

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910815199803321
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Titolo	Prehistoric mammals of Western Australia // Ken McNamara and Peter Murray
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Welshpool DC, W.A., : Western Australian Museum, 2010
ISBN	1-920843-60-4
Edizione	[Rev. ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (112 p.)
Collana	Factfocus
Altri autori (Persone)	MurrayPeter
Disciplina	560.00
Soggetti	Mammals, Fossil - Australia - Western Australia Paleontology - Australia - Western Australia Western Australia History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 105-107).
Nota di contenuto	Introduction; The Fossil Remains: Their Occurrence and Preservation; Age of the Western Australian Fossil Remains; Diprotodontids; Thylacoleonids; Wombats; Thylacines; Kangaroos; Echidnas; Mammal Extinctions in Western Australia; Acknowledgements; Further Reading
Sommario/riassunto	In 1909 a rich accumulation of many thousands of bones was excavated from Mammoth Cave in Australia's south-west. Many of the bones far exceeded in size any modern-day native mammal, evidence that in prehistoric times giant mammals had roamed the Australian bush. They included a marsupial the size of a buffalo, kangaroos more than two metres tall, wallabies much bigger than any living species, a marsupial 'lion' about the size of a leopard, giant echidnas and wombats, plus the thylacine (Tasmanian tiger). What did these animals look like and how did they live? And how did they become extinct i