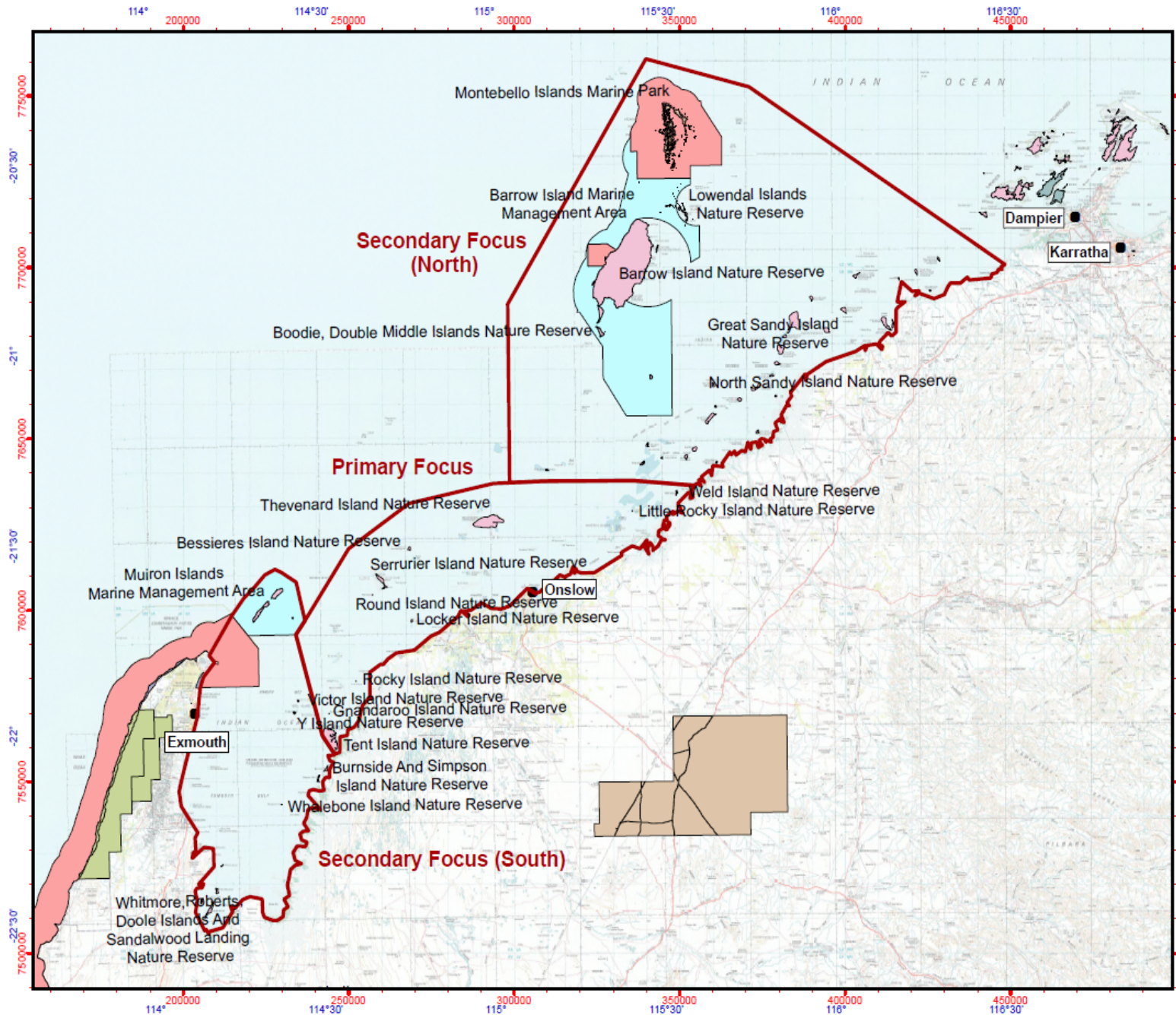


# Threatened Species Information & Protection Program



Felicity Kelly – Project Officer Threatened Species Habitat



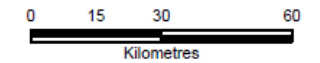
### Threatened Species Information and Protection Program Focus Area

#### Legend

- Focus Area - Boundaries
- DEC Estate (statewide)
- 5(1)(g) Reserve
- 5(1)(h) Reserve
- CALM Exec Body
- CALM Exec Body Freehold
- Conservation Park
- Crown Freehold - Dept Interest
- Former Leasehold
- Marine Management Area
- Marine Nature Reserve
- Marine Park
- Miscellaneous Reserve
- National Park
- Nature Reserve
- WA Townsites
- WA Coast

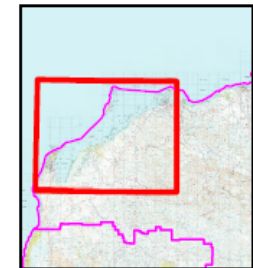


1:1,500,000 (A4)



Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator  
MGA Zone 50. Datum: GDA94

Produced by the  
Department of  
Parks and Wildlife



Produced on January 21, 2016

Graticule shown at 30 minutes intervals  
Grid shown at 50000 metre intervals

The Dept. of Environment and Conservation does not guarantee that this map is without flaw of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted.  
Roads and tracks on land managed by DEC may contain unmarked hazards and their surface condition is variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads.

# Focus Species

Critically Endangered (4)	Endangered (8)	Vulnerable (11)	Migratory (41)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bar-tailed Godwit (northern Siberian)</li><li>• Curlew Sandpiper</li><li>• Eastern Curlew</li><li>• Great Knot</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Loggerhead Turtle</li><li>• Lesser Sand Plover</li><li>• Red Knot</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Humpback Whale</li><li>• Flatback Turtle</li><li>• Green Turtle</li><li>• Hawksbill Turtle</li><li>• Greater Sand Plover</li><li>• Fairy Tern</li><li>• Green Sawfish</li><li>• Dwarf Sawfish</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dugong</li><li>• Australian Humpback Dolphin</li><li>• Coastal Bottlenose Dolphin</li><li>• Wedge-tailed Shearwater</li><li>• Eastern Osprey</li><li>• Roseate Tern</li><li>• Grey-tailed Tattler</li></ul>

# Key habitats

- Islands
- Mangroves
- Sandy beaches
- Inshore coastal waters
- Seagrass meadows
- Coral reefs
- Exmouth Gulf
- Estuaries/ River mouths



# Impacts associated with recreation

- Marine debris
- Disturbance
- Boat strikes
- Interaction pressures
- Incidental catch
- Camp fires
- Pets





# Vision

*That by working together with the broader community there is an understanding that each individual can play a role in protecting species from extinction.*

*Through increased awareness of threatened species and understanding key threats, recreational activities will become more sustainable, there by minimising impacts on threatened species and their habitat.*

# Promote positive behaviour for protection of threatened and migratory species

- **Recreational Boaters and Fishers**
- **Wheatstone workforce**
  - Awareness threatened species and habitat
  - Impacts associated with boating, fishing and camping
  - Minimise disturbance
  - Short visits ashore
  - Leave no trace
  - Go slow for those below
  - Camp only on islands where camping is permitted
- **Local communities**
- **Visitors to the area**
- **Commercial Tour Operators**
  - Encourage Best Practice Tourism

# Encourage decisions to safeguard critical habitat

- **State and local government authorities**
  - Consideration for threatened species in planning processes
    - Foreshore management plans
    - Coastal management plans
    - Mooring installation in close proximity to sensitive sites
  - Closures/restrictions to sensitive sites
    - Minimise vehicle traffic at sensitive sites





# Communication is the key

**BARBARA LUNA'S STORIES**  
Grant the grey-tailed tattler and his friends have reached Exmouth Gulf Islands after flying for weeks...

Wow!

Yes! I can see the islands down there.

Grant, are we there yet?

Grant, are we there yet?

What a great place to find food! **AMAZING...**

Eat up we have a long flight home!

Watch and learn boys...

**FACT FILE:** The rocky shores and mangroves in the islands of Exmouth Gulf provide important habitat for the grey-tailed tattler and other migratory shorebirds.

**BARBARA LUNA'S STORIES**  
Grant the grey-tailed tattler and his friends are hunting on the shoreline when...

WAAAAH!! Fly away!

AAAAH!

Oh no! I haven't eaten yet!

Yes dad, we did. Let's go over there. There are no birds.

I think we scared all those birds! We better stay away...

**FACT FILE:** Shorebirds can be easily disturbed. If you see shorebirds slow down and avoid approaching the area.

## 10 ways YOU CAN HELP protect threatened species of Exmouth Gulf, Pilbara coastal waters and offshore islands.

**Awareness** - be aware of threatened species that spend all or part of their life in the area and what habitats are critical for their survival.  
Photo: Nigel Jackson

**Marine debris is everyone's responsibility** - leave no trace - take your rubbish home and dispose of it properly. If you come across other rubbish, please dispose of it too.  
Photo: Phil Coulson

**Go slow for those below** - reducing the speed of your boat can reduce the chance of colliding with marine life and potentially causing serious harm to you, your boat and marine life.  
Photo: James BICE, Australia

**Know the guidelines** - marine animals may become stressed when approached. Interaction guidelines allow for you to enjoy encounters while minimising any impacts on the species. Follow the Department of Parks and Wildlife 'Code of Conduct' when interacting with marine turtles, whales, dolphins and dugong.

**Protect critical habitat** - the Pilbara Islands provide critical habitat for marine turtles, shorebirds and seabirds. Keep your visit ashore brief and sit towards the water's edge.  
Photo: Geoff Galton

**Quick release** - if incidental catch of a sawfish and turtles occurs, leave the animal in the water and if possible remove the hook and line, and release it. Animals have a good chance at surviving incidental catch if carefully and quickly released.  
Photo: Richard Mann

**Be mindful where you anchor** - only anchor in sand substrate to avoid damage to coral reefs and seagrass beds.  
Photo: Parks and Wildlife

**Obtain a permit** - camp only on islands that have authorized camping. If you are permitted to camp, please keep lighting to a minimum at night over summer so as not to disturb nesting turtles.  
Photo: Geoff Galton

**Know what is travelling with you** - check your equipment is clean and free of any seeds, soil, invertebrates and vertebrates before visiting an island or other conservation area.  
Photo: Parks and Wildlife

**Get involved** - find out what volunteer opportunities are near you, such as marine debris clean ups, turtle monitoring or shorebird surveys.  
Photo: Jeremy Gaskill

**For more information contact:**  
Parks and Wildlife Exmouth District Office,  
20 Nimitz Street (PO Box 201), Exmouth WA 6707  
Phone: (08) 9947 8000 Email: exmouth@dpaw.wa.gov.au  
dpaw.wa.gov.au

**Department of Parks and Wildlife, Pilbara WA**  
4 likes

Today is National Threatened Species Day! Meet the critically endangered Bar-tailed Godwit, a migratory shorebird that fly's over 11000 km from the northern hemisphere each year to summer in Australia. The Pilbara Islands provide an important refuge relatively free from threats associated with the mainland for these long distance travellers. From September to March they can be seen foraging and roosting on beaches, mudflats, and mangroves on the Pilbara inshore islands and coastline.  
Photo: Stephen Breedveit

Like Comment

**REGIONAL**

Clean-up nets more than 500 items of trash

December 18, 2022, 4:27 PM

More than 500 items of rubbish have been recovered from remote Pilbara island beaches as part of a clean-up by Parks and Wildlife staff and volunteers this month.

# Project linkages

- **Wheatstone Project Offset D**
  - Managing impacts and risks associated with potential increased visitation to island nature reserves
- **Wheatstone Project Offset C**
  - Understanding and managing critical habitat for marine mammals in the Pilbara
- **Wheatstone Project Biodiversity Offset Strategy 66a**
  - Indigenous Sea Ranger Program
- **Wheatstone Project Biodiversity Offset Strategy 66c**
  - Sawfish research
- **North West Shelf Flat Back Turtle Conservation Program**
- **Decision support system for prioritising and implementing biosecurity on Western Australia's islands.**

# Pilbara Islands Nature Reserves

Project aims to:

- Prepare a management plan
- Raise awareness of the natural values of the island nature reserves
- identify and address key threats

50 Islands – 48 are currently not covered under a management plan.

**Provide important habitat for nesting turtles and nesting, foraging and roosting shorebirds and seabirds.**





# Wheatstone Project's Indigenous Sea Ranger Program

- Address the threats to threatened and migratory species
- Protect coastline and tidal creeks
- Remove marine debris

## **Project linkages:**

- Information exchange
- Partnership - Birdlife Australia Shorebird Community Workshop
  - Education programs

## **Future direction**

- Develop and implement protective measures
- Monitoring
- Education and community engagement opportunities

# Where to from here

- Continue to increase awareness of threatened species and habitat
  - Bridging gaps in information availability
    - Curriculum based education packages
    - Development of interpretive signage at key locations
    - Develop information resources
- Continue to liaise with state and local government authorities
  - Encourage decisions to safe guard critical habitat
- Continue to build project linkages
  - Information exchange
  - Development of protection measures

# Thank you

Felicity Kelly



Department of  
Parks and Wildlife

