



Role: Predator

DESCRIPTION

Carnivorous marsupial the size of a small cat, with a pointed snout, and brown to black fur with distinctive white spots. Its tail is long, largely unspotted, and ends in a brush of long black hairs.

THREATS

Habitat loss or change as a result of grazing pressure and land clearance, predation by and competition with foxes and cats.

HABITAT

Naturally found in jarrah forests, woodlands and mallee shrublands of south-western Western Australia. Endangered in South Australia.

DIET

Forage on the ground, but can also climb trees to find prey. Feed on a range of prey including large invertebrates, reptiles, mammals and birds.

BEHAVIOUR

Large home ranges to find suitable shelter and sufficient prey. Males and females only come together to mate. Can birth up to six young which remain in the mother's pouch for around three months.



Currently only occupies 2% of its former range and is now listed nationally as vulnerable.



In the absence of the dingos, thylacine and devils, western quolls perform the important role of the top order predator.