

LONG-NOSED BANDICOOT

HABITAT

The Long-nosed Bandicoot lives in forests, woodlands and heath.^[1] They are native to Eastern Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.^[2]

DIET

They feed on insects and other small invertebrates. With their front feet, they dig holes which are big enough for their long snouts to reach in and detect their prey.^[3]

REPRODUCTION

They are solitary for most of the year^[4] and breed several times a year. They can give birth to up to 5 live offspring, but usually only 1 or 2 survive. The young are tiny and undeveloped, traveling through a cord attached to the womb to reach the pouch. They drink milk and grow until they are large enough to leave the pouch.^[5]

THREATS

Land clearing, bushfires and more people living in cities reduce their habitat. Introduced species are a major threat to them. Cats, foxes and dogs are their predators and they must compete with rabbits for food. They are also in danger from vehicle strikes.^[6]

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) protects them at wildlife sanctuaries.^[7] The NSW National Park and Wildlife Service (NPWS) also manages the threat of introduced foxes with the NSW Fox Threat Abatement Plan. NPWS runs a continuous baiting program in Sydney Harbour National Park to control foxes.^[8]



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DESCRIPTION

They are 31 to 43cm long.^[9] They have pointed ears, short tails, dark grey-brown fur, white underbellies and long noses. They can weigh up to 1.5kg.^[10]

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Perameles nasuta^[11]

CONSERVATION STATUS

Least Concern^[12]

CLASS

Mammals^[13]

LIFESPAN

Up to 4 years in the wild^[14]

POPULATION SIZE

Unknown^[15]

FUN FACT

They are one of the few types of bandicoots that emit a high pitched noise.^[16]

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- ^[1] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', *Australian Museum* (12 July 2024), Habitat, <https://australian.museum/learn/animals/mammals/long-nosed-bandicoot/>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[2] Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre, 'Long-nosed bandicoot', *NSW Department of Education* (13 Oct. 2022), Where do long-nosed bandicoots live?, <https://fieldofmar-e.schools.nsw.gov.au/fact-sheets/long-nosed-bandicoot.html>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[3] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Other behaviours and adaptations.
- ^[4] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Life history cycle.
- ^[5] NSW Government Environment and Heritage, 'Bandicoots', *NSW Government* (10 July 2024), Breeding and life cycle, <https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/native-animals/native-animal-facts/bandicoots>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[6] Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre, 'Long-nosed bandicoot', What threats do long-nosed bandicoots face?.
- ^[7] Pearl Cardis, 'Spotlight on bandicoots', *Australian Wildlife Conservancy* (8 May 2024), Long-nosed Bandicoot (Northern and Southern species), <https://www.australianwildlife.org/bandicoots/>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[8] NSW Government Environment and Heritage, 'Bandicoots', Threats.
- ^[9] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Size Range.
- ^[10] Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre, 'Long-nosed bandicoot', What are long-nosed bandicoots?.
- ^[11] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Scientific name.
- ^[12] Queensland Government, 'Species profile—Perameles nasuta (long-nosed bandicoot)', *Queensland Government* (20 May 2024), Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NCA) status, <https://apps.des.qld.gov.au/species-search/details/?id=787>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[13] Australian Museum, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Class.
- ^[14] Field of Mars Environmental Education Centre, 'Long-nosed bandicoot', How do long-nosed bandicoots reproduce and what is their life cycle?.
- ^[15] Animalia Bio, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', *Animalia Bio* (2024), Population size, <https://animalia.bio/long-nosed-bandicoot>, accessed 1 Aug. 2024.
- ^[16] Animalia Bio, 'Long-nosed Bandicoot', Fun Facts for Kids.