

Greater Bilby



Macrotis lagotis (= hare-eared large-eared animal)



Length: HB ♀ 34 ♂ 42 cm;
T ♀ 24 ♂ 25 cm

Weight: ♀ 950 ♂ 1750 g

Identification: Small-cat-sized burrowing marsupial with long ears, long muzzle, soft grey fur. Long, black, white-tipped tail.

Where found: Desert areas of central Aust. with little free surface water.

Habits: Shelters during day in a burrow that may be 3 m long and nearly 2 m deep. Gets

moisture from insects, seeds, fungi; digs feeding holes 10 cm deep. Droppings may contain sand. 2 young stay in the rear-opening pouch for about 11 weeks, then are left in burrow.

Notes: Once found in dry areas across southern Australia. Threatened by grazing, fire, rabbits and foxes.

Status: Rare and endangered.

Similar species: The Lesser Bilby is much smaller. It is almost certainly extinct.



HABITAT
SANDY
DESERTS



FOOD
INSECTS
& SEEDS

