

15 WAYS TO HELP WILDLIFE



TOGETHER WE CAN CHANGE LIVES

WIRES (NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service Inc.) has been rescuing and caring for native animals for over 30 years.

Our mission is to actively rehabilitate and preserve Australian wildlife and inspire others to do the same.

WIRES has over 2,500 volunteers in 28 branches involved in wildlife rescue and care.

Our dedicated Rescue Office operates 365 days a year, assisting the community to help native animals in distress.

WIRES receives over 140,000 calls a year to our 1300 number and we assist tens of thousands of native animals every year.

We couldn't help as many animals as we do without the ongoing, caring support of people like you.

We invite you to explore some of the many easy ways you can help wildlife.

We hope you will feel increasingly drawn to assist native animals, and partner with us long-term to rescue and care for every individual in distress, whilst working to protect and preserve native animals for generations to come.

It is our hope that every Australian will get to the experience the joy of seeing our wildlife in the wild.

“ THE LEVEL OF OUR SUCCESS IS LIMITED ONLY BY OUR IMAGINATION AND NO ACT OF KINDNESS, HOWEVER SMALL, IS EVER WASTED. ”

Aesop



Image: Joy Bourke

Cover image of Eastern grey kangaroos: “The photo was taken in January this year, on Gillards Beach, Mimosa Rocks National Park (between Bermagui and Tathra, NSW). It was my last day of camping and I was simply hoping to get a sunrise shot from a rocky outcrop. On the way there I came across a sweet little kangaroo family grazing on the dune above the high tide line.” – photographer, Steve Chivers.

Find out more at wires.org.au

15 WAYS TO HELP WILDLIFE

1. CALL FOR HELP
2. GIVE WAY TO WILDLIFE
3. ADMIRE DON'T FEED
4. TRAIN AS A VOLUNTEER
5. CREATE WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY YARDS
6. MAKE NATIVE ANIMALS HOMES
7. BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR WILDLIFE
8. KEEP PETS IN AT NIGHT
9. REDUCE WASTE TO SAVE LIVES
10. SUPPORT OUR FOOD FUND
11. GIVE THREATENED SPECIES A VOICE
12. BECOME A VIRTUAL CARER
13. KNIT POUCHES
14. STAY CONNECTED
15. REMEMBER TO LEAVE OUT WATER

+BONUS KOALA FEATURE



Image: Joy Bourke

1 CALL FOR HELP

If you have found sick, injured or orphaned native animals:

1. Please remove any threat to the animal. This includes keeping people and pets away.
2. DO NOT approach snakes, monitors, flying-foxes, microbats, large macropods or raptors. These animals require specialist handling by trained wildlife rescuers.
3. If you are able to safely contain the animal, minimise stress by placing a towel or blanket over it, then gently pick it up and place it into a ventilated box with a lid. Be very careful as animals and rescuers can be injured during the rescue process.
4. Please place the contained animal in a warm, dark, quiet place to wait for the rescuer or for transport to the nearest vet. Do not give the animal any food or water, unless instructed to by a vet or WIRES.
5. If you have can, please transport the animal to the nearest vet. All wildlife that is sick or injured needs vet assessment before coming into care. Let WIRES know where you've taken the animal and we will follow up directly with the vet to bring animals needing rehabilitation into care.

To report a rescue to WIRES' Rescue Team, call 1300 094 737 or visit wires.org.au.

When people find animals in need, with the best of intentions some want to care for them and assist in their rehabilitation. Native animals require specialist care and facilities.

All native animals are protected by law and native animals must be cared for by trained, licenced carers. Trained carers give animals the best chance of recovery for successful return to the wild.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A NATIVE ANIMAL THAT
REQUIRES ASSISTANCE PLEASE
CONTACT WIRES IMMEDIATELY
CALL: 1300 094 737 OR
VISIT: WIRES.ORG.AU

Find out more at wires.org.au



Wombat joey in care with WIRES.
Image: Nat Vergara

2 GIVE WAY TO WILDLIFE

- Slow down and use caution when driving at dusk and dawn, many mammals are most active during these times. These animals can be unpredictable and often feed next to the road where food is plentiful.
- Be alert and aware when in rural areas and driving through places you are unfamiliar with.
- If you have struck an animal or you have seen an animal on the road which appears to have been hit, please stop to check the animal if it safe to do so.
- Pull over in a safe location and use your hazards lights. Don't stop on a corner and wear high-vis or bright clothing to ensure you are visible to other motorists.
- If an adult animal has been injured but not killed call WIRES for advice, do not approach large injured animals without the help of an experienced wildlife rescuer.
- If a mammal has been killed check to see if it is female and carrying a joey, look for obvious lumps and movement in the pouch area then check the inside of the pouch.
- If you find a joey that is attached to the teat, don't attempt to remove it yourself, unless you are given instruction on how to do so correctly by WIRES or another wildlife rescue organisation. If the joey is not attached to the teat, remove it from the pouch and keep it warm and quiet.
- Check the surrounding areas for joeys that may have been thrown from the pouch on impact.
- Don't offer a joey anything to eat or drink, handle it as little as possible to reduce stress and call WIRES immediately on 1300 094 737.
- To prevent further incidents it is important that the animal's body is moved off the road so it is not a hazard to motorists, and to prevent further wildlife fatalities as carnivorous animals may try to feed on the carcass and be at risk of being hit.
- Large mammals can be very heavy so consider your own wellbeing before moving them. Dragging the body by the base of its tail or hind legs is best. Tie a ribbon or something similar to the animal's foot to signal other motorists that the animal has been checked for joeys. Wildlife rescuers often spray dead animals with non-toxic paint to show that pouch checks have been done.

Find out more at wires.org.au

DID YOU KNOW?

JOEYS CAN SURVIVE IN A POUCH FOR DAYS, EVEN AFTER THEIR MOTHER HAS BEEN KILLED.



Find out more at wires.org.au

3 ADMIRE DON'T FEED

Whether it's an injured or orphaned animal that you have rescued or animals living in the wild, it is strongly recommended that you do not feed them.

Native animals have adapted well to their environments, even those living in our cities.

Feeding native animals can:

- Disrupt their natural diet negatively impacting their health, possibly causing sickness and deformities in young as high quantities of salt are present in bread and processed foods.
- Change their behaviour, possibly increasing aggression and stress as larger quantities of animals try to feed together, which wouldn't happen naturally.
- Spread disease through a concentration of food and animals, particularly large numbers of birds in one place.
- Negatively impact the balance of populations, including the overpopulation of non-native species such as rats, as the more food they get the more they breed.
- Encourage animals to become dependent on humans for their survival. They can lose the ability to find food for themselves, particularly if they are juveniles who should be learning to find their natural food.

If you have rescued an animal, call WIRES for advice and take them to the nearest vet, do not provide them with food unless instructed to by WIRES or the vet, as it could hinder their recovery.



Find out more at wires.org.au

4 TRAIN AS A VOLUNTEER

Would you like to rescue and care for native animals? With hundreds of animals needing assistance every day we rely on dedicated volunteers and helpful community members to assist all animals as quickly as possible.

All native animals are protected by law and the laws surrounding wildlife rescue and care vary from state to state. In NSW, WIRES' volunteers operate under WIRES' licence. WIRES is licenced for wildlife rescue and care by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and is subject to comply with all NPWS policies and licence conditions.

Volunteering is a great way to help animals in need, give back to nature and connect with like-minded people.

If you are interested in volunteering with WIRES or another wildlife organisation, get in touch with them to find out more, extra volunteers are always needed and very welcome.

To start volunteering with WIRES you need to complete WIRES Rescue and Immediate Care Course (RICC).

When you start as a rescuer, you will normally take rescued animals to a vet or experienced carer for assessment immediately after the rescue. You may also regularly be picking animals up from vets to transport them to a carer.

The rescue and care of species such as snakes and bats requires the completion of additional specialist courses.

Many wild animals that require rescue are already very sick or seriously injured. Volunteers must work with vets and experienced carers to make decisions that are in the animal's best interests, and for some seriously injured and sick animals this can include developing appropriate care plans, finding specialist care or euthanasia.

Wildlife in care needs to be kept away from people and pets to minimise stress on the animals and improve their chances of survival when they are released. Contact with carers is also kept to minimum required for their care and native animals only stay in care until they can be released back into the wild.

VOLUNTEERING IS A GREAT WAY TO HELP ANIMALS IN NEED, GIVE BACK TO NATURE AND CONNECT WITH LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE.

Find out more at wires.org.au

5

CREATE WILDLIFE FRIENDLY YARDS

As natural habitat for our native wildlife decreases, more and more of our native birds, mammals, reptiles and frogs are moving into urban areas, so it is the ideal time to turn our yards into wildlife-friendly environments.

To create wildlife-friendly yards you can:

1. Introduce native plants and trees, complementing larger plants with ground covers, grasses and small dense shrubs.
2. Include water sources like ponds or bird baths. Bird baths need to be cleaned regularly and they should only be shallow, or have twigs inside so that birds can easily climb out.
3. Use timber and recycled materials to make good hide-aways for different creatures.
4. Ensure any netting you use is wildlife-friendly, this means choosing netting that you cannot poke your finger through, this will prevent any native animals from getting caught and injured.
5. Use wildlife-friendly fencing, as many animals particularly nocturnal animals such as flying-foxes, gliders and owls fail to see fences or cannot clear the height in windy conditions. Over 75 wildlife species have been recorded as fence victims. Where fences are needed avoid barbed wired fences and where possible, make fences more visible.
6. Leave leaf litter in your garden as it will attract insects, vertebrates and lizards.
7. Leave safe dead trees and hollowed limbs of live trees, as the hollows provide nesting sites.
8. Don't use any chemicals and pesticides in your garden, use only safe, natural, non-chemical alternatives for pest control and cleaning e.g. white vinegar and baking soda.

AS NATURAL HABITAT FOR WILDLIFE DECREASES, MORE AND MORE NATIVE BIRDS, MAMMALS, LIZARDS AND FROGS NEED NEW HOMES. YOU CAN HELP BY MAKING YOUR YARD A WILDLIFE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT.

Find out more at wires.org.au

ATTRACT BEAUTIFUL BIRDS

MAKE NATIVE ANIMALS HOMES

As less habitat is available animals find it harder to find appropriate shelter and safe places to raise their young.

To help animals you can create homes for them, install them in your yard and encourage friends and family to do the same.

You can make possum boxes which are ideal homes for brushtail possums:

- These should be approximately 270mm wide, 300mm deep, 420mm high at the front and 470mm high at the back.
- The hinged roof should slope down towards the front and overhang the front by about 100mm to stop rain getting in.
- The timber should be weather sealed. You can use any timber you like to make a possum box (except chipboard, which disintegrates rapidly outdoors). 12mm ply is excellent.
- Drill four 5- 7mm holes through the floor of the box near each corner to allow any water that might get in to drain out.
- Cut out a circular entry hole about 120mm in the front near the top.
- Nesting material isn't essential but a few handfuls of dead leaves would provide comfort and insulation.
- Add a piece of branch on the front under the entrance hole to make it easy for possums to get in and out.

You can make nesting boxes for other animals like gliders and microbats.



You can also make dreys which are ideal for families of ringtail possums, using two wire hanging baskets (10" for up to 4 ringtails, 12" for up to 8 ringtails) and two coconut fibre basket liners.

Find out more at wires.org.au

“THE TRUTH IS: THE NATURAL WORLD IS CHANGING. AND WE ARE TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON THAT WORLD. IT PROVIDES OUR FOOD, WATER AND AIR. IT IS THE MOST PRECIOUS THING WE HAVE AND WE NEED TO DEFEND IT.”

Sir David Attenborough

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR FOR WILDLIFE

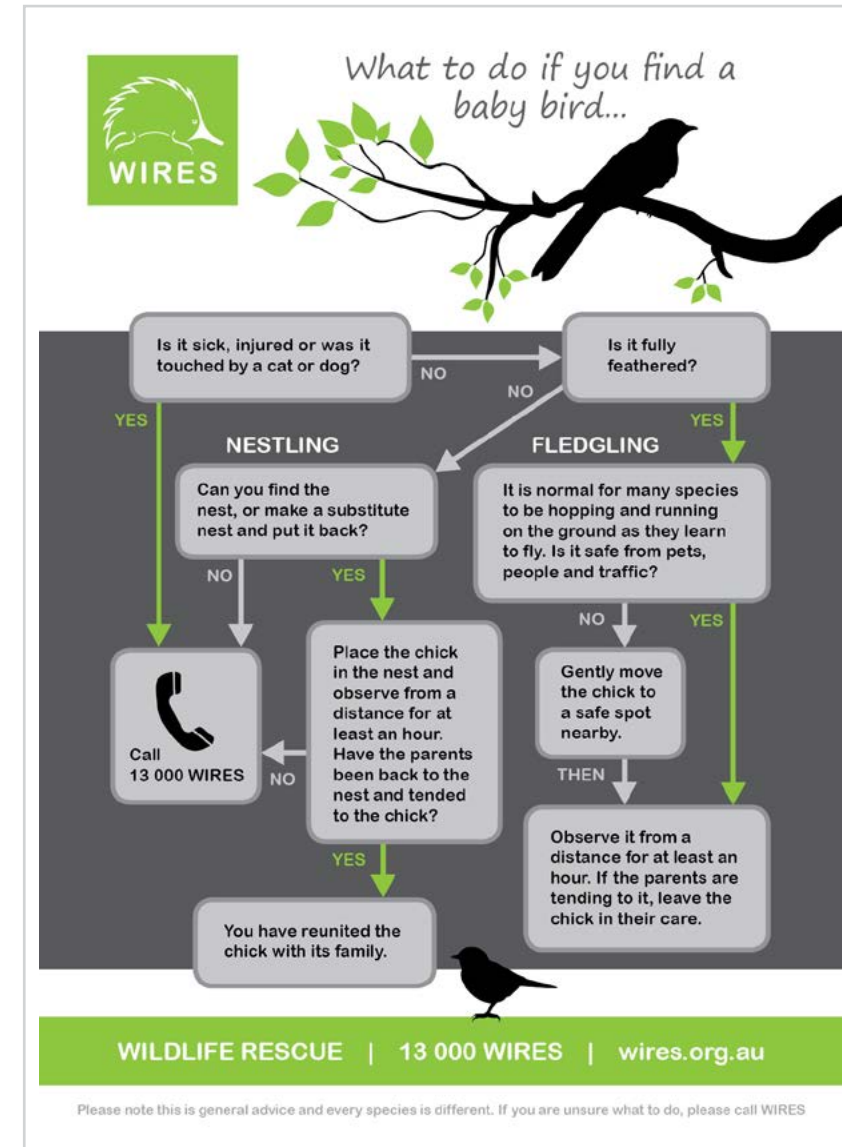
You can start to advocate for native wildlife especially the animals that live in your local area.

It's easy to read up about wildlife and start to get out into nature and really appreciate first-hand how amazing our wild places and wild animals are.

You can help with community education by sharing information to help your friends, families, colleagues and communities to better understand, appreciate and co-habitate with wildlife.

In spring we get hundreds of calls from people that have found baby birds, some of these need rescue and others need to be left with their parents to have the best chance at survival. Sharing this infographic can help people know when to intervene.

If you would like to be involved in sharing wildlife information online with the community on an ongoing basis, you can also apply to join our Digital Wildlife Ambassadors program at: www.wildlifeambassadors.org.au



Find out more at wires.org.au

KEEP PETS IN AT NIGHT

Domestic cats and dogs pose a serious threat to wildlife because of their natural hunting instincts.

Every cat and dog deserves a safe home where they are loved, cared for and kept free from hazards. It is also important to manage domestic pets to minimise the damage that can be done to other, more vulnerable species.

It is possible to keep your pets safe and happy whilst caring for wildlife, by following these steps:

- Keep your cat inside, at least at night when native animals are most active
- If possible keep dogs inside at night or confined to a secure space when native animals are most active
- Provide sufficient food and shelter for your pets
- Provide a safe environment for wildlife in your garden by having separate areas for pets, such as a fully enclosed cat run
- Identify your pet with a collar, tag and microchip and add collar bells for cats
- De-sex your pets to prevent unwanted litters

A cat run or pet enclosure will give your cat the best of both worlds – the safety of life inside, with access to a secure outdoor area. It can be constructed around a tall tree, allowing your cat the freedom to climb, scratch and perch in a high place.

If you find a sick, injured or orphaned native animal in your house or yard, please keep all pets and people away to minimise stress to the animal and increase its chance of survival, while waiting for a rescuer or transport to the nearest vet.

If there is the chance one of your pets has held a native animal in their mouth, even if the native animal looks unharmed, please take it to a vet for assessment, or call WIRES 1300 094 737 for rescue assistance, as native animals often need to be given antibiotics after they have had contact with the saliva of dogs and cats.

Find out more at wires.org.au

REDUCE WASTE TO SAVE LIVES

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

It is estimated that more than 160 million drink containers litter our streets, beaches, waterways and parks in NSW every year. Wildlife rescuers regularly need to assist animals found choking on, ingesting, or entangled in rubbish.

Discarded recreational items such as fishing line, string and plastics create multiple hazards for Australian wildlife.

Fishing line does not biodegrade and it readily wraps around the feet, legs, wings and even necks of animals, like seabird, turtles and birds of prey. These types of entanglements can cause swelling and deep wounds and animals can have these materials constricting or embedded into their skin for weeks or months before being sighted and reported. Abandoned fishing hooks are also known to puncture vital organs if swallowed and plastic items are often mistaken as food and then ingested causing serious internal injuries.

In the biodiversity conservation act 2016, entanglement in or ingestion of anthropogenic debris in marine and estuarine environments is listed as a key threatening process for wildlife. The government has recognised in legislation that man-made waste is resulting in population decline and the threat of extinction for some of our native animals. Items which are tossed away, never to be thought of again, have huge consequences. As marine debris and plastic pollution increases, so does the impact on wildlife.

Join with WIRES to partner on initiatives to reduce waste, positively impacting the environment for people and animals.

RETURN & EARN

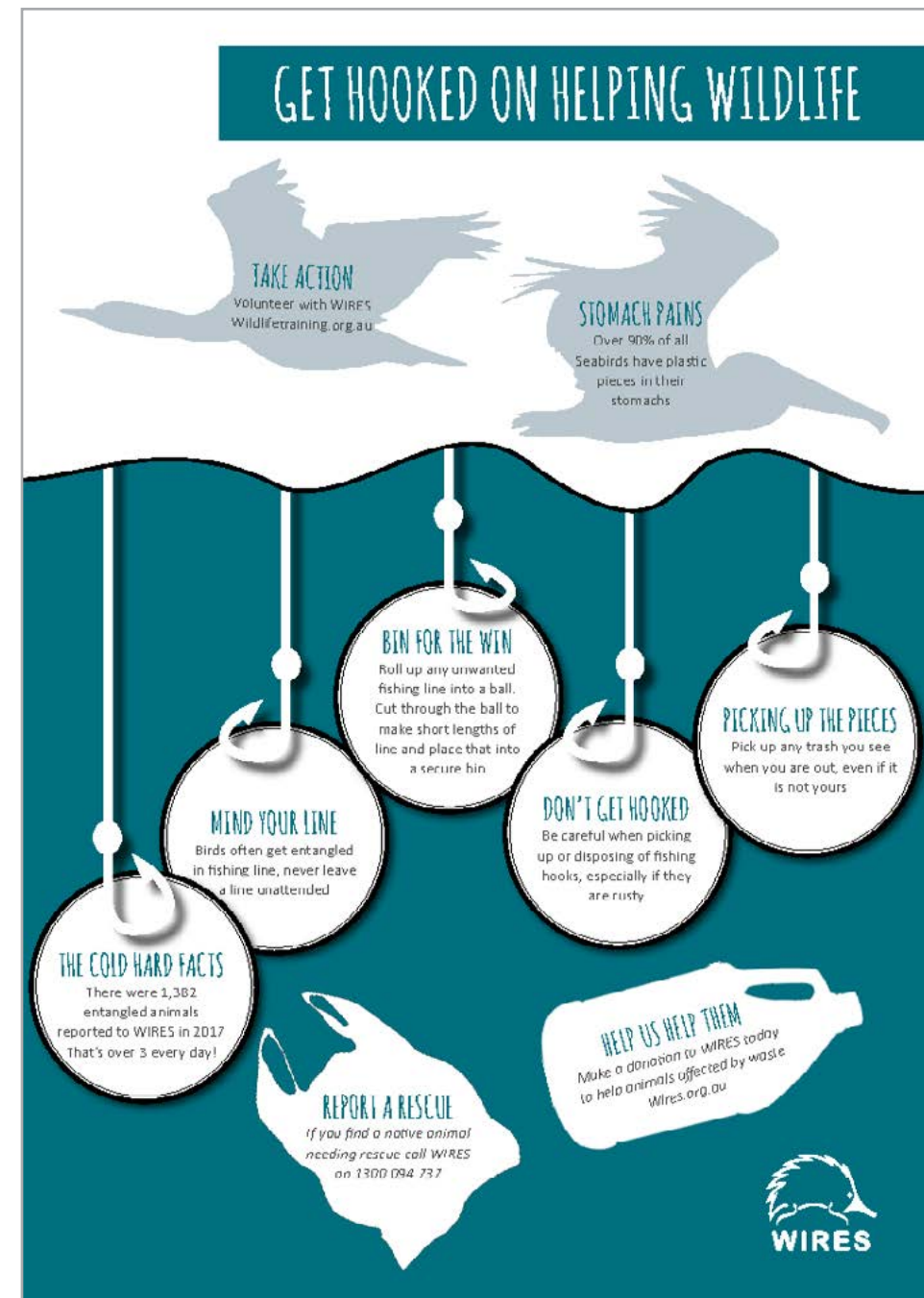
WIRES are a charity partner in the NSW Return and Earn scheme. With over 600 return points in place the scheme has improved community recycling, almost doubling the rate of drink container recycling. Over 600 million containers have been recycled through the programme already.

When you return eligible container you can earn a 10c refund and you can then opt to donate that to WIRES by saving our barode to your phone and scanning it.



Scan your barcode at the machine

Find out more at wires.org.au



Find out more at wires.org.au

10

WAYS TO HELP WILDLIFE

SUPPORT OUR FOOD FUND

The cost of food for animals in care, is one the many significant costs involved in running a rescue and care service for wildlife. WIRES spends over \$200,000 annually on food for animals in care and many volunteers spend more of their own funds as well.

Still a relatively new event WIRES Annual Food Fund for Wildlife launched a few years ago to help raise funds for food. Our vision for the Food Fund is to eventually, consistently raise enough funds each year to cover 100% of our annual food costs for all wildlife in care, across all branches and all species.

The Food Fund is annually promoted for the month of October and donations can be accepted year round. All Food Fund donations are used to buy wildlife food.

You can get involved to support our Food Fund by sharing the details with others, donating or hosting special fundraising events with your friends, family or colleagues.

The cost to feed different animals in care varies greatly from species to species, food types, brands and across all different ages. Using average milk costs as a guide:

- \$100 will feed a wombat joey for 10 weeks*
- \$100 will feed a kangaroo joey for 10 weeks
- \$50 will feed a wallaby joey for 10 weeks
- \$20 will feed a brushtail possum joey for 4 months
- \$10 will feed a ringtail possum joey for 4 months

** Wombat joeys can be in care longer than any other species, often needing care for up to 2 years before they can be released.*

If you have any ideas to help promote our Food Fund, please get in touch. All gifts to WIRES \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

Donate anytime and stay up to date at: wildlifefoodfund.org.au

100% GOES TO FOOD FOR ANIMALS IN CARE

Find out more at wires.org.au



Eastern grey kangaroo joeys in care with WIRES
Image: Angela Stanton

GIVE THREATENED SPECIES A VOICE

Threatened species are those whose populations have been declining at such a rate that the future of the species is considered at risk.

They are classified as presumed extinct, critically endangered (at immediate risk of extinction), endangered (at high risk of extinction in the near future) and vulnerable (at high risk of extinction in the medium term).

Over the last 200 years (in Australia), more than 100 animal and plant species have become extinct. Most species under threat are in danger as a result of habitat destruction and the invasion of non-native species. Almost all threatened species can be conserved for future generations if we can ensure laws are in place and enforced to protect native species and their habitat.

Every year WIRES help threatened species, rescuing and caring for animals including: koalas, grey-headed flying-foxes, powerful owls, spotted-tailed quolls, eastern pygmy-possums, mountain pygmy-possums and bush stone-curlews.

With the number of threatened species climbing, the active role WIRES play, rescuing and caring for threatened species is imperative and it is community support that makes it possible.

WIRES also actively advocate for habitat preservation, wanting every future generation to have the opportunity to see all remaining native species of wildlife, in the wild.

Please add your voice and speak out for wildlife whenever you have the opportunity. Make sure your local, state and federal governments know that wildlife matters to you, sign petitions for habitat protection, support animal organisations working on the ground and those running research and conservation programs, to help the animals most at risk.

“IN NSW ALONE THERE ARE CLOSE TO 1000 ANIMAL AND PLANT SPECIES AT RISK OF EXTINCTION.”

NSW Office of Environment & Heritage

Find out more at wires.org.au



Endangered (NSW) Bush stone-curlew with chicks. Image: Teresa Kleseker Habban

“HOW CAN WE EXPECT WILD ANIMALS TO SURVIVE IF WE GIVE THEM NOWHERE IN THE WILD TO LIVE?”

A.D. Williams

SPECIES UNDER THREAT

Koalas are listed as 'Vulnerable' by the NSW Government which means they are at high risk of extinction in the medium term. In addition, there are 'Endangered' populations in Pittwater; Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens; and in the Northern Rivers region.



HOMES UNDER PRESSURE

There are a number of pressures on koala populations in NSW with one of the biggest being loss of habitat. Information from WIRES over the last ten years shows the top three reasons for calls about koalas are due to them being found in places they shouldn't be; collisions with cars; and disease.

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

WIRES work extends beyond the care of individual koalas; we work with the University of Sydney's Koala Health Hub, veterinarians, koala hospitals and sanctuaries to provide information about koala health and care. WIRES also assists the Australian Museum Research Institute in collecting DNA from koalas to support conservation efforts.



HELP SAVE AN ICON

We can all work together to improve outcomes for koalas and to make sure they are preserved for generations to come.

With the help of our supporters and donors, WIRES can continue its life-saving work in caring for all Australia's native animals. WIRES research shows that we need to invest in the following areas in order to better assist koalas:

- Habitat restoration and conservation of remaining koala environments
- Slow down when driving in areas inhabited by koalas and keep domestic pets contained
- Chlamydia treatment like that offered by the University of Sydney's Koala Health Hub
- Further research into effective drug treatments for Chlamydia
- Ongoing research and radio tracking of animals, both wild and animals who have been in care
- Community education about the threat to koalas

For more information visit: wires.org.au

AT RISK OF EXTINCTION

Between 1990 and 2010, koala populations in NSW had declined by 30%. The main reason for the decrease is habitat loss.

The new biodiversity conservation act which was bought in by the state government in August 2017 will see an increase of land being cleared in NSW. This could have devastating effects on not only koalas but many endangered species.

The new act allows land owners to self assess their land, whether the vegetation on their property is habitat to any wildlife and whether they need a permit to clear land. In many cases, the landowner will not need a permit which means there is no requirement for a trained 3rd party to inspect the vegetation or identify habitat trees. This is cause of great concern as the majority of Koalas live in trees located on private property.

Over 20% of the 523 koalas which WIRES assisted last year had been affected by habitat loss. We believe that the true number is much higher when you take into consideration the indirect causes including predator attacks and motor vehicle strikes which happen when the Koalas are looking for new homes.

If we allow more land to be cleared in NSW their populations will never recover and we may lose these beautiful animals forever.

You can lend your support by signing the Stand Up For Nature petition:

standupfornature.org.au/petition



523 CALLS IN 12 MONTHS

Last year, WIRES received over 500 calls about koalas. Many people are simply reporting a sighting of a Koala in their area, some are seeking information and others are reporting an injured or orphaned Koala.



SPECIAL CARE NEEDED

While some koalas that come into contact with WIRES don't make it due to their injuries or illness, there are many that are able to receive the best in specialist care from experts and other organisations. WIRES carers are trained to work with native species including adult koalas and joeys.

WORK ON THE GROUND

WIRES members do significant work in tracking and monitoring the health of koala populations throughout the state and work with other organisations to understand more about the vulnerabilities of specific groups. WIRES also microchips and ear tags some koalas that have been in care in order to track their progress in the future.

12

BECOME A VIRTUAL CARER

We know that often people would like to volunteer to rescue and care but don't have the time or space at this stage in their lives.

WIRES launched our Virtual Carer programme for regular supporters that want to make a difference for wildlife every day. Virtual Carers receive monthly wildlife rescue and care stories not shared elsewhere, have the ability to ask wildlife questions and have them answered by our programme coordinator and they receive exclusive updates on special projects.

If you would like to actively help wildlife every day and you are interested in a behind-the-scenes look at the work we do, we invite you to join WIRES rescue and care team as a [Virtual Carer](#).

WAYS TO HELP WILDLIFE

13

KNIT POUCHES

When young wombats, wallabies, kangaroos, bandicoots, gliders or possums come into care they need to be kept warm and WIRES carers are always in need of suitable pouches and liners. Pouches need to be made from 100% wool and liners from 100% cotton, both pouches and liners must be made from 100% natural fibres.

As animals needing pouches come in so many different shapes and sizes, lots of different pouch sizes are always needed. If you are able to knit pouches or sew liners for us, you can use the guides on our website to make [small](#) or [large](#) pouches.

14

STAY CONNECTED

Follow WIRES on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) to share our posts and tweets.

If you aren't receiving it already, register for WIRES free [newsletter](#) to get regular updates, including rescue and care stories.

Find out more at wires.org.au



Image: Stirling West

REMEMBER TO LEAVE OUT WATER

NSW has been facing a drought crisis, possibly the worst in 400 years and summer will bring extended periods of intense heat and bushfires. Many animals need extra help when we experience extremely high temperatures for several days. Some animals may not be able to cope with the conditions and these animals may be seen suffering dehydration and exhaustion.

On extremely hot days our rescue line and our volunteers are often dealing with many hundreds of calls for help and our resources will be stretched. Every day WIRES helps hundreds of sick, injured and orphaned animals, regularly 600-700 requests for rescue advice and assistance are received every day in spring and summer. Where it is safe to do so, transporting animals in distress to local vets is a huge help, allowing animals to get emergency treatment as soon as possible, which gives them their best chance of survival.

Potential signs of heat stress in animals:

- Birds may pant by opening their beaks and hold their wings out and away from their body
- Animals may appear confused and lethargic
- Flying-foxes, possums, gliders and koalas may come to the ground or low to the ground during daylight hours
- Kangaroos and wallabies may be lying down and not move away quickly if startled. They may also be seen salivating.
- Reptiles may seek refuge from the heat in cool, dark places
- Severely impacted animals may suffer convulsions or lose consciousness
- Some animals may also suffer burns on their paws from hot roof and road surfaces

Ways you can help:

- Provide shallow containers of water around your yard on hot days, ideally in the shade
- Remember to keep the containers clean and be sure to change the water daily to deter mosquitos from breeding
- Place sticks or stones in the containers to allow smaller animals that could fall in, a way to get out
- Keep your cats and dogs indoors to keep them cool and away from wildlife that may be more vulnerable to predators while in a weakened state
- Provide shade with a garden umbrella or other cover over distressed animals
- Gently mist distressed animals with a very light spray of water or place a sprinkler nearby, this is ideal for flying-foxes as you cannot touch them and they must be rescued by trained, vaccinated carers
- Should you live in a bushfire area, if at any stage you are unlucky enough to have to evacuate and you can do so safely, please leave out bowls of water for animals evading fires

For more rescue information read WIRES [emergency advice](#) online. Please also [donate](#) to support our rescue and care work.

Find out more at wires.org.au



GREY-HEADED FLYING-FOXES
VULNERABLE TO EXTINCTION



MAKE A DONATION
Help us to rescue more
animals in distress
wires.org.au



REPORT A RESCUE
Call 1300 094 737 or
report online
wires.org.au



SHARE
Share this ebook to
spread the word that
wildlife matters



LEAVE A LEGACY
Join our Eternally
Native club
wires.org.au