

Wallaby

Macropus, Petrogale and Wallabia spp.



Notify Council

If you have seen or suspect the presence of Wallaby you must report the sighting to Environment Southland immediately.

This link will take you to www.reportwallabies.nz and your report be sent to Environment Southland. Wallabies are a pest we want to keep out of Southland.

What is council doing about this?

Specialised control methods are required to manage this pest and will be carried out free of charge by a ES Biosecurity Officer or approved contractor.

What does it look like?

Wallabies (Bennetts) are small marsupial animals that look like miniature kangaroos and were liberated into the South Canterbury area in 1874. They are grey/pale grey in colour with rufous brown on the neck and shoulders.

Wallabies live in scrub, native forest and production forests. They prefer the edges of these habitats, where there is dense vegetation and easy access to grassy areas and tussock fringes (e.g. paddocks) where they can feed at night.



Why is it a problem?

Wallabies are largely nocturnal and start feeding during early to late evening and stay within cover during the day. They are sexually mature at around 2 years and gestation is only 26 days with the young staying in the pouch for around 270 days.

Wallabies can cause significant economic and environmental impacts. They eat grasses, native shrubs and trees. Their heavy browsing of native plants changes vegetation composition with subsequent negative impacts on the indigenous flora and fauna. They can foul pasture, damage fences, add to erosion issues and damage young tree seedlings.

The costs of Wallaby control in other regions is high and ongoing.

There are currently no known wallaby populations in Southland but Environment Southland is extremely concerned about their current spread outside of their normal containment area.

A poster with an orange background and black text. At the top, it says "WALLABIES ARE A PEST IN NEW ZEALAND". Below this, there is a silhouette of a wallaby. To the left of the silhouette, there is a QR code and the text "SEEN A WALLABY? REPORT IT!". At the bottom, there is a white button with the text "reportwallabies.nz" and the logo for "TIPU MATORO Wallaby-free Aotearoa".

WALLABIES ARE A PEST IN NEW ZEALAND

Wallabies graze on the seedlings that become our native bush, destroying the homes and food of our native birds and other wildlife. They also eat farm pastures, affect water quality and damage planted forests and fences.

We need your help to prevent wallabies spreading into new areas.

SEEN A WALLABY? REPORT IT!

reportwallabies.nz

TIPU MATORO
Wallaby-free Aotearoa

Control methods

Control methods will be carried out by Environment Southland staff and/or contractors with no cost to the landowner. This is vital to ensure it is done as efficiently and timely as possible. This may involve shooting and poisoning.

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Related links

Bionet - Consolidated Pest Management Resources <https://www.bionet.nz/>

Otago Regional Council https://www.orc.govt.nz/media/5908/updated-a5-ute-book_proof_23_7_18.pdf

Report Wallabies <http://www.reportwallabies.nz>

Summary of rules

If you detect or suspect the presence of Wallaby within the Southland region, you must immediately report its presence and location to Environment Southland.

For full rules please see the [Southland Regional Pest Management Plan](#) (Rule 2).

You can not possess, keep, hold, enclose or otherwise harbour Wallaby within the Southland Region.

For full rules please see the [Southland Regional Pest Management Plan](#) (Rule 3).

Management programme

Exclusion

Unwanted organism

Request info

<https://eservices.es.govt.nz/online-services/new/BiosecurityRFS/step/1?Subject=AnimalPests&Species=585>

Report this Pest/Weed

<http://www.reportwallabies.nz>