

The Fauna Relocation Project focused mainly on the native Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) to **Kalbarri National Park**, but other native species such as Bandicoots and Possums were also relocated.

CASE STUDY

Checking up on Chuditch

Before clearing land for new mining operations, Premier Coal's environmental personnel worked with the Department of Environment and Conservation's (DEC) Wildlife Research Centre to relocate fauna within the impacted area.

The Fauna Relocation Project focused mainly on the native Chuditch (*Dasyurus geoffroii*) to Kalbarri National Park, but other native species such as Bandicoots and Possums were also relocated. The 12 week project commenced in autumn 2010, after juvenile Chuditch had established home ranges, but before Chuditch young were likely to be dislodged from their pouches during handling.

The Chuditch is the largest endemic carnivore in Western Australia, and at maturity is the size of a small domestic cat. The species once ranged across the whole of Australia, but is now listed as 'vulnerable' and found only in south-west Western Australia.

The DEC is using animals captured in this project in its Chuditch Recovery Program, aimed at securing the long term survival of this species.



Photo courtesy of the Collie Mail.



Photo courtesy of the Perth Zoo.