Banded hare-wallaby
*Lagostrophus fasciatus*

...the striped kangaroo, the smallest and most beautiful among the species... is how naturalist François Péron described the banded hare-wallaby in 1801.

The grey fur of this wallaby’s back and rump is striped with dark bands while the underbelly is greyish-white.

### Distribution

Banded hare-wallabies once ranged across southern Australia. The only extant wild populations are on Bernier and Dorre islands, although they have been successfully reintroduced to Faure Island. They will also be introduced to Dirk Hartog Island as part of the *Return to 1616* ecological restoration project.

### Summary

**Vulnerable**

The mainland subspecies of this hare-wallaby is extinct, leaving only one of two subspecies.

### Diet and habitat

Banded hare-wallabies eat mainly shrubs, and to a lesser extent grasses. During the day they shelter and form runs under dense shrubs in spinifex grasslands and sand dunes. These hare-wallabies are territorial and male-male interactions can be aggressive. Relations among females and between juveniles and adults are peaceful.

### Breeding

Banded hare-wallabies usually breed in their second year, with births late in summer. Joeys spend about six months in the pouch.

As with other macropods, the female can delay development of a fertilised egg, reactivating an embryo when a joey leaves her pouch (embryonic diapause).

### Description

**Head-body** 400-450mm

**Tail** 320mm

**Weight** 1.6-3kg

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### Status

*Vulnerable*