




FACTSHEET

King's Skink



FACTSHEET

King's Skink

Common Name: King's Skink

Scientific Name: *Egernia kingii*

Noongar Name: Yulart

(general word for "skink")

Conservation Status: Listed as Least Concern under IUCN (2016). All Rottnest Island's fauna is protected under the *Rottnest Island Authority Act 1987*.

Habitat: Limestone heath, Settlement area, Woodland, Coastal habitat.

Body length: 40-55 cm

Weight: 220 g

Gestation period: 140-154 days

Number of young: 2-8 (born live)

Description:

The King's Skink has quite fine scales and has olive brown to blackish upper surfaces with paler sides. It's under surfaces are greyish white or olive yellow. Lines of spots run along its body. A pattern caused by lighter coloured centres of its scales on its back and sides. It has dark brown spots

on its throat and a long tail which narrows towards the end.

Diet:

Insects, plant material, eggs, small mammals, snakes.

In the Wild:

The King's Skink is very common on Rottnest Island. They can be spotted sunning themselves on rocks, roadsides or pathways. It is fast moving and you can hear them scuttling away to hide in the bush.

King's Skinks live in small family groups. They shelter in rock crevices and dead logs and will sometimes dig their own burrow.

Threats:

- Roadkill from buses
- Poaching
- Uncontrolled fire

DID YOU KNOW?

The King's Skink will detach its tail if it is caught by a predator. Leaving its tail behind allows it to escape. It then grows a new one.