

Table 4. Sample Destination Comments Related to Environment

- **Flora and Fauna** - perceptions of the local animal & plant life.
Best features: comments about wildflowers, marine life/dolphins, forests & bird life.
"Superb wildflowers covering the countryside... seeing the dolphins follow our boat on a trip to McKenzie Island" [Mid West]... *"exceptional tall timber in the South West"* [South West].
Worst features: comments about flies, mosquitoes etc.
"Bloody flies were terrible ... mossies every night ... prickles in my shoes (double gees) ... unable to get near to the dolphins at Monkey Mia" [Gascoyne Outback Coast].
- **Natural Scenery** - perceptions of the natural scenery & attractions.
Best features: comments about the coastline/beaches, natural landforms/caves/gorges & national parks.
"Beautiful coastline...discovering hidden natural wonders throughout ...beauty of the inland ranges and gorges" [Pilbara].
Worst features: comments about litter, site degradation & the distance between attractions.
"A very obvious litter problem everywhere, it needs attention, with rubbish even in National Parks & remote areas ... to see groups of tourists destroy limestone at Mammoth Caves" [South West].
- **Local People** - perceptions of the local people including friendliness, helpfulness, etc.
Best features: comments about friendly/helpful/hospitable locals.
"The way people everywhere have been so helpful and friendly ... courteous, friendly country people" [Heartlands]
Worst features: comments about local people, drunkenness & poor driving.
"Horrible welcome, unfriendly locals were either non-informative or gave wrong information ... local drivers are maniacs ... aboriginal alcoholism, a sad sight."
- **Historic Sites** - perceptions of local historic sites.
Best features: comments about old buildings, historic museums, mining towns & learning about local history.
"The Two-Up School and gold mine tour in Kalgoorlie were super...reasonable entry fees to the museums" [Heartlands].
Worst features: comments about historical attractions, their hours of operation and price.
"Lack of historical attractions in some towns ... the opening hours of many sites were too restrictive ... Kalgoorlie's Loop Line railway was poor value [Heartlands] ... Fremantle's Maritime Museum had high entry fees" [Perth]
- **Local Amenities** - perceptions of local township amenities & public facilities.
Best features: comments about clean, litter-free cities/towns.
"Perth is a clean, hassle-free city[Perth]... clean tables & BBQ's provided throughout the South-West ... well kept, attractive towns" [South West]
Worst features: comments about dirty public restrooms, access and overcrowding in some places.
"Too many tourists in Broome [Kimberley], had to queue up ... dirty toilets & rubbish around towns ... a lack of water and other infrastructure ... it was 36 degrees and the local pool was closed, waiting on council approval!"
- **Cultural Activities** - perceptions of local cultural sites & activities.
Best features: comments about art galleries, theatres & local leisure activities.
"Perth's nightlife was exciting" [Perth]...*"Kalgoorlie heritage, its underground mining tour and magnificent architecture"* [Heartlands].
Worst features: comments about lack of access to local cultural activities.
"Not all wineries are open on the weekend, and if they are they're too busy ...a lack of local attractions and activities for children" [South West].
- **Weather** - perceptions of local climatic conditions.
Best features: comments about sunshine, mild climate.
"Picturesque, sunsets were magnificent every night ... gorgeous weather."
Worst features: comments about wind, heat, dusty conditions, rain.
"No shade on the beaches ...constantly windy ... weather not as good as we expected" [Perth].

Note: WA tourism regions (see Figure 1) are noted in brackets when place locations were mentioned.