Level 3 on the Guilford Wallaby Infestation Scale within the Wallaby Containment Area and to prevent the establishment of wallaby populations outside the Containment Area.

Why are Bennett's wallabies a pest?

Bennett's wallabies (also known as red-necked wallabies) cause serious damage to our environment by preventing the regeneration of native bush and depleting forest understories. They also impact farming by competing with livestock for food, and limiting the livestock-carrying capacity on farms. Wallabies can also foul sheep feed, destroy agricultural crops, destroy plantation forestry and damage fences.

Who is responsible for control?

Land occupiers within the Wallaby Containment Area are required to maintain wallaby numbers on their land at or below level 3 on the Guilford Scale (see overleaf).

Environment Canterbury will carry out inspections within the Wallaby Containment Area and, in some cases, may help to coordinate control work between multiple landowners. Outside of the Containment Area, Environment Canterbury will be responsible for ensuring wallaby populations don't become established.

Wallabies are not permitted to be kept as pets, or to be moved around the region, by anyone within New Zealand.

Control options

Options for controlling Bennett's wallabies on your land include poison, shooting and fencing.

Shooting

Night shooting can help maintain low wallaby numbers. Anyone shooting must hold a firearms licence, or be under the supervision of a person who holds a firearms licence. Neighbours should be informed of where and when shooting will take place, and any target should be positively identified before shooting.

Poison

Two poisons are available for use on Bennett's wallabies – 1080 cereal pellets or Feratox (encapsulated cyanide). Both poisons require a controlled substance licence to purchase, store and use.

WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR

- Up to 80cm tall, weighing between 15kg and 25kg
- Body colour is grey-brown with reddish-brown shoulders and neck

- Hind feet and tail are black-tipped
- Distinctive tracks – paired prints, generally only two toes of each foot leave prints

- Faeces often pelleted and found in clumps – normally coarse in texture with vegetation fibres visible