

SWAN RIVER NOTES

Swan river fishermen have apparently been having a field day catching yellowtail.

Reports indicate that they are plentiful all along the river and have been described as almost plague proportion.

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Has any officer of the department seen any dolphins along the river of late?

At one time they were a common visitor up the river and in the past have been sighted as far up as Janning Bridge. There have been no reported sightings for some time.

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Mullet fishermen have been bringing in some fair sized crabs in their nets lately.

Does this indicate that the once plentiful crabs are returning?

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SHORT-NECKED TORTOISE TAKES TO THE AIR

Twelve short-necked tortoises should now be on the air broadcasting continuously.

Mr. A.A. Burbidge, of the University of Western Australia, in his six monthly report, has advised that twelve more of these reptiles have been released, fitted with radio transmitters so that research workers can keep a track of them during the summer.

During the last six months Mr. Burbidge has been able to catch a total of 74 tortoises, including 6 which were recaptured from previous years.

All the tortoises captured were released onto the reserve, with the exception of 6 hatchlings that are being kept at the Zoology Department of the University for feeding trials.

Searches were made at Mogumber and near the coast, but without success. Mr. Burbidge believes that the tortoise may exist near Mogumber.