

AUSTRALIAN THREATENED SPECIES



**EASTERN
QUOLL**

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Did You Know?

EASTERN QUOLL

Dasyurus viverrinus

- ▶▶ The Eastern Quoll is often incorrectly referred to as the native cat, but quolls are marsupials. Females develop a flap of skin to produce a small pouch which protects the tiny young.
- ▶▶ Eastern Quolls have distinctive white-spotted grey or black fur. They can be distinguished from the Tiger Quoll by their slender build, pointed snout and lack of spots on the tail.
- ▶▶ Eastern Quolls inhabit grasslands, woodlands and open forests. They use hollow logs, burrows and rock piles as a home site, with several dens located throughout their territory. They hunt at night and eat insects, small prey, vegetation and fruit.
- ▶▶ The main threats to the Eastern Quoll are competition and predation from feral cats, illegal poisoning and trapping. The lack of foxes and dingoes in Tasmania is believed to have contributed to the survival of the species on the island.
- ▶▶ Since the 1960s they have been extinct on mainland Australia. The disappearance is thought to have been caused by a toxoplasmosis epidemic which was spread by introduced cats.

To find out more about Australia's Eastern Quoll and how you can help to save them contact:

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Conserving and protecting Australian natural ecosystems.

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