



**Reptile  
Encounters**  
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# Endangered Species Info Sheet

The conservation status of a species is an indicator of how likely it is to remain alive at present or in the near future.

Many factors are used to assess a species' conservation status, including: the number remaining, the overall increase or decrease in the population over time, breeding success rates and known threats.

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) lists threatened species, ecological communities and threatening processes. The categories used by the EPBC Act for threatened animal species are:

**Extinct (EX)** – No known individuals remaining.

**Extinct in the Wild (EW)** – Known only to survive in captivity, or as a naturalized population outside its historic range.

**Critically Endangered (CR)** – Extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Endangered (EN)** – High risk of extinction in the wild.

**Vulnerable (VU)** – High risk of endangerment in the wild.

**Conservation Dependent (CD)** – Dependent on conservation efforts to prevent becoming threatened with extinction. This category is also known as Near Threatened (NT) in other classification systems.

## Threats to endangered species:

### Caused by nature:

- Competition with other species
- Disease
- Weather-related catastrophes
- Natural predators

### Caused by humans:

- Hunting/poaching
- Habitat destruction
- Pollution
- Competition for habitats

For more information on endangered species and their conservation status, see  
<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=fauna>



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