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Promotion of threatened fauna issues

The plight of Western Australia's threatened fauna was promoted this year in the annual 'Sculptures by the Sea' exhibition. The exhibition was open between 5 and 24 March 2009 and included 60 red plastic safety cones that depicted Western Australian fauna that are under threat of extinction. The exhibition attracted an estimated 110,000 visitors in 2008, so the inclusion of the sculpture provided an excellent avenue for the promotion of the predicament of many of the State's fauna. The sculpture was created by Angela McHarrie and Robyn Bogdanis and was entitled 'Red List'. The title refers to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN's) official 'Red List' of threatened species. The 'Red List' is a comprehensive, objective global approach for evaluating the conservation status of plant and animal species. The IUCN categories and criteria are applied to assess the level of threat to Western Australian species and to help to prioritise conservation action.

Val English



Above (Left): Butler's dunnart printed on a red plastic safety cone at the Sculptures by the Sea exhibition. **(Right)** Remipede crustacean printed on a red plastic safety cone at the Sculptures by the Sea exhibition.

Photos – Wendy Chow