

Australian Wildlife Society

Conserving Australia's Wildlife
since 1909

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Kinder Partnership

The Society has partnered with Kinder to fund vital projects and save endangered wildlife across Australia.

In 2020, five wildlife conservation programs were selected:

- Cedar Creek Wombat Hospital – NSW
- Save the Bilby Fund – QLD
- Friends of the Western Ground Parrot – WA
- Tasmania Wildlife Rehabilitation Council – TAS
- Australian Ecosystems Foundation - NSW

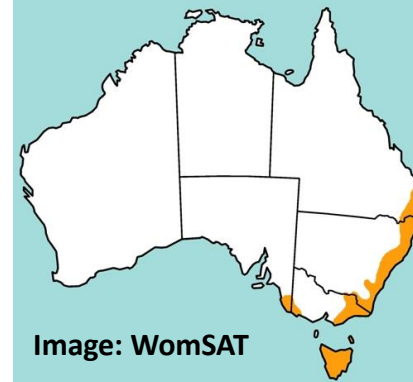
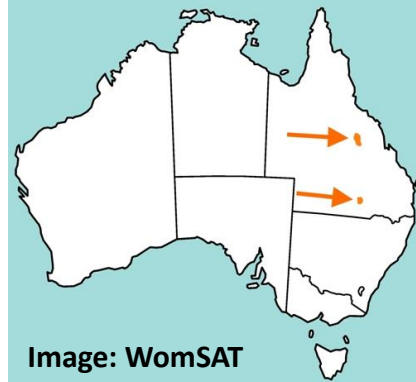
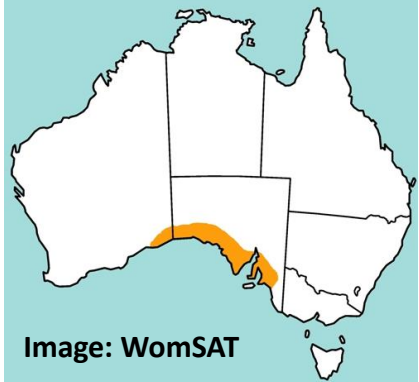
The Wombat

- Herbivorous, burrowing marsupial.
- Females have a backward-facing pouch.
- Closest living relative is the koala.
- Polygamous: breed with more than one mate.
- A reinforced rump protects them from predators.
- Can move at speeds up to 40km/h.
- Cn live for up to 14 years in the wild and 26 years in captivity.
- Wombats produce cubic faeces.



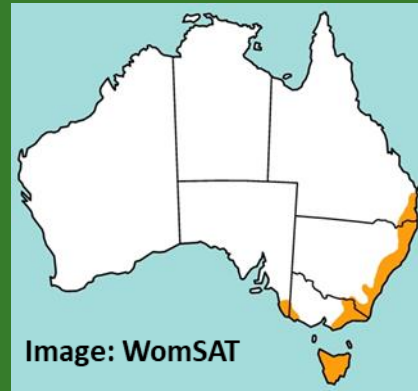
The Wombat

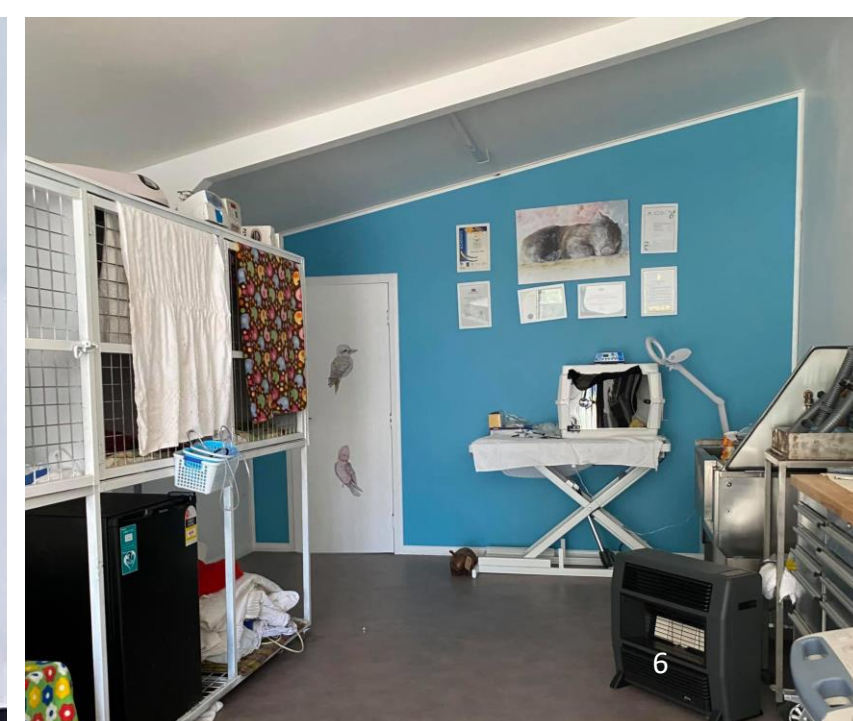
- There are three species of wombat:
 - Southern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorhinus latifrons*) (1)
 - Northern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorhinus krefftii*) (2)
 - **Bare-nosed wombat (*Vombatus ursinus*) (3)**

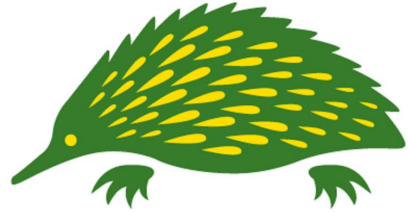


Wombat (*Vombatus ursinus*) Conservation

- Distributed across southeast Australia (QLD, VIC, SA, TAS).
- Their main habitat is woodland. They also occur in scrubs and coastal heath.
- Mainly feed on native grasses, tussocks, and sedges.
- Solitary and territorial.
- Tunnel system (2 – 20 m in length).
- Threats to this species include sarcoptic mange, habitat loss, predation by feral dogs, and vehicle collisions.







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Through the partnership, Cedar Creek Wombat Hospital has been able to advance its wombat hospital.

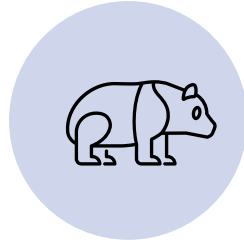
They have been able to build additional intensive care pens and purchase much-needed medical equipment to ensure that Australia's wombats receive superior treatment and support.

Cedar Creek Wombat Hospital is dedicated to rescuing not just orphaned joey wombats but also sub-adults and adults that require more than routine care to get them to the point of release.

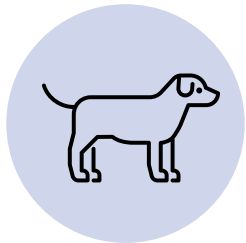
Wombat Conservation Action



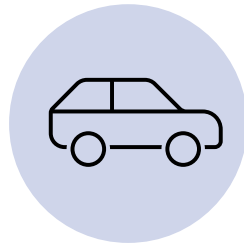
WomSAT - an online tool to report wombat and burrow sightings.



Become a member of your local wildlife rescue group.



Responsible pet ownership.



Drive safely.



The Greater Bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*)

- Once found across 70% of Australia, today they are restricted to around 15%.

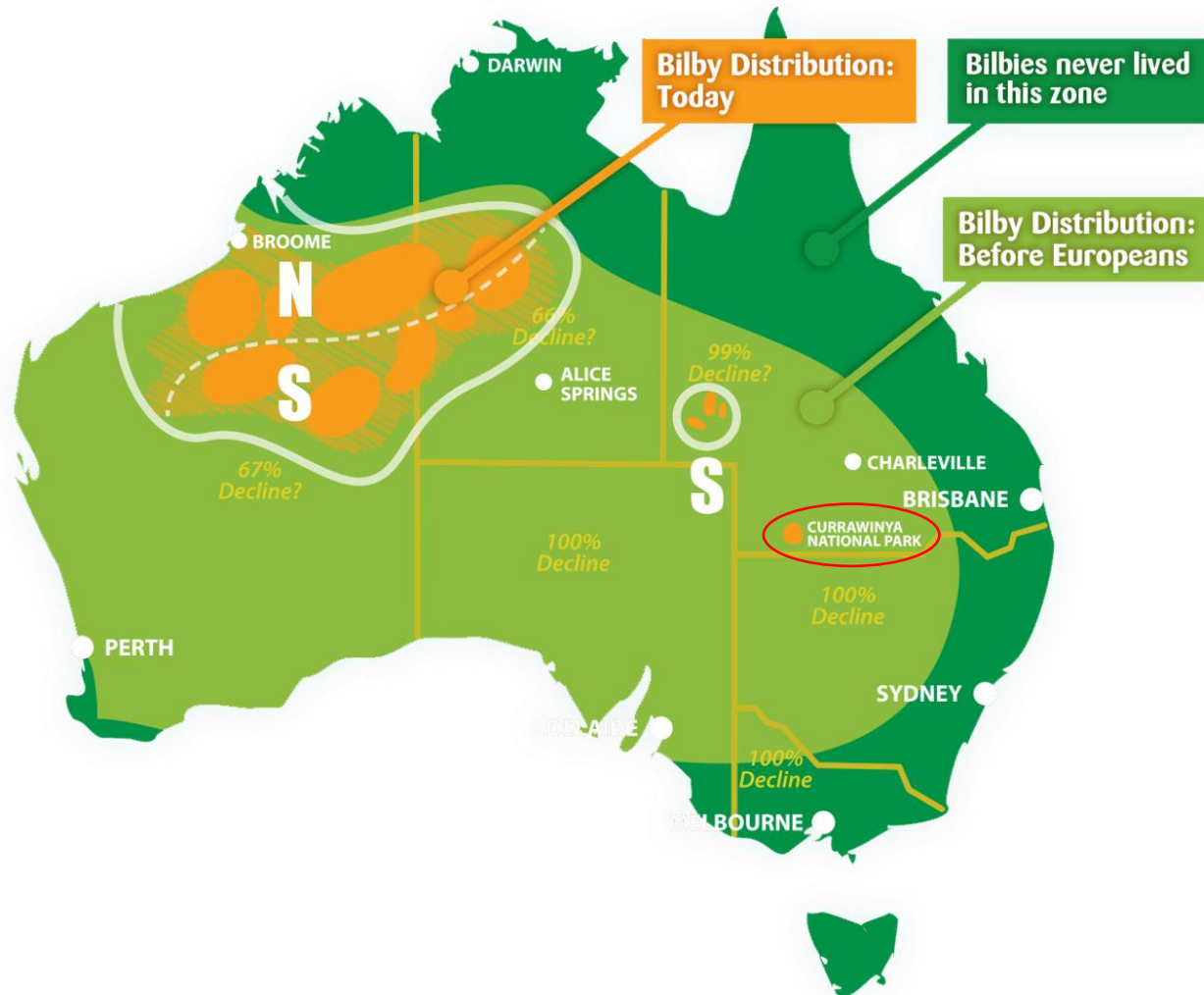


Image: Save the Bilby Fund

The Greater Bilby

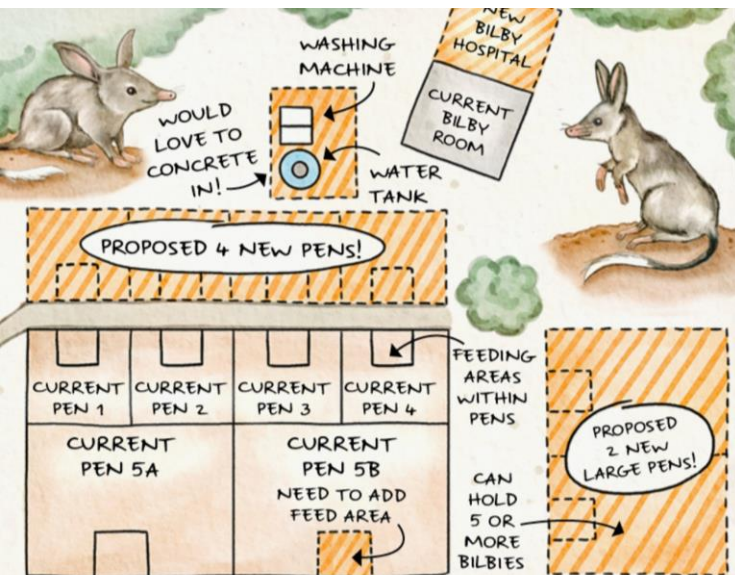
- A nocturnal, omnivorous marsupial.
- Its diet includes bulbs, fruit, seeds, fungi, insects, worms, termites, small lizards, and spiders
- 'Macrotis' means big-eared in Greek.
- Bilbies' natural habitats are spinifex grasslands and mulga scrublands in arid and semi-arid areas of Australia.
- They live in the wild in remote parts of western QLD, NT, and WA.

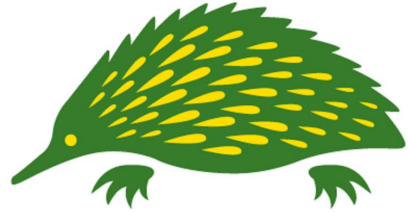


Greater Bilby Conservation

- They live in spiralling burrows (2m deep).
- Digging breaks up the soil and helps with composting.
- There is estimated to be fewer than 10,000 individuals.
- The bilby is listed as Vulnerable under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Its conservation status in NSW is Extinct.
- The two main threats are competition for food from livestock and introduced species such as rabbits, and predation by foxes and feral cats.







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Through the partnership, Save the Bilby Fund have been able to upgrade their bilby captive breeding facilities at Carrawinya Sanctuary.

They have built new crèche-ing pens and made enclosure improvements, including new feral-proof fencing.

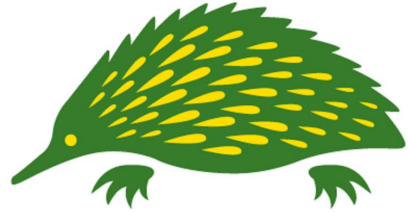
Save the Bilby Fund has already witnessed several births, with more on the way, which is great news for the conservation of this species.

Western Ground Parrot (*Pezoporus flaviventris*)

- The western ground parrot is one of the world's rarest birds.
- Kyloring is its Noongar name.
- The parrot is a medium-sized ground-dwelling bird with a rather long tail.
- It inhabits coastal heathlands with a diverse range of low-growing shrubs.
- Its diet consists of seeds, flowers, green fruit, and leaves.
- It is listed as Critically Endangered with less than 150 birds remaining.
- Restricted to Cape Arid National Park and Nuytsland Nature Reserve in WA.
- Under threat from bushfires, feral predation, and climate change.







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Through the partnership, Friends of the Western Ground Parrot have been able to install twenty-five predator camera traps into western ground parrot translocation sites for predator detection and management purposes. Four feral cats and one fox have already been detected, and subsequently appropriate predator control has been implemented.

Friends of the Western Ground Parrot aim is to raise awareness about the threat of extinction facing the parrot and to assist with the implementation of recovery actions.

Microbats

- There are two main groups of bats:
 - Mega (large) bats such as flying foxes.
 - **Micro (small) bats.**
- There are eight species of microbats occurring in TAS:
 - Little forest bat (*Vespadelus vulturnus*).
 - Southern forest bat (*Vespadelus regulus*).
 - Large forest bat (*Vespadelus darlingtonia*).
 - Chocolate wattled bat (*Chalinolobus morio*).
 - Goulds wattled bat (*Chalinolobus gouldii*).
 - Lesser long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*).
 - Tasmanian long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus sherrini*).
 - Eastern false pipistrelle (*Falsistrellus tasmaniensis*).



Microbats

- Nocturnal, insectivorous mammals.
- Feed on moths, beetles, caterpillars, mosquitos.
- They help control the number of insects and pests including mosquitos.
- Use echolocation to locate their food in the dark.
- Microbats hibernate during winter.
- They occur in a range of forest types and live in old hollow trees.
- Some bats roost in rock crevices or buildings.
- The lesser long-eared bat is urbanised and found in the roofs or walls of houses and sheds.



Microbat Conservation

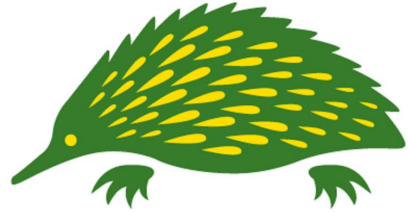
- Seven of the eight species also occur on mainland Australia.
- All of the TAS bat species are fully protected. It is illegal to collect or harm them in any way.
- Threats include logging of old-growth forests, domestic and feral cats, habitat loss, barbed wire, and vehicle strike.
- To help conserve Australia's microbats:
 - If you come across a microbat in need, contact your local wildlife rescue group.
 - If the animal has been entangled, record your sighting Entangled Wildlife Australia.
 - Install microbat boxes and monitor them to ensure wasps and ants don't take up residence.





**TASMANIAN WILDLIFE
REHABILITATION COUNCIL INC.**





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Through the partnership, Tasmanian Wildlife Rehabilitation Council have been able to build a microbat rehabilitation flight aviary to help injured and rescued bats to develop flight fitness before being released back into the wild.

Bats come into care for rehabilitation for several reasons including cat attacks, being stuck in buildings and bad weather conditions.

This flight aviary is the first of its kind in Tasmania.

Mountain Pygmy-Possum (*Burramys parvus*)

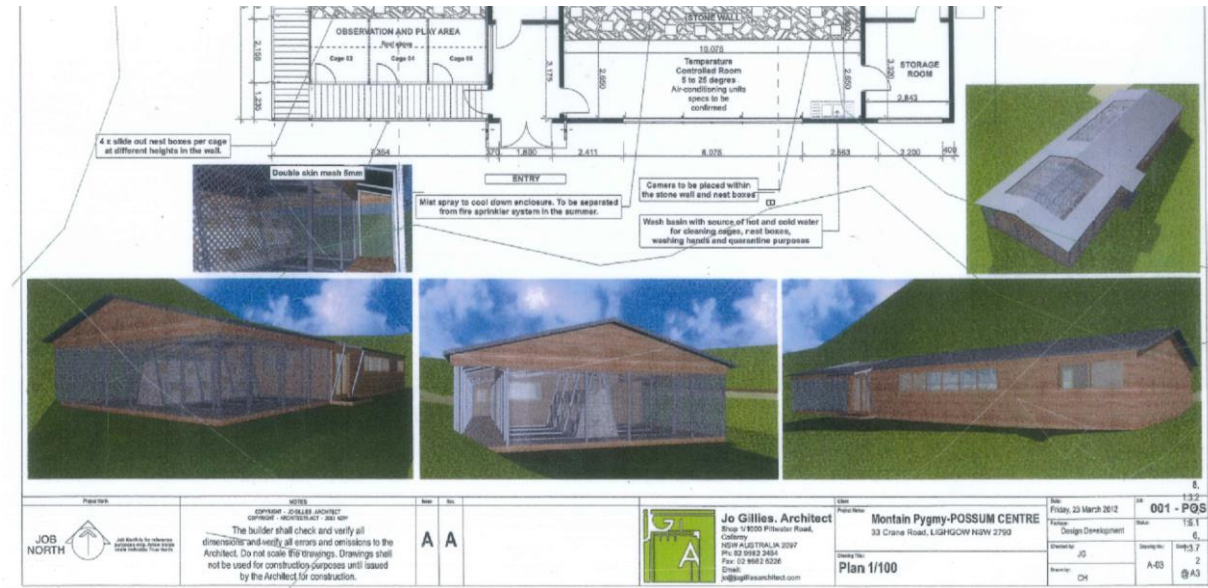
- A small nocturnal marsupial, endemic to the alpine regions of Australia.
- Found in highly elevated boulder fields and dense alpine rock crevices of southern VIC and Kosciuszko National Park in NSW.
- Its diet consists of insects, particularly the bogong moth (*Agrotis infusa*), fleshy fruits, nuts, nectar, and seeds.
- Only marsupial in the world known to hibernate.
- It survives winter by hibernating for up to seven months and is dependent on the insulation provided by snow for its survival.

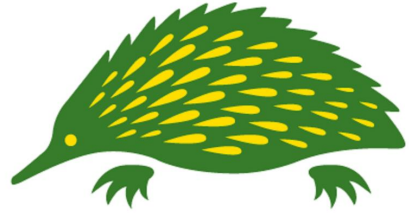


Mountain Pygmy-Possum Conservation

- It is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.
- In New South Wales, it is listed as Endangered.
- Threats include habitat destruction and fragmentation, a warming climate (loss of snow cover), predation by feral cats and foxes, and threats to their prime food source (warmer temperatures and light).
- Hibernation, the insulation provided by snow, and the migratory patterns of the bogong moth, play a key role in the pygmy-possum's survival.
- To protect the pygmy-possum we must:
 - Reduce fossil fuels and prevent deforestation - the drivers of climate change.
 - Turn off outside lights and modify streetlights to shaded and down facing.







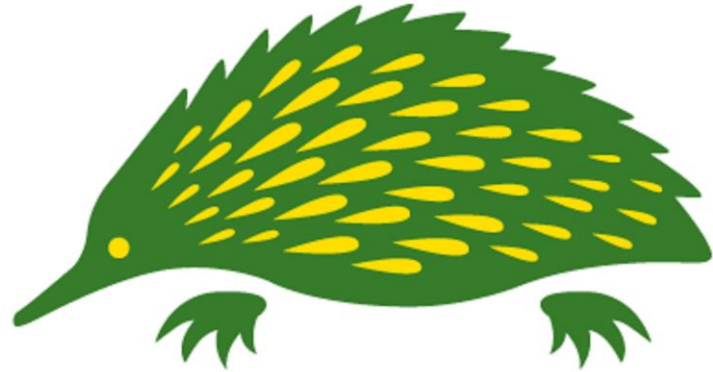
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Through the partnership, Australian Ecosystems Foundation have been able to build a breeding program to help save this species from a changing climate and possible extinction.



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