



Providing sustainable
environmental strategies, management
and monitoring solutions to industry
and government



vertebrate fauna

ecologia Environment comprises a group of professional scientists offering services in all fields of environmental impact assessment and management. With a large in-house zoological sciences team, *ecologia* has the expertise and capability to conduct vertebrate fauna surveys, rare fauna monitoring and research in accordance with the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA's) Position Statement No. 3: *Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Biodiversity Protection* and Guidance Statement No. 56: *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia*.



vertebrate animals having a backbone or spinal column.





Environmental Approval Of Development Projects In Western Australia

Projects undertaken as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process in Western Australia are required to address guidelines produced by the EPA. Position Statement No. 3: *Terrestrial Biological Surveys as an Element of Biodiversity Protection* and Guidance Statement No. 56: *Terrestrial Fauna Surveys for Environmental Impact Assessment in Western Australia* are applicable to vertebrate fauna. All native fauna in Western Australia are protected at a Federal level under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and at a State level under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*.

Depending on the scope of your project, two levels of surveying may be applicable:

- **Level 1 survey: desktop review and reconnaissance survey**
 - ◆ Generally low impact projects in areas that contain no rare habitats, known rare fauna species or fragmented native vegetation require a Level 1 survey. Projects with little requirement for clearance, such as small housing developments, road development or mineral exploration, may require a Level 1 survey.
- **Level 2 survey: comprehensive or detailed baseline fauna survey**
 - ◆ Projects that are anticipated to have a large disturbance footprint or will impact on rare fauna or restricted habitat may require a Level 2 survey. Projects with a formal level of assessment set by the EPA all require a Level 2 survey to be conducted prior to the proposal being considered by the EPA.

ecologia's experienced staff can determine the level of survey required for your project. During the survey development phase, our staff will liaise with government regulators to ensure that the survey methods used for your project are appropriate, ensuring the quickest approval by government regulators.

Rare fauna monitoring & management

Over 100 species of vertebrate fauna are legally protected in Western Australia and if present within the boundaries of your project, will likely require special management.

ecologia will conduct regional targeted surveys, rare fauna habitat assessments, population monitoring, radio-tracking and relocation of individual animals as required to ensure approval for any proposed development.



How can *ecologia* assist you in gaining approval for your project?

ecologia Environment has considerable experience in the design and execution of biological surveys across Western Australia, with over 1,500 projects completed to date. Our team has undertaken surveys in 23 of the 26 Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA) bioregions in Western Australia, each of which is unique in the fauna it support and the processes that threaten biodiversity.

Because of our diverse exposure and experience we can provide clients with a clear scope of the biological survey requirements for environmental approval. **ecologia** will develop a survey tailored to your project, with the objective of identifying the key threatening processes associated with development. Our surveys utilise consistent, regulator-approved methods which are continually improved as we develop and incorporate the latest technologies and techniques. We use a suite of trapping techniques to sample the widest range of terrestrial fauna. Deliverables include strategies that accommodate the need for development, without compromising the maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem function.

Our fauna team can undertake the following:

- Level 1 and Level 2 fauna surveys, incorporating trapping of mammals and reptiles, bat surveys and bird surveys;
- Targeted rare fauna surveys, with particular expertise in the monitoring and management of dasyurid marsupials, bats, birds and reptiles;
- Fauna habitat assessment;
- Rare fauna relocation and monitoring programmes; and
- Research projects in collaboration with universities and museum staff.



Why Biological Sciences @ *ecologia*?

- **ecologia Environment** is dedicated to providing clients with practical, cost effective solutions to reduce the impact to the natural environment arising from proposals.
- We have an experienced in-house team of zoologists capable of meeting your every need, whether it be large-scale baseline surveys or long-term fauna monitoring surveys.
- Our fauna team collectively has over 45 years experience in conducting fauna surveys.
- We have experience in all major fauna groups in all major regions in Western Australia.
- We are a highly regarded team maintaining an excellent interaction with:
 - ◆ Key DEC staff in Perth and regional offices;
 - ◆ Key curating staff at the Western Australian Museum;
 - ◆ Key advisory staff at DEC;
 - ◆ Academic staff at the University of WA and Murdoch University;
 - ◆ **ecologia** has received the Golden Gecko Certificate of Merit award for environmental achievement on several occasions; and
 - ◆ We collaborate with experts to actively develop and refine techniques for Biological Impact Assessment Surveys.

ecologia

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