

Marapana Wildlife Park

A Hands on Experience that is Totally Wild

Fact Sheet



Southern

Hairy-Nosed Wombat



(*Lasiorhinus latifrons*)

STATUS:

Threatened due to habitat loss as a result of human activity.

DESCRIPTION:

In Australia there are 3 species of wombat; the Common Wombat, The Southern Hairy Nosed and the Northern Hairy Nosed Wombat.

The Southern Hairy Nosed Wombat (SHNW) has brown or silver silky fur. They have pointy ears, and as the name suggests, their broad nose is covered with fur. Their short powerful limbs and flattened claws make them excellent diggers.

HABITAT:

SHNW are found along the south coast of Western Australia and South Australia in woodlands and shrub lands. They live in large, complex burrow systems, reaching up to 20 metres in length with several entrances.

DIET:

SHNW are solely herbivores eating grass, plants and roots.

BREEDING:

After only 21 days gestation the SHNW gives birth to a small joey, which attaches to a teat in the pouch. The joey stays in the pouch for 7 months and is fully weaned by 12 months.

LIFESPAN:

In the wild SHNW live for 10 –14 years but can reach between 18 – 20 years in captivity.

INTERESTING FACT:

Wombats can run up to 40km/hr.