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## **An Inventory of Wildlife Tourism in Western Australia**

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Due to its sheer size and coverage in latitude, the state of Western Australia has a wide range of habitats – from pockets of sub-tropical rainforest in the Kimberley region to the cool, temperate forests of the Southern Forest region; from the great inland deserts to the coral reefs along its lengthy coastline. Within these habitats live a diverse array of wildlife, many of them found nowhere else in the world. Increasing numbers of tourists from within Australia as well as from overseas come to see this wildlife, which in turn contributes large amounts of money to the state's economy. However, with the increase in tourist numbers comes a need to conserve and manage the wildlife resource in a sustainable manner that allows both the people and the animals to co-exist and prosper.

To understand where there are possible conflicts and pressures on wildlife, there is a need to know which animals attract tourists and which locations are in use. The data provided in this database will allow CALM to plan the equitable and sustainable management of different species, reducing pressure on those that are overused and encouraging operators to make use of other attractions in less utilised areas.