CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Black-footed Ferret

Mustela nigripes

The black-footed ferret has been declared extinct twice. After the second time, in 1981, it was rediscovered by accident: a ranch dog named Shep in Meeteetse, Wyoming, killed one and brought it home,…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Mustelidae
Habitat: Temperate grasslands and prairies
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Endangered
Lifespan: 3-4 years in the wild, up to 9 years in captivity
Weight: 650–1,000 grams
Scientific name: Mustela nigripes

Did you know?

- The species was declared extinct in the wild in 1987, but all existing black-footed ferrets today descend from just seven individuals found in Wyomin…
- In 2020 a female named Elizabeth Ann became the first cloned endangered species native to the United States, produced from cells frozen in 1988 that …

What I learned

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