

## Concept Plan SP 2013-021

# Monitoring of threatened birds on Dirk Hartog Island

Animal Science

### Project Core Team

Supervising Scientist	Allan Burbidge
Data Custodian	Allan Burbidge
Site Custodian	

### Project status as of Dec. 12, 2017, 4:49 p.m.

Pending project plan approval

### Document endorsements and approvals as of Dec. 12, 2017, 4:49 p.m.

Project Team	granted
Program Leader	granted
Directorate	granted

# Monitoring of threatened birds on Dirk Hartog Island

## Science and Conservation Division Program

Animal Science

## Parks and Wildlife Service

Service 2: Conserving Habitats, Species and Ecological Communities

## Aims

This project will develop and implement a monitoring plan for the three extant threatened bird species on Dirk Hartog Island (DHI): (DHI southern emu-wren, DHI rufous field-wren, and DHI white-winged fairy-wren). This will facilitate assessment of the distribution, status and population trends of these species. Initially, a broad survey of DHI will be undertaken to develop an understanding of distribution of the species on the island. In the first year (2013/14) some trials will also be required to develop suitable monitoring techniques. Permanent sites will be established and aural and visual techniques deployed. Remote techniques such as sound recorders and remote cameras will also be trailed. From year 2 on, the standardised protocols will be implemented. Collection of genetic material will also be undertaken to determine the level of divergence from their mainland counterparts. This has implications for their conservation status.

## Expected outcome

Base line data on known occurrences of each species on DHI

Maps of modelled distribution of each species across the island

Establishment of a monitoring program that can detect changes in abundance, thereby allowing evaluation of the outcomes of management actions

Publications on the distribution, status and population trends of threatened bird species on DHI

## Strategic context

This project is part of DPaW's Dirk Hartog Island National Park Ecological Restoration Project. It will provide information on the success of the program in restoring bird assemblages and bird habitat on Dirk Hartog Island.

## Expected collaborations

Gaynor Dolman and Ron Johnstone at the WA Museum are assisting in clarifying the taxonomic and phylogenetic status of each of the bird taxa. In particular, there is long standing confusion concerning the taxonomic status of different populations of the Rufous Fieldwren, which leads to difficulties in determining conservation status.

## Proposed period of the project

June 1, 2013 – None

## Staff time allocation

Role	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Scientist	0.1	0.1	0.1
Technical			
Volunteer			
Collaborator			

## Indicative operating budget



Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Consolidated Funds (DPaW)			
External Funding			