

Boodie

Bettongia lesueur - a 'bettong' named in 1824 after Charles Alexandre Lesueur, a nature artist, who sailed with Baudin on the Geographe in 1800.)



Boodies

- are **small nocturnal marsupials** that now survive only on Bernier and Dorre Islands in Shark Bay, Western Australia and in protected sanctuaries.
- are also called Burrowing Bettongs. They shelter in warrens during the day and feed at night on seeds, fruits, flowers, tubers, roots, leaves and grasses.
- **used to be the most common marsupial in Australia** but is rarely found in the wild on mainland Australia.

Facts

- Boodies are **very social**, living in warrens in groups of up to fifty animals and communicating by grunts, hisses and squeaks;
- Their home range is about **100 hectares**;
- Males are highly aggressive;
- Have lost their habitat due to competition with rabbits for burrows and food, diseases carried by ships via black rats, and destruction of the soil surfaces by hard footed animals, and changes in land use and fire patterns;
- they are the only burrowing macropod.

At Kanyana

Kanyana has one resident boodie who came from the Dryandra Woodlands. His mother was caught in a trap and she threw the baby out of her pouch and then backed out of the trap. He was cared for at Kanyana and the decision was made that the boodie would not be released back into the wild, but should be used for educational purposes by Kanyana.



Language: The name Bettongia lesueur is a combination of words from two aboriginal languages: The Dharug language of the Sydney region gives us 'badang' or 'bettong' and the Nyungar language of Western Australia gives us 'burdi' or 'boodie'.

The Bettongia lesueur is regarded as being a conservation dependent animal.

You are able to **meet our boodie** on our **nocturnal tours**, as well as on personalised **Meet & Greet Tours** and on Kanyana's open day- **Discover Kanyana**



Photo by Houndstooth Studio