An assessment of rarity of the species surveyed.

Braithwaite and Parker (1985) provided an assessment of rarity of mammal, reptile and amphibian species recorded during the Kakadu Fauna Survey. The schema used was based on that derived by Rabinowitz (1981). This scheme attempts to present objective criteria for assessing species' rarity based on the species' range, habitat specificity and local abundance. Species are assessed as having large or small ranges, wide or narrow habitat specificity and large or small local populations. Braithwaite and Parker (1985) classified a small geographic range as less than 200,000 square kilometres and this convention is followed here.

In this study I assessed the species' rarity in two ways: first, over the entire geographic range of the species; and second, within Kakadu National Park. Information on distribution, abundance and habitat specificity over the entire range of the species was derived from Strahan (1983), Cogger (1983) and Blaker et al. (1984). Within Kakadu National Park an animal was classified as having a wide habitat specificity if it occurred in two or more of the major landforms (floodplains; lowlands; and rock country and hills). Assessment of local abundance was based on the findings of this survey.

The results of these classifications are given in Table 3 and compared to the assessment of Braithwaite and Parker (1985).