

We have a long history of collaborating with research organisations, academic institutions and scientific experts. The scientific data and knowledge collected because of our environmental partnerships assists us to understand the environments in which we operate, evaluate potential impacts and be informed to make the right decisions on environmental management. We share this knowledge transparently with governments, regulators and communities to support better environmental outcomes.

Since 1998, we have partnered with the Western Australian Museum to understand the biodiversity of north-west Australia in the Dampier Archipelago and the Kimberley regions. With the West Australian Museum, we have built one of the most comprehensive collections of marine species in the world – making WA the leader in sub-tropical marine research. The Woodside Collection Project consisting of the Marine Life of the Dampier Archipelago and Marine Life of the Kimberley, have identified 10,700 animal and plant marine species and quite significantly, over 700 of these are new to science. With the marine life in the region now being recognised as one of the most diverse in Australia.

The knowledge collected by the Museum contributes to how we understand the environment which we operate to inform our impact assessments and help verify our environmental performance.

The significance and impact of this partnership is substantial, including the creation of the invaluable Woodside Collection, an international biodiversity specimen reference collection.

About the Western Australian Museum

The Western Australian Museum (WAM) is the State’s premier cultural organisation, housing WA’s scientific and cultural collection. For over 120 years the Museum has been making the State’s natural and social heritage accessible and engaging through research, exhibitions and public programs. WAM has been collecting and performing research on the State’s natural and cultural heritage for over 120 years. Collections and research at the Western Australian Museum are centred on Earth and Planetary Sciences, Zoology, Anthropology, Archaeology and History.

To learn more, visit <http://museum.wa.gov.au/>

More Information

- + Marine Life of the Kimberley Region: <http://museum.wa.gov.au/kimberley/publications>
- + Marine Life of the Dampier Archipelago: <http://museum.wa.gov.au/marine-life-dampier-archipelago>
- + Marine Biodiversity Survey of Mermaid Reef (Rowley Shoals), Scott and Seringapatam Reef Western Australia 2006. Records of the Western Australian Museum Supplement No. 77 <http://museum.wa.gov.au/publications/documents/Records-of-the-Western-Australian-Museum-Supp-77.pdf>
- + New Museum for WA <http://museum.wa.gov.au/newmuseum>



The Museum, as part of the Woodside Collection Project, has undertaken the largest marine biodiversity project within Australia with 20 field surveys over 2,500 km of the north-west coast with nearly 55,000 specimens collected. These species represent in excess of 8,500 marine species (to compare there are only 5,416 species of mammal recorded in the world) and more than 700 new species from 13 different groups of marine-life including: fish, corals, soft corals, worms, sponges, crustaceans, echinoderms, molluscs, ascidians, bryozoans, sipunculids, brachiopods and marine plants).

