Small mammal trapping in ski resorts

Did you know most small mammals in ski resorts are native and some are endangered? All native animals are protected.

Do not use poison baits or snap traps. If you wish to have a small mammal removed follow these guidelines.

Where do I get a trap?
An Elliot trap can be borrowed from the NPWS Perisher Office.

How do they work?
The traps unfold to form a box with one end folding down until it clicks—this forms the trip. When the animal enters the trap it should step on the treadle and the door will shut.

Where should I place the trap?
Always consider the animals welfare first. Do not place a trap outside or in a cold location. Choose a trap site which is warm, away from people or excessive noise and placed in an area of known animal activity.

How to catch your small mammal?
Avoid the animal being stressed or cold by using the bedding provided pushed to the end of the trap.

To make the trap attractive you must provide food. Use food to bait your trap—either what the animal has been eating or a firm mixture of oats, peanut butter and honey.

Rub some of the bait on the trap door and a small quantity placed at the back of the trap. Be careful to keep the treadle clear.

How often should I check the trap?
If there is a chance you will not be able to check the trap DO NOT SET IT.

Check the trap regularly, first thing in the morning, in the early afternoon and evening.

How to identify your small mammal?
If the trap door is closed you may have caught your small mammal. Gently turn the trap upside down so the animal is at the top and tilt the trap slightly so the animal stays at the other end. Slowly push the door open just enough to see if there is an animal inside.

Promptly return the animal in the trap
It isn’t always easy to identify the type of mammal caught in a trap therefore we encourage all animals to be returned promptly in the trap to the NPWS Perisher Office or contact a NPWS officer for further assistance:

Environmental Management Officer 6450 5611
or Environmental Liaison Officer 6450 5616