Northern Quoll (Dasyurus hallucatus)

- This small, omnivorous (eats both animals and plants) marsupial is one of the four Australian species of quoll.
- The Northern Quoll weighs up to 1.2 kilograms and has a pointy snout and reddish brown fur with a cream underside. It has white spots on its back and rump and a long, unspotted tail.
- The Northern Quoll was once found across northern Australia from Western Australia to southern Queensland, but has been reduced to isolated populations in the Pilbara and Kimberley regions of Western Australia and north-west Northern Territory to eastern Queensland.
- The Northern Quoll’s distribution has declined gradually over the last 50 years and populations have been lost from many areas. This reduction has been estimated at about 95 per cent between 1980 and 2010.
- The Northern Quoll eats several species of native frogs but it also eats Cane Toads (Cane Toads were introduced to north-eastern Australia in 1935). However, the Cane Toad is poisonous and, unfortunately, kills the quoll that eats it.
- The Northern Quoll is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List and under the EPBC Act.
- Its current major threats are the spread of Cane Toads, inappropriate fire regimes and feral cats.

What is being done?

Management of existing populations and the protection of islands from Cane Toads and feral cats is helping to protect this iconic species.