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BILBY *Macrotis lagotis* RECOVERY PLAN

DESCRIPTION

Bilbies are small bandicoot type marsupials, about the size of a small cat and have soft, blue-grey fur with white under parts and a distinctive black/white-tipped tail. They have long, highly sensitive ears and a pointed snout.

DISTRIBUTION

Range contracted from 70% of Australia to inland desert areas of Western Australia, desert area of mid to north Northern Territory, and a very small area of far western Queensland.

STATUS

Commonwealth	Vulnerable
Northern Territory	Threatened
Western Australia	Vulnerable
South Australia	Endangered
Queensland	Endangered
New South Wales	Presumed extinct

PARK COMPONENT

Breed in captivity to support national stud book and release program. Display to public to educate about situation and need for recovery action.

PROGRESS TO DATE

The Desert Park has bred a small number of genetically important young bilbies and moved these to other institutions for captive breeding with other bloodline in accordance with the recommendations of the national stud book keeper for the species.

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

Dept of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts (NT) – Alice Springs Desert Park & Biodiversity Conservation – Threatened Species Network

Dept Environment & Heritage (SA)

Australian Wildlife Conservancy

Environmental Protection Agency (Qld)

Dept Conservation & Land Management (WA)

Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria – Adelaide Zoo, Kanyana, Monarto Zoo, Perron CBC, Yookamurra Sanctuary, Arid Recovery (Roxby Downs)

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE(S)

1. To maintain or improve the global conservations status of the greater bilby (currently listed as nationally vulnerable) over the duration of the plan.
2. To maintain current extent of occurrence and area of occupancy by securing key populations in the core range and at the southern range limits.
3. To achieve an accurate assessment of distribution, population trends, and identification of key threatening processes.



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