

Media Release

Let's join together and protect ALL native wildlife

Despite being vulnerable or endangered, many species of Australian wildlife are being hunted without limit under native title law.

Currently, the law allows over 50 animals to be traditionally hunted under Aboriginal and Islander customs. This list includes crocodiles, echidnas, emus, fish, frogs, lizards and snakes. The native title act is twenty years old and many of the animals you all champion are still able to be hunted, with no limits.

The **Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia** has joined a coalition of organisations led by **Colin Riddell** and **Bob Irwin** to call for all native wildlife to be fully protected and, to this end has decided to lobby the federal government, or newly elected federal government, to **alter the 1993 native title act to exclude any of the 50 native animals that are listed endangered or vulnerable**. This will protect all animals that over time move on to the list.

If we are successful, it would mean that there would be a total ban on the hunting of native wildlife that are supposed to already be protected, including endangered animals such as dugongs and marine sea turtles. This would also protect any animals that may become vulnerable or endangered in future.

For more information, a full list of native animals that are endangered or vulnerable can be found: www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl#mammals_critically_endangered

We ask you to unite on this and protect all our wildlife in one hit.

Traditional hunting, fishing and foraging practices currently conducted in Australia under Aboriginal traditions and Islander customs **target over 50 native wildlife species both terrestrial and marine. These include bustards, crocodiles, dugongs, echidnas, emus, fish, flying foxes, frogs, goannas, lizards, macropods, magpie geese, possums, shell-fish, and snakes, as well as fresh and saltwater turtles.** Mutton birds are also hunted traditionally, although the hunt now carries a strong commercial element.

You can help. Write or email our federal and state environment ministers:

The Hon **Tony Burke** MP: Tony.Burke.MP@aph.gov.au
Minister for Climate Action, Environment and Heritage

Greg Hunt MP: Greg.Hunt.MP@aph.gov.au
Shadow Minister for Climate Action, Environment and Heritage



All seven species of sea turtles are listed as threatened or endangered, yet in many areas little or no regulations exist to control the intake of these ancient seafarers

Coalition member organisations:

