

# Rufous Bettong

*Aepyprymnus rufescens*

**Average weight:** Adults 1kg to 3.5kg

**Diet:** Forages and digs for grasses, herbs, tubers, roots, fungi, etc

**Appearance:** Short ears, hairy muzzle. Back varies from dark rufous to silver colour. Underbelly is pale cream to white.

**Where am I found (habitat):** Patchy distribution along the east coast & mountains from Cooktown Qld to Lake Macquarie NSW. Inhabit forests and woodlands with dense understorey and grassy areas.

**Population numbers:** status is listed as Vulnerable in NSW



## DID YOU KNOW?

### INTERESTING FACT # 1

The smallest of our macropod species.

### INTERESTING FACT # 2

They have a prehensile tail, with which they gather grasses in a bundle & carry them back to their nest.

### INTERESTING FACT # 3

If approached too closely, they give a grunting growl. Under attack they will roll onto their side & kick their hind legs vigorously.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP THIS SPECIES SURVIVE?

Major threats to this species are:

- Habitat Loss due to clearing (think carefully before clearing trees and bush on your land).
- Predation by cats, dogs & foxes (keep your domestic animals in at night).
- Motor Vehicle Collision (slow down and take more care when driving).
- Fire

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