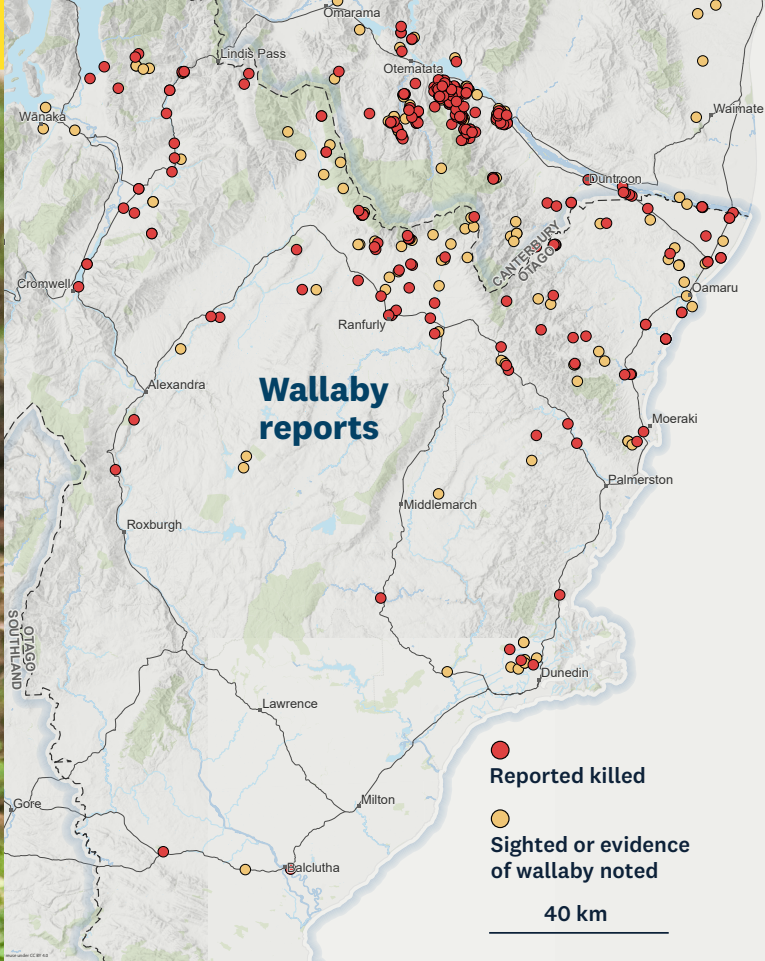




Bennett's Wallaby

Now is our chance to stop them in their tracks



Where are they most common?

Outside of Otago, Bennett's wallabies occupy approximately 1.5 million hectares of land in South Canterbury.

This map shows areas in Otago and some areas in South Canterbury where wallabies have been spotted as at May 2022.

To control wallaby and stop them spreading, we need to know where they are — your reports are critical to stopping their spread.

We need your help!

If you see a wallaby, dead or alive, please **report it**. If you see signs of wallaby, including footprints or scat (poo), you can report those too. If possible, please take a photo to help us verify the animal and sign.

Reporting signs and sightings means we can investigate the wider area for wallabies and implement control measures if needed.

You can report wallabies online via reportwallabies.nz, or phone us on 0800 474 082.





Bennett's wallabies were introduced to South Canterbury from Australia in 1874 and by the 1940s had become a significant pest. Despite control efforts, Bennett's wallabies were first reported in Otago in the early 2000s.

Left unchecked, Bennett's wallabies will significantly impact our region's economy and local biodiversity values and become a burden for future generations should feral populations spread and become established.

Bennett's wallaby foul pasture, damage fences, destroy agricultural crops, contribute to erosion, and compete with livestock, with three wallabies equalling one stock unit.

They prevent the regeneration of native bush, deplete forest understories and browse/kill seedlings of some plantation forest species.

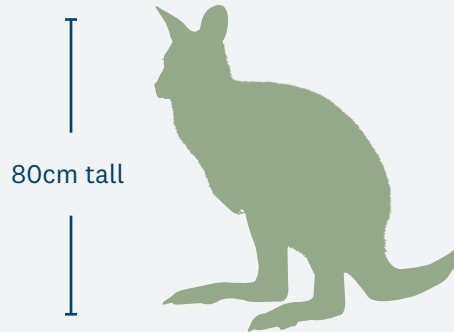
Bennett's wallabies are a serious pest issue that requires central and local government, iwi, farmers, landowners, and communities all working together to protect our region.

What is being done

Otago Regional Council is working alongside the Tipu Mātoro National Wallaby Eradication Programme and Canterbury Regional Council to eradicate Bennett's wallaby from Otago and South Canterbury.

Together we have a vision for a wallaby-free Aotearoa. The public are vital partners to achieving this.

What do they look like?



Bennett's wallaby, often called red-necked wallaby, is a marsupial (a mammal that carries its babies in a pouch) that stands up to 80cm with a tail length of around 62cm.

Males can reach over 20kg in weight, with females reaching 14kg.



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