



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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ENDANGERED SPECIES LEAFLETS

The Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, today launched the publication of a series of leaflets on endangered species of Australian wildlife.

The species featured in the first five leaflets are the Rabbit-eared Bandicoot, the Bridled Nail-tailed Wallaby, the Banded Hare-wallaby, the Night Parrot and the Ground Parrot.

Other leaflets are in preparation. Each leaflet contains information on the ecology, description, status and distribution of a rare, endangered species, a coloured illustration of the animal and a photograph of its habitat.

They are aimed at promoting public awareness of Australia's wildlife heritage and the need for its conservation.

Support for the viewpoint that man must live in harmony with his environment has been growing and it is becoming widely recognised that Australians are seen by the rest of the world as having a special responsibility to ensure the continued survival of those plants and animals which are unique to Australia.

The diversity of Australian native wildlife is an important and characteristic part of the environment, and contributes significantly to the scientific cultural, educational and aesthetic well-being of the community.

The series of leaflets are being prepared by the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service to assist in protecting Australian animals and plants threatened with extinction.

The introduction of the leaflets coincides with the first meeting of Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in Berne, Switzerland, from 2 - 6 November 1976.

All species featured in the leaflets have been nominated by Australia for inclusion in Appendix I to this Convention. The Australian species listed on this appendix have been determined jointly by the Commonwealth and State Wildlife Services.

The leaflets are available from the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 636, Canberra City 2601 and Australian Government Publishing Service Bookshops in all capital cities.
