

Reptiles of Dirk Hartog Island

Mark Cowan (October 2018)

Dirk Hartog Island has a rich reptile fauna with over 40 species recorded. This is more species than most other Western Australian islands which is probably due, in part, to the large size of the island (620 km²), and to the relatively short time it has been isolated from the mainland.

The species recorded on the island include four dragons (Family Agamidae), eight geckos (families Carphodactylidae, Diplodactylidae and Gekkonidae), five legless lizards (family Pygopodidae), fifteen skinks (family Scincidae), one goanna (family Varanidae), eight front fanged snakes (family Elapidae), one python (family Pythonidae) and one blind snake (family Typhlopidae).

While no species are endemic to the island, a number are endemic to Western Australia with several of these having distributions restricted along the adjacent Western Australian coast or to the Shark Bay area. Species confined more or less to the Shark Bay area are *Ctenophorus butloreum* (Shark Bay Heath Dragon), *Aprasia haroldi* (Shark Bay Worm-Lizard), *Ctenotus youngsoni* (Shark Bay Sand Ctenotus) and, *Lerista varia* (Variable-striped Robust Slider).

A fifth species, *Egernia stokesii* (Stokes' Skink) has a subspecies (*Egernia stokesii badia*) occurring on Dirk Hartog Island that is a threatened species; listed as vulnerable under the WA Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 and as endangered under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. It is a relatively large and robust skink covered in small spiny scales and is approximately 190mm head-body length. It usually occupies rocky environments or hollow logs.

The following pages show all but one of the recorded species, *Demansia calodera* (black-necked whipsnake). The image of *Egernia stokesii*, is an image from a mainland animal, which differs by having smaller pale patches and a darker background colour (almost black as opposed to reddish brown) but otherwise is similar to those found on Dirk Hartog Island. The distribution maps are derived from the collections of the Western Australian Museum.

List of species recorded on Dirk Hartog Island

	Family	Species	Common Name
Dragons	Agamidae	<i>Ctenophorus butlerorum</i>	Shark Bay Heath Dragon
	Agamidae	<i>Ctenophorus maculatus</i>	Spotted Military Dragon
	Agamidae	<i>Ctenophorus reticulatus</i>	Western Netted Dragon
	Agamidae	<i>Pogona minor</i>	Western Bearded Dragon
Geckos	Carphodactylidae	<i>Nephurus levis</i>	Smooth Knob-tailed Gecko
	Carphodactylidae	<i>Underwoodisaurus milii</i>	Southern Barking Gecko
	Diplodactylidae	<i>Crenadactylus occidentalis</i>	South-western Clawless Gecko
	Diplodactylidae	<i>Diplodactylus ornatus</i>	Ornate Gecko
	Diplodactylidae	<i>Lucasium alboguttatum</i>	White-spotted Ground Gecko
	Diplodactylidae	<i>Strophurus spinigerus</i>	Soft Spiny-tailed Gecko
	Gekkonidae	<i>Gehyra variegata</i>	Variiegated Dtella
	Gekkonidae	<i>Heteronotia binoei</i>	Bynoe's Gecko
Legless Lizards	Pygopodidae	<i>Aprasia haroldi</i>	Shark Bay Worm-Lizard
	Pygopodidae	<i>Delma butleri</i>	Spinifex Delma
	Pygopodidae	<i>Delma fraseri</i>	Fraser's Delma

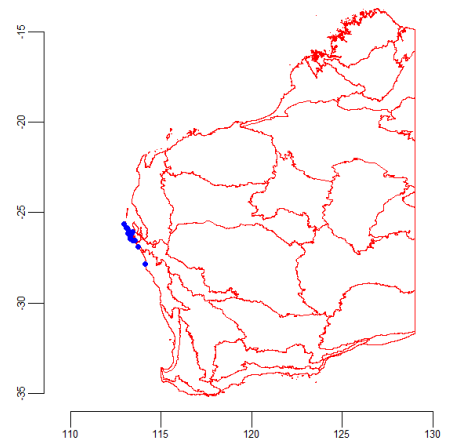
	Family	Species	Common Name
	Pygopodidae	<i>Lialis burtonis</i>	Burton's Snake-lizard
	Pygopodidae	<i>Pletholax gracilis</i>	Keeled Legless Lizard
Skinks	Scincidae	<i>Cryptoblepharus plagiocephalus</i>	Peron's Snake-eyed Skink
	Scincidae	<i>Ctenotus australis</i>	West Coast Long-tailed Ctenotus
	Scincidae	<i>Ctenotus fallens</i>	West Coast Ctenotus
	Scincidae	<i>Ctenotus youngsoni</i>	Shark Bay Sand Ctenotus
	Scincidae	<i>Cyclodomorphus celatus</i>	Western Slender Blue-tongue
	Scincidae	<i>Egernia stokesii</i>	Stokes' Skink
	Scincidae	<i>Lerista connivens</i>	Blinking Broad-striped Slider
	Scincidae	<i>Lerista elegans</i>	Elegant Slider
	Scincidae	<i>Lerista lineopunctulata</i>	Line-spotted Robust Slider
Skinks	Scincidae	<i>Lerista planiventralis</i>	Keeled Slider
	Scincidae	<i>Lerista praepedita</i>	West Coast Worm-slider
	Scincidae	<i>Lerista varia</i>	Variable-striped Robust Slider
	Scincidae	<i>Menetia greyii</i>	Common Dwarf Skink
	Scincidae	<i>Morethia lineoocellata</i>	Pale-flecked Snake-eyed Skink
	Scincidae	<i>Tiliqua rugosa</i>	Bobtail
Goannas	Varanidae	<i>Varanus gouldii</i>	Bungarra or Sand Goanna
Front-fanged Snakes	Elapidae	<i>Brachyuropsis fasciolatus</i>	Narrow-banded Shovel-nosed Snake
	Elapidae	<i>Demansia calodera</i>	Black-necked Whipsnake
	Elapidae	<i>Demansia psammophis</i>	Yellow-faced Whipsnake
	Elapidae	<i>Neelaps bimaculatus</i>	Black-naped Snake
	Elapidae	<i>Pseudechis australis</i>	Mulga Snake
	Elapidae	<i>Pseudonaja mengdeni</i>	Western Brown Snake
	Elapidae	<i>Simoselaps littoralis</i>	West Coast Banded Snake
Pythons	Pythonidae	<i>Antaresia stimsoni</i>	Stimson's Python
Blind Snakes	Typhlopidae	<i>Anilius australis</i>	Southern Blind Snake

Agamidae



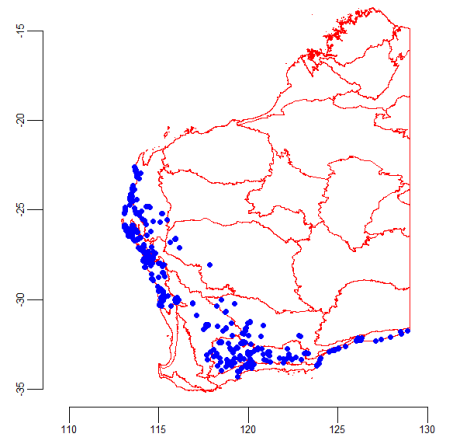
Ctenophorus butlerorum

Agamidae *Ctenophorus butlerorum*



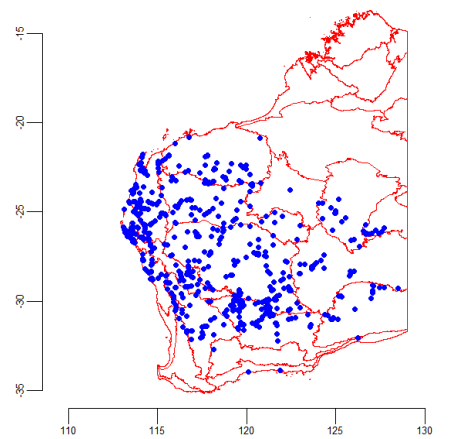
Ctenophorus maculatus

Agamidae *Ctenophorus maculatus*



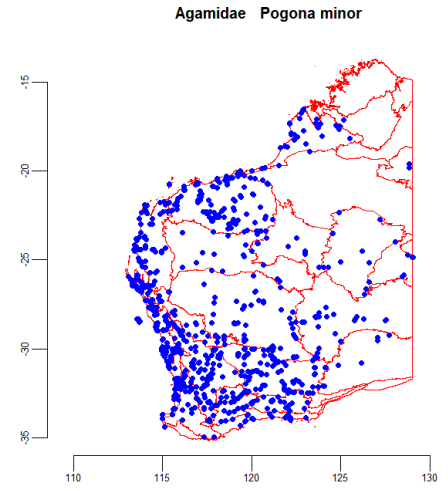
Ctenophorus reticulatus

Agamidae *Ctenophorus reticulatus*

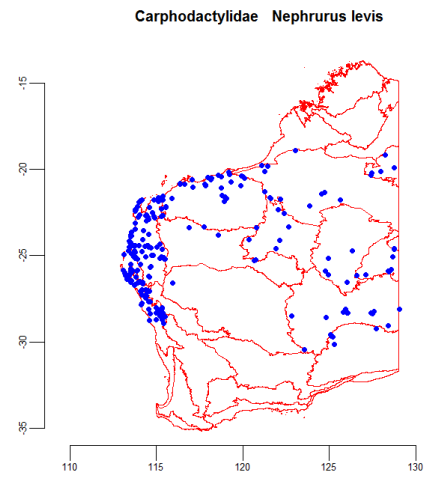




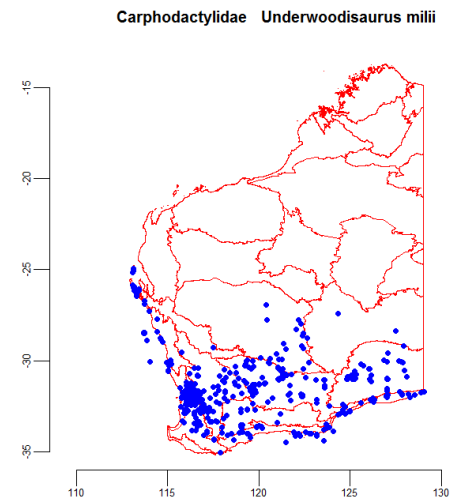
Pogona minor
Carphodactylidae



Nephurus levis



Underwoodisaurus milii

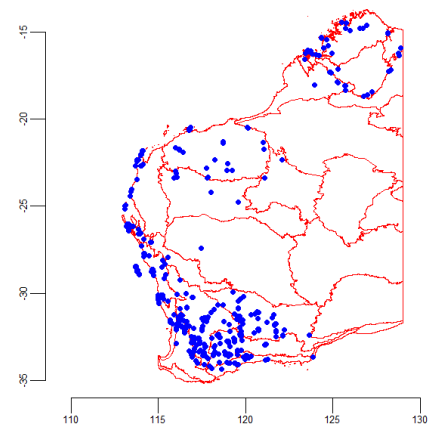


Diplodactylidae



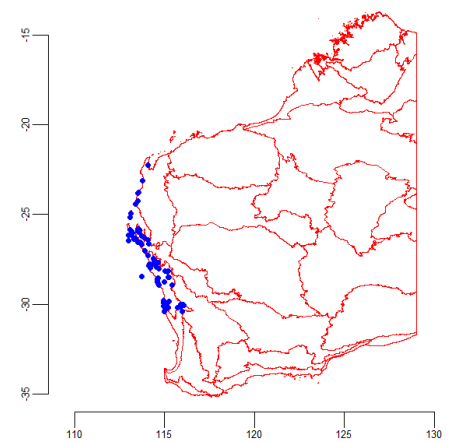
Crenadactylus ocellatus

Diplodactylidae *Crenadactylus ocellatus*



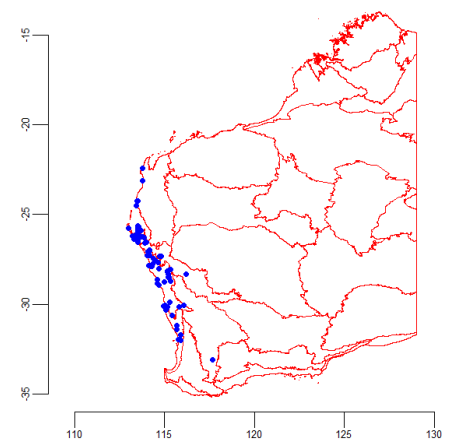
Diplodactylus ornatus

Diplodactylidae *Diplodactylus ornatus*



Lucasium alboguttatum

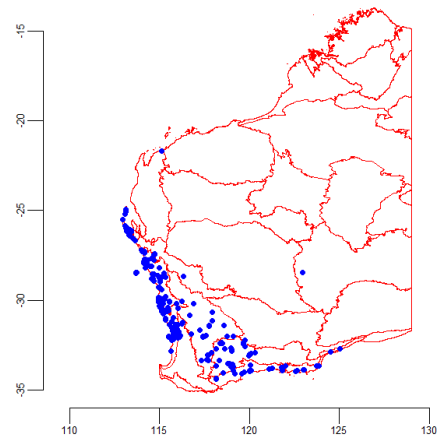
Diplodactylidae *Lucasium alboguttatum*





Strophurus spinigerus

Diplodactylidae *Strophurus spinigerus*

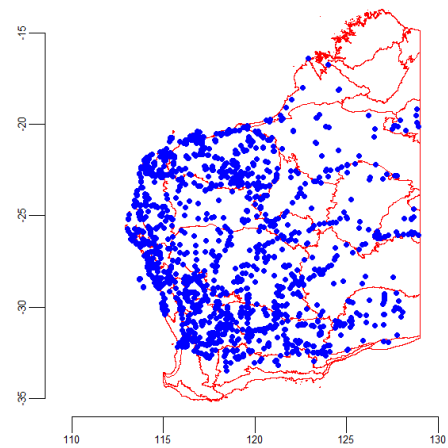


Gekkonidae



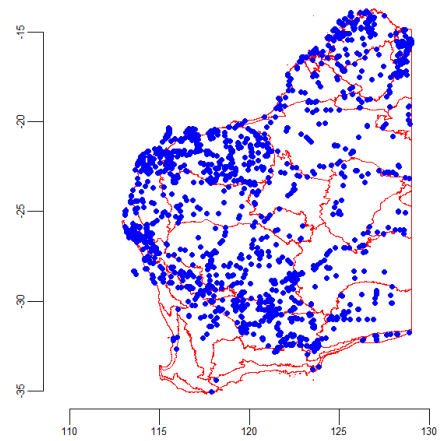
Gehyra variegata

Gekkonidae *Gehyra variegata*



Heteronotia binoei

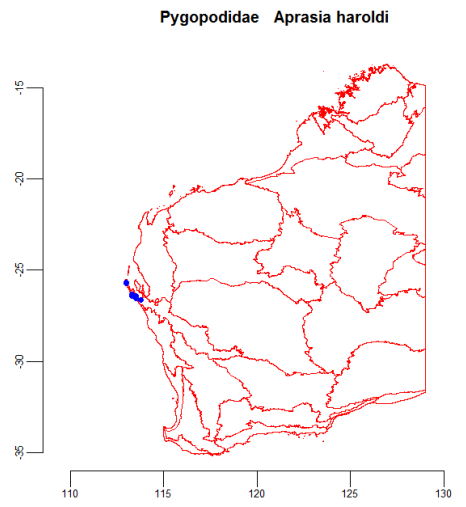
Gekkonidae *Heteronotia binoei*



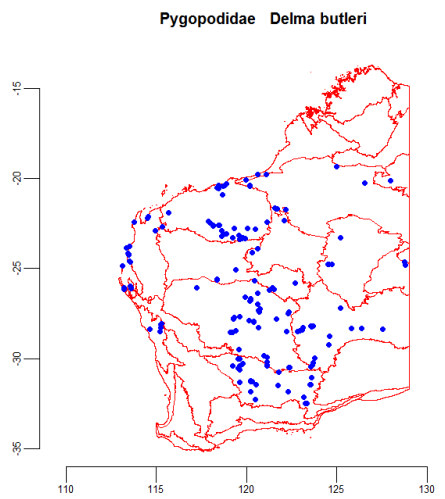
Pygopodidae



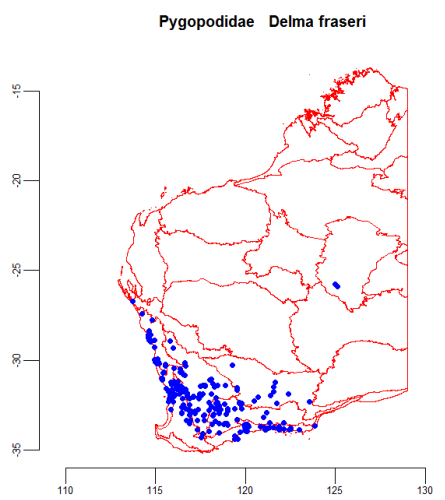
Aprasia haroldi



Delma butleri



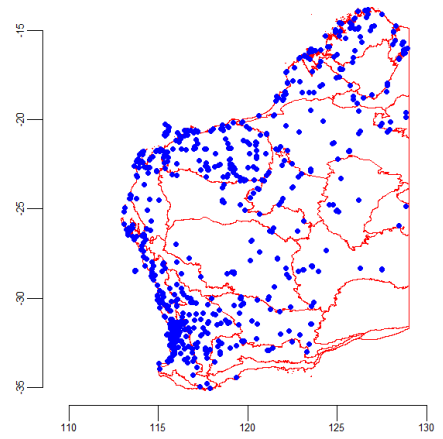
Delma fraseri





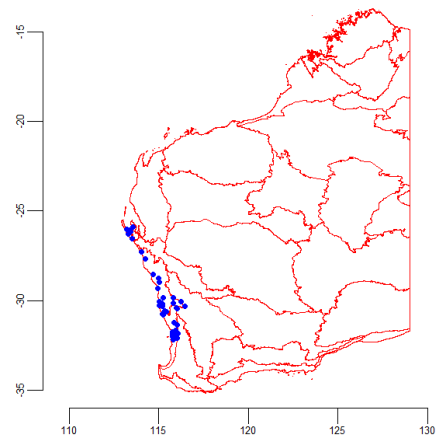
Lialis burtonis

Pygopodidae *Lialis burtonis*



Pletholax gracilis

Pygopodidae *Pletholax gracilis*

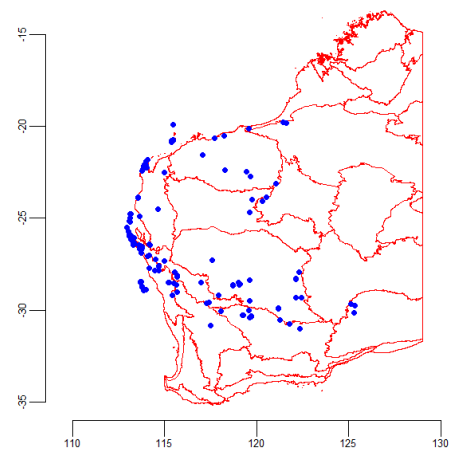


Scincidae



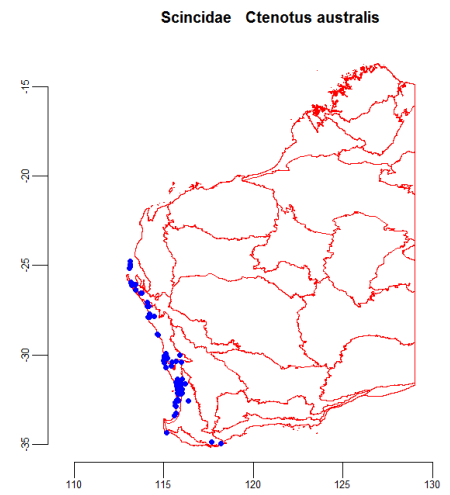
Cryptoblepharus plagiocepalus

Scincidae *Cryptoblepharus plagiocepalus*

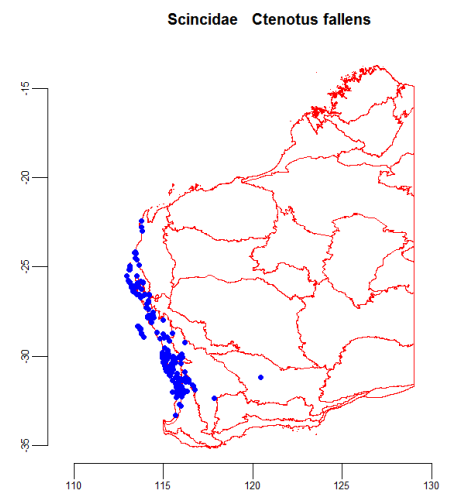




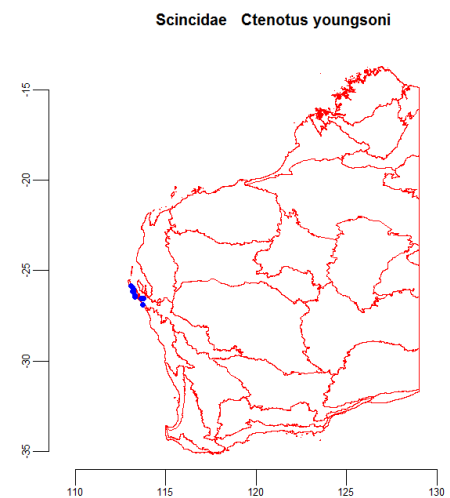
Ctenotus australis



Ctenotus fallens



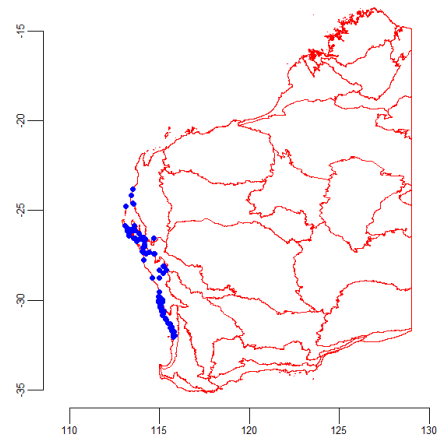
Ctenotus youngsoni





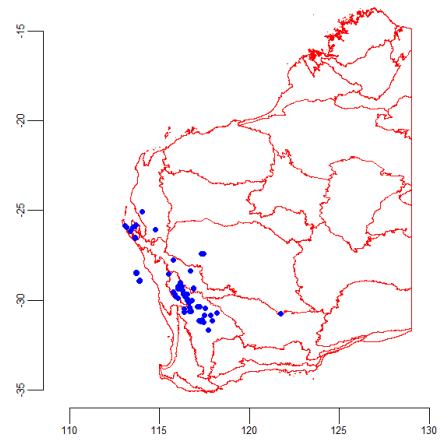
Cyclodomorphus celatus

Scincidae *Cyclodomorphus celatus*



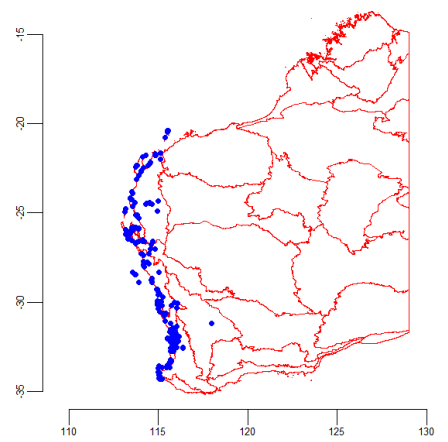
Egernia stokesii

Scincidae *Egernia stokesii*



Lerista elegans

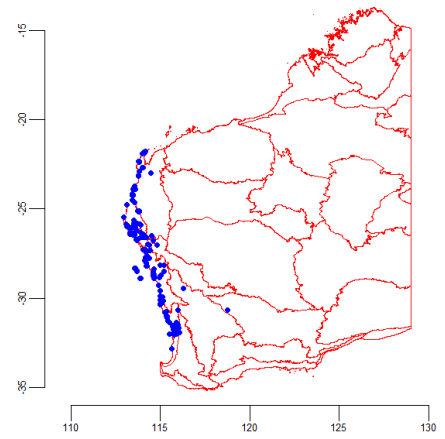
Scincidae *Lerista elegans*





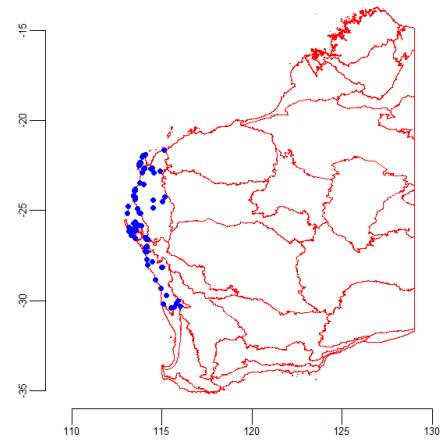
Lerista lineopunctulata

Scincidae *Lerista lineopunctulata*



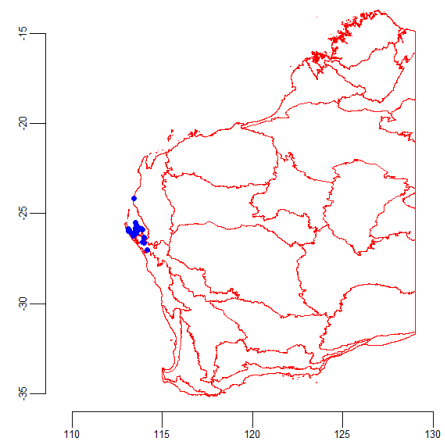
Lerista planiventris

Scincidae *Lerista planiventris*



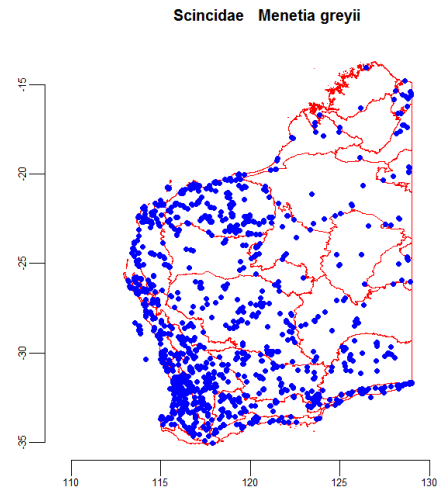
Lerista varia

Scincidae *Lerista varia*

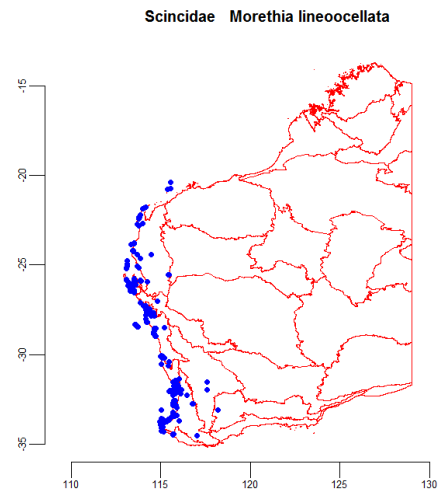




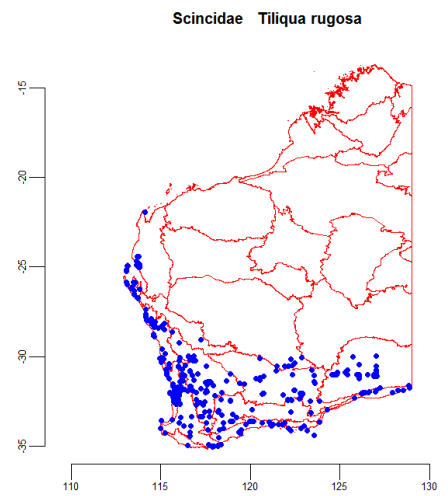
Menetia greyii



Morethia lineocellata



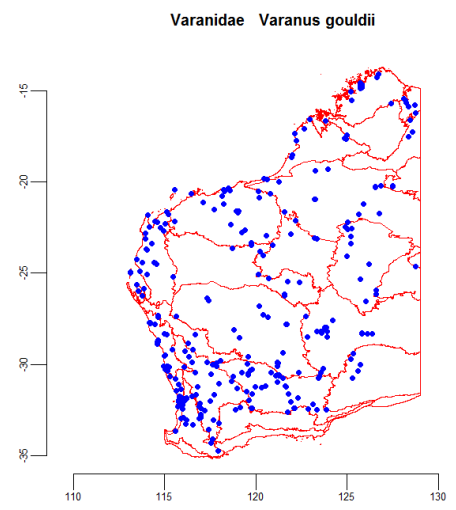
Tiliqua rugosa



Varanidae



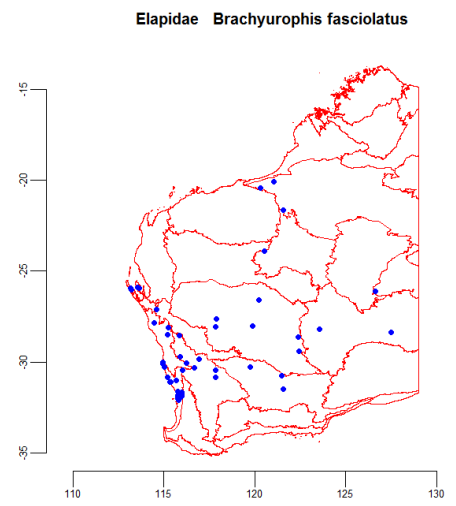
Varanus gouldii



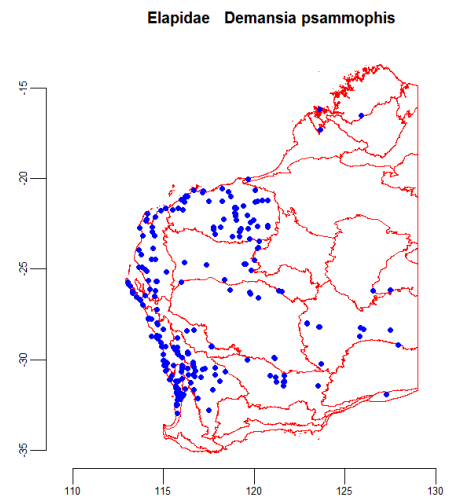
Elapidae



Brachyurophis fasciolatus



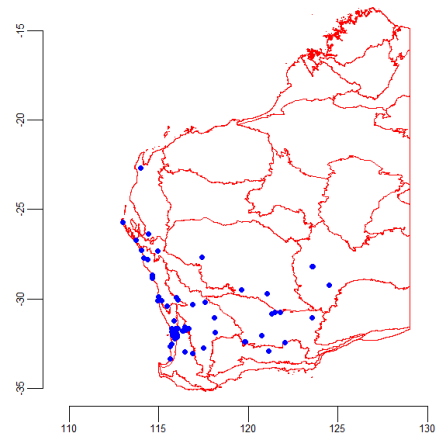
Demansia psammophis





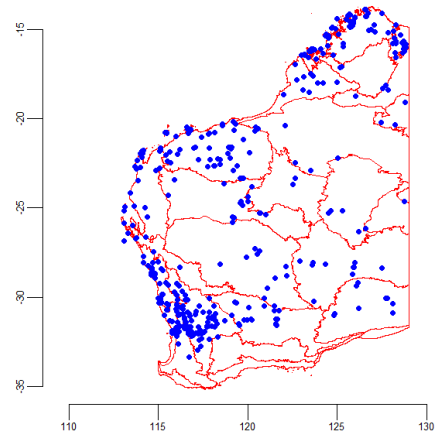
Neelaps bimaculatus

Elapidae *Neelaps bimaculatus*



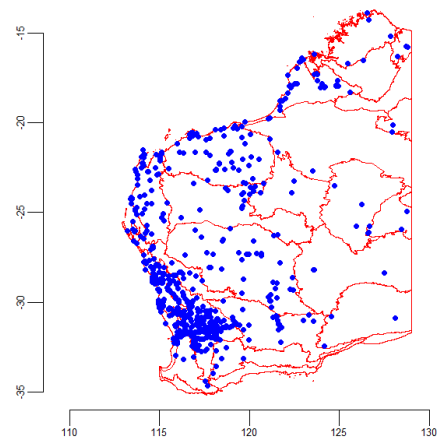
Pseudechis australis

Elapidae *Pseudechis australis*



Pseudonaja mengdeni

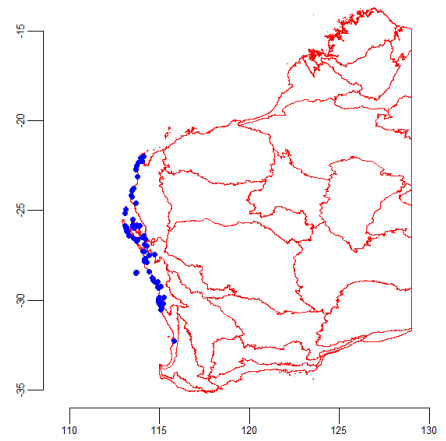
Elapidae *Pseudonaja mengdeni*





Simoselaps littoralis

Elapidae *Simoselaps littoralis*

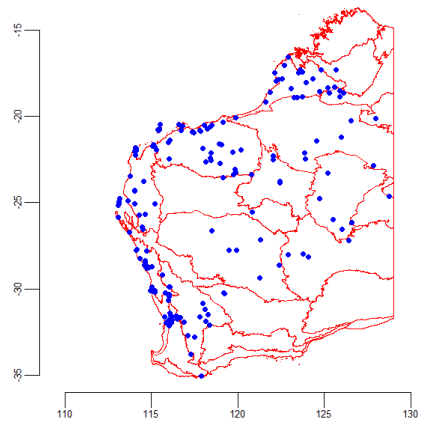


Pythonidae



Antaresia stimsoni

Pythonidae *Antaresia stimsoni*



Typhlopidae



Anilius australis

Typhlopidae *Anilius australis*

