The Eastern Quoll is native to Australia and Tasmania. Population size has declined by an estimated 50% over the past 10 years. They have been considered extinct on the mainland since the 1960s and a re-introduction programme is now underway.

With the massive decline in numbers of the Tasmanian devil the feral cat population, a favourite prey item of the devils, has increased dramatically.

This has had a knock-on effect to the decline of the Eastern quoll. Feral cats have always fed on juvenile quoll, but with the increase in cat numbers it is currently too much for the quoll population and may now be preventing them from recovering their numbers.

The Red Fox has recently arrived in Tasmania; if it establishes, it too is likely to be a big threat to the quoll population!

Quolls are a carnivorous marsupial and most active at night.

FACTS & FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Where found</th>
<th>Tasmania</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Habitat</td>
<td>Dry eucalyptus forests, scrub, grasslands and heathland.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diet</td>
<td>Small mammals, birds, reptiles, insects, grass and fruit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average body length</td>
<td>60cm (including the 20-28cm tail)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average weight</td>
<td>1kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gestation</td>
<td>19–24 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum lifespan</td>
<td>Up to 7 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE RISK OF EXTINCTION FOR THIS SPECIES HAS CURRENTLY BEEN ASSESSED AS ENDANGERED IUCN RED LIST