

LUMHOLTZ'S TREE KANGAROO

HABITAT

The Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo is native to Australia and lives in the rainforests of tropical Far North Queensland, most commonly in the Atherton Tablelands. Their original preferred habitat was the coastal lowland forest, however due to the clearing of lowland habitats, it is now more common to find them at greater heights.^[1]

DIET

They eat a variety of leaves, fruits, and flowers. In most cases, they will mainly eat the leaf stems due to the higher protein content.^[2]

REPRODUCTION

The males begin mating at around 4 years of age, with females beginning mating at the age of 2. The pregnancy period lasts up to 44 days, during which one joey will be born. The joey will remain in the pouch for an estimated 246 to 275 days before emerging and fending for itself.^[3]

THREATS

Their isolated habitats often require them to travel on the ground between trees more often to find limited food sources and to mate. This increases their risks of being hit by a car or attacked by predators, such as domestic dogs and cats, dingoes, raptors, and snakes.^[4]

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

It is illegal to take or interfere with them in Queensland without a permit.^[5]



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DESCRIPTION

The males weigh up to 10kg, and females weigh up to 7kg. They have long and muscly forearms, and their back feet are short and wide. Each of their back feet have soft pads for climbing, and the front feet have curved claws and rough, bumpy pads for gripping.^[6]

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Dendrolagus lumholtzi^[7]

CONSERVATION STATUS

Near Threatened^[8]

CLASS

Mammals^[9]

LIFESPAN

Up to 20 years in captivity^[10]

POPULATION SIZE

Between 10,000 and 30,000^[11]

FUN FACT

Carl Sofus Lumholtz discovered the species in 1883, which is where they got their name from.^[12]

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- ^[1] Oakvale Wildlife Park, 'Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo', *Oakvale Wildlife Park* (2023), Habitat, <https://oakvalewildlife.com.au/explore/our-animals/lumholtz-tree-kangaroo>, accessed 13 Apr. 2023.
- ^[2] Department of Environment and Science (DES), 'Queensland's Protected Species', *Queensland Government* (n.d.), Description, https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0028/266680/qld-protected-species-activity-sheet-lumholtz-tree-kangaroo.pdf, accessed 13 Apr. 2023.
- ^[3] Dreamworld Wildlife Foundation (DWF), 'Tree Kangaroos', *DWF* (n.d.), Life Cycle, <https://www.dwf.com.au/our-work/tree-kangaroos/>, accessed 18 May 2023.
- ^[4] Australian Wildlife Society (AWS), 'Tree Kangaroos', *AWS* (Apr. 2019), 1–2, https://www.aws.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Tree_kangaroo.pdf, accessed 18 May 2023.
- ^[5] DES, 'Plants and animals', *Queensland Government* (30 Nov. 2022), para. 1, <https://environment.des.qld.gov.au/licences-permits/plants-animals>, accessed 25 May 2023.
- ^[6] DES, 'Queensland's Protected Species', Description.
- ^[7] DES, 'Species profile—*Dendrolagus lumholtzi* (Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo)', *Queensland Government* (8 Mar. 2022), Scientific name, <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/species-search/details/?id=921>, accessed 8 May 2023.
- ^[8] DES, 'Species profile—*Dendrolagus lumholtzi* (Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo)', *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NCA) status.
- ^[9] DES, 'Species profile—*Dendrolagus lumholtzi* (Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo)', Class.
- ^[10] A.L. Shima et al., 'Factors affecting the mortality of Lumholtz's tree-kangaroo (*Dendrolagus lumholtzi*) by vehicle strike', *Wildlife Research*, 45/7 (8 Oct. 2018), 57, <https://www.doi.org/10.1071/WR17143>
- ^[11] Oakvale Wildlife Park, 'The 1st Lumholtz Tree Kangaroo Born in The History of NSW', *Oakvale Wildlife Park* (7 Nov. 2022), para. 2, <https://oakvalewildlife.com.au/explore/news-and-events/the-1st-lumholtz-tree-kangaroo-born-in-the-history-of-nsw>, accessed 13 Apr. 2023.
- ^[12] Rainforestation Nature Park, 'Meet Jimmy The Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo', *Rainforestation Nature Park* (20 Aug. 2018), Where Do They Get Their Name?, <https://www.rainforest.com.au/meet-jimmy-the-lumholtzs-tree-kangaroo/>, accessed 23 May 2023.