

# CHANGES WITH TIME OF DAY IN THE SPECIES AND NUMBERS OF BIRDS SEEN IN WANDOO WOODLAND

GRAHAM W. ARNOLD

CSIRO, Division of Wildlife and Ecology, LMB No. 4, P.O., Midland, W.A. 6056

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Birds in four 2 ha portions of a 200 ha Wandoo *Eucalyptus wandoo* woodland were censused either in the first two hours or second two hours after sunrise. Many (39 percent) of the species were recorded in only one of the two time periods, while the numbers of half of the species also differed between the periods.

The birds in a separate four hectare portion of the woodland were censused nine times a day at hourly intervals from dawn on three days (13 January, 7 May and 10 September 1981). The species, number of species and number of individuals per species recorded, changed with the time of day. The number of species recorded was relatively constant (10) over the first four hours, then fluctuated. However, one census detected only 50 percent of the species found over nine censuses. Fifty percent of species were recorded at only one or two censuses.

Reasons for these findings and their bearing on future bird census work are discussed.