



Department of  
Environment and Conservation

*Our environment, our future*



**SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT  
THREATENED FAUNA RECOVERY TEAM**

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Recovery Team name		Western barred bandicoot, burrowing bettong and banded hare wallaby recovery team
Reporting Period (Financial / Calendar Year)		Calendar year 2009
Current membership		
Member		Representing
1. Chair	Dr Nicky Marlow	Science Division, DEC
2. EXEC OFFICER		
3.	Dr Peter Mawson	Species and Communities Branch, DEC
4.	Dr Colleen Sims	Shark Bay, DEC
5.	Neil Thomas	Science Division, DEC
6.	Jeff Short	Representing SBR
7.	June Butcher	Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre
8.	Mandy O'Hara	Murdoch University
9.	Manda Page	AWC
10.	Helen Crisp	Arid Recovery
	Jacqui Richards AWC and Kath Howard WWF, Peter Christie NSW NPWS no longer team members	
Dates meetings were held		20th March 2009, 25 <sup>th</sup> September 2009
One to two paragraph summary of		Successful translocation of 5 western barred bandicoots from Faure Is to Roxby Downs to augment the genetics of the resident population at

<b>achievements suitable for WATSNU</b>	Roxby
<b>List of actions undertaken by Recovery Team (from the actions in your Recovery Plan)</b>	
<b>Action 1</b> Protect the wild populations and their habitat	<p>Recommended Bernier Island be maintained as a day-use area only, with no overnight camping permitted and Dorre Island continue as a prohibited access area in the Shark Bay Terrestrial Reserves Management Plan</p> <p>A cost-effective monitoring program for the wild Bernier and Dorre Island populations has been devised and implemented though this is constantly updated within an adaptive management framework</p> <p>Boodies have been translocated from Barrow Island Nature Reserve to Lorna Glen for their conservation now that development of this high conservation, iconic reserve has been authorised.</p> <p>BCI funding was obtained to continue the mammal monitoring program for the wild populations of boodies, BHW and WBBs (and Mala) on Bernier and Dorre Islands</p>
<b>Action 2</b> Maintain captive populations	<p>Captive breeding of burrowing bettongs employing minimal husbandry has been very successful at the RTD Breeding Facility and Scotia Wildlife Sanctuary</p> <p>The captive populations of WBBs have not fared well. All individuals in the Dryandra breeding facility were inadvertently transferred to Barna Mia where they were overcrowded and cannibalised each other. No captures of any individuals has occurred since. 4 (presumably highly inbred) individuals have since been captured in the RTD facility. No WBBs. No WBBs were caught during any monitoring conducted to date in 2009.</p> <p>The population of banded hare-wallabies at the Peron Captive Breeding Centre is being maintained as a source population for future reintroductions particularly to Dirk Hartog and Faure Islands in Shark Bay but the individuals are becoming senescent and new genetic input is required.</p>
<b>Action 3</b> Investigate the disease status of captive and wild western barred bandicoot populations and develop a strategy for disease control	Screening of WBBs on Bernier and Dorre Is only found one new individual with the wart syndrome and that was a mild case. Samples from Roxby Downs are still to be analysed.
<b>Action 4</b> Maintain existing reintroduced populations	Breeding of burrowing bettongs at Faure Is and Heirisson Prong has been very successful. WBBs and BHW are doing well on Faure Is. Boodies at Roxby were breeding extremely well but went through a significant decline but seem to now be recovering again. 5 WBBs were translocated from Faure Is to Roxby Downs to improve the genetic fitness of the Roxby Downs population.
<b>Action 5</b> Reintroduce western barred bandicoots, burrowing bettongs and banded hare-wallabies to additional mainland and island sites	No new reintroduction of WBBs has occurred recently due to issues of disease and predation. No new sites for translocation of BHW have been identified. Boodies are being translocated to Lorna Glen from Barrow Island and the breeding facilities at RTD and Peron.
<b>Action 6</b> Review the taxonomic status and genetic structure of western barred bandicoots and burrowing bettongs and BHW	The taxonomic status and genetic relationships of boodies has been studied by Felicity Donaldson for her PhD. No further work has been undertaken on the genetic analysis of BHW. Steve Smith from Griffith University in Queensland is completing postgraduate research on the genetics of wild and reintroduced populations of the western barred bandicoot in relation to disease expression.
<b>High Priority Actions Requiring Funding</b>	
<b>Task</b>	Amount needed and what for

<b>Annual monitoring of Bernier and Dorre Islands</b>	\$80000 pa to provide transport, travel allowances and overtime for staff to undertake annual monitoring of these extremely important populations of boobies, WBBs, BHWs [and mala].
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