



SAVING OUR SPECIES

Let's find out about NSW threatened animals

An Australian Curriculum education resource for years 1-6



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Introduction

There are more than 280 animals listed as threatened in New South Wales. Depending on how threatened an animal is, they can be listed as:

- vulnerable
- endangered
- critically endangered
- if an animal has not been found in the wild for some time, scientists will determine if it is to be presumed extinct in the wild.

An animal is assessed as threatened if:

- the number of animals across the whole population is low
- the animals are only found in a small area, so the whole population could be quickly affected by harmful events such as fire, flood or disease
- there are too few adults in the population to have enough babies to maintain a population.

In this resource, we describe 28 animals that are threatened in New South Wales. They represent a range of animal types that live in different places with diverse ecosystems across New South Wales. Some rely on very specific habitat features in the environment to eat, breed and survive.

This resource is supported by a series of drawings by nature artist Tallulah Cunningham. You can download these drawings from [our website](#).

Section one shows how the exploration of threatened species is linked to numerous learning areas across the Australian Curriculum. It also provides some ideas for activities and questions associated with the animals.

Section two tells you a little about each animal and has a link to more information on the Office of Environment and Heritage website, where you will also find maps and photos of the species.

There is also a glossary to explain terms and ecosystems.

This project was developed as part of the NSW Government's Saving our Species program. By taking a more strategic approach to management, working together and committing substantial investment in threatened species conservation, Saving our Species aims to 'Maximise the number of threatened species that are secured in the wild in NSW for 100 years'.

To find out more about threatened species, the Saving our Species program and what actions are underway to save our species, go to [our Threatened species page](#).



Top: mountain pygmy-possum
Photo: Linda Broome

Middle: southern corroboree frog
Photo: Dave Hunter

Bottom: superb parrot:
Photo David and Glynis Ingram

Section one: Curriculum links

The threatened species animal faces can be used to explore the following learning areas from the Australian Curriculum.

Cross-curriculum priority:

Sustainability

OI.1 The biosphere is a dynamic system providing conditions that sustain life on Earth.

OI.9 Sustainable futures result from actions designed to preserve and/or restore the quality and uniqueness of environments.

Science

Year 1 ACSSU017 Living things have a variety of external features

Year 1 ACSSU211 Living things live in different places where their needs are met

Year 3 ACSSU044 Living things can be grouped on the basis of observable features and can be distinguished from non-living things

Year 4 ACSSU073 Living things depend on each other and the environment to survive

Year 5 ACSSU043 Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment

Year 6 ACSSU094 The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment

Humanities and social sciences

Year 4 ACHASSK088 The importance of environments, including natural vegetation, to animals and people

Year 4 ACHASSK090 The use and management of natural resources and waste, and the different views on how to do this sustainably

Suggested uses

Included in this resource are drawings of the heads and faces of 28 different types of animals. They all live in different places across New South Wales, in different ecosystems and rely on different habitat features, and they are all listed as threatened under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

You are free to use the images as you wish and are welcome to make as many copies of the drawings as you need.

Exploring colour and camouflage

Look at pictures of the animals online and pictures of the ecosystems they live in.

Think about where they live, what they eat and what might eat them.

Colour the animal faces and explain why you chose the colours you did.

You may also like to listen to sounds of the animals, especially the birds. If you use the link to the species profile on the [Office of Environment and Heritage website](#) you will find a recording of some of the animals in the right-hand corner.

Exploring needs, threats and ways to save threatened native animals

Using the information in Section two, think about what the threatened animals need to survive and what is threatening them.

Look at the information in column four about where the animals can be found in New South Wales.

Look at the maps in the linked species profiles showing where each species is known or predicted to be found. It looks like many of the animals can be found across large areas of New South Wales, so how could they be threatened?

Explore what the threatened animals eat and where they find shelter. They may need very large areas to hunt for prey, such as the eastern bentwing-bat or the powerful owl.

They may need specific places to nest. For example, the powerful owl, the superb parrot, the pale-headed snake, the glossy black-cockatoo and the squirrel glider all need trees with hollows. Some may live in grasslands or under rocks that are highly disturbed by grazing animals.

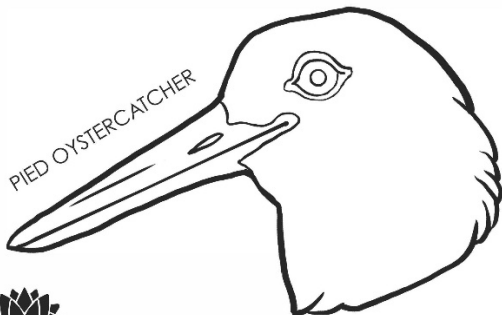
What is it that may cause animals like these that once lived across large areas of New South Wales to be threatened?

People need timber to build, we need to stay warm and we need to have farms producing food so we can all eat well. What actions might we take to ensure people can continue to live well and our native animals survive?

Celebrity head game

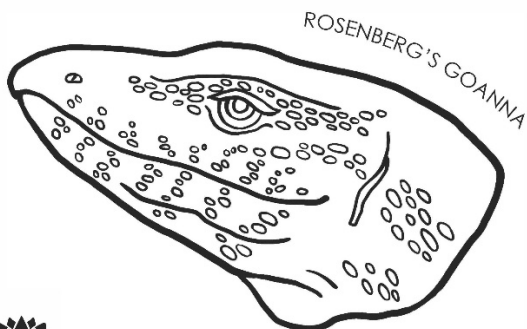
1. Select several species to focus on, they may be ones found near where you live or live in ecosystems you are studying.
2. The players will need to learn more about the selected animals before playing the final game.
3. Print out an animal face for each person playing the game. You may like to mix up the numbers of each animal printed.
4. You might like to create a simple reference chart using the information from Section one to assist the players when they play the game.
5. Attach the animal faces to paper strips that can be joined with staples or tape to sit on the player's heads.
6. The game organiser places an animal face headband on each player's head from behind. Now everyone knows the identity of the players animal – except the player.
7. To find out the animal face on their headband, each player takes turns asking questions about their animal. For example:
 - Do I live on the NSW coast?
 - Am I green?
 - Do I use tree hollows?
 - Do I fly?
8. To win the game, a player must be the first to guess the identity of their animal.

design by Tullulah Cunningham



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design by Tullulah Cunningham









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Examples of animal faces, available to download on our website




Section two: Species information




	Common name scientific name, information and map link Go to page 20 for the page link	What type of animal is it?	What part of NSW do they live in?	What ecosystems do they live in? Look in the glossary for more information	What do they need to survive?	What is threatening their survival?
	<p>Barrier Range dragon <u><i>Ctenophorus mirrityana</i></u></p>	<p>Reptile</p>	<p>North west NSW</p>	<p>Arid shrublands</p>	<p>Found in the higher rocky areas in flat, treeless stony desert. Seeks shelter in narrow crevices in rocks and perches on prominent rocks to catch the sunlight. Feeds on small insects.</p>	<p>May be hunted by cats and foxes. Goats (especially), rabbits, cows and sheep eat and disturb the vegetation and rocks that make up the dragon's habitat.</p>
	<p>Beach stone-curlew <u><i>Esacus magnirostris</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coastal NSW</p>	<p>Freshwater wetlands Grasslands Marine Saline wetlands Shoreline</p>	<p>Nests on the ground behind beaches and coastal rivers. Eats crabs and other animals that live in the sand and mud.</p>	<p>Eggs and chicks eaten by foxes, cats, dogs, gulls and ravens. People and vehicles on beaches can crush or trample their nests.</p>




	<p>Common name scientific name, information and map link</p> <p>Go to page 20 for the page link</p>	<p>What type of animal is it?</p>	<p>What part of NSW do they live in?</p>	<p>What ecosystems do they live in?</p> <p>Look in the glossary for more information</p>	<p>What do they need to survive?</p>	<p>What is threatening their survival?</p>
	<p>Brush-tailed rock wallaby</p> <p><u><i>Petrogale penicillata</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>Coast and tablelands of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetlands Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Lives on rocky ledges and cliffs.</p> <p>Eats grass, shrubs and trees that grow near the cliffs.</p>	<p>Hunted by foxes, cats and wild dogs.</p> <p>Weeds can replace the native plants they use for food.</p> <p>Goats and pigs eat the same food and can leave them with little to eat.</p>
	<p>Eastern bentwing-bat</p> <p><u><i>Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis</i></u></p>	<p>Bat</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and western slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Saline wetland Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Hunts above the tree tops catching moths and other flying insects.</p> <p>Caves are the primary roosting habitat. Can also use derelict mines, storm- water tunnels, buildings and other built structures.</p>	<p>Disturbance of caves by people.</p> <p>Blocking of cave entrances for human safety or by weeds like blackberries.</p> <p>Clearing of trees where the bats hunt for food.</p>
	<p>Eastern osprey</p> <p><u><i>Pandion cristatus</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coastal NSW, can travel to inland wetlands</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Heathland Marine Rainforest Saline wetland Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds mainly on medium- sized live fish.</p> <p>Can use the same nest year after year. It is made from sticks and is usually placed high on a cliff or in a dead tree. They can build nests on artificial structures such as radio towers.</p>	<p>Young birds can get tangled in fishing nets or seaweed and drown.</p> <p>Removal of coastal trees in which they build their nests.</p> <p>The fish they eat may be contaminated by pesticides or contain lost fishing tackle.</p>



<p>Common name scientific name, information and map link</p> <p>Go to page 20 for the page link</p>	<p>What type of animal is it?</p>	<p>What part of NSW do they live in?</p>	<p>What ecosystems do they live in?</p> <p>Look in the glossary for more information</p>	<p>What do they need to survive?</p>	<p>What is threatening their survival?</p>
 <p>Glossy black-cockatoo <u><i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Eastern and central NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on the seeds of very specific species of Casuarina and Allocasuarina trees, also known as Sheoaks.</p> <p>Builds nests in large hollows in eucalypt trees that can be hundreds of years old.</p>	<p>Clearing of the Casuarina and Allocasuarina trees on which they feed.</p> <p>Clearing of old trees with hollows.</p> <p>Hollows used by increasing numbers of other native and non-native species.</p> <p>Illegal bird smuggling and egg-collecting.</p>
 <p>Grassland earless dragon <u><i>Tympanocryptis pinguicolla</i></u></p>	<p>Reptile</p>	<p>South east tablelands of NSW</p>	<p>Grasslands</p>	<p>Feeds on small insects, including ants and spiders.</p> <p>Uses grass clumps, surface rocks, spider and insect holes for shelter.</p>	<p>Clearing of their habitat to plant pasture or other crops.</p> <p>Trampling of their habitat by agricultural stock.</p> <p>Removal of rocks in their grassland habitat.</p>
 <p>Green and golden bell frog <u><i>Litoria aurea</i></u></p>	<p>Amphibian</p>	<p>Coast and southern tablelands of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Saline wetland Wet forest</p>	<p>Tadpoles feed on algae and other plants, adult frogs eat mainly insects, but also other frogs.</p> <p>Lives in marshes, dams and stream-sides, particularly those containing rushes.</p> <p>They can live in very disturbed places such as roadside drainage swales (low land) or constructed dams.</p>	<p>Changes to streams and other water bodies by building dams, weirs and diversion channels.</p> <p>A fungus that affects the skin of the frog.</p> <p>Hunted by foxes and cats.</p> <p>Poisons used to control insects and weeds.</p>




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 <p>GREY-HEADED FLYING-FOX</p> <p>NSW</p> <p>SAVING OUR SPECIES</p> <p>Grey-headed flying-fox <u><i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i></u></p>	<p>Bat</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and western slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Saline wetland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on the nectar and pollen of forest trees and shrubs and the fruits of rainforest trees and vines.</p> <p>Roosting camps are commonly found in low areas, close to water, with trees that are close together.</p>	<p>Clearing of roost camp sites.</p> <p>Disturbance of roosting camps especially when there are pregnant females and juvenile flying-foxes present.</p> <p>Clearing of trees and shrubs that provide the flying-foxes with nectar, pollen and fruit.</p> <p>Extreme heat events that cause the flying-foxes to over heat.</p>
 <p>HOODED PLOVER</p> <p>NSW</p> <p>SAVING OUR SPECIES</p> <p>Hooded plover <u><i>Thinornis rubricollis</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Southern coast of NSW</p>	<p>Grasslands Marine Shoreline</p>	<p>Feeds on worms, molluscs, crustaceans, insects, water plants and seeds.</p> <p>Lives on broad, flat ocean beaches with beachcast seaweed and backed by sparsely vegetated sand- dunes for shelter and nesting.</p>	<p>Eggs and chicks eaten by foxes, cats, dogs, gulls and ravens.</p> <p>Disturbance of nests by domestic dogs.</p> <p>People and vehicles on beaches crush or trample nests.</p> <p>Inundation of nests by high tides, storms and other flooding.</p>




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 <p>NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p> <p>Koala <u><i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>All of NSW except the driest western areas</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Saline wetland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on the leaves of more than 70 eucalypt species and 30 non-eucalypt species, but in any one area will select preferred tree species.</p> <p>Home ranges vary with quality of habitat, from less than two hectares to several hundred hectares in size.</p>	<p>Clearing of habitat trees for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Intense fires that scorch or burn the tree canopy.</p> <p>Crossing roads and being struck by vehicles.</p> <p>Domestic dogs are known to hunt and chase koalas.</p> <p>Koala disease.</p>
 <p>NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p> <p>Little Tern <u><i>Sternula albifrons</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coastal NSW</p>	<p>Grasslands Marine Saline wetland Shoreline</p>	<p>Feeds on small fish, crustaceans, insects, worms and molluscs.</p> <p>Nests in low dunes or on sandy beaches just above high tide mark near estuary mouths or adjacent to coastal lakes and islands.</p>	<p>Eggs and chicks eaten by foxes, cats, dogs, gulls and ravens. Disturbance of nests by domestic dogs.</p> <p>People and vehicles on beaches can crush or trample nests.</p> <p>Inundation of nests by high tides, storms and flooding.</p>
 <p>NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p> <p>Loggerhead turtle <u><i>Caretta</i></u></p>	<p>Reptile</p>	<p>Coastal NSW</p>	<p>Marine Shoreline</p>	<p>Loggerhead Turtles are ocean-dwellers, they feed in deeper water for fish, jellyfish and bottom-dwelling animals.</p> <p>Female turtles come ashore to lay eggs in a hole dug on beaches in tropical regions during the warmer months.</p>	<p>Boats colliding with turtles.</p> <p>Turtles can be caught in fishing gear or netting.</p> <p>Plastic pollution can cause suffocation, abrasion, infection or blockages in the turtle's system when swallowed.</p> <p>Disturbance to nest sites.</p>

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	<p>Long-nosed potoroo <u><i>Potorous tridactylus</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>Coast and coastal hinterlands of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on underground fungi, tree and shrub roots, insects and other soft-bodied animals in the soil.</p> <p>Lives on the ground in coastal heaths and forests amongst dense grass-trees, ferns and low shrubs.</p> <p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Hunted by foxes, wild dogs and cats.</p> <p>Fires that change their habitat, especially the thick low-level vegetation they live amongst.</p>
	<p>Malleefowl <u><i>Leipoa ocellata</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>South west NSW, central and southern slopes and plains of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Semi-arid woodland</p>	<p>Feeds on the seeds of wattles and buds, flowers and fruits of other native shrubs. Also eats insects if available.</p> <p>Lives in mallee country amongst spinifex and shrubby ground plants.</p> <p>Lays and keeps its eggs warm in large sandy mounds.</p> <p>Habitat degraded by increase in feral goats and pigs or domestic stock.</p> <p>Hunted by cats and foxes.</p> <p>Goats and pigs disturbing the egg mounds.</p>
	<p>Mountain pygmy-possum <u><i>Burramys parvus</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>Alpine regions of NSW</p>	<p>Alpine complex</p>	<p>Feeds on Bogong moths, caterpillars, beetles, spiders and millipedes. Also eats fruits and seeds from species such as the mountain plum pine and snow beard-heath.</p> <p>Lives on the ground amongst boulders below mountain peaks.</p> <p>Clearing and degrading of habitat for snow sports.</p> <p>Hunted by foxes and cats.</p> <p>Fire damaging food sources.</p> <p>Drought affecting the migration of Bogong moths to alpine areas.</p> <p>Changing climate reducing snow and rainfall.</p>

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 <p>PALE-HEADED SNAKE NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p>	<p>Pale-headed snake <u><i>Hoplocephalus bitorquatus</i></u></p>	<p>Reptile</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of northern NSW, possible on the slopes of central and southern NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Mostly eats tree frogs although lizards and small mammals are also taken.</p> <p>Shelters during the day between loose bark and tree-trunks, or in hollow trunks and limbs of dead trees.</p> <p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Clearing of old trees with hollows.</p> <p>Hollows used by increasing numbers of other native and non-native species.</p> <p>Illegal collection of snakes from the wild.</p>
 <p>PIED OYSTERCATCHER NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p>	<p>Pied oystercatcher <u><i>Haematopus longirostris</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coastal NSW</p>	<p>Grasslands Heathlands Marine Saline wetland Shoreline</p>	<p>Feeds on worms, crabs and small fish in the sand, mud and rocks at low tide.</p> <p>Nests mostly on beaches although occasionally uses grassy or marsh areas.</p> <p>Nests are shallow scrapes in sand above the high tide mark.</p> <p>Eggs and chicks eaten by foxes, cats, dogs, gulls and ravens. Disturbance of nests by domestic dogs.</p> <p>People and vehicles on beaches can crush or trample nests.</p> <p>Inundation of nests by high tides, storms and flooding.</p>
 <p>PLAINS WANDERER NSW SAVING OUR SPECIES</p>	<p>Plains wanderer <u><i>Pedionomus torquatus</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Western and central plains of NSW</p>	<p>Arid shrublands Grasslands</p>	<p>Feeds during the day on seeds and insects.</p> <p>Rarely flies and lives amongst grasses and plants found in semi-arid, lowland native grasslands.</p> <p>Nests are a shallow hole scraped into the soil.</p> <p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture.</p> <p>Hunted by foxes and possibly cats.</p> <p>Prolonged drought that affects the condition of their habitat.</p> <p>Very small population numbers.</p>

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 <p>Powerful owl <u><i>Ninox strenua</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds across large tracts of forest and woodland, from 400 to 4000 acres.</p> <p>Hunts for medium-sized native animals including possums and gliders.</p> <p>Nests in large tree hollows.</p>	<p>Clearing of nesting and roosting trees for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Loss of large trees with hollows.</p> <p>Hollows used by increasing numbers of other native and non-native species.</p> <p>Chicks are eaten by foxes, dogs and cats.</p>
 <p>Regent honeyeater <u><i>Anthochaera phrygia</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on the nectar from eucalypts that produce high volumes of nectar including Mugga Ironbark, Yellow Box, White Box and Swamp Mahogany.</p> <p>Nests in the horizontal branches or forks in tall mature eucalypts and Sheoaks.</p>	<p>Clearing of feed trees for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Competition from larger aggressive honeyeaters, particularly Noisy Miners, Noisy Friarbirds and Red Wattlebirds.</p> <p>Very small population numbers.</p>

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 <p>Rosenberg's goanna <u><i>Varanus rosenbergi</i></u></p>	<p>Reptile</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of southern NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on dead animals, birds, eggs, reptiles and small mammals.</p> <p>Shelters in hollow logs, rock crevices and in burrows, which they may dig or they may use other burrows, such as rabbit warrens.</p> <p>Lays eggs in termite mounds.</p>	<p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Clearing of termite mounds and timber that lays on the ground.</p> <p>Crossing or feeding on roads and being struck by vehicles.</p> <p>Hunted by foxes and dogs.</p>
 <p>Scarlet robin <u><i>Petroica boodang</i></u></p>	<p>Bird</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on small insects and other invertebrates.</p> <p>Sticks and logs on the ground provide perching spots for the robins to pounce on insects.</p> <p>Nests in the forks of trees and shrubs.</p>	<p>Clearing of nesting and roosting shrubs for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Clearing fallen sticks and timber from the ground.</p> <p>Hunted by cats.</p> <p>Weeds invading feeding habitat.</p>
 <p>Sloane's froglet <u><i>Crinia sloanei</i></u></p>	<p>Amphibian</p>	<p>Tablelands and slopes of NSW, now only found in southern NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Semi-arid woodland</p>	<p>Feeds on insects.</p> <p>Adults live in grassland and woodland areas that are occasionally flooded.</p> <p>Eggs and tadpoles live in ponds, dams, swamps, flooded grassland, ditches and hollows.</p>	<p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Habitat trampled by heavy stock animals.</p> <p>Changes to streams and other water bodies by building dams, weirs and diversion channels that affect natural flooding.</p>

<p>Common name scientific name, information and map link</p> <p>Go to page 20 for the page link</p>	<p>What type of animal is it?</p>	<p>What part of NSW do they live in?</p>	<p>What ecosystems do they live in?</p> <p>Look in the glossary for more information</p>	<p>What do they need to survive?</p>	<p>What is threatening their survival?</p>
 <p>Southern corroboree frog <u><i>Pseudophryne corroboree</i></u></p>	<p>Amphibian</p>	<p>Sub-alpine regions of NSW</p>	<p>Alpine complex Grassland Grassy Woodland</p>	<p>Feeds mostly on small black ants and other insects.</p> <p>Summer breeding habitat is in sphagnum bogs, wet tussock grasslands and wet heath. In winter adults move into woodlands.</p> <p>Tadpoles overwinter in the pools.</p>	<p>Damage to breeding sites by feral pigs and horses.</p> <p>A fungus that affects the skin of the frog.</p> <p>Changing climate reducing snow and rainfall.</p> <p>Very small population numbers.</p>
 <p>Spotted-tailed quoll <u><i>Dasyurus maculatus</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassland Grassy woodland Heathland Saline wetland Semi-arid woodland Rainforest Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on medium-sized mammals including possums, rats, birds, rabbits, reptiles and insects. Also eats dead animals and takes domestic fowl.</p> <p>Makes dens in hollow-bearing trees, fallen logs, small caves, rock outcrops and rocky-cliff faces.</p>	<p>Clearing of habitat for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Clearing fallen logs and timber from the ground.</p> <p>Competition for food with cats and foxes.</p> <p>Crossing or feeding on roads and being struck by vehicles.</p>
 <p>Squirrel glider <u><i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i></u></p>	<p>Marsupial</p>	<p>Coast, tablelands and slopes of NSW</p>	<p>Dry forest Forested wetland Freshwater wetland Grassy woodland Heathland Rainforest Semi-arid woodland Wet forest</p>	<p>Feeds on wattle gum, eucalypt sap and nectar, with insects and pollen providing protein.</p> <p>Lives in mature or old-growth woodlands or forest with a shrub or Acacia mid-storey.</p> <p>Needs abundant tree hollows for refuge and nest sites.</p>	<p>Clearing of nesting and feed trees for agriculture and human settlement.</p> <p>Loss of large trees with hollows.</p> <p>Hollows used by increasing numbers of other native and non-native species.</p> <p>Crossing roads and being struck by vehicles.</p>

Common name scientific name, information and map link	What type of animal is it?	What part of NSW do they live in?	What ecosystems do they live in? Look in the glossary for more information	What do they need to survive?	What is threatening their survival?
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Go to page 20 for the page link



Superb parrot
Polytelis swainsonii

Bird

Tablelands
and slopes of
NSW

Arid shrubland
Dry forest
Forested wetland
Freshwater wetland
Grassland
Grassy woodland
Semi-arid woodland
Wet forest

Nests in the hollows of large trees, dead or alive.

Feeds in trees and understorey shrubs and on the ground.

Diet consists mainly of grass seeds. Also eats fruits, berries, nectar, buds, flowers, insects and agricultural grain, including grain spilt during transport.

Clearing of nesting and feed trees for agriculture and human settlement.

Loss of large trees with hollows.

Hollows used by increasing numbers of other native and non-native species.

Feeding on grain spilt on roads and being struck by vehicles.

Glossary

alpine complex	Australia's alpine complex is dominated by small-leaved shrubs, herbs and tussock grasses as climatic conditions inhibit tree growth. It occupies less than 1% of Australia's land area. Go to the Alpine Heaths page.
arid shrublands	Arid shrublands occur in arid and semi-arid regions of western NSW, where limited, sporadic rainfall and low soil moisture are unable to support tree-dominated vegetation. Go to the Arid shrublands (Acacia sub-formation) page.
critically endangered	A species is eligible to be listed as a critically endangered species if, in the opinion of the Scientific Committee, it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in Australia in the immediate future.
dry forest	Dry sclerophyll (hard leaves) forests are a typically Australian vegetation type having plants such as eucalypts, wattles and banksias with hard, short leaves, which is a condition closely associated with low soil fertility rather than rainfall and soil moisture. Low fertility also makes soils undesirable for agriculture and dry forests have, therefore, remained relatively intact. Go to the Dry sclerophyll forests (shrubby sub-formation) page.
ecosystem	An assemblage of species (plants, animals and fungi) occupying a particular area.
endangered	A species is eligible to be listed as an endangered species if, in the opinion of the Scientific Committee, it is facing a very high risk of extinction in Australia in the near future.
extinct	A species is eligible to be listed as an extinct species if, in the opinion of the Scientific Committee, there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of the species in Australia has died.
forested wetlands	Forested wetlands occur throughout New South Wales but are restricted to river corridors and floodplains. These wetlands are dominated by trees and occur on fertile soils, mostly at low altitude. Go to the Forested wetlands page.
freshwater wetlands	Freshwater wetlands are ecosystems that are affected by permanent or temporary inundation. Most freshwater wetlands occur in the inland catchments of New South Wales and are dominated by shrubs, sedges and herbs. Go to the Freshwater wetlands page.
grasslands	Grasslands can be found from exposed humid coastlines to the hot, arid interior of western NSW. They are dominated by large tussock grasses with broad-leaved wildflowers growing in between and an absence of woody plants. Grasslands are valued for pastoral grazing as many native grasses and herbs are eaten by sheep, cows and other stock. Go to the Grasslands page.

grassy woodland	<p>Grassy woodlands are the main ecosystem that makes up ‘the sheep-wheat belt’, running from southern Queensland to central Victoria and they have been extensively modified for agriculture. Dominated by eucalypts, typically boxes and red gums, grassy woodlands have a relatively open canopy with sparsely distributed shrubs and a diverse ground cover of tussock grasses and herbs.</p> <p><u>Go to the Grassy woodlands page.</u></p>
heathland	<p>Despite having a restricted distribution, heathlands are associated with some of Australia’s most distinctive and inspirational coastal and mountain scenery. Shrubs and heaths dominate the vegetation, while grasses and trees are conspicuously scarce. Copious amounts of pollen and nectar attract a diverse array of nectar-feeding birds and mammals.</p> <p><u>Go to the Heathlands page.</u></p>
marine	<p>A collective term for environments associated with the sea and ocean.</p>
population	<p>A population is a group of organisms of the same species occupying an area.</p>
rainforest	<p>Rainforests occur in areas that are reliably moist, free from fire and have moderate to highly fertile soils. They range from lush, subtropical forests of the eastern seaboard to the dry vine thickets of the semi-arid northwest slopes. They are characterised by a closed and continuous tree canopy.</p> <p><u>Go to the Rainforests page.</u></p>
saline wetlands	<p>Saline (salt water) wetlands occur in locally restricted habitats such as lake shores and coastal mudflats. They are characterised by low-growing vegetation, with most plants barely emerging above the water line or are knee-high at most. Trees dominate only the Mangrove Swamps.</p> <p><u>Go to the Saline wetlands page.</u></p>
scientific committee	<p>The NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee is established under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i>. It is an independent committee of scientists appointed by the Minister for the Environment.</p> <p><u>Go to the NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee page.</u></p>
scientific name	<p>The two-term scientific naming system is a formal system of naming species of living things by giving each a name composed of two parts. The first part of the name identifies the genus to which the species belongs, the second part identifies the species within the genus.</p>
semi-arid woodland	<p>Australia’s semi-arid zone occurs in the interior of the continent, where average rainfall is less than 500 millimetres per year, but more than 250 millimetres. It covers one-third of New South Wales and although water is limiting, there is enough to support trees and an understorey of drought-resistant shrubs and grasses and herbs that appear when there is enough moisture.</p> <p><u>Go to the Semi-arid woodlands (grassy sub-formation) page.</u></p>

shoreline	The shoreline refers to the sand, rocks, estuaries and dunes that make up the coastal landscape directly adjacent to the sea.
threatened	A species is considered threatened if there is a reduction in its population size, it has a restricted geographical distribution, or there are few mature individuals.
vulnerable	A species is eligible to be listed as a vulnerable species if, in the opinion of the Scientific Committee, it is facing a high risk of extinction in Australia in the medium-term future.
wet forest	The wet sclerophyll forests of New South Wales occur on moderately fertile soils in high rainfall areas and are characterised by a tall, open tree canopy and a luxuriant understorey of soft-leaved shrubs, ferns and herbs. <u>Go to the Wet sclerophyll forests (grassy sub-formation) page.</u>

Office of Environment and Heritage species information and map links

Barrier Range dragon	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10188
Beach stone-curlew	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10280
Brush-tailed rock wallaby	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10605
Eastern bentwing-bat	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10534
Eastern osprey	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10585
Glossy black-cockatoo	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10140
Grassland earless dragon	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10817
Green and golden bell frog	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10483
Grey-headed flying-fox	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10697
Hooded plover	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10803
Koala	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10616
Little Tern	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10769
Loggerhead turtle	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10146
Long-nosed potoroo	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10662
Malleefowl	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10459
Mountain pygmy-possum	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10114
Pale-headed snake	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10412
Pied oystercatcher	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10386
Plains wanderer	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10588
Powerful owl	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10562
Regent honeyeater	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10841
Rosenberg's goanna	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10826
Scarlet robin	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=20133
Sloane's froglet	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=20088
Southern corroboree frog	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10693
Spotted-tailed quoll	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10207
Squirrel glider	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10604
Superb parrot	www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10645