



# Wet and Wild



2020, Week 1 - Clues

## Wonderful Wet & Wild Wetlands Moulting Lagoon, Tasmania

Moulting Lagoon is one of only 10 Ramsar wetlands in Tasmania, meaning it is of international significance and is an important area for many waterbirds. It provides habitat all year round and is recognised as an important nursery for marine species. Moulting Lagoon also plays a key role in local tourism, recreation and fishing industries.

Solve 24 clues each week and discover the four Australian organisms they belong to.

1. I am an endemic (native) plant to Tasmania, found only in this part of the state.
2. I prefer to live in the saltier water and sandy bottom at the estuary mouth.
3. I am also an emblem for Western Australia.
4. I have clusters of stalkless white flowers surrounded by brown bracts.
5. I am the Tasmanian state emblem and I'm listed as endangered.
6. My babies are grey and called cygnets.
7. My body is a rhomboidal shape with both my eyes on my right side and I have no pelvic fins on my underside.
8. I am a nocturnal fish but not really green as my common name suggests.
9. I am listed as a vulnerable plant species under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
10. Most of my feathers are black, except for a white tip on my wings.
11. I am the largest living carnivorous marsupial in the world.
12. As an adult I feed on benthic (bottom living) invertebrates such as crustaceans and worms.
13. I eat algae and weed, which I obtain by plunging my long neck into water up to 1 m deep.
14. My common name sounds like part of an aeroplane.
15. I'm often seen in the surrounding area and feed on animals that rely on the Lagoon.
16. Some years, 80% of all breeding of my species in Tasmania occurs at this lagoon.
17. I flower from November through to February, with a peak in December.
18. Early European settlers who heard screams and growls in the bush, gave me my common name.
19. Females spawn in deeper parts or offshore waters from late winter to spring.
20. Some local residents claim that my species' numbers are unnaturally high, causing degradation to the lagoon.
21. I am a small, prostrate woody shrub that resprouts easily following fire.
22. I am fished commercially and recreationally in south-eastern Australia.
23. I am the size of a small dog, with red inner ears, wide jaws and big sharp teeth with one of the most powerful bites of any mammal.
24. I inspired a Looney Tunes cartoon character.