

Field report
Packsaddle Creek, Kununurra - Biodiversity Survey



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Field period: May 2012

Field area: Packsaddle Creek, Kununurra

Summary: Biodiversity survey while accompanying Amber Heitman on her research.

General info and data

Schedule of activities for the fieldwork

The methodology described in Amber Heitman's research paper gives a more descriptive account. In general, funnel traps were checked three times a day, transects were walked, and opportunistic observations were made.

Table 2: Participants

Participant/staff	Affiliation/Agency	Role
Gary Rethus	Kimberley Toad Busters	Researcher
Amber Heitman	Kimberley Toad Busters	Researcher
Mat	Kimberley Toad Busters	Camera Man
Andrew	Kimberley Toad Busters	Assistant
Lyndon	Kimberley Toad Busters	Assistant

Table 3: Biodiversity survey results.

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	Little Pied Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>
Bird	Little Black Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>
Bird	Australasian Darter	<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>
Bird	White-necked Heron	<i>Ardea pacifica</i>
Bird	White-faced Heron	<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>
Bird	Nankeen Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>
Bird	Black Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus flavicollis australis</i>
Bird	Bush Stone-curlew	<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>
Bird	Black-fronted Dotterel	<i>Charadrius melanops</i>
Bird	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans affinis</i>
Bird	Whistling Kite	<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>
Bird	Wedge-tailed Eagle	<i>Aquila audax audax</i>

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	Brown Goshawk	<i>Accipiter fasciatus didimus</i>
Bird	Brown Falcon	<i>Falco berigora</i>
Bird	Peaceful Dove	<i>Geopelia striata placida</i>
Bird	Diamond Dove	<i>Geopelia cuneata</i>
Bird	Bar-shouldered Dove	<i>Geopelia humeralis inexpectata</i>
Bird	Common Bronzewing	<i>Phaps chalcoptera</i>
Bird	Spinifex Pigeon	<i>Geophaps plumifera</i>
Bird	White-quilled Rock-pigeon	<i>Petrophassa albipennis</i>
Bird	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus banksii macrorhynchus</i>
Bird	Little Corella	<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>
Bird	Red-collared Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus rubritorquis</i>
Bird	Red-winged Parrot	<i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i>
Bird	Budgerigar	<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>
Bird	Northern Rosella	<i>Platycercus venustus hilli</i>
Bird	Pheasant Coucal	<i>Centropus phasianinus melanurus</i>
Bird	Southern Boobook	<i>Ninox novaeseelandiae ocellata</i>
Bird	Tawny Frogmouth	<i>Podargus strigoides phalaenoides</i>
Bird	Spotted Nightjar	<i>Eurostopodus argus</i>
Bird	Azure Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo azureus ruficollaris</i>
Bird	Blue-winged Kookaburra	<i>Dacelo leachii</i>
Bird	Rainbow Bee-eater	<i>Merops ornatus</i>
Bird	Red-backed Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus pyrrophygius</i>
Bird	Red-backed Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus melanocephalus cruentatus</i>
Bird	Weebill	<i>Smicrornis brevirostris flavescens</i>
Bird	Little Friarbird	<i>Philemon citreogularis sordidus</i>

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name
Bird	Blue-faced Honeyeater	<i>Entomyzon cyanotis albipennis</i>
Bird	Yellow-throated Miner	<i>Manorina flavigula lutea</i>
Bird	White-gaped Honeyeater	<i>Lichenostomus unicolor</i>
Bird	White-throated Honeyeater	<i>Melithreptus albogularis</i>
Bird	Brown Honeyeater	<i>Lichmera indistincta</i>
Bird	Grey-crowned Babbler	<i>Pomatostomus temporalis rubeculus</i>
Bird	Grey Shrike-thrush	<i>Colluricincla harmonica brunnea</i>
Bird	Rufous Whistler	<i>Pachycephala rufiventris falcata</i>
Bird	Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys picata</i>
Bird	Paperbark Flycatcher	<i>Myiagra nana</i>
Bird	Magpie-lark	<i>Grallina cyanoleuca neglecta</i>
Bird	Great Bowerbird	<i>Chlamydera nuchalis</i>
Bird	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae melanops</i>
Bird	White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina papuensis hypoleuca</i>
Bird	Black-faced Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cinereus melanops</i>
Bird	Pied Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>
Bird	Torresian Crow	<i>Corvus orru cecilae</i>
Bird	Fairy Martin	<i>Hirundo ariel</i>
Bird	Double-barred Finch	<i>Taeniopygia bichenovii annulosa</i>
Bird	Zebra Finch	<i>Taeniopygia guttata castanotis</i>
Bird	Crimson Finch	<i>Neochmia phaeton</i>
Bird	Gouldian Finch (Black- faced)	<i>Erythrura gouldiae</i>
Bird	Mistletoebird	<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>
Mammal	Black Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus alecto</i>
Mammal	Ghost Bat	<i>Macroderma gigas</i>

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name
Mammal	Common Sheath-tail Bat	<i>Taphozous georgianus</i>
Mammal	Agile Wallaby	<i>Macropus agilis</i>
Mammal	Short-eared Rock wallaby	<i>Petrogale brachyotis</i>
Mammal	Common Wallaroo	<i>Macropus robustus</i>
Mammal	Western Chestnut Mouse	<i>Pseudomys nanus</i>
Mammal	Dingo	<i>Canis lupus dingo</i>
Mammal	Cat	<i>Felis catus</i>
Amphibian	Bilingual Froglet	<i>Crinia bilingua</i>
Amphibian	Long-footed Frog	<i>Cyclorana longipes</i>
Amphibian	Marbled Frog	<i>Limnodynastes convexiusculus</i>
Amphibian	Woodworker Frog	<i>Limnodynastes lignarius</i>
Amphibian	Green Tree Frog	<i>Litoria caerulea</i>
Amphibian	Rock Frog	<i>Litoria coplandi</i>
Amphibian	Bumpy Rocket Frog	<i>Litoria inermis</i>
Amphibian	Rockhole Frog	<i>Litoria meiriana</i>
Amphibian	Striped Rocket Frog	<i>Litoria nasuta</i>
Amphibian	Pale Rocket Frog	<i>Litoria pallida</i>
Amphibian	Northern Laughing Tree Frog	<i>Litoria rothii</i>
Amphibian	Desert Tree Frog	<i>Litoria rubella</i>
Amphibian	Magnificent Tree Frog	<i>Litoria splendida</i>
Amphibian	Wotjulum Frog	<i>Litoria watjulumensis</i>
Amphibian	Ornate Burrowing Frog	<i>Platyplectrum ornatum</i>
Amphibian	Northern Toadlet	<i>Uperoleia borealis</i>
Amphibian	Cane Toad	<i>Bufo marinus</i>
Reptile	Freshwater Crocodile	<i>Crocodylus johnstoni</i>

Category	Common Name	Scientific Name
Reptile	Dtella (Gecko)	<i>Gehyra australis</i>
Reptile	Dtella (Gecko)	<i>Gehyra koiria koiria</i>
Reptile	Legless Lizard	<i>Delma borea</i>
Reptile	Rainbow Skinks	<i>Carlia munda</i>
Reptile	Rainbow Skinks	<i>Carlia triacantha</i>
Reptile	Juno's Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Cryptoblepharus juno</i>
Reptile	Tawny Snake-eyed Skink	<i>Cryptoblepharus ruber</i>
Reptile	Striped Skinks	<i>Ctenotus inornatus</i>
Reptile	Leopard Ctenotus	<i>Ctenotus pantherinus</i>
Reptile	Ten-lined Ctenotus	<i>Ctenotus decaneurus</i>
Reptile	Sand-swimmers	<i>Eremiascincus isolepis</i>
Reptile	Fire-tailed Skink	<i>Morethia ruficauda</i>
Reptile	Gilbert's Dragon	<i>Amphibolurus gilberti</i>
Reptile	Mitchell's Water Monitor	<i>Varanus mitchelli</i>
Reptile	Mertens' Water Monitor	<i>Varanus mertensi</i>
Reptile	Children's Python	<i>Antaresia Childreni</i>
Reptile	Night Tiger	<i>Boiga irregularis</i>
Reptile	Orange-naped Snake	<i>Furina ornata</i>
Fish	Western Rainbowfish	<i>Melanotaenia australis</i>
Fish	Northern Trout Gudgeon	<i>Mogurnda mogurnda</i>
Crustacean	Giant Freshwater Shrip	<i>Macrobrachium rosenbergii</i>
Insect	Tailed Emperor	<i>Polyura sempronius</i>

Accomplishments

109 species were identified, 60 birds, 9 mammals, 17 Amphibian, 19 Reptile, 2 fish, 1 crustacean and 1 butterfly.

Comments

Only two Freshwater crocodiles were seen and maybe a third (was seen on a separate night further up stream) above the Pack saddle Falls all were under a meter long, would be worth checking out in case they are Pygmies, one was seen with a cane toad in its mouth.

Pictures

Photos from Packsaddle by Gary Rethus. Including Mitchell's Water Monitor, Magnificent Tree Frog, Night Tiger and a Short-eared Rock Wallaby.



Magnificent Tree Frog *Litoria splendida*



Night Tiger *Boiga irregularis*



Short-eared Rock Wallaby *Petrogale brachyotis*



Mitchell's Water Monitor *Varanus mitchelli*