



WESTERN RINGTAIL POSSUM

Description

This possum has dark-brown fur on top with a cream or grey chest and stomach. Western Ringtail Possums have short, rounded ears, and a strong prehensile tail which is 30–35 cm long.

Diet

Western Ringtail Possums are **herbivores** and feed on eucalypt, marri and peppermint tree leaves, buds, blossoms and soft fruit.

In the wild

Western Ringtail Possums are **nocturnal** and sleep in leafy nests in tree-holes during the day. They are fairly sociable and share home ranges and nests.

The actual gestation period of Western Ringtail Possums is not known. Births mostly take place in winter. Young emerge at about three months and suckle until six to seven months.

Threats

Habitat destruction and predation by feral cats and foxes are threats to the Western Ringtail Possum population.

At Perth Zoo

The **Nocturnal House** is home to Perth Zoo's Western Ringtail Possums.

Scientific Name

Pseudocheirus occidentalis

Conservation Status

Extinct

Extinct in the Wild

Critically Endangered

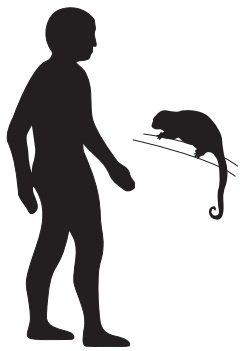
Endangered

Vulnerable

Near-Threatened

Least Concern

Data Deficient

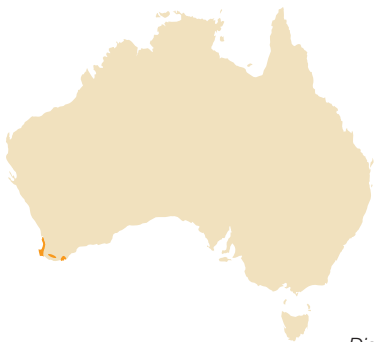


Body Length: 30–35 cm

Weight: 70–110 g

Gestation: Unknown

Number of young: 2



Distribution ■

Distribution: South-west Western Australia

Habitat: Peppermint or eucalyptus forests



PERTH ZOO