

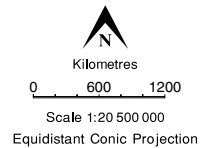
DATELINE: 1999 Current estimates suggest that the Earth is losing between 50 and 100 species per year. This compares with an estimate of 1 species lost per year 100 years ago. According to the State of the Environment Report published in 1996 by the CSIRO, Australia has lost 10 of its 144 mammals, 8 of its 53 native rodents, and more than 100 Australian species are considered endangered. Losses include Thylacine in 1936, pig-footed bandicoot in 1907, desert rat kangaroo in 1935, and long-tailed hopping mouse in 1931.

1. According to the CSIRO, how many of the total number of native rodents have become extinct?

- (a) 1 in every 7 rodents
- (b) 1 in every 9 rodents
- (c) 1 in every 20 rodents

2. Use pages 40 and 41 of the *Jacaranda Atlas* to mark on the map of Australia on the right:

- (a) The location of Bilby, Night parrot, Murray cray, Baw Baw frog, Mahogany glider, Northern hairy-nosed wombat and Golden-shouldered parrot. Clearly label your map, and use a coloured key.
- (b) Beside each animal on the key, write the number of animals remaining or the status of the animal (e.g. threatened).



3. Read the information on the endangered Australian species to answer the questions below:

(a) Explain how each of the following can cause a species to be endangered.

clearing of natural areas for farms and houses

introduction of species such as foxes, cats, rabbits

human hunting for fur, feathers, oil, tusks

pesticides, pollutants

trapping/smuggling of wildlife

(b) What actions have endangered each of the following species?

the Night parrot? _____

the Murray cray? _____

the Baw Baw frog? _____

the Mahogany glider? _____

the Golden-shouldered parrot? _____

the Northern hairy-nosed wombat? _____

4. Choose one endangered Australian species and make a series of recommendations to help to preserve it.
