



Have you seen a bandicoot?

Please contact your local NPWSA office if you have a Southern Brown Bandicoot living on your property.

Do not trap bandicoots...

If you are not sure if you have bandicoots in your backyard please contact your local NPWSA office for assistance.

Acknowledgements

Nature Foundation of South Australia
Greater Mount Lofty Parklands - Yurrebilla
National Parks and Wildlife SA

For further information contact:

Southern Brown Bandicoot Recovery
115 Maryvale Road
Athelstone SA 5074

Belair National Park
Phone (08) 8278 5477

Cleland Conservation Park
Phone (08) 8339 2444

Black Hill Conservation Park
Phone (08) 8336 0901

Victor Harbor District Office
Phone (08) 8552 3677

Nature Foundation of South Australia
Phone 1300 366 191

**There's a bandicoot
in my garden**



'Keeping our future alive'



Cover photograph: Sharn Lucas



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Government
of South Australia



Nationally Endangered

Eight species of bandicoots and bilbies once occupied South Australia. The Southern Brown Bandicoot is the last species naturally occurring within the state. Two subspecies (out of five) are present within South Australia, but only the one occurs on the mainland. This subspecies is present within the Mount Lofty Ranges, South East and Kangaroo Island. It also occupies areas within Victoria and New South Wales. The Southern Brown Bandicoot is nationally endangered.

Why are they threatened?

Most of the natural vegetation where Southern Brown Bandicoots once existed has been cleared, grazed or modified. This has resulted in some areas becoming unsuitable for occupation and existing populations being fragmented. Foxes, cats and dogs also prey on Southern Brown Bandicoots.



Southern Brown Bandicoot in backyard

Photo courtesy of Catherine Rowley



Conical Southern Brown Bandicoot digging illustrating hind feet and tail imprints.

Photo courtesy of Nerissa Haby

What is a Bandicoot?

Southern Brown Bandicoots are often confused with 'giant rats' and 'possums'. They are very different and have a long pointed snout, small round ears, a robust body shape and short tail. They are brown in colour with gold flecks and pale underneath. They are roughly one third to half the size of a rabbit.

Where does it live?

Southern Brown Bandicoots prefer dense vegetation close to the ground. Native species of plants such as Yakkas and Banksias provide good cover. However, introduced species such as Blackberry, Pampas Grass and Agapanthus are also used. Bandicoots prefer to nest above the ground in dense vegetation, but they do use less vegetated areas to dig for invertebrates, fungi and plant matter in and on the soil. Southern Brown Bandicoots are primarily active at night, but they can sometimes be seen during the day.

How can I help in my backyard?

If you see Southern Brown Bandicoots in your backyard please remember they are wild native mammals. To encourage bandicoots to continue living in your backyard keep your cat inside at night and plant locally native shrubs in your garden.

How can I help in my local park?

- Keep your dog on a leash inside the park.
- Join a local Friends group to help in the management and conservation of the natural environment.

How can I help in my local community?

Join a local community group helping conservation of native wildlife in your local area.

Contact NPWSA to find out more...



Members from the Nature Conservation Society of SA Inc investigating bandicoot signs.

Photo courtesy of Matt Turner