

## Summer guide

Minjerribah is alive with wildlife over summer. Here are just some of the season's highlights to look out for.

### Oceanside

- ñDolphins with calves.
- ñBull rays, manta rays, eagle rays, guitar sharks, spotted wobbegongs and octopus at the offshore reefs
- ñSummer seabirds such Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, Brown Boobys and Little Terns flying offshore.
- ñDugongs calving in their Moreton Bay nursery grounds.
- ñSpanish Mackerel season (February).

### Beachside

- ñLoggerhead turtles breeding and laying eggs on ocean beaches (late Oct-early Mar). Hatchlings heading for the ocean (mid-Jan to mid-Apr).
- ñDouble-banded Plovers foraging on the beaches after flying in from New Zealand.
- ñCoastal Banksia and Spider Lilies in flower.
- ñBeach-stone Curlews nesting and calling at night
- ñFlocks of White-throated Needletails flying fast in the airspace above sand dunes before summer storms

### In the Bush

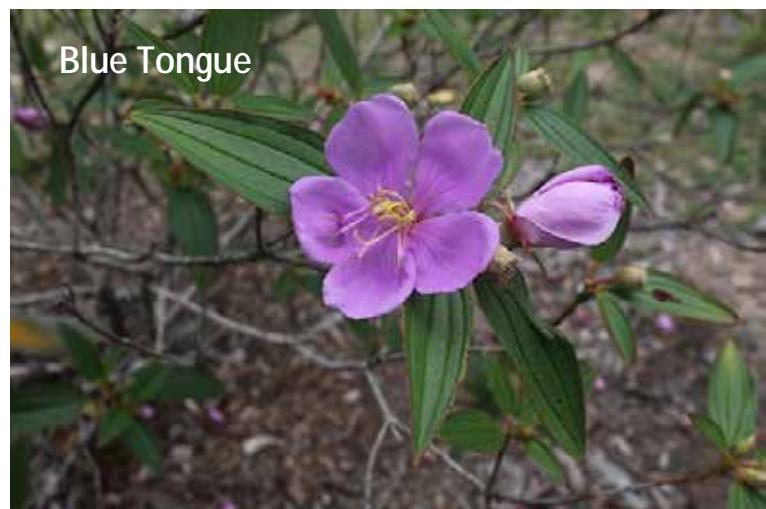
- ñKoala breeding season— male koalas bellowing and on the move (Sept.–March)
- ñNomadic Little Red Flying-foxes visiting the island following flowering trees
- ñFloury Baker cicadas heard all day on hot summer days.



Eagle rays



Eagle rays



Blue Tongue



Midjimberries



Pink Bloodwood Blossoming



Pink Euodia



Turtle tracks

**In the Bush (continued)**

- ñPacific Koels and Channel-billed Cuckoos calling
- ñEastern Blossom Bats giving birth to pups
- ñPink and Red Bloodwoods and White Stringybarks in flower. Blueberry Ash and Midjimberry fruiting. Blotched Hyacinth Orchid and Fringed Lily flowering in the under storey.
- ñIn the Rainforest Picabeen Palms fruiting and Pink Euodia in flower.
- ñSquirrel Glider litters born over spring and summer
- ñLace Monitor goannas laying egg clutches, often in excavated termite nests.

**By the swamps, creeks and lakes**

- ñFrog breeding season - male Cooloola Sedgefrogs Scarlet-sided Pobblebonk and Wallum Froglets calling to attract a mate after rain.
- ñYoung Longfin Eels (elvers) migrating from the sea into the island's creeks.
- ñEastern long-necked turtles laying eggs in the banks of island lakes.
- ñBlue Tongue and Wallum Boronia in flower, Common Sundew with insectivorous flowers.
- ñDragonflies on the wing.

**In the mangrove forests, saltpans and on the mudflats**

- ñMigratory shorebirds feasting on the mudflats at low tide.
- ñWater Mice building up their nest mounds with fresh mud to protect them against high 'spring' tides over summer.
- ñMangroves and Cotton Trees flowering and Ruby Saltbush fruiting,
- ñFar Eastern Curlews setting off for their Siberian breeding grounds - the first waders to leave in February.