

Western Australian Museum and Woodside Energy Ltd.  
Partnership

# Marine Biodiversity of the Kimberley 1880s–2009

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# Preface

This series of online occasional papers details historical records of the marine fauna and flora of the vast marine realm of the Kimberley region of Western Australia, an area that has great significance from a natural heritage, cultural heritage and industrial usage point of view, but one that is still relatively unexplored from a marine biodiversity perspective. These data have been extracted from the collections of the Western Australian Museum, the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, the Australian Museum, the Queensland Museum, and the Western Australian Herbarium.

The first two papers provide context to the marine life of the region through an overview paper, 'History and environment' by Barry Wilson, and a second by Sampey et al., describing the methods used in refining the collection data to produce the marine taxa papers, 'Historical data: introduction and methods'. The following papers, concerning the major marine faunal and floral taxa of the Kimberley, are in no set order and are published as received and, as such, their publication dates will be split between 2014 and 2015.

A further set of similar papers will detail the same major faunal and floral taxa collected by contemporary marine biodiversity surveys, undertaken between 2009 and 2014.

Together, the data contained in these occasional papers will help provide a solid foundation of knowledge, aiding government, Traditional Owners, conservation managers, industry and the general public in decision making, and allowing a better understanding of the marine life of the region and the relevant biogeographic implications.

It is with great pleasure that the Western Australian Museum/Woodside Energy Ltd Partnership presents the first wave of peer reviewed papers concerning the historic marine biodiversity of the Kimberley.

# Acknowledgement

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