

Southern Brown Bandicoot

Scientific Name:

Isodon obesulus

Conservation Status in NSW:

Endangered

National Conservation Status:

Endangered



SPECIAL NOTE: Southern Brown Bandicoots are found in suburbs adjoining Ku-ring-gai Chase and Garigal National Parks. Small conical holes in the ground are a sign of bandicoots.

Description:

The Southern Brown Bandicoot is a nocturnal small hopping marsupial with a body length of approximately 30cm. It is dark greyish or yellowish brown on top with a creamy white belly. The tail and upper surface of the hindfeet are usually dark brown. It has small rounded ears and a short snout which distinguishes it from the Long-nosed Bandicoot.

The Long-nosed Bandicoot is a slightly larger animal and has larger almost pointy ears. Both species of Bandicoot are found in Warringah and inhabit similar areas.

Habitat:

The Southern Brown Bandicoot is an omnivore that forages for food shortly after dark or before dawn. It prefers sandy soil with scrubby vegetation and areas of low ground cover that are burnt out from time to time.

Southern Brown Bandicoots are sometimes found in Warringah suburbs adjoining Ku-ring-gai Chase and Garigal National Parks. Small conical holes in the ground are a sign of bandicoots.

Threats:

Numbers of Southern Brown Bandicoot are declining due to predation by feral and domestic animals (foxes, dogs and cats), habitat loss, road kills and a change in fire regimes leading to a degradation of remaining habitat.

Community Action:

Warringah residents can help protect the remaining Southern Brown Bandicoot habitat by joining a "bushcare group" such as Warringah's Friends of the Bush and removing exotic weed species from gardens and planting native species endemic to their area. Other measures include making sure dogs and cats are not free to roam in bushland areas and supporting Fox Control Programs.

Warringah residents are asked to contact the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service if they see a Southern Brown Bandicoot and provide details of the sighting, such as location, date, time, number and what they were doing. This information is vital for increasing knowledge of the species and planning for its protection.

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service are conducting surveys of these marsupials to promote their recovery. For more information call 9472 8961.