



Office of
Environment
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Iconic species project

Brush-tailed rock-wallaby
Petrogale penicillata



Conservation status

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (NSW): Endangered

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Australia): Vulnerable

NSW recovery plan

The *Recovery plan for the brush-tailed rock-wallaby* (*Petrogale penicillata*) (Department of Environment and Climate Change 2008) generated a high level of community interest. Its objectives are to:

- increase recruitment at priority sites
- decrease the rate of decline in range and abundance
- prevent the decline of the species to a level at which it would risk becoming extinct in the wild
- increase knowledge to enable more effective management of the species.

Actions being undertaken in 2012–15 under *Saving our Species*

- Reduce the number of pest animals (foxes, cats and goats) threatening populations of brush-tailed rock-wallabies by baiting, trapping and shooting them.
- Breed brush-tailed rock-wallabies in captivity, and introduce these animals into the wild to improve genetic diversity and increase the size of wild populations.
- Assess rock-wallaby populations to increase understanding of the threats impacting on them and population status.
- Monitor wallaby populations in areas targeted for fox and cat control to determine whether such control is increasing brush-tailed rock-wallaby numbers.

Actions already under way

- Surveying historical and current brush-tailed rock-wallaby sites to monitor population numbers.
- Implementing fox control programs to reduce predation.
- Implementing goat control programs to reduce competition for food and shelter.
- Captive breeding to preserve the genetic diversity of small populations.
- Translocating individuals bred in captivity into the wild.
- Research to increase understanding of population dynamics.

Key project partners

Taronga Conservation Society, Zoo Aquarium Association, Friends of the brush-tailed rock-wallaby, Waterfall Springs Wildlife Sanctuary, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, Blackbutt Reserve, Macquarie University, Australian Museum, Hawkesbury–Nepean Catchment Management Authority.

More information

The NSW recovery plan is available at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/threatenedspecies/08138btrw.pdf
See the species profile at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10605

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