

FAUNA FACTS

Woylie

Conservation Status: Critically Endangered

Scientific Name: *Bettongia penicillata ogilbyi*

Location: South-west Western Australia, with translocation populations in South Australia and New South Wales.

Interesting facts

Woylies have pouches and they carry their young in them. They only have one young at a time but the young grow so quickly that they can have three a year.

Woylie have very strong legs so they can jump really high and can move really quickly.

Woylies are nocturnal, meaning they are awake at night. They spend the night looking for food, which they store inside their cheeks to eat later.

Woylies like to eat fungi and roots, and every night they dig up a large amount of soil while searching for food.

Have you seen a woylie?

Please let us know us if you have seen a woylie by sending a [fauna report form](#) (on the Department's website www.dbca.wa.gov.au) to fauna@dbca.wa.gov.au.

What is a woylie?

Woylies are a small kangaroo-like marsupial with a long tail that has a black brush at the end. They have strong, clawed forefeet that they use to dig up fungi and make their nests. They also use their tails to hold onto nesting material.

Where do they live?

They used to found across most of Australia but they are now only found in two small areas in south-western WA.

They like to live in forests and woodlands with tall jarrah and wandoo trees, but they also used to live in lots of other types of habitats.

During the day, they hide in nests in the vegetation underneath the trees. They make their small, round nests from grass and bark. Inside the nest it is cool, dark and dry. Their nests are so well hidden that they are almost impossible to find.

Photos: R. McLean



For more information see the department's website www.dbca.wa.gov.au



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