

# Return to 1616 Status of Species



Biodiversity is the variety of plants, animals, micro-organisms and ecosystems that constitute our living environment— is not static; it is constantly changing. It can be increased by genetic change and evolutionary processes, and it can be reduced by threats which lead to population decline and extinction. Our knowledge of biodiversity increases when scientists discover new species. Australia’s biodiversity is currently in decline; in Australia, more than 1,700 species and ecological communities are known to be threatened and at risk of extinction. The key threats to species are loss, degradation and fragmentation of habitat, invasive species and altered fire regimes. Other threats include unsustainable use and management of natural resources, changes to the aquatic environment and water flows and climate change

On a national level, in Australia threatened fauna and flora may be listed in any one of the following categories:



At a state level, in Western Australia threatened fauna and flora may be listed in any one of the following categories:



Search reliable, the up-to-date information such as [Return to 1616 animal factsheets](http://www.sharkbay.org/restoration) available from <http://www.sharkbay.org/restoration> to identify the current status of the Return to 1616 animals. Use arrows to link the animal with its current status.