

More bub news for wombats

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ENVIRONMENT REPORTER

A SECOND endangered northern hairy-nosed wombat is carrying a joey at a colony set up by scientists at St George two years ago.

Environment department scientists announced last month that a female had given birth after camera footage showed a baby bump in her pouch.

Environment Minister Kate Jones said yesterday that the discovery of a second joey had come as a surprise to rangers.

"The birth of one of our endangered animals is always good news but two babies in less than one month is more than we could have hoped for," Ms Jones said.

Eleven wombats were taken to St George from the last remaining colony at Epping Forest National Park, central Queensland, where just 140 survive.

The plan was to set up a colony in their former habitat as a back-up to the central Queensland group.