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**A BIOLOGICAL SURVEY OF MIRIMA NATIONAL PARK**

**DECEMBER 1993 - JANUARY 1994**

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**ARCHIVAL**

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**ADDENDUM**

**Rare or Endangered Species**

**Flora**

1.

Family: MIMOSACEAE

Species: *Acacia richardsii*

Status: Priority 3 (CALM)

Taxa which are known from several populations, at least some of which are not believed to be under immediate threat.

**Fauna**

1.

*Aviceda subcristata*

**Pacific Baza**

Status: Threatened (CALM)

Presumed to be extinct or in imminent danger of extinction; dependent on or restricted to habitats that are vulnerable and/or subject to factors that may cause its decline; very uncommon, even if widespread.

2.

*Irediparra gallinacea*

**Comb-crested Jacana**

Status: Reserve (CALM)

Have been recently removed from the list of threatened fauna; have a restricted distribution, are uncommon or are declining in range and/or abundance, but do not meet listing as threatened fauna; there is insufficient information for the Committee to make an assessment of their status.

3.

*Hydromys chrysogaster*

**Water Rat**

Status: Reserve (CALM)

Have been recently removed from the list of threatened fauna; have a restricted distribution, are uncommon or are declining in range and/or abundance, but do not meet listing as threatened fauna; there is insufficient information for the Committee to make an assessment of their status.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The greatest contribution to this study was by Kyle Armstrong, a volunteer who placed and monitored most of the pit traps. Other recordings, including some mist netting for bats, were also undertaken by Kyle.

Apart from the general flora collection work undertaken over the years, the Regional Manager, Chris Done, also assisted in the description of the pit trap sites. Kevin Kenneally from the Western Australian Herbarium assisted by supplying a list of existing plant collections and plants collected during the survey were identified by the Herbarium. Allan Thomson and Russell Gueho from the East Kimberley District also contributed with general fauna observations.

Laurie Smith from the Museum of Western Australia identified frogs and reptiles which could not be identified in Kununurra. Norah Cooper from the mammal department of the Museum of Western Australia undertook the identification of some small mammals. Staff at the Museum of Western Australia also took the time to search for previous fauna records for the park. This data has been incorporated into this document and the staff are thanked for their help.

Brice Wells, an ornithologist from Wyndham, provided some bird species records during his search in the park for the Gouldian Finch.

The Mirima National Park map was prepared by Michelle McCahon who worked for CALM as a volunteer.

*Cover Photo: Looking towards the town of Kununurra from near the north east corner of Mirima National Park.*



Looking south from the north west corner of the park.

## ABSTRACT

*During the months December 1993 to April 1994 a brief biological survey was undertaken of the Mirima National Park (formerly Hidden Valley National Park). This park is adjacent to the town of Kununurra. This report presents the findings of that survey as well as including records obtained at other times.*

*147 species of flora from 54 families have been recorded.*

*15 species of frog, and 45 reptiles species have been recorded for the park. The ornate frog *Limnodynastes ornatus* accounted for approximately half of all the individual animals trapped. Whilst known to be in Western Australia the western brown snake is the second specimen to be handled by the Museum of Western Australia.*

*22 mammal species are noted for the Mirima National Park with 4 of these being introduced.*

*It is intended that this report will form the basis for further data compilation.*

## INTRODUCTION

The decision to undertake a small scale biological survey of the park came about because of a statement in the publication 'Nature Conservation Reserves in the Kimberley' that no fauna surveys had been undertaken. Further to this there was a need to collate existing biological information about the park.

It was also felt that undertaking some form of a survey during the wet season could be of interest.

Existing flora knowledge of the park is summarised in the publication mentioned above as;

The valley floors are dominated by Northern Woollybutt (*Eucalyptus miniata*) and Long-fruited Bloodwood (*Eucalyptus polycarpa*) over shrubs such as *Cajanus reticulatus*, *Planchonia careya*, *Grevillea heliosperma*, *G. refracta* and *Pouteria sericea*. The rock walls support the Boab (*Adansonia gregorii*) and the figs *Ficus leucotricha* and *F. platypoda*, and Turkey Bush (*Calytrix exstipulata*). Undescribed species of *Lindernia* and *Platysace* are known from fissures in the gorge walls. Both appear to be endemic to the area. In the sandy areas subject to seasonal flooding the fern *Platyzoma microphyllum* is common, along with *Haemodorum parviflorum* and numerous ephemeral species such as *Stylidium*, *Urticularia*, *Byblis* and *Drosera*.

The park supports a mosaic of upland tall grass savanna and woodland; in particular the *Eucalyptus dichromophloia*\* sub-alliance in valleys and *Triodia pungens*, with low open eucalypt overstorey on the hills.

Eucalypts found in the area include Variable-barked Bloodwood (*E. dichromophloia*), Darwin Stringybark (*E. tetradonta*), Long-fruited Bloodwood (*E. polycarpa*), and Kalumburu White Gum (*E. herbertiana*). There is an impressive, almost pure stand of Woollybutt (*E. miniata*) growing on red sand in the north-west corner of the park.

Other tree species include the Boab (*Adansonia gregorii*), Wild Mango (*Buchanania obovata*), Emu Apple (*Owenia vernicosa*) and several species of *Terminalia*, including *T. latipes*. Wattles such as *Acacia tumida* and *A. plectocarpa*, are common, as is the attractive shrub Kimberley Heather (*Calytrix exstipulata*). A geographically restricted plant, *Echinochloa macrandra*, has been recorded nearby and it is likely that it occurs within the park, along Lily Creek.

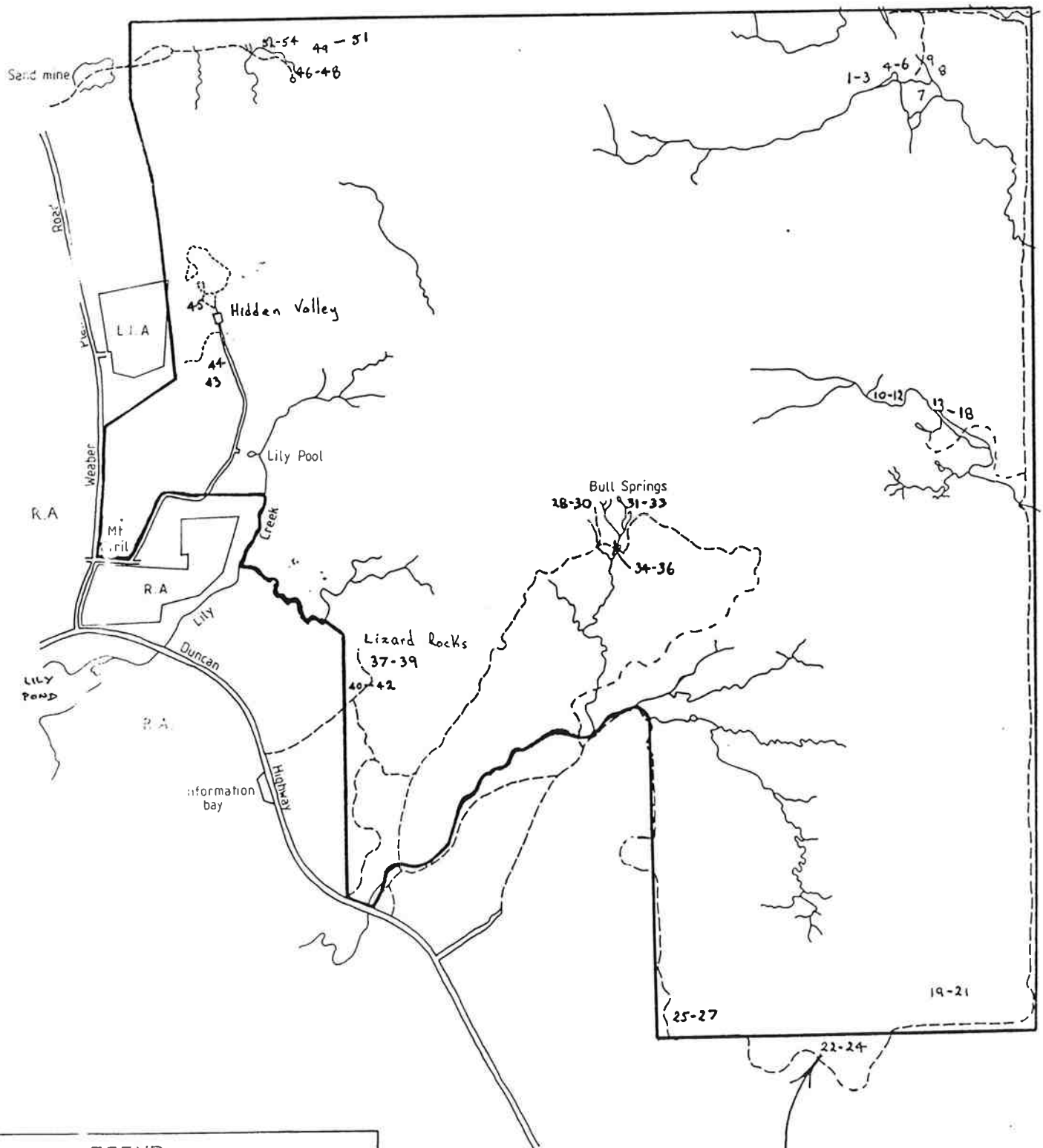
\* The name *Eucalyptus dichromophloia* is no longer used ('Flora of the Kimberley'). The name *Eucalyptus drysdalensis* has been used for this plant in this survey.

## CLIMATE

The park experiences the climate of the dry tropics with an annual rainfall at Kununurra of approximately 700 mm. The amount of rain which falls and its timing can be highly variable with rain being expected from October through to March. Rainfall events can have a high energy component with large amounts of water being deposited on the land surface in a short period of time.

The coolest, rain-free months are around June and July (July Max. 29.9°C average, Min. 14.0°C average) with the hottest and most humid months being October to December (November Max. 38.9°C average, Min. 24.3°C average).

# MIRIMA (HIDDEN VALLEY) NATIONAL PARK



Pit trap Locations

## LEGEND

Main Roads	====	
Track	----	
Waterways	~~~~	
Boundary	—	
Light Industrial Area	L.I.A.	
Residential Area	R.A.	

MAP 1.

## **LOCATION**

(See Map 1)

Mirima National Park is located immediately adjacent to the eastern side of the town of Kununurra, a town with a population of approximately 4000 people. This last figure can increase dramatically during the tourist season.

## **LANDSCAPE**

The overall landscape of the park is one of a raised undulating plateau with escarpments on the east, west and south. These escarpments are most prominent on the southern and western boundaries with the south west and western boundaries exhibiting a band of gorges and valleys. It is these latter areas which receive the most attention from tourists.

## **AREA**

The current size of the park is 2067.93 hectares, however two additions totalling approximately 600 hectares have been proposed.

## **MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC USE**

The park is vested in the National Parks and Nature Conservation Authority and is managed by the East Kimberley District (Kimberley Region) of the Department of Conservation and Land Management. A National Park Ranger has specific duties with respect to the park with other staff undertaking work as required. The types of facilities provided include a good quality gravel access road, walk trails, location signs and information boards, a toilet, carparks and firebreaks. Some strategic prescribed burning is undertaken in an attempt to prevent a large fire affecting the whole of the park. The main area of threat is seen to be the eastern side of the park which borders pastoral country. There is no burning for strictly 'environmental' reasons such as habitat enhancement.

Discussions are under way with people representing the traditional owners of the land near Kununurra with a view to entering into some form of joint management.

Public use of the park is varied. Generally speaking the tourist season coincides with the dry season extending from around the start of April to the end of September. Tourist use of the park includes individuals and organised groups, primarily accessing the main valley immediately adjacent to the town of Kununurra. This valley, known as 'Hidden Valley', is what attracts by far the majority of people to the park. The Purnululu National Park is well known for the distinctive grandeur of the 'bee-hive' formations of the landscape and the Mirima National Park has often been described as a 'mini-Bungles'. A small, but very scenic, pool adjacent to the main valley is also frequented by tourists as the pool can last for an extended period of time following the wet season.

People from Kununurra use the park extensively and cover a larger area than tourists. Legal use is usually bushwalking. The activities which at times cause concern are dog exercising and four wheel drive vehicles and trail bikes creating unwanted tracks.

Traditional Aboriginal use of the park has been extensive. Paintings, rock carving and rock overhangs where people have camped in the past can be found throughout the park. There are certain areas which are important for Aboriginal law and public access to these areas is a sensitive issue in the management of the park. One such area is the scenic pool mentioned above and thought is currently being given to providing access to an alternative attraction within the park and gradually discouraging public access to this area. (At the time of completing this report Mirima National Park was subject to a Native Title claim registered with the National Native Title Tribunal by the Miriuwung and Gajerrong peoples.)



## PLANT LIST

(\* = From WA. Herbarium - CALM database, # = Introduced)

### ADIANTACEAE

*Cheilanthes pumilio* \* (R. Br.) F. Muell.

### PLATYZOMATACEAE

*Platyzoma microphyllum* R.Br.

Braid Fern

### ACANTHACEAE

*Dicliptera armata* \* F. Muell.

### AIZOACEAE

*Trianthena patellitecta* \* A.M. Prescott

*T. pilosa* \* F. Muell.

### AMARANTHACEAE

*Amaranthus* sp.

*Gomphrena* sp.

*Ptilotus exaltatus* Nees

*P. polystachyus* \*(Gaudich.) F. Muell.

Tall Mulla Mulla

### ANACARDIACEAE

*Buchanania obovata* \* Engl.

Wild Mango

### APIACEAE

*Platysace rupestris* \* (?)

*P. sp. A* \*

### APOCYNACEAE

*Carissa lanceolata* R. Br.

Conkerberry

*Wrightia saligna* (R. Br.) F. Muell. ex Benth.

### ASCLEPIADACEAE

*Calotropis procera* # (Aiton) W.T. Aiton

Calotrope

*Cynanchum pedunculatum* \* R. Br.

*Sarcostemma viminale* \* (?)

**ASTERACEAE**

*Blumea diffusa* \* R. Br. ex Benth.

*Pterocaulon sphacelatum* \* (Labill.) F. Muell.

**BIXACEAE**

*Cochlospermum fraseri* Planchon

Kapok Tree

**BOMBACACEAE**

*Adansonia gregorii* F. Muell.

Boab

**BORAGINACEAE**

*Ehretia saligna* R. Br.

False Cedar

**BYBLIDACEAE**

*Byblis liniflora* \* Salisb.

**CAESALPINIACEAE**

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys* \* (F. Muell.) Baillon

Cooktown Ironwood

*Lysiphyllum cunninghamii* (Benth.) de Wit

Bauhinia

*Senna venusta* \* (F. Muell.) B. Randell

**CAPPARACEAE**

*Cleome cleomoides* \* (F. Muell.) Iltis

*C. viscosa* \* L.

Mustard Bush

**CARYOPHYLLACEAE**

*Polycarpaea fallax* \* Pedley

**COMBRETACEAE**

*Terminalia canescens* (DC.) Radlk. ex T. Durand

*T. hadleyana* W. Fitzg.

*T. latipes* Benth.

**CONVOLVULACEAE**

*Bonamia media* \* (F. Muell.) H. Hallier

**CUSCUTACEAE**

*Cuscuta* sp.

Dodder

**DROSERACEAE**

*Drosera ordensis* A. Lowrie, sp. nov.

**EUPHORBIACEAE**

*Flueggea virosa* (Roxb. ex Willd.) Voigt

*Petalostigma quadriloculare* F. Muell

Quinine Bush

**GOODENIACEAE**

*Goodenia* aff. *sepalosa* \*

*G. bicolor* \* F. Muell. ex Benth.

*Scaevola browniana* \* Carolin

**HERNANDIACEAE**

*Gyrocarpus americanus* Jacq.

Helicopter Tree

**LECYTHIDACEAE**

*Planchonia careya* (F. Muell.) Knuth

Cocky Apple

**LOBELIACEAE**

*Lobelia dioica* \* R. Br.

**LOGANIACEAE**

*Mitrasacme exserta* \* F. Muell.

*M. scrithicola* \* (?)

**LORANTHACEAE**

*Amyema* sp.

Mistletoe

*Dendrophthoe acacioides* \* (Cunn. ex Benth.) Tieghem

**LYTHRACEAE**

*Rotala diandra* \* (F. Muell.) Koehne

**MELIACEAE**

*Owenia vernicosa* F. Muell.

Emu Apple

**MENISPERMACEAE**

*Tinospora smilacina* Benth.

Snakevine

**MIMOSACEAE**

*Acacia holosericea* Cunn. ex Don

*A. humifusa* Cunn. ex Benth.

*A. platycarpa* \* F. Muell.

*A. plectocarpa* Cunn. ex Benth.

*A. richardsii* \* Maslin

*A. translucens* Cunn. ex Hook.

*A. tumida* F. Muell. ex Benth.

*A. wickhamii* Benth.

Ghost Wattle

Poverty Bush

Pindan Wattle

## MORACEAE

*Ficus leucotricha* (Miq.) Miq.  
*F. platypoda* (Miq.) Cunn. ex Miq.

Rock Fig  
Rock Fig

## MYRTACEAE

*Calytrix exstipulata* DC.

*Eucalyptus aspera* \* F. Muell  
*E. brachyandra* \* F. Muell.  
*E. confertiflora* F. Muell.  
*E. drysdalensis* D.J. Carr & S.G.M. Carr  
*E. ferruginea* Schauer  
*E. herbertiana* \* Maiden  
*E. miniata* \* Cunn. ex Schauer  
*E. polycarpa* F. Muell.  
*E. tectiflora* F. Muell.  
*E. tetradonta* F. Muell.  
*E. sp. E*

Roughleaf Range Gum  
Tropical Red Box  
Roughleaf Cabbage Gum

*Melaleuca dealbata* ?  
*M. viridiflora* Sol. ex Gaertner

*Verticordia cunninghamii* Schauer

*Xanthostemon* sp.

Kalumburu White Gum  
Northern Woollybutt  
Longfruit Bloodwood  
Darwin Box  
Darwin Stringybark  
Ghost Gum

## NYMPHAEACEAE

*Nymphaea violacea* \* Lehm.

## PAPILIONACEAE

*Cajanus latisepalus* \* (S.T. Reynolds & Pedley) Maesen  
*C. reticulatus* \* (Dryander) F. Muell.

*Crotalaria* sp. A \*

*Desmodium filiforme* \* Zoll. & Moritzi

*Galactia tenuiflora* \* (Klein ex Willd.) Wight & Arn.

*Indigofera haplophylla* \* F. Muell.

*Jacksonia thesioides* (Cunn.) Benth.

*Sesbania formosa* (F. Muell.) N. Burb

*Tephrosia phaeosperma* \* F. Muell. ex Benth.  
*T. rosea* \* F. Muell. ex Benth.  
*T. virens* \* Pedley

Broom Bush

White Dragon Tree

Flinders River Poison

*Zornia prostrata* \* S.T Reynolds & A.E. Holland

## PASSIFLORACEAE

*Passiflora foetida* # L.

Wild Passionfruit

## PROTEACEAE

*Grevillea agrifolia* \* Cunn. ex R. Br.

Blue Grevillea

*G. erythroclada* \* W. Fitzg.

Needleleaf Grevillea

*G. heliosperma* \* R. Br.

Rock Grevillea

*G. pteridifolia* Knight

Kimberley Christmas Tree

*G. refracta* \* R. Br.

Silverleaf Grevillea

*Persoonia falcata* R. Br.

Snottygobble

## RUBIACEAE

*Canthium* sp. A \*

*Gardenia megasperma* F. Muell.

*Spermacoce auriculata* F. Muell.

*S. exserta* \* Benth.

## SAPINDACEAE

*Atalaya hemiglauca* \* (F. Muell.) F. Muell. ex Benth.

Whitewood

*A. variifolia* \* (F. Muell.) F. Muell. ex Benth.

*Distichostemon hispidulus* \* (Endl.) Baillon

## SAPOTACEAE

*Pouteria sericea* (Aiton) Baehni

## SCROPHULARIACEAE

*Lindernia cleistandra* \* W. R. Barker

*Stemodia* sp.

## STERCULIACEAE

*Brachychiton* sp.

*Helicteres cana* \* (Schott & Endl.) Benth.

## STYLIDIACEAE

*Stylidium floodii* \* F. Muell.

## TILIACEAE

*Corchous* sp. \*

*Grewia* sp.

*Triumfetta plumigera* \* F. Muell.

*T. sp. U* \*

**URTICACEAE**

*Utricularia sp.*

**VERBENACEAE**

*Clerodendrum sp.*

*Vitex glabrata* R. Br.

**VITACEAE**

*Ampelocissus acetosa* (F. Muell.) Planchon

Native Grape

*Cayratia trifolia* (L.) Domin

**ANTHERICACEAE**

*Thysanotus chinensis* \* Benth.

**CYPERACEAE**

*Crosslandia setifolia* \* W. Fitzg.

*Cyperus cunninghamii* \* (C.B. Clarke) C. Gardner

*C. cuspidatus* \* Kunth

*C. microcephalus* \* R. Br.

*C. pulchellus* \* R. Br.

*C. sexflorus* \* R. Br.

*C. zollingeri* \* Steudel

*Scleria brownii* \* Kunth

**HAEMODORACEAE**

*Haemodorum ensifolium* \* F. Muell.

*H. parviflorum* Benth.

**PANDANACEAE**

*Pandanus sp.*

**POACEAE**

*Aristida hygrometrica* \* R. Br.

Northern Kerosene Grass

*Cymbopogon dependeus* \* B. Simon

*C. procerus* \* (R. Br.) Domin

Scentgrass

*Echinochloa macrandra* P.W. Michael & Vick.

*Eriachne ciliata* \* R. Br.

Slender Wanderrrie Grass

*E. melicacea* \* F. Muell.

*Pennisetum polystachion* \* ?

*Plectrachne bynoei* \* C.E. Hubb.

*Setaria apiculata* \* (Scribner & Merr.) Schumann                      Pigeon Grass

*Sorghum stipoides* \* C. Gardner & C.E. Hubb                      Native Annual Sorghum

*Themeda* sp.

*Triodia pungens* R. Br.                      Soft Spinifex

*Whiteochloa biciliata* \* Lazarides                      Mauve Sandgrass

*Yakirra majuscula* \* (F. Muell. ex Benth.) Lazarides & R. Webster

*Y. pauciflora* \* (R. Br.) Lazarides & R. Webster

#### TACCACEAE

*Tacca leontopetaloides* (L.) Kuntze

#### FLORA

The sources for the compilation of a flora list and to use in the description of the pit trap sites were as follows:

A brief outline of the flora of the Park is contained in the CALM publication 'Nature Conservation Reserves of the Kimberley' and this has been reproduced in this document.

A list of flora specimens from the Park kept at the WA. Herbarium was supplied and was incorporated into this document. Where taxon have been named which are not in the publication 'Flora of the Kimberley' these names have been followed by a question mark.

Named specimens from the Kimberley Regional herbarium have been included in the document, however, there are a number of specimens which have either not been named or have undergone name changes which have not been included. This herbarium is based primarily on the work by Chris Done (Manager - Kimberley Region - CALM)

Plants were collected at the time of survey or shortly after and were sent to the Western Australian Herbarium (CALM). Advice was received that there was value in concentrating on the plants which 'do things' during the wet, therefore emphasis was placed on the small annuals which rapidly germinate, flower, seed and then disappear. Some collections of fungi and other groups was also made.

A number of the more common plants which have not been collected as held specimens were also documented.

A problem which was encountered were inconsistencies in the adoption of species names. The Genera *Eucalyptus* remains the main area of confusion. Where there was a lack of clear direction the original names have been adopted.

147 taxa of from 54 families have, to date, been recorded for the park. It is highly likely that this list can be added to substantially. This is particularly so for the more 'herbaceous' plants, as was mentioned previously.

Whilst no rare flora have been identified in the park it does encompass a good representative sample of the general area's flora. The new carnivorous species *Drosera ordensis* has been identified from the park. More work is required to determine the distribution of this species.

The subtle but distinct variety of habitats in the park is reflected in the types of plant so far identified. These include plants associated with woodlands, sandstone outcrops, damplands, shaded rock crevices and watercourses. A wide range of species are found within the park.

By far the majority of the flora are distributed widely across the Kimberley with many of these being identified with the top end of Australia. Other species are also found in Asia and the tropical areas of the world. Species that are more 'localised' in their distribution are:

<i>Trianthena patellitecta</i>	- East Kimberley and the west of the Northern Territory.
<i>Platysace sp. A.</i>	- East Kimberley and part of the Northern Territory.
<i>Acacia richardsii</i>	- " " "
<i>Eucalyptus aspera</i>	- East Kimberley across the top of Australia.
<i>Eucalyptus drysdalensis</i>	- East Kimberley extending into the Northern Territory.
<i>Crotalaria sp. A</i>	- East Kimberley.
<i>Lindernia cleistandra</i>	- East Kimberley extending into the Northern Territory.
<i>Triumfetta sp. U</i>	- Possibly endemic to the Kununurra/Carr Boyd area.

*Gardenia megasperma* whilst being found throughout the park has only one collection from near Kununurra registered with the W.A. Herbarium.

## SITES SUMMARY

Individual site descriptions are given in Appendix 1.

### Physical characteristics

Appendix 2 gives the summary of the physical characteristics of the sites.

The sites exhibited the following physical characteristics;

The soils of Mirima National Park are derived from sandstone and appear to result because of the action of water. All sites had relatively coarse sandy soils with 5 sites also having a proportion of sandstone 'gravel'.

The soils reflected the colours of the sandstone itself with overall colours ranging from red, orange, grey orange, brown orange, grey brown, brown and grey. The most common soil colour was grey with orange being the next most common.

49 of the sites were flat with the rest being on slight slopes.

At the time of the survey 9 sites were located near dry creek beds, however given the climatic conditions, some may have flowed briefly during the survey. 10 sites were near creeks which had pools of water in them. The importance of the presence of water to the results of the pit trapping exercise is looked at in the general discussion session.

17 sites were located near the base of steep or vertical sandstone escarpments.

### Vegetation structure

Muir's vegetation classification system was adopted for the majority of sites but where there was an association which was either complex or formed a very narrow band (eg. riparian) this was clearly described.



A quick list of the obvious flora at each of the sites was made, however, expertise in the herbaceous species is lacking so further work by other people may place more emphasis on these. In most cases where 'spinifex' is noted this is used as a general term for what might be two or three distinct species.

The summary of the descriptions can be seen in Appendix 3. The dominant vegetation structure for all the sites was an open to very open woodland over either sparse spinifex or a spinifex/grass mixture (46% of sites). Other vegetation associations at each of the sites in descending order of occurrence are; sparse spinifex (24%), mid-dense spinifex (9%), dense grass (7%), sparse scrub (7%), riverine (4%) and sparse grass (2%).

For specific species, spinifex species occurred at 78% of the sites and these were the most noticeable of all species. Other major taxa were *Tacca leontopetaloides* (46%), *Erythrophleum chlorostachys* (37%), grass species (35%), *Adansonia gregorii* (22%), *Tinospora smilacina*, *Owenia vernicosa* and *Persoonia falcata* (17%), *Eucalyptus miniata* and *Buchanania obovata* (15%). A total of ten species of eucalypt were recorded at the sites.

At first glance the vegetation of Mirima National Park gives the impression of uniformity being obviously dominated by a woodland savanna with a mix of spinifex and grasses. On closer inspection differences in the structure of the vegetation becomes apparent with the species present in the dominant vegetation association changing throughout the park. The riparian, spring and escarpment faces are all different in their vegetation structure and are very important in adding to the diversity of the species present.

## FAUNA

In selecting the sites the overall aim of the survey of documenting as many species as possible was kept in mind. This meant that as great a variety of representative habitats was sampled as was possible. The criteria which limited the placement of the pit traps were; access; the presence of rugged sandstone cliffs, gorges, boulder outcrops and the shallow soil over sandstone. The result is that the main habitat types which were not sampled in this survey to any great extent are the sandstone cliffs and narrow, shallow soil gorges. It is recognised that these, at least visually, constitute discrete habitat types.

A variety of techniques were employed but by far the greatest emphasis was placed on pit trapping. 54 pit trap lines were placed at the locations shown on Map 1. The selection of sites was aimed at sampling as many potentially different habitats as was possible. Most pit lines comprised two pit traps (40cm deep PVC pipe) at either end of a 'fence' of flywire 7 metres long by 20-30 centimetres high. Traps 22, 23, 24, 26 and 27 were metal bins and trap 51 used plastic ice cream containers. The former were used because of lack of resources, the latter because of a lack of soil.

Very few problems were encountered in maintaining the pit traps, however a few did have 'meat' ants in them. There was also a suspicion that a number of animals were collected because they may have been predated on animals already in the traps. For example a sacred kingfisher was collected from a trap at Site 1.

At the end of the programme all pit traps were left in place but were filled with soil. If an opportunity presents itself then the traps may be opened at some stage during the dry season.

Apart from general field observations whilst undertaking other activities the following was done:

One evening was spent spotlighting however it was felt that the lack of animal activity did not warrant the effort involved. This was based on the amount of work required to place and maintain the pit traps. If time becomes available in the future then further efforts will be made in this regard.

Some effort was made to mist net bats. Woodlands and caves were targeted.

Elliott traps were borrowed for a short period of time from the Pilbara Region of CALM. These had limited success in terms of mammals but did trap skinks and one species of varanid.

The following lists are compiled from recent sightings which are outside the survey time period, pit trap results and general observations during the survey. Where pit trap information is given the numbers printed along side and under the species name stand for total numbers collected along with the numbers of each in individual traps. For example;

*Cylorana australis* [8]  
3(1), 5(1), 16(1), 17(4), 18(1)

Total number of animals is 8 with one collected at trap 3, one collected at trap 5, one collected at trap 16 etc..

Species names for frogs, geckos, pygopods, skinks, snakes, dragons and monitors are as is used in the Western Australian Museum series of publications on these groups of animals. Common names, where applicable, are a combination of those used in the above publications and 'Reptiles and Amphibians of Australia' by Harold Cogger.

Mammal species and common names are as is used in the 'Complete Book of Australian Mammals' edited by Ronald Strahan.

Statements concerning possible range extensions of species and other observations are made when comparing the data to these publications.

## AMPHIBIANS

*Cylorana australis* [8]  
3(1) 5(1), 16(1), 17(4), 18(1)

**Giant Frog**

Seen while frog call recording at Site 2. Also observed at Site 49 (2/2/94).

*Cylorana longipes* [28]

5(3), 6(1), 7(2), 8(1), 11(1), 13(1), 14(2), 15(1), 17(1), 18(1), 20(1), 22(2), 23(6), 26(1), 31(1), 38(1), 48(1), 50(1).

**Long-footed Frog**

*Limnodynastes ornatus* [1509]

4(12), 5(4), 6(3), 7(2), 8(2), 10(113), 11(40), 12(22), 13(134), 14(260), 15(385), 16(49), 17(153), 18(155), 19(2), 21(1), 28(1), 29(13), 30(12), 31(57), 32(21), 34(2), 35(17), 36(11), 41(2), 42(4), 44(8), 45(6), 47(1), 48(2), 50(6), 51(1), 53(7), 54(1).

**Ornate Frog**

Picked up on access track near sand spring at middle spring (1200hrs - 23/12/93). Hot and humid day. No water nearby. The most abundant animal trapped with approximately sixty five percent of all numbers of animals recorded.

Picked up on access track near sand spring at Site 18(1200hrs - 23/12/93). Hot and humid day. 80 metres to water.

*Litoria caerulea*

5(1), 14(3), 16(1), 17(2), 31(1), 32(1), 44(1), 53(1).

**Green Tree Frog**

Observed near Bull Spring.

*Litoria coplandi*

**Copland's Rock Frog**

This species was recorded by Griffin, P. in 1989.

*Litoria inermis*

**Peters' Frog**

This species has been recorded by Davies, M. et al in 1978.

*Litoria meiriana*

**Rockhole Frog**

At 'Top Spring' Site 2 (21/12/93). At times in very large numbers. Found in the pools and on rock surfaces. Also present at sites 15 and 51. Specimen from Site 4 identified by the WA. Museum.

*Litoria pallida* [2]  
17(2).

**Pale Frog**

Collected from near Sites 4, 17 and 32. This animal has also been recorded by Davies, M. et al in 1980.

*Litoria rothii*

**Roth's Tree Frog**

Seen while frog call recording at Site 5, and heard at site 18 (1/2/94). Also recorded by Kenneally, K.F. in 1982.

*Litoria wotjulumensis* [1]

**Wotjulum Frog**

Seen while frog call recording at Site 5, and Site 32. Heard at Lily Pool. Single animal pit trapped at Site 4.

*Megistolotis lignarius* [8]  
2(1), 4(2), 7(2), 12(1), 13(1), 23(1).

**Woodworker Frog**

*Notaden melanoscaphus* [10]  
6(1), 8(2), 9(1), 14(1), 21(1), 22(2), 24(1), 33(1).

**Northern Spadefoot Toad**

*Ranidella bilingua* [2]  
28(1), 32(1).

**Bilingual Froglet**

*Uperoleia borealis* [88]

**Northern Toadlet**

1(1), 2(1), 4(18), 5(4), 6(3), 8(1), 10(3), 11(3), 12(7), 13(11), 14(3), 15(6), 16(7), 17(1), 18(3), 19(1), 20(2), 23(1), 26(5), 27(3), 30(2), 45(1), 51(1).

Seen while frog call recording at Site 5. Also recorded by Davies, M. et al in 1979.

*Uperoleia lithomoda* [172]

**Stonemason's Toadlet**

1(1), 2(2), 4(8), 5(3), 6(2), 7(1), 8(2), 9(1), 10(5), 11(6), 12(4), 13(9), 14(2), 15(4), 16(3), 17(2), 18(1), 19(27) 20(23) 21(26), 23(1), 25(4), 26(15), 27(3), 28(2), 29(1), 30(5), 34(1), 35(2), 36(3), 37(1), 40(1), 51(1).

**REPTILES**

**Gekkonidae**

*Diplodactylus stenodactylus* [111]

1(4), 2(3), 5(1), 6(1), 7(3), 8(12), 9(4), 12(1), 14(1), 16(3), 17(1), 18(1), 19(4), 20(12), 21(11), 22(1), 23(4), 25(2) 28(1), 29(1), 31(1), 34(2), 35(2), 36(1), 37(4), 38(2), 39(5), 40(12), 42(1), 46(2), 47(3), 48(1), 53(2), 54(2).

*Gehyra australis* [1]

**Northern Dtella**

Single animal pit trapped at Site 52. This species was also recorded by Harold, G. et al in 1984.

*Gehyra nana* [2]

25(1), 27(1).

*Heteronotia binoei* [32]

4(3), 6(1), 13(1), 14(1), 16(2), 22(2), 24(5), 25(6), 27(1), 34(2), 37(1), 41(3), 42(10), 43(1), 45(1), 48(1).

**Bynoe's Gecko**

This animal was also recorded by Harold, G. et al in 1984

**Pygopodidae**

*Delma borea* [4]

19(1), 39(1), 44(2).

This species was also recorded by Butler, W.H. in 1970.

*Lialis burtonis* [7]

10(1), 14(1), 16(1), 32(1), 39(1), 48(1), 53(1).

**Burton's Snake-lizard**

Seen when spotlighting (18.30 hrs) on triodia near escarpment 'lizard rocks'. Orange/brown dorsal and white/cream ventral.

*Pygopus nigriceps* [2]

25 (1), 36(1).

**Hooded Scaly-foot**

**Agamidae**

*Chelosania brunnea*

**Chameleon Dragon**

Single specimen seen near Lily Creek at the end of March 1994.

*Chlamydosaurus kingii*

**Frilled Lizard**

On stump directly adjacent to Bull Spring (near Site 11/3 - 14/12/93). Also on eastern boundary on three occasions (27/12/93, 2/1/94, and 6/1/94)

*Ctenophorus isolepis* [1]

**Military Dragon**

Single animal trapped at Site 2. A number of animals possibly of this species seen at this location and near Site 18/1-3. This dragon is confined mainly to arid desert environments and is found in the south and east Kimberley 'mainly on spinifex sandplains and dunes'.

*Diporiphora magna* [5]

2(1), 3(1), 9(1), 16(1), 41(1).

This animal was also recorded by Harold, G. et al in 1980.

*Gemmatophora gilberti*

Seen downstream from site 2.

**Varanidae**

*Varanus acanthurus*

**Ridge-tailed Monitor**

Near site 8. Spinifex over red sand valley (28/12/93). Caught in Elliott traps.

*Varanus panoptes*

Next to access track on the southern boundary (26/12/93), SE boundary (4/1/94), near Site 27 (15/1/94), near Site 45 (19/1/94), and in the vicinity of site 51 (31/1/94). Single animal pit trapped at Site 36.

*Varanus sp aff mertensi?*

Seen while frog call recording at Site 2.

*Varanus scalaris* [8]

1(1), 16(1), 19(4), 20(2).

Spotted Tree Monitor

*Varanus tristis*

Single animal pit trapped at Site 35. Also caught in pit traps.

#### Scincidae

*Carlia amax* [9]

13(2), 29(3), 31(1), 32(2), 50(1).

*Carlia foliorum* [3]

16(1), 20(1), 22(1).

*Carlia johnstonei* [1]

13(1).

It is now to be expected that this species of skink can be found in most of the north and east Kimberley and can often be found in moist environments such as small rainforest pockets. The nearest verified recording of this species is at Point Spring Nature Reserve some forty kilometres north of Kununurra where it is to be found in a small patch of rainforest. This is a range extension where previously the distribution was noted as; 'Subhumid zone of northwest Kimberley, far north of W. Aust.

*Carlia triacantha* [4]

16(3), 17(1).

*Cryptoblepharus plagiocephalus* [6]

5(1), 16(2), 26(1), 34(2).

*Ctenotus inornatus* [10]

5(1), 6(1), 10(1), 14(1), 25(2), 27(1), 30(1), 46(1), 48(1).

This species was also recorded by Harold, G. et al in 1980.

*Ctenotus piankai* [7]

23(2), 26(4), 35(1).

This animals distribution was previously described as; 'Arid sandy country from southern Kimberley south to Marilla and the Great Victoria Desert'. Some records come from the Purnululu National Park and areas near Lake Argyle.

*Ctenotus saxatilis* [36]

6(2), 10(1), 12(3), 14(1), 16(5), 24(1), 25(1), 27(1), 31(1), 32(2), 42(1), 43(1), 44(2), 45(3), 46(1), 48(4), 50(2), 51(1), 52(2), 53(1).

Distribution has previously been stated as; 'Northern arid zone of W. Aust. with some records from the Purnululu National Park.

Also caught in Elliott traps.

*Ctenotus tantillus* [61]

5(1), 6(4), 7(8), 8(3), 9(1), 10(1), 13(1), 14(1), 18(1), 19(4), 20(2), 21(2), 22(1), 23(2), 25(2), 26(4), 27(1), 28(1), 30(10), 35(3), 36(2), 37(2), 40(3), 42(2), 51(1), 52(3), 53(3), 54(1).

In sandy soil next to escarpment ( near Site 5 - 22/12/93)

*Glaphyromorphus isolepis* [39]

4(1), 6(2), 11(1), 14(1), 16(3), 17(9), 20(1), 22(1), 27(2), 31(1), 32(3), 33(8), 34(1), 35(2), 44(1), 45(2).

*Lerista bipes* [59]

1(1), 9(3), 12(2), 15(1), 20(1), 21(1), 22(1), 25(3), 27(8), 29(2), 32(2), 35(3), 37(2), 38(4), 39(3), 40(3), 41(7), 42(5), 43(1), 46(1), 51(2).

*Menetia greyii* [3]

19(1), 21(2).

Previously recorded from the Lake Argyle area.

*Morethia ruficauda* [12]

4(1), 13(2), 27(3), 32(1), 33(1), 40(1), 41(1), 42(1), 48(1).

Seen at site 25 (28/12/93).

*Notoscincus ornatus* [2]

1(1), 19(1).

*Omolepida branchialis*

Seen adjacent to walk track (28/1/94). Sandstone present. Woodland - *Adansonia gregorii*, *Acacia tumida*, *Grevillea agrifolia*, *Terminalia latipes*.

Previously recorded from the Lake Argyle area.

*Proablepharus tenuis* [5]

1(1), 2(1), 14(2), 29(1).

*Tiliqua scincoides*

Eastern Blue-tongued Lizard

Caught in Elliott traps.

**SNAKES**

**Typhlopidae**

*Ramphotyphlops diversus* [7]

9(1), 34(1), 36(2), 41(1), 45(1), 53(1).

*Ramphotyphlops sp.*

Two specimens which were not able to be identified were collected at Sites 21 and 41.

**Boidae**

*Aspidites melanocephalus*

Black-headed Python

Not seen during the survey but has been seen in the park previously.

*Morelia childreni*

**Children's Python**

Seen while frog call recording at Site 5. Single animal pit trapped at Site 30.

*Morelia olivacea*

**Olive Python**

Not seen during the survey but has been seen in the park previously.

#### **Colubridae**

*Dendrelaphis punctulatus*

**Australian Bronzeback**

A single animal was released in the park after capture at Kununurra.

#### **Elapidae**

*Demansia atra*

**Lesser Black Whipsnake**

This animal was recorded by Griffin, P, et al in 1981.

*Demansia olivacea*

**Olive Whipsnake**

An animal was found on the eastern boundary track.

*Pseudonaja ingrami*

**Ingram's Brown Snake**

A single animal was pit trapped at Site 26.

Whilst this animal is known from the `black-soil plains of the northern interior of the Northern Territory and northwestern interior of Queensland it had previously been known to be in Western Australia from a single specimen also recorded from Kununurra.

*Pseudonaja nuchalis*

**Gwarda**

Not seen during the survey but has been seen in the park previously.

*Vermicella roperi* [2]

**Northern Shovel-nosed Snake**

19(1), 22(1)

This animal was also recorded by Bush, B. in 1983.

15 species of frog have been recorded for the park. During the survey period the ornate burrowing frog (*Limnodynastes ornatus*) was by far the most abundant with two taxa from the *Uperoleia* genus being the next most abundant.

4 species of gecko, 3 species of legless (or snake) lizards, 5 species of dragon, 5 (possibly 6) monitors, 17 species of skink, and 11 species of snake have been recorded.

## BIRD LIST

A bird list exists for Mirima National Park and its environs and as such includes areas like Lily Pond which is to the south of the park and is an extension of Lake Kununurra, the permanent water of Lake Kununurra and the Ord River, the irrigation scheme, and the town site of Kununurra. The following list, however, is for those birds which have been recorded within the boundaries of the park as shown on map 1.

<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Darter
<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	Little Pied Cormorant
<i>Ardea novaehollandiae</i>	White-faced Heron
<i>Ardea picata</i>	Pied Heron
<i>Ardeola ibis</i>	Cattle Egret
<i>Egretta alba</i>	Great Egret
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret
<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	Intermediate Egret
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	Rufous Night Heron
<i>Dupetor flavicollis</i>	Black Bittern
<i>Xenorhynchus asiaticus</i>	Black-necked Stork
<i>Elanus notatus</i>	Black-shouldered Kite
<i>Aviceda subcristata</i>	Pacific Baza
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	Black Kite
<i>Hamirostra melanosternon</i>	Black-breasted Buzzard
<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	Whistling Kite
<i>Accipiter cirrhocephalus</i>	Collared Sparrowhawk
<i>Aquila audax</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine Falcon
<i>Falco cenchroides</i>	Australian Kestrel
<i>Coturnix australis</i>	Brown Quail
<i>Turnix velox</i>	Little Button-quail
<i>Gallinula ventralis</i>	Black-tailed Native-hen
<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	Purple Swamphen
<i>Fulica atra</i>	Eurasian Coot
<i>Grus rubicundus</i>	Brolga
<i>Irediparra gallinacea</i>	Comb-crested Jacana
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	Masked Lapwing
<i>Geopelia placida</i>	Peaceful Dove
<i>Geopelia cunneata</i>	Diamond Dove
<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	Bar-shouldered Dove
<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	Crested Pigeon
<i>Petrophassa albipennis</i>	White-quilled Rock-Pigeon
<i>Petrophassa plumifera</i>	Spinifex Pigeon
<i>Calyptorhynchus magnificus</i>	Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo
<i>Cacatua roseicapilla</i>	Galah
<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	Little Corella
<i>Trichoglossus rubritorquis</i>	Red-collared Lorikeet
<i>Psitteuteles versicolor</i>	Varied Lorikeet
<i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i>	Red-winged Parrot
<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	Cockatiel
<i>Melopsittacus undulatus</i>	Budgerigar
<i>Platycercus venustus</i>	Northern Rosella
<i>Cuculus pallidus</i>	Pallid Cuckoo
<i>Cuculus variolosus</i>	Brush Cuckoo
<i>Chrysococcyx basalis</i>	Horsefield's Bronze-Cuckoo
<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	Common Koel
<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	Channel-billed Cuckoo



*Centropus phasianinus*  
*Ninox novaeseelandiae*  
*Tyto alba*  
*Podargus strigoides*  
*Dacelo leachii*  
*Halcyon pyrrhopygia*  
*Halcyon sancta*  
*Merops ornatus*  
*Eurystomus orientalis*  
*Cecropis nigricans*  
*Cecropis ariel*  
*Anthus novaeseelandiae*  
*Motacilla flava*  
*Coracina novaehollandiae*  
*Coricina papuensis*  
*Lalage sueurii*  
*Pachycephala rufiventris*  
*Myiagra inquieta*  
*Rhipidura rufiventris*  
*Rhipidura leucophrys*  
*Pomatostomus temporalis*  
*Acrocephalus stentoreus*  
*Megalurus timoriensis*  
*Malurus melanocephalus*  
*Smicrornis brevirostris*  
*Gerygone olivacea*  
*Daphoenositta chryzoptera*  
*Climacteris melanura*  
*Philemon argenticeps*  
*Philemon citreogularis*  
*Entomyon cyanotis*  
*Manorina flavigula*  
*Lichenostomus virescens*  
*Lichenostomus unicolor*  
*Lichenostomus plumulus*  
*Lichenostomus flavescens*  
*Melithreptus albogularis*  
*Lichmera indistincta*  
*Ramsayornis fasciatus*  
*Conophila rufogularis*  
*Certhionyx pectoralis*  
*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*  
*Pardalotus rubricatus*  
*Pardalotus striatus*  
*Neochmia ruficauda*  
*Neochmia phaeton*  
*Poephila guttata*  
*Poephila bichenovii*  
*Poephila personata*  
*Poephila acuticauda*  
*Lonchura castaneothorax*  
*Oriolus sagittatus*  
*Chlamydera nuchalis*  
*Grallina cyanoleuca*  
*Artamus personatus*  
*Artamus cinereus*  
*Artamus minor*  
*Cracticus nigrogularis*

**Pheasant Coucal**  
**Southern Boobook**  
**Barn Owl**  
**Tawny Frogmouth**  
**Blue-winged Kookaburra**  
**Red-backed Kingfisher**  
**Sacred Kingfisher**  
**Rainbow Bee-eater**  
**Dollarbird**  
**Tree Martin**  
**Fairy Martin**  
**Richard's Pipit**  
**Yellow Wagtail**  
**Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike**  
**White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike**  
**White-winged Triller**  
**Rufous Whistler**  
**Restless Flycatcher**  
**Northern Fantail**  
**Willie Wagtail**  
**Grey-crowned Babbler**  
**Clamorous Reed-Warbler**  
**Tawny Grassbird**  
**Red-backed Fairy-wren**  
**Weebill**  
**White-throated Gerygone**  
**Varied Sittella**  
**Black-tailed Treecreeper**  
**Silver-crowned Friarbird**  
**Little Friarbird**  
**Blue-faced Honeyeater**  
**Yellow-throated Miner**  
**Singing Honeyeater**  
**White-gaped Honeyeater**  
**Grey-fronted Honeyeater**  
**Yellow-tinted Honeyeater**  
**White-throated Honeyeater**  
**Brown Honeyeater**  
**Bar-breasted Honeyeater**  
**Rufous-throated Honeyeater**  
**Banded Honeyeater**  
**Mistletoebird**  
**Red-browed Pardalote**  
**Striated Pardalote**  
**Star Finch**  
**Crimson Finch**  
**Zebra Finch**  
**Double-barred Finch**  
**Masked Finch**  
**Long-tailed Finch**  
**Chestnut-breasted Mannikin**  
**Olive-backed Oriole**  
**Great Bowerbird**  
**Australian Magpie-lark**  
**Masked Woodswallow**  
**Black-faced Woodswallow**  
**Little Woodswallow**  
**Pied Butcherbird**

*Gymnorhina tibicen*  
*Corvus orru*

**Australian Magpie**  
**Torresian Crow**

186 species of avifauna have been recorded from within the boundaries of the park in recent times. It is to be expected that this number can be substantially added to. The location of the park adjacent to Kununurra, the irrigation area and permanent water will, in all likelihood, lead to recordings of birds which might not have otherwise been expected.

Birds which might be considered to be uncommon are the pacific baza, peregrine falcon, black-tailed native-hen and the barn owl. Whilst the channel-billed cuckoo, yellow wagtail and the common koel appear from distribution maps to be uncommon this has been attributed to the lack of observers during the 'wet' when the birds enter Australia.

The little button-quail is at the northern edge of its distribution.

## **MAMMALS**

### **Dasyuridae**

*Sminthopsis macroura*

**Stripe-faced Dunnart**

Single animal was pit trapped at site 13.

This animal is known from much of central and northern Australia. Its presence in Mirima is towards its most northern limit of distribution.

*Planigale ingrami* [4]  
30(1), 32(1), 38(1), 48(1).

**Long-tailed Planigale**

### **Macropodidae**

*Onychogalea unguifera*

**Northern Nailtail Wallaby**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

*Petrogale sp.*

Very active rock wallaby glimpsed at times. This is most likely to be the short-eared rock-wallaby *Petrogale brachyotis*.

*Macropus agilis*

**Agile Wallaby**

Not seen during the survey but has been seen in the park previously.

*Macropus robustus*

**Common Wallaroo**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

*Macropus antilopinus*

**Antilopine wallaroo**

In woodland with triodia present near escarpment. Also near Site 4 (2/1/94), Site 8 (6/1/94) and Site 11 (16/1/94).

## **Pteropodidae**

### *Pteropus sp.*

Seen while frog call recording at Site 2 and Site 11. Animal was in flight and it was difficult to distinguish whether it was the little red or black flying fox. It is most likely that both animals are present in the park.

## **Rhinolophidae**

### *Hipposideros ater*

**Dusky Horseshoe-Bat**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

## **Emballonuridae**

### *Taphozous georgianus*

**Common Sheathtail-bat**

Mist netted from a cave at the southern end of the park (2/2/94).

## **Vespertilionidae**

### *Nycticeius balstoni*

**Western Broad-nosed Bat**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

### *Eptesicus pumilus*

**Little Cave Eptesicus**

This species has in the past been referred to as *Eptesicus pumilus caurinus*, *Eptesicus caurinus* and *Vespadalus caurinus*.

One individual mist netted from a shallow cave near 'lizard rocks' (29/1/94). Two individuals mist netted from woodland adjacent to Bull Springs (30/1/94). Another individual netted over water at site 6 (1/2/94).

## **Muridae**

### *Hydromys chrysogaster*

**Water-rat**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

### *Pseudomys nanus* [3]

6(1), 20(1), 35(1)

**Western Chestnut Mouse**

### *Pseudomys delicatulus* [12]

7(1), 8(1), 20(3), 21(1), 23(1), 34(2), 35(1), 36(1), 39(1)

**Delicate Mouse**

### *Leggadina forresti*

**Forrest's Mouse**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

### *Rattus villosissimus*

**Long-haired Rat**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

*Rattus rattus*

**Black Rat**

On the Museum of Western Australia data base.

**Canidae**

*Canis familiaris*

**Dingo**

Young dingo seen on several occasions on the eastern boundary at night and observed near middle spring turn-off in the morning (6/1/94). Footprints seen regularly on eastern boundary. A pair was also observed at Site 17 (2/2/94).

**Felidae**

*Felis catus*

**Cat**

Seen regularly in the park.

**Equidae**

*Equus asinus*

**Donkey**

Seen regularly on the eastern side of the park. Numbers appear to increase toward the end of the dry season when animals enter the park seeking water from the springs.

**Bovidae**

*Bos taurus*

**Cattle**

Seen regularly on the eastern side of the park. Numbers appear to increase toward the end of the dry when animals enter the park seeking water from the springs. These animals cause significant vegetation damage to areas surrounding the springs. Two springs have been fenced to try to reduce this damage.

22 species of mammals with 4 of these being introduced have been recorded. During the survey trapping period 13 species of mammal were noted

In summary a total of 82 species of vertebrate animals other than birds have been noted for the Mirima National Park.

It does appear that undertaking the survey during the 'wet' season contributed to the number of species collected. This is particularly so for the period toward the end of that part of the season described as the 'build-up' when there can be sudden episodic downpours to which species such as frogs respond very rapidly. Whilst not quantified it was felt that following rain the trapping result would provide mainly frog species and after a few days without rain an increase in the number of skink species would be noticed. After further rain the trapping response would once again swing back toward frogs.

## APPENDIX 1

### Site Descriptions

Sites 1, 2 and 3 are on a sandy 'plateau' approximately 300 metres west of: 15° 46' 25"S  
128° 46' 07"E

#### Site 1

Pale orange sand with sandstone gravel. Flat area.

Very open woodland (*Eucalyptus tetradonta*, *E. ferruginea*, *Erythrophleum chlorostachys*) over mid dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Persoonia falcata*

*Tinospora smilacina*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Wrightia saligna*

*Petalostigma pubescens*

*Brachychiton* sp.

*Senna* sp.





**Site 2**

Orange/grey sand. Flat area 15 metres from dry creek.

Very open woodland (no dominant) over very sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Cochlospermum fraseri*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Tinospora smilacina*



**Site 3**

Pale orange/brown sand. Flat area.

Very open woodland (no dominant) over mid dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?)/grass (*Sorghum* sp.).

Other plants:

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Eucalyptus ferruginea*

*E. drysdalensis*

*Wrightia saligna*

*Haemodorum* sp.

*Cochlospermum fraseri*

*Buchanania obovata*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Tinospora smilacina*

Sites 4, 5 and 6 are adjacent to creek and spring, west of:  
15° 46' 25"S  
128° 46' 07"E

**Site 4**

Grey sand. Alluvial flat area adjacent to creek.

Low riverine vegetation with no dominant.

Other plants:

*Buchanania obovata*

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Eucalyptus aspera*

*Xanthostemon* sp.

*Calytrix* sp.

*Owenia vernicosa*

*Vitex glabrata*





**Site 5**

Pale grey sand, Flat area at base of sandstone 20 metres from spring.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?) herbs.

Other plants:

*Acacia richardsii*

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Terminalia canescens*



**Site 6**

Pale orange sand, Sloping creek bank.

Tall grass (*Sorghum* sp.).





Sites 7, 8 and 9 are spread out east of the spring and east and south east of: 15° 46' 25"S  
128° 46' 07"E

**Site 7**

Orange/grey sand, Flat area.

Very open woodland (*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*) over mid dense low grass (*Sorghum sp.*).



**Site 8**

Pale orange sand, Flat area approximately 100 metres from spring.

Very open woodland (no dominant) over sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Acacia translucens*

*Calytrix sp.*

*Petalostema pubescens*



**Site 9**

Orange sand, Flat area.

Very open woodland (*Eucalyptus ferruginea*, *Eucalyptus tetrodonta*) over mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?) grass (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Tinospora smilacina*

*Wrightia saligna*

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*



Sites 10, 11 and 12 are located in a shallow valley approximately 300 metres along a creek west of:  
 15° 46' 10" S  
 128° 47' 03" E

**Site 10**

Grey sand, Alluvial flat near dry creek.

Very open woodland (*Eucalyptus drysdalensis*, *Erythrophleum chlorostachys*) over sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Haemodorum sp.*



Site 11

Grey sand. Alluvial flat near dry creek.

Very open woodland (*Eucalyptus drysdalensis*) over sparse spinifex  
 (?)*Haemodorum* sp.,

(*Triodia pungens*)

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*  
 (*Cassia* sp.)



Site 12

Grey sand. Alluvial flat near dry creek.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?),

Other plants:

*Haemodorum* sp.,



**Site 13**

Grey sand. Narrow alluvial creek flat adjacent to sandstone escarpment. 10 metres to very dense *Acacia sp.*/grass in creek.

Mid dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?) with *Pandanus sp.* nearby.

Other plants:

*Clerodendrum sp.*

*Ampelocissus acetosa*



**Site 14**

Grey sand. Top of creek bank approximately 10 metres to dense grass in creek.

*Buchanania obovata* thicket over dense grass (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus tetradonta*

*Persoonia falcata*

*Acacia tumida*



**Site 15**

Grey sand. On creek bank approximately 5 metres from dense grass in creek which has small pools.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Acacia* sp.

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Persoonia falcata*

*Eucalyptus polycarpa*



GPS reading near Sites 16, 17 and 18: 15° 46' 10"S  
128° 47' 03"E

**Site 16**

Light grey sand. Flat area 20 metres from a pool.

Very open woodland (*Eucalyptus polycarpa*) with some riverine components (*Pandanus* sp.) over mid-dense grass (*Sorghum* sp.).

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus tetradonta*

*Grewia* sp.



**Site 17**

Light grey sand. Creek bank approximately 5 metres from pool.

Dense tall grass (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Acacia plectocarpa*

*Melaleuca dealbata* ?

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*



**Site 18**

Pale yellow/grey sand. On gentle slope.

Very open woodland (*Acacia platycarpa* ?) over sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Petalostigma quadriloculare*

*Haemodorum sp.*

Sites 19, 20 and 21 are approximately 100 metres north of: 15° 48' 03"S  
128° 47' 05"E

This area was burnt late in the 1993 dry season. Indications are that it was a 'hot' fire.



**Site 19**

Orange sand. Flat area.

Very open woodland (no dominant) over sparse grass (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Petalostigma pubescens*  
*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*  
*Tinospora smilacina*  
*Adansonia gregorii*



**Site 20**

Orange sand. Flat area.

Very open woodland (no dominant) over sparse grass (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Petalostigma pubescens*  
*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*  
*Tinospora smilacina*  
*Persoonia falcata*  
*Atalaya sp.*



**Site 21**

Orange sand. Flat area.

Open woodland (*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*) over sparse grass (*Sorghum sp.*). Nearby are *Lysiphillum cunninghamii* and *Eucalyptus tetradonta*.

Other plants:

*Petalostigma pubescens*

*Wrightia saligna*

*Tinospora smilacina*



Sites 22, 23 and 24 are in a valley west of: 15° 48' 05"S  
128° 46' 44"E

**Site 22**

Red sand. Valley flat underneath the canopy of a large boab.

Open woodland (no dominant) over low scrub (*Wrightia saligna*).

Other plants:

*Persoonia falcata*

*Gyrocarpus americanus*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Ampelocissus acetosa*

*Flueggea virosa*





Site 23

Red sand, Valley flat.

Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Persoonia falcata*



Site 24

Reddy/brown sand. Adjacent to sandstone escarpment underneath *Eucalyptus miniata*.

Dense herb/spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Ampelocissus acetosa*

Sites 25, 26 and 27 are located north of: 15° 47' 56"S  
128° 46' 20"E



Site 25

Orange sand. Flat area at base of sandstone 'bee-hive'.

Open low woodland (*Eucalyptus mimata*) over sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

Other plants:

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*

*Clerodendrum* sp.

*Tacca leontopetaloides*



Site 26

Orange sand. At base of sandstone 'bee-hives'.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?)

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Gyrocarpus americanus*

*Owenia vernicosa*

*Eucalyptus mimata*



**Site 27**

Light grey sand with sandstone rubble. In narrow, short, steep sided gorge in 'bee-hives'.

Wide variety of plants.

Other plants:

*Vitex glabrata*

*Ampelocissus acetosa*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Triodia pungens* ?

*Passiflora foetida*

*Owenia vernicosa*

*Timonius timon*



Sites 28, 29 and 30 are located north of the Bull Spring track 'turn-around' at: 15° 46' 25"S  
128° 46' 07"E

**Site 28**

Pale grey/brown sand with sandstone gravel. On flat at bottom of escarpment.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Eucalyptus aspera*

*E. miniata*

*Buchanania obovata*

*Cochlospermum fraseri*

*...*



Site 29

Pale grey sand. Flat area adjacent to dry creek and escarpment.

Complex grass/herbs.

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Haemodorum* sp.

*Ampelocissus acetosa*

*Triodia pungens* ?

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Buchanania obovata*

*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*



Site 30

Pale yellow sand. Flat area 20 metres from creek adjacent to bottom of escarpment.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Terminalia latipes*

Sites 31,32 and 33 are located east of the Bull Spring track 'turn-around' at: 15° 46' 25"S  
128° 46' 07"E



Site 31

Very pale orange/grey sand. Flat area near dry creek and at base of escarpment.  
Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Terminalia canescens*  
*Melaleuca viridiflora*  
*Eucalyptus confertiflora*  
*Buchanania obovata*  
*Adansonia gregorii*



Site 32

Grey sand. On creek edge slope. Creek has a flowing water downstream from permanent spring. Dense grasses directly adjacent to creek.

Low woodland (scattered *Eucalyptus polycarpa*) over open grassland (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Triodia pungens* ?  
*Adansonia gregorii*  
*Tacca leontopetaloides*  
*Pandanus sp.*  
*Terminalia latipes*  
*Ficus sp.*  
*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*



**Site 33**

Grey sand. Riverine environment. At edge of dense grass edged water filled creek and grass slope.

Low woodland (scattered *Eucalyptus polycarpa*, *Pandanus sp.*) over open grassland (*Sorghum sp.*).

Other plants:

*Buchanania obovata*  
*Tacca leontopetaloides*  
*Tinospora smilacina*  
*Acacia holosericea* ?  
*Terminalia latipes*



Sites 34, 35 and 36 are located east of: 15° 46' 33"S  
 128° 46' 09"E

**Site 34**

Pale brown sand. Flat area.

Sparse scrub to 4 metres (*Flueggea virosa*) over very sparse grass (*Themeda sp.*).

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus tectifica*  
*Lysiphillum cunninghamii*  
*Carissa lanceolata*  
*Adansonia gregorii*  
*Gyrocarpus americanus*  
*Trichia muricata* ?



**Site 35**

Grey sand. Flat area near creek which has a number of very small pools in it.

Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Sorghum* sp.

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Eucalyptus* sp. E.

*Perosoma falcata*

*Acacia tumida*

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Tinospora smilacina*

*Gyrocarpus americanus*

*Owenia vernicosa*

*Petalostigma pubescens*



**Site 36**

Pale orange/brown sand. On a sandy rise 40 metres east of the creek described for 12/2.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens* ?).

Other plants:

*Ampelocissus acetosa*

*Lysiphylum cunninghamii*

*Acacia tumida*

*Sorghum* sp.

Sites 37, 38 and 39 are located near an area generally known as lizard rocks. All sites are on the valley floor surrounded by steep, picturesque escarpments and sandstone outcrops.

37 is approximately 100 metres east of: 15° 46' 55"S  
128° 45' 31"E

38 is halfway between 37 and 39.

39 is approximately 100 metres east of: 15° 46' 59"S  
128° 45' 27"E



**Site 37**

Orange sand. On valley floor.

Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens?*).

Other plants:

*Buchanania obovata*

*Persoonia falcata*



**Site 38**

Orange sand.

On valley floor. Open woodland (*Eucalyptus nuxiata*) over sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens?*).

Other plants:

*Scaevola browniana*





Site 39

Pale orange sand. On valley floor adjacent to large 'beehive' sandstone outcrop.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens?*)

Other plants:

*Clerodendron* sp.  
*Erythrophleum chlorostachys*  
*Eucalyptus aspera*  
*E. brachyandra*  
*E. miniata*  
*Calytrix exstipitata*  
*Ficus leucotricha*  
*Scaevola browniana*



Sites 40, 41 and 42 are located west of: 15° 47' 02"S  
 128° 45' 24"E

Site 40

Red sand flat.

Very sparse spinifex

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus tetradonta*  
*Scaevola browniana*



**Site 41**

Grey sand. At base of 'beehive' sandstone outcrop.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens?*)

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus miniata*

*Owenia vermicosa*

*Sorghum sp.*



**Site 42**

Orange sand. At base of 'beehive' sandstone outcrop.

Sparse spinifex/grass (*Triodia pungens?*, *Sorghum sp.*)

Other plants:

*Ficus sp.* x5

*Eucalyptus miniata*

*E. cliftoniana*

*Terminalia latipes*

Sites 43, 44 and 45 are in the valley which is used by tourists. There is a formed road which is heavily used.  
43 is located just west of: 15° 46' 02"S  
128° 45' 03"E  
44 is approximately 100 metres north of 43.  
45 is located 100 metres north of: 15° 45' 53"S  
128° 45' 02"E



**Site 43**

Pale orange/brown sand. Top of the valley on the floor.

Sparse scrub (*Grevillea agrifolia*, *Acacia richardsii*) over very sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*?)

Other plants:

*Vitex glabrata*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Persoonia falcata*

*Clerodendrum* sp.



**Site 44**

Dark grey sand. On valley floor.

Near a stand of boabs (*Adansonia gregorii*) with a mid-dense assemblage of grasses and herbs both perennial and annual.

Other plants:

*Buchanania obovata*

*Scaevola browniana*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Melaleuca viridiflora*?



**Site 45**

Grey sand. On valley floor adjacent to a large sandstone rock.

Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens?*).

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Haemodorum* sp.

*Melaleuca viridiflora?*



Sites 46, 47 48 are located east of: 15° 45' 07"S  
128° 45' 14"E

**Site 46**

Light brown/orange sand. Flat and alluvial in origin.

Sparse scrub to 2.5 metres (*Grevillea refracta*, *Acacia tumida*, *Acacia translucens*) over very sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

Other plants:



**Site 47**

Similar vegetation to Site 46 but slightly thicker. Soils same as Site 46.



**Site 48**

Light brown/orange sand. Flat and alluvial in origin.

Mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

Other plants:

*Tacca leontopetaloides*



Sites 49,50 and 51 are located north east of Site 48, following creek-line up steep escarpment.

**Site 49**

Red, gravelly sand. Top of the escarpment.

Open low woodland to 4 metres (*Cochlospermum fraseri*) over mid-dense spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

Other plants:

*Adansonia gregorii*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Eucalyptus tectifica*



**Site 50**

Red sand with small sandstone rubble on sandstone. Near dry creek and adjacent to steep escarpment.

Very small patch of sparse low woodland to 5 metres (*Santalum lanceolatum*, *Terminalia canescens*, *T. latipes*, *Adansonia gregorii*, *Eucalyptus aspera*, *Gyrocarpus americanus*) with scrub to 2.5 metres (*Grevillea refracta*, *Cochlospermum fraseri*, *Acacia tumida*) over very sparse grass/spinifex (*Sorghum* sp., *Triodia pungens*?).

Other plants:



**Site 51**

Shallow light brown sand.

Very sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*).

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus aspera*



**Site 52**

Orange/grey sand. Flat area near a dry creek.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*?)

Other plants:

*Eucalyptus drysdalensis*

*Tacca leontopetaloides*

*Grevillea refracta*

*Owenia vermicosa*

GPS reading on track in between Site 53 and 54:

15° 45' 06"S

128° 45' 12"E

Valley of alluvial sands,



Site 53

Orange/grey sand. Flat area.

Sparse spinifex (*Triodia pungens*?)

Other plants:

*Wrightia saligna*

*Sorghum* sp.

*Eucalyptus drysdalensis*

*Flueggea virosa*



Site 54

Light brown/orange sand. Slight mound.

Low woodland (*Acacia tumida*) with very sparse understorey without a dominant.

Other plants:

*Scaevola bryonia*

*Haemodorum* sp.

*Triodia pungens*?



## APPENDIX 2 PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

(X = Pale)

Site	Soil Sand	Gravel	Colour Red	Orange	Or/grey	Gre/brown	Or/brown	Brown	Grey
1	X	X		X					
2	X				X				
3	X						X		
4	X								X
5	X								X
6	X			X					
7	X				X				
8	X			X					
9	X			X					
10	X								X
11	X								X
12	X								X
13	X								X
14	X								X
15	X								X
16	X								X
17	X								X
18	X				X				
19	X			X					
20	X			X					
21	X			X					
22	X		X						
23	X		X						
24	X		X						
25	X			X					
26	X			X					
27	X	X							X
28	X	X				X			
29	X								X
30	X								X
31	X				X				
32	X								X
33	X								X
34	X						X		
35	X								X
36	X					X			
37	X			X					
38	X			X					
39	X			X					
40	X		X						
41	X								X
42	X			X					
43	X					X			
44	X								X
45	X								X
46	X					X			
47	X					X			
48	X					X			
49	X	X	X						
50	X	X	X						
51	X						X		
52	X				X				
53	X				X				
54	X					X			
No.	54	5	6	13	6	1	7	2	19

APPENDIX 2 (CONT.)

Physical Characteristics

Site	Slope	Flat	Dry creek near	Near water	Near scarp
1		X			
2		X	X		
3		X			
4		X	X		
5		X		X	X
6	X			X	
7		X			
8		X			
9		X			
10		X	X		
11		X	X		
12		X	X		
13		X		X	X
14		X		X	
15		X		X	
16		X		X	
17		X		X	
18	X				
19		X			
20		X			
21		X			
22		X			
23		X			
24		X			X
25		X			X
26		X			X
27		X			X
28		X			X
29		X	X		X
30		X	X		X
31		X	X		X
32	X			X	
33	X			X	
34		X			
35		X		X	
36		X			
37		X			
38		X			
39		X			X
40		X			
41		X			X
42		X			X
43		X			
44		X			
45		X			X
46		X			
47		X			
48		X			
49		X			X
50		X			X
51		X			X
52		X	X		
53		X			
54	X				
No.	5	49	9	10	17

### APPENDIX 3 GENERAL VEGETATION STRUCTURE SUMMARY

Site	Vegetation Open woodland	Very open woodland	Sparse scrub	Sparse grass	Mid dense grass	Dense grass	Sparse Spinifex	Mid dense spinifex	Dense spinifex	Riverine
1		X						X		
2		X								
3		X					X			
4								X		
5							X			
6						X				
7		X			X					
8		X					X			
9		X						X		
10		X					X			
11		X					X			
12							X			
13								X		
14	X					X				X
15							X			
16		X			X					X
17						X				
18		X					X			
19		X		X						
20		X		X						
21	X			X						
22	X		X							
23								X		
24						X			X	
25	X						X			
26							X			
27	X						X			
28							X			
29						X				
30		X		X						
31								X		
32	X			X						
33		X			X					X
34			X	X						
35								X		
36							X			
37								X		
38	X						X			
39							X			
40							X			
41							X			
42				X			X			
43			X				X			
44		X			X					
45								X		
46			X				X			
47			X				X			
48								X		
49	X							X		
50	X		X							
51							X			
52							X			
53							X			
54	X									
No.	10	15	6	6	4	5	25	10	1	4

