



DIRK HARTOG ISLAND RETURN TO 1616

Kelly Rayner, Colleen Sims, Sean Garretson and Saul Cowen



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Conservation and Attractions



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*We're working for
Western Australia.*

We acknowledge the Malgana people as Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of Shark Bay (Gathaaguda) and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.





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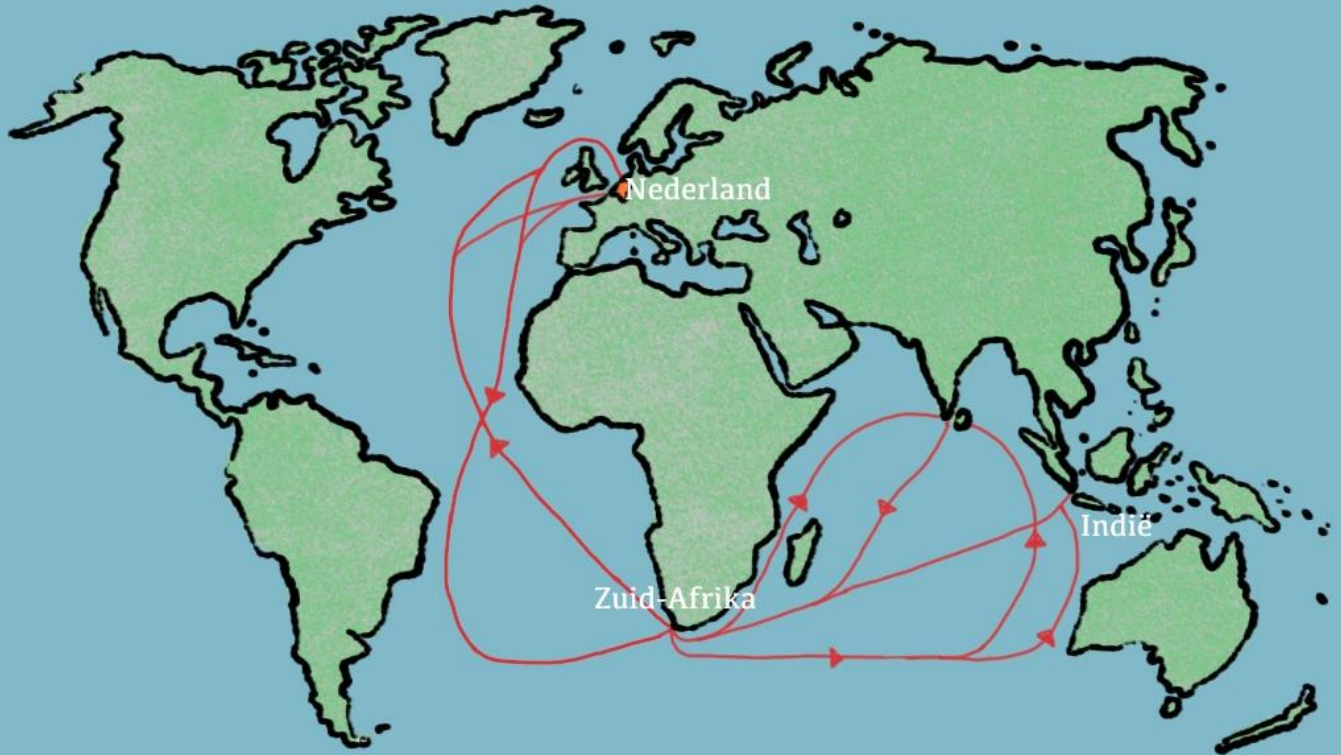


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*1616. On the 25th October the ship Eendracht of Amsterdam arrived here.
Upper merchant Gilles Miebaais of Luick (Liege); skipper Dirck Hatichs of
Amsterdam.*

On the 27th ditto we sail for Bantum.

Under merchant Jan Stins; upper steerman Pieter Doores of Bil.

In the year 1616.



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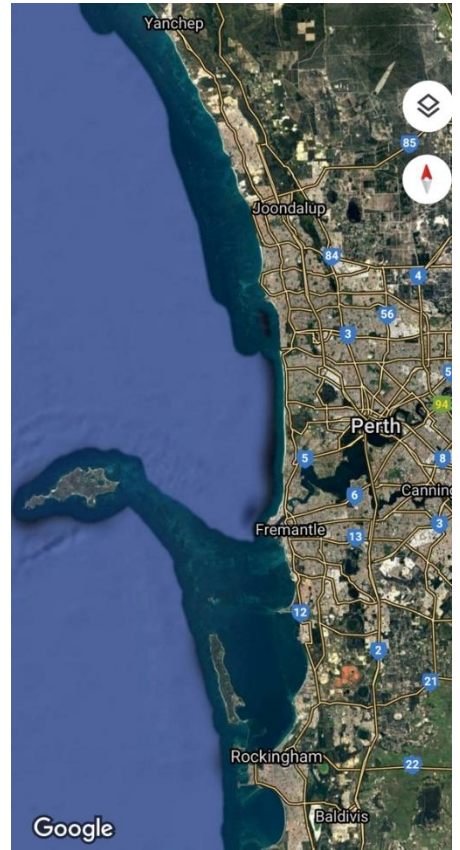


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A photograph of a rugged coastal landscape at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and yellow. In the foreground, there are dark, rocky outcrops. In the middle ground, there are high, reddish-brown cliffs. The ocean is dark blue with white foam from waves crashing against the rocks.

Why is there a need to reconstruct the fauna assemblage of Dirk Hartog Island?



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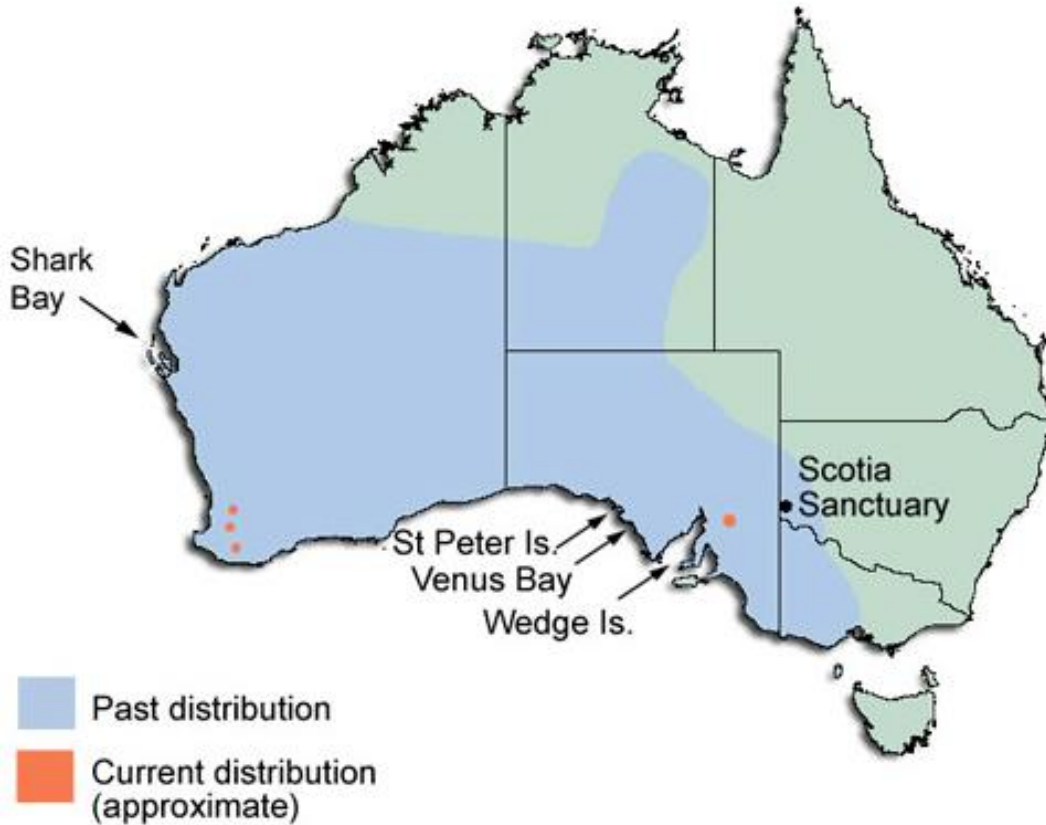
A photograph of a rugged coastal landscape at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and yellow, transitioning to a dark blue sea. In the foreground, there are rocky cliffs and a large rock formation where waves are crashing, creating white foam. The overall scene is dramatic and scenic.

**50 % of global mammal extinctions
in the last 200 years have occurred
in Australia**



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Eradication not feasible





'Judas'
goats





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Eradication not feasible



Destocking and eradication


2005-2016

> 5000 sheep removed



**Eradicated 2008-2017
~11000 goats removed**

**Fourth largest island
eradication in the world**



**Eradication 2014-2018
~440 feral cats removed**

**Largest island eradication
in the world**

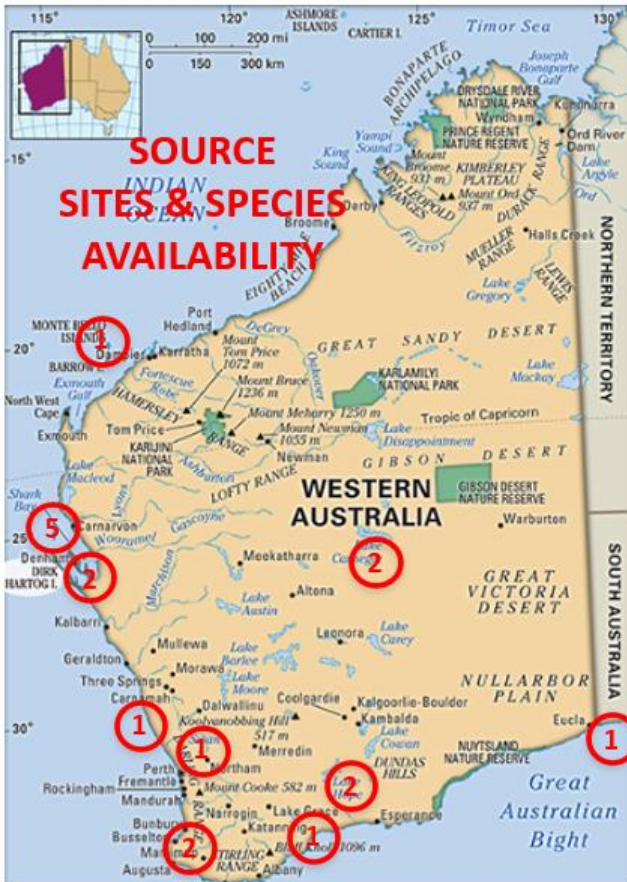


STAGE II



FAUNA
TRANSLOCATION
PROGRAM





13 species

11 re-introductions

**2 conservation
introductions**



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BANDED HARE WALLABY

102 translocated 2017/18





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**RUFOUS HARE
WALLABY**
112 translocated
2017-19



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WOYLIE

Scheduled for
2023-25





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BOODIE

Scheduled for
2023-25





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SHARK BAY BANDICOOT

99 translocated 2019/20





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WESTERN GRASSWREN

Scheduled 2022





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NATIVE RODENTS



SHARK BAY MOUSE



130 translocated in 2021/22

DESERT MOUSE

Scheduled for 2023-25



GREATER STICK-NEST RAT

122 translocated in 2021/22



HEATH MOUSE

Need to find some first!





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THE PREDATORS





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DIBBLER
93 released 2019-21



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MULGARA

Scheduled for 2023-25



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CHUDITCH
Scheduled for 2026





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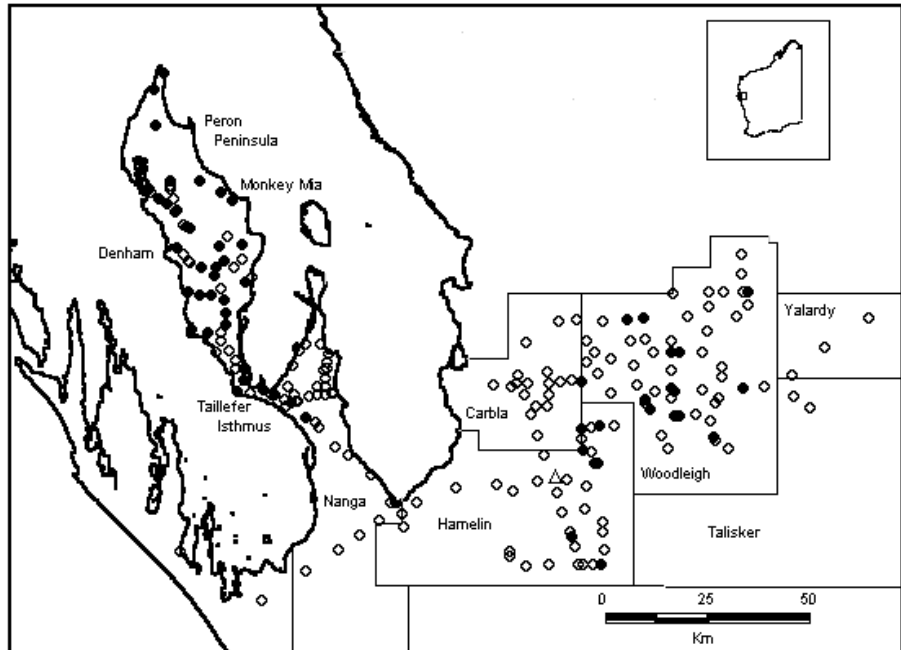
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RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES






Pre-translocation studies



From Brooker 2000

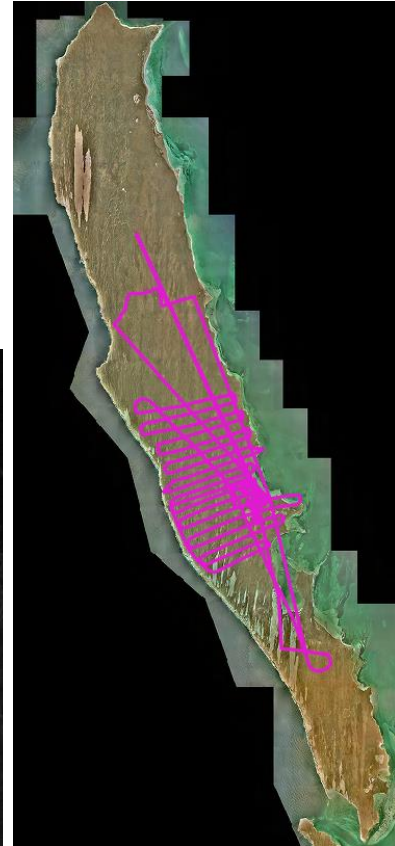


¡Que pasa!
¿Queires ir a la
isla Dirk Hartog
conmigo?

Excuse
me??

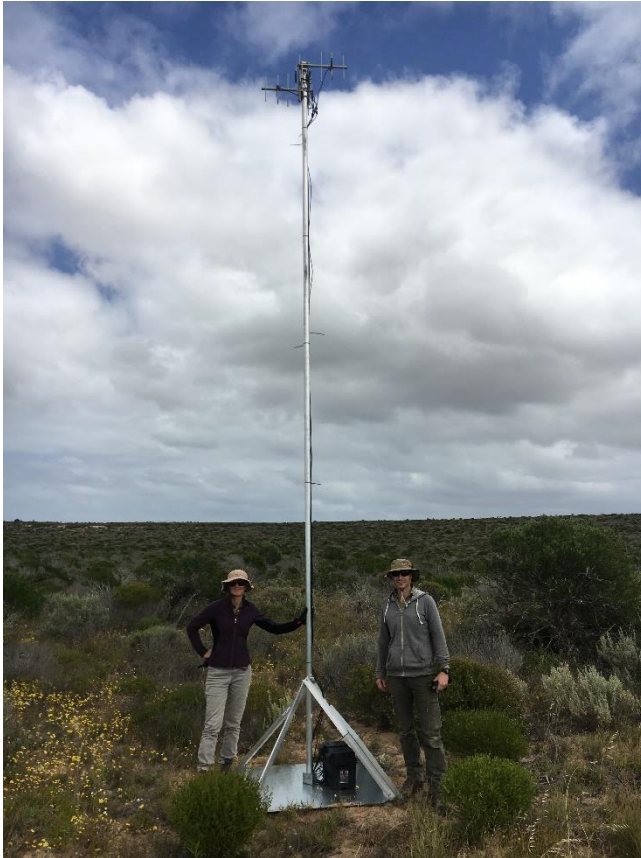
Monitoring methods

Monitoring survivorship
& dispersal



Monitoring methods

Monitoring survivorship & dispersal





Release methods

Monitoring survivorship & dispersal

Hard vs. soft release





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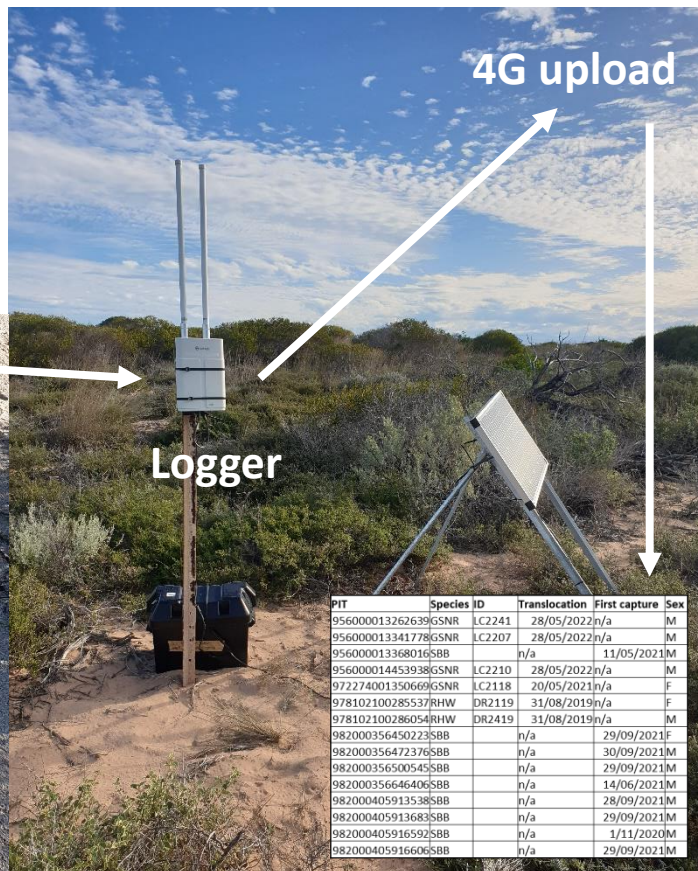
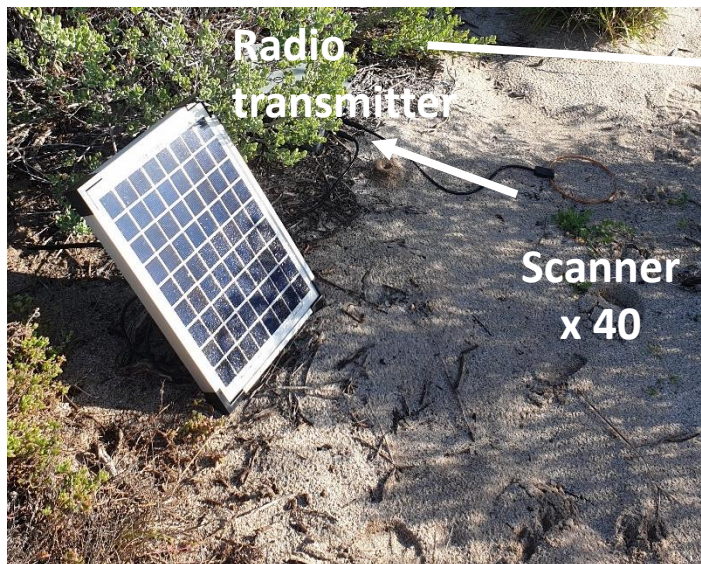
Monitoring methods

Hard to monitor – avoid our traps!!!

*Remote cameras only tell us
presence/absence*



Meet LORA!!





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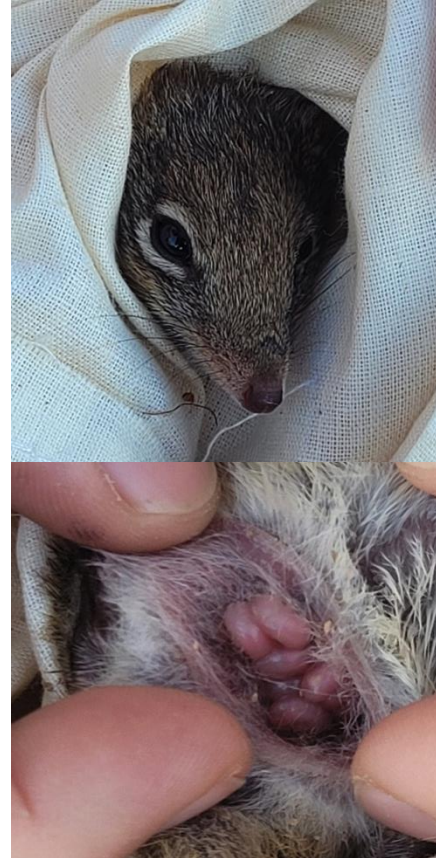
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2021/2022

Dibblers

Additional 36 translocated
to DHI from Perth Zoo

Confirmation of ongoing
breeding

Confirmation of post
release survivorship!!





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Shark Bay mice

Final 50 mice translocated from
Bernier Island

Confirmation of breeding





Greater stick-nest rats

Final 60 animals
translocated from East &
West Franklin islands,
South Australia

Confirmation of breeding
on DHI

FIFTH SPECIES COMPLETE!

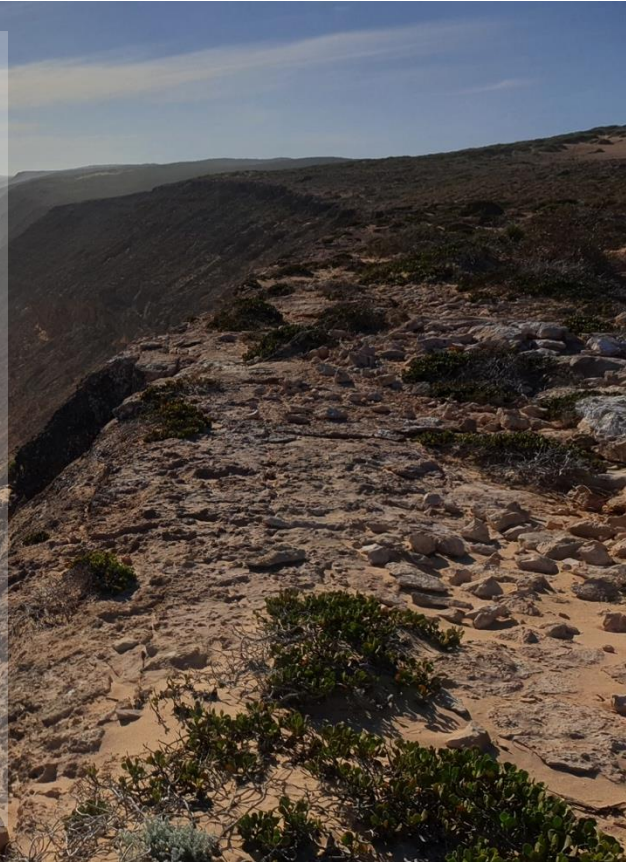
PLANS FOR 2022/23

Monitoring, monitoring and more monitoring!!!!

Fourth dibbler translocation

Western grasswren
translocation

Brush-tailed mulgara
translocation?? Condition
dependent





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Acknowledgements

- Gorgon Barrow Island Net Conservation Benefits Fund
- Shark Bay World Heritage Committee
- Biodiversity & Conservation Science staff (DBCA)
- Shark Bay District & Midwest Region staff (DBCA)
- Malgana Traditional Owners
- The Wardle family and lodge staff
- Shark Bay Aviation
- Keshi Mer Expeditions
- Coral coast helicopters
- Ocean Park Aquarium
- All of our fabulous collaborators, students & volunteers!

Image credits

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
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Dirk Hartog Island: Return to 1616

https://www.sharkbay.org/restoration/dirk-hartog-island-return-1616

return to 1616

WORLD HERITAGE AREA - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

CHANGE LANGUAGE

HOME ABOUT PLACES ADVICE NATURE RESTORATION HISTORY WORLD HERITAGE PUBLICATIONS CONTACT

SEARCH SITE

SHARK BAY world heritage

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HOME > ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION IN SHARK BAY > DIRK HARTOG ISLAND: RETURN TO 1616

Return to 1616 is restoring the vegetation and habitats of Dirk Hartog Island to how Dirk Hartog would have seen them in 1616.

The island has experienced significant changes since Dirk Hartog landed there on 25 October 1616. Sheep and goats