Return to 1616 Ecological Restoration Project

Dirk Hartog Island National Park

Woylie
Bettongia penicillata

Boodie
Bettongia lesueur

Banded hare-wallaby
Lagostrophus fasciatus

Western grasswren
Amytornis textilis

Chuditch
Dasyurus geoffroii

Rufous hare-wallaby
Lagorchestes hirsutus

Shark Bay mouse
Pseudomys gouldii

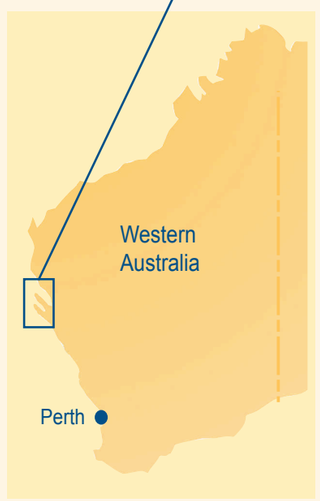
Desert mouse
Pseudomys desertor

Brush-tailed mulgara
Dasycercus blythi

Shark Bay bandicoot
Perameles bougainville

Greater stick-nest rat
Leporillus conditor

Dibbler
Parantechinus apicalis



Rufous hare-wallaby

Lagorchestes hirsutus

This solitary animal lives in low scrub and spinifex eating grasses, seeds, bulbs and insects. The last mainland populations were extinguished by 1991.

Head-body: 350mm
Tail: 270mm

Greater stick-nest rat

Leporillus conditor

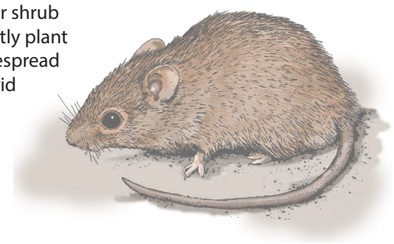
Groups of 10-20 rats build large stick nests under shrubs and in rocky crevices. They feed on succulent plants. Once found through southern and western Australia they became extinct on the mainland in the 1930s. There is a healthy translocated population on Salutation Island in Shark Bay.

Head-body: 215mm
Tail: 160mm

Desert mouse

Pseudomys desertor

Desert mice live in arid areas under dense spinifex or shrub cover. Their diet is mostly plant material. They are widespread across arid and semi arid Australia.

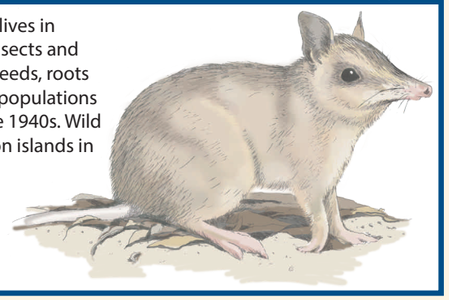


Head-body: 90mm
Tail: 85mm

Shark Bay bandicoot

Perameles bougainville

This small bandicoot lives in dense scrub eating insects and other invertebrates, seeds, roots and herbs. Mainland populations became extinct in the 1940s. Wild populations remain on islands in Shark Bay.



Head-body: 200mm
Tail: 90mm

Western grasswren

Amytornis textilis

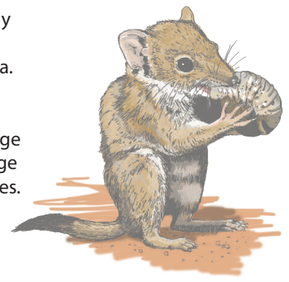
These shy grasswrens occur in dense wattle shrubland. Formerly known as thick-billed grasswrens for their heavy, seed-crushing beaks, they also eat insects. Nests are in thick scrub near the ground. Although once widespread in southern arid Australia, they are now confined to small discrete areas.

Head-tail: 170-190mm

Brush-tailed mulgara

Dasycercus blythi

The brush-tailed mulgara was only recently recognised as a different species to the crest-tailed mulgara. Both occur in small scattered populations through arid Central and Western Australia. They emerge from burrows at night to hunt large invertebrates and small vertebrates.

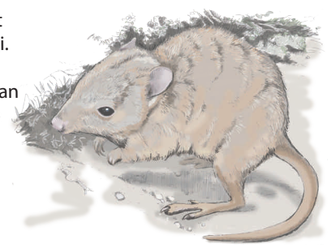


Head-body: 150mm
Tail: 90mm

Boodie

Bettongia lesueur

Boodies dig burrows under cap rock in dunes and scrub. They eat plant material, termites and fungi. Boodies once had the largest geographic range of any Australian mammal but were extinct on the mainland in the 1960s.



Head-body: 375mm
Tail: 300mm

Woylie

Bettongia penicillata

Woylies live in spinifex and woody scrub eating fungi, plant material and insects. They turn over a lot of soil and spread seeds and spores while foraging. Once widespread, woylies were retricted to three small areas in southwestern Australia by the 1970s.

Head-body: 320mm
Tail: 325mm

Dibbler

Parantechinus apicalis

Dibblers live in heath and low dense coastal vegetation. They eat ground-dwelling invertebrates and sometimes small vertebrates. Dibblers were once widespread in southwest WA but their distribution is now limited to two islands and some coastal areas.

Head-body: 140mm
Tail: 110mm

Shark Bay mouse

Pseudomys gouldii

This mouse lives in heath and dune vegetation. It eats flowers, leaves, insects, spiders and fungi. Once widespread it became extinct on the mainland soon after European settlement. It is now only on two islands in Shark Bay and on North West Island.

Head-body: 100mm
Tail: 125mm

Chuditch

Dasyurus geoffroii

The chuditch is Western Australia's largest carnivorous marsupial. It has a large home range and hunts small vertebrates and large invertebrates. It currently only occurs naturally in patches in the southwest corner of WA.

Head-body: 330mm
Tail: 280mm

Banded hare-wallaby

Lagostrophus fasciatus

Banded hare-wallabies form runs under dense shrubs and eat grasses and shrubs. They once ranged across southern Australia but are now limited to islands in Shark Bay.

Head-body: 452mm
Tail: 320mm

Scan this code to learn more about the Return to 1616 project.

These animals became locally extinct in Dirk Hartog Island National Park as a result of predation by feral cats, and habitat loss caused by introduced grazing animals such as goats and sheep. Following the removal of feral animals from the island, vegetation has regrown and they are now being returned.

This project is funded by Gorgon Barrow Island Net Conservation Benefits Fund.

2023_221-0423-PDF

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Department of **Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**
DIRK HARTOG ISLAND RETURN TO 1616
Biodiversity and **Conservation Science**