



FEATHERTAIL GLIDER

Description

The Feathertail Glider is an Australian marsupial. It has short brown-grey fur. Its tail has long stiff hairs down either side and resembles a bird's feather. It is about the same length as its body. The glider has a thick membrane between its elbows and knees, which it uses to glide. It also has serrated pads on its toes that help it stick to smooth surfaces.

Scientific Name

Acrobates pygmaeus

Conservation Status

Extinct

Extinct in the Wild

Critically Endangered

Endangered

Vulnerable

Near-Threatened

Least Concern

Data Deficient

Not Evaluated



Body Length: 65–80 mm

Weight: 10–15 g

Gestation: 65–100 days

Number of young: 3–4



Distribution ■

Distribution: Eastern Australia

Habitat: Forests and woodlands

Diet

The Feathertail Glider is an **omnivore** and eats nectar, pollen and insects.

In the wild

Feathertail Gliders live in groups of 5–25 individuals. Several group members help to maintain spherical nests of leaves, bark and fern. Mothers suckle young that are not their own.

Threats

Predatory birds, including kookaburras and owls, foxes, cats and reptiles prey on Feathertail Gliders. They are also threatened by habitat destruction.

At Perth Zoo

The Feathertail Gliders can be seen in the Nocturnal House.

Did you know?

The average gliding distance for the Feathertail Glider is about 14 m though they have been known to glide up to 28 m. They glide up to five times an hour. Gliding helps the Feathertail Glider stay amongst the treetops where they can avoid larger, ground-dwelling predators.

