

South Western Snake-Necked Turtle

Booyi

Chelodina oblonga

The South Western Snake-Necked Turtle, also known as the long-necked turtle or oblong turtle, is the only native freshwater turtle that lives in Perth.

Did you know:

- Adult South Western Snake-Necked Turtles are underwater apex predators of wetlands
- They are estimated to live for 30-40 years
- Female turtles travel up to 800m (average 70m) to nest, peaking September-November
- They can survive dry conditions by burrowing into mud or leaves and living off stored body fats
- They are listed as a “near threatened” species

Threats:

- Vehicle strike
- Predation (dogs, cats, foxes, ravens)
- Land clearing and development
- Climate change
- Poaching
- Pollution from stormwater runoff



What to do:

- Injured or dead turtle: Contact WA Wildlife Hospital on 9317 7105
- Turtle crossing road: Wait to ensure it crosses safely. If needed, carry it to the other side with both hands, avoiding contact with sharp claws. If you cannot wait, contact City of Melville Council 9364 0666 to request to speak with the Natural Areas Community Officer.
- Found hatchlings: Take them to the nearest wetland

How you can help:

- Keep dogs leashed around wetlands
- Keep cats indoors
- Drive cautiously around wetlands
- Use the TurtleSAT App to report sightings
- Volunteer as a Turtle Tracker
- Be aware of what goes into stormwater drains and pick up litter
- If you find a turtle out of water, assist it in its original direction if necessary
- Wave off ravens if they are attacking nesting turtles
- Report suspicious behaviour to a ranger by calling 9364 0666 (after hours 0418 943 219)

Use phone camera to scan QR codes



Track observations
with the TurtleSAT App



Saving Our Snake-
Necked Turtles Project
and Turtle Tracker
Volunteers