

**Table 4. Noongar seasonal calendar**

Sources: Bindon and Walley (1998), Wallace and Huston (eds) (1998), Hansen and Horsfall (2017).

Season name	Months of year	Weather	Activities
<i>Bunuru</i>	February, March	hot easterly and north winds, low rainfall	Fishing and hunting near coast and permanent fresh water. Plant foods gathered included fruits of <i>Zamia</i> palms, roots of bulrushes and bohn plants.
<i>Djeran</i>	April, May	Cooler, southwesterly winds	Fishing and collecting bulbs and seeds. Move from coast to higher ground
<i>Makuru</i>	June, July	cold and wet, westerly gales. Highest rainfall.	Hunting kangaroos and emus and gathering foods such as yams, mainly on higher ground. Living in smaller family groups
<i>Djilba</i>	August September	Clear cold days with some warmer rainy periods	Hunting emus, possums and kangaroos, and gathering mainly on higher ground. Living in smaller family groups
<i>Kambarang</i>	October, November	rain decreasing	Return to coast and gather in larger groups near coastal water sources
<i>Birak</i>	December, January	hot and dry. Easterly daytime winds, evening sea breeze	Controlled local fires to assist hunting and promote plant growth.

The warmer seasons of *Kambarang*, *Birak* and *Bunuru* were spent on the plain, making use of coastal resources and more abundant water in wetlands, lakes and rivers. Foods found in the wetlands included freshwater crayfish, frogs, tortoises, waterfowl and fish. Eggs and birds including parrots, pigeons, cockatoos and raptors were collected from the surrounding forests (Bindon and Walley 1998). Some of the fish and waterfowl that are hunted in these coastal waterways migrate to other locations in winter. The gatherings of people at this time of year were relatively large, in comparison with the smaller family groups of the colder seasons. These large gatherings of people met to talk, trade and also enjoy delicacies such as drinks from the nectar in *Banksia* flowers (O'Connor et al 1989).

This was also the season when controlled burning on the plains was used to assist in hunting and preparing the country to re-grow over winter (Bindon and Walley 1998).

People also traditionally made use of fish traps and weirs in shallow areas and pools to trap fish at the coast (Bindon and Walley, 1998). *Mungur* (fish traps) were also built at the beginning of winter in some locations on rivers that pass through Tuart woodlands and forests including the Murray River and the Serpentine River near Barragup (Dix and Meagher 1976; O'Connor et al, 1989). These fish traps were successful at this time as with increased rain, fish would return to the lowlands after spawning upstream. The traps had fences made from branches across the stream, with a narrow opening funnelling to a race. Along the race the