



What is CallTrackers?

CallTrackers is the Bookend Trust's third and newest NatureTrackers project, aimed at using sound recorders to find and monitor noisy but elusive species. Our initial focus is on **Tasmanian bats** and the threatened **Australasian bittern**, species which have distinctive calls.

The project will introduce you to acoustic wildlife monitoring.

Choose a location and deploy a recorder, then upload the resulting data. We'll send you information on which species have been identified. You'll learn about which noisy but elusive species live in the area, their biology, behaviour and conservation needs.



How does it work?

We'll ask you to book a survey square for two weeks via a web page. Squares containing suitable locations for surveys will be indicated on the map and you can choose from them.

- **Pickup a CallTrackers survey kit** from your closest distribution location.
- **Book a survey square** and travel to your survey location and set up the recorder.
- **Collect recorder**, take home and upload the data to find out what you recorded. You'll receive a summary of the results!
- **Return the survey kit** to your closest distribution location.



The season runs throughout spring and summer each year



Head on over to the NatureTrackers web page and or sign in to your account or register a new one. It's completely free! Visit naturetrackers.com.au to get started!





➔ The Science

Fewer than 15% of Tasmania's threatened species, and a much lower proportion of our other species, are monitored to assess whether conservation efforts are adequate and effective. Yet for many, known and potential threats are increasing and changing across the state.

Acoustic monitoring is a great way to find and monitor a wide range of species in an efficient and non-invasive manner. We're going to use sound recorders to find and monitor noisy species including bats, birds and other mammals.



Bitterns

The Australasian bittern (*Botaurus poiciloptilus*) was nationally listed as Endangered after the lengthy Millennium Drought (1996-2010), which exacerbated losses of the bird's wetland habitat due to ongoing drainage and development. Subsequent monitoring efforts across Australia were not maintained, and its current status is poorly understood. With ongoing climate change and associated droughts, these problems can be expected to worsen.



Bats

Bats across the world are in decline, but with a lack of monitoring of Tasmanian bats, little is known about their current status. Current potential threats include ongoing removal of hollow-bearing trees, in which these bats roost and breed, and pesticides. Emerging diseases are also considered a concern on the mainland.

