

# Australian Wildlife Society

Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909 <sup>®</sup>

# Contents

- Who is the Australian Wildlife Society?
- What is the Society's role in wildlife conservation?
- Projects and campaigns in place.
- Summary.



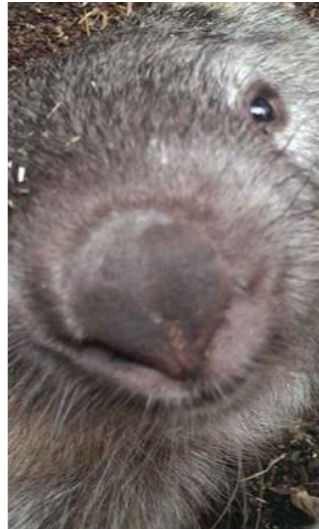
# The Society

- Formerly known as WPSA, founded in 1909, by bushwalkers.
- The Swedish Consul-General for Australia, Count Birger Mörner, organised a preliminary discussion on the formation of a new preservation body in the Consulate on 11 May 1909.
- The Hon. F E Winchcombe MLC was the first president of the Society (*Image*).
- The Society pioneered the recognition of the need for legal protection for Australia's flora and fauna.



# The Society

- Australian Wildlife Society (AWS) is a national not-for-profit wildlife conservation organisation.
- We are dedicated to the conservation of Australian wildlife (flora and fauna) through national environmental education, advocacy, and community involvement.





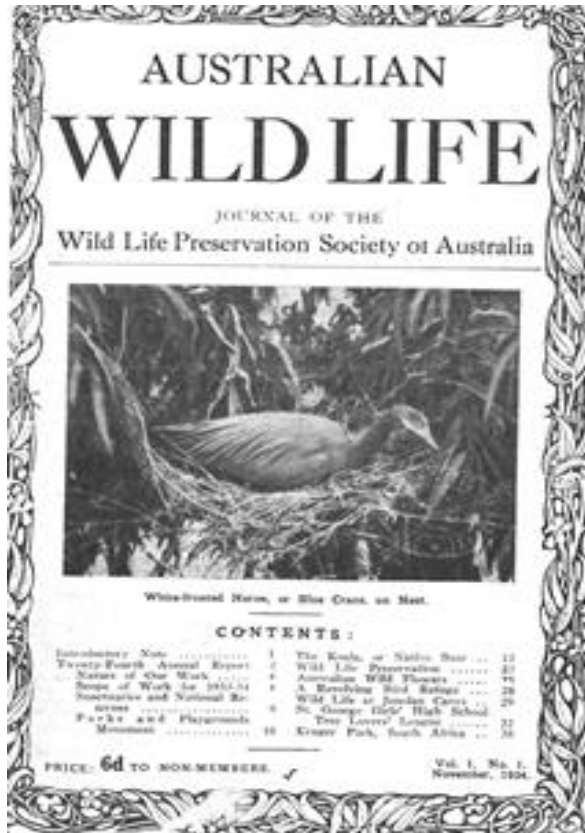
# The Society

- Is registered with the ACNC and ATO.
- Is managed by an elected board of up to ten volunteer directors (*Image*).
- Holds regular monthly meetings.
- Is funded through membership fees, sponsorship, partnerships, and donations.
- To achieve our mission, we are dedicated and have many projects in place.

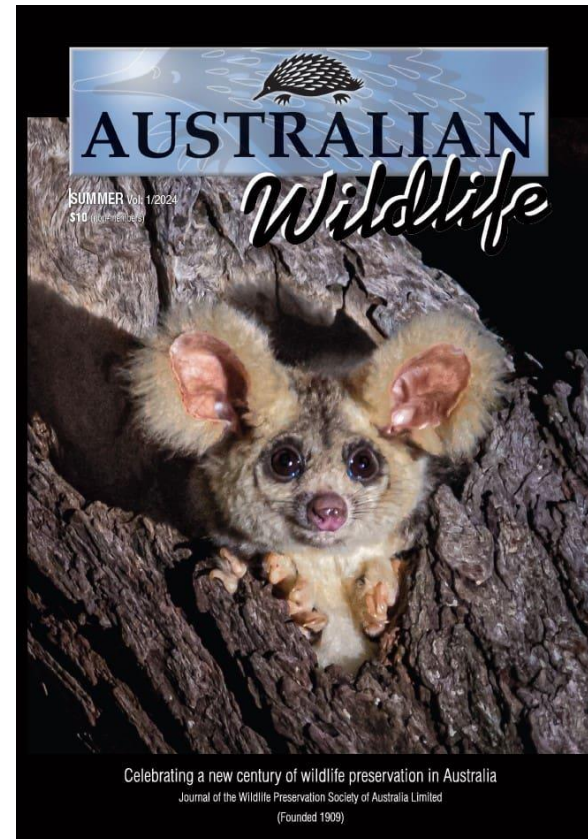


# Australian Wildlife Magazine

- The quarterly magazine is the flagship of the Society.
- Promotes conservation work achieved on a national scale.



1934



2024



# Monthly E-Newsletter



## AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### Australian Wildlife Society E-Newsletters

Download to read previously released E-Newsletters.

07/15/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - July 2024  
06/14/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - June 2024  
05/15/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - May 2024  
04/15/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - April 2024  
03/13/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - March 2024  
02/01/2024 - Wildlife Wisdom - February 2024

- Promotes the work of the Society.
- Highlights news from our members.
- Encourages conservation action.







# Education Days & School Visits

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# Threatened Wildlife Photographic Competition

A national competition that promotes threatened Australian wildlife through the medium of photography.



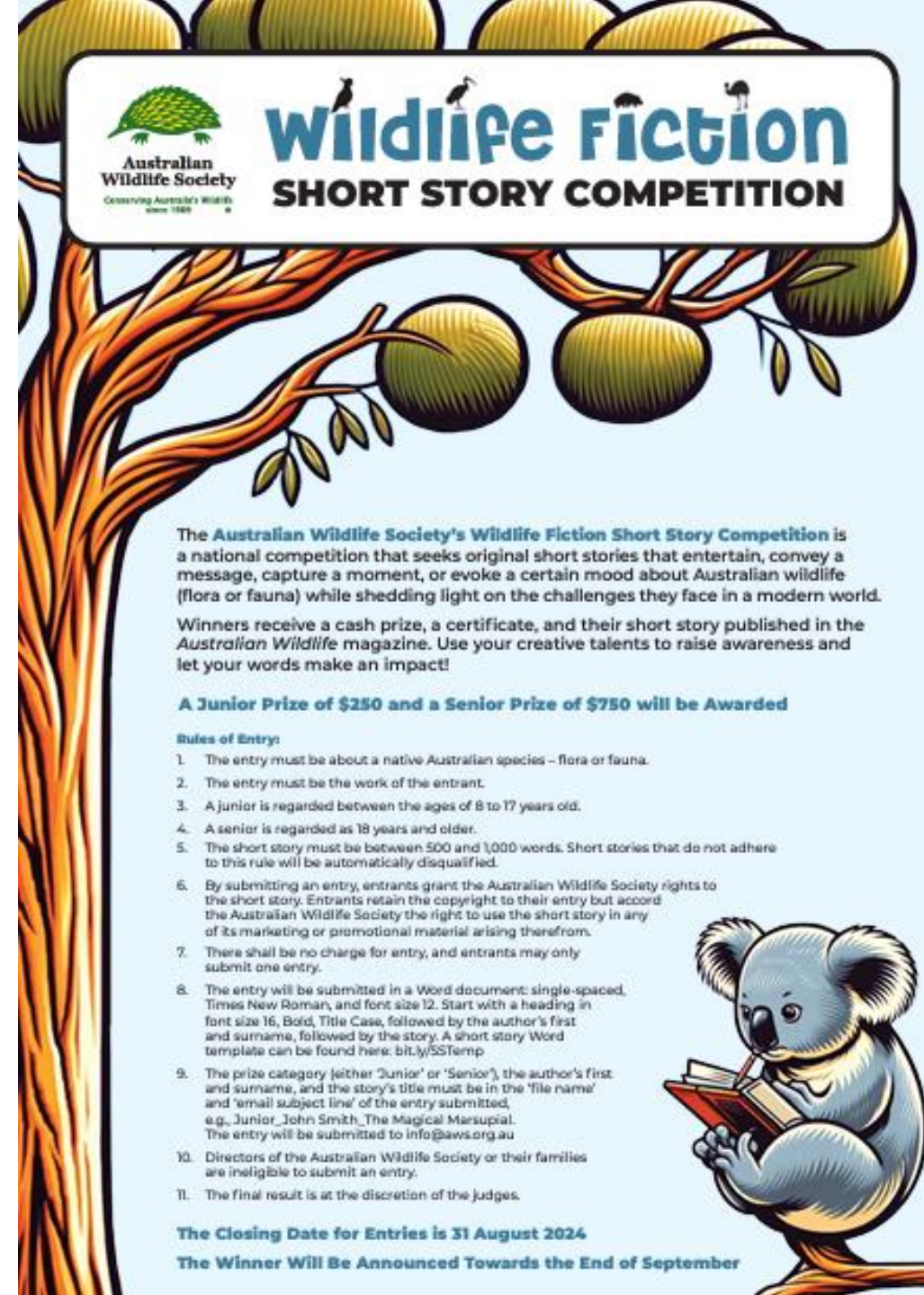
Due 30 June



# Short Story Competition

Seeks original short stories that entertain, convey a message, or evoke a certain mood about Australian wildlife while shedding light on their challenges.

Due 31 Aug



The poster is set against a light blue background. On the left, a large, stylized tree with orange-brown bark and green leaves frames the text. At the top left, the Australian Wildlife Society logo features a green echidna and the text 'Australian Wildlife Society' and 'Conserving Australia's Wildlife since 1969'. To the right, the title 'Wildlife Fiction' is in large blue letters, with 'SHORT STORY COMPETITION' in smaller black letters below it. The main text describes the competition, its prizes, and rules. At the bottom right, a cartoon koala is sitting on a branch, reading a red book.

**Australian Wildlife Society**  
Conserving Australia's Wildlife since 1969

## Wildlife Fiction SHORT STORY COMPETITION

The **Australian Wildlife Society's Wildlife Fiction Short Story Competition** is a national competition that seeks original short stories that entertain, convey a message, capture a moment, or evoke a certain mood about Australian wildlife (flora or fauna) while shedding light on the challenges they face in a modern world.

Winners receive a cash prize, a certificate, and their short story published in the *Australian Wildlife* magazine. Use your creative talents to raise awareness and let your words make an impact!

**A Junior Prize of \$250 and a Senior Prize of \$750 will be Awarded**

**Rules of Entry:**

1. The entry must be about a native Australian species – flora or fauna.
2. The entry must be the work of the entrant.
3. A junior is regarded between the ages of 8 to 17 years old.
4. A senior is regarded as 18 years and older.
5. The short story must be between 500 and 1,000 words. Short stories that do not adhere to this rule will be automatically disqualified.
6. By submitting an entry, entrants grant the Australian Wildlife Society rights to the short story. Entrants retain the copyright to their entry but accord the Australian Wildlife Society the right to use the short story in any of its marketing or promotional material arising therefrom.
7. There shall be no charge for entry, and entrants may only submit one entry.
8. The entry will be submitted in a Word document: single-spaced, Times New Roman, and font size 12. Start with a heading in font size 16, Bold, Title Case, followed by the author's first and surname, followed by the story. A short story Word template can be found here: [bit.ly/SSTemp](http://bit.ly/SSTemp)
9. The prize category (either 'Junior' or 'Senior'), the author's first and surname, and the story's title must be in the 'file name' and 'email subject line' of the entry submitted, e.g., Junior\_John Smith\_The Magical Marsupial. The entry will be submitted to [info@aws.org.au](mailto:info@aws.org.au)
10. Directors of the Australian Wildlife Society or their families are ineligible to submit an entry.
11. The final result is at the discretion of the judges.

**The Closing Date for Entries is 31 August 2024**  
**The Winner Will Be Announced Towards the End of September**



# Colouring-In Competition

Designed to inspire the younger generation to learn about Australia's native wildlife via visual art and creativity.



Due 30 Nov

## Australian Wildlife Society NATIONAL COLOURING-IN COMPETITION

The Australian Wildlife Society colouring-in competition is designed to inspire the younger generation to learn about Australia's native wildlife via visual art and creativity. We hope that the experience provides participants with the opportunity to explore and develop a deeper understanding of environmental and wildlife-related issues.

There will be one first, second and third place winner in each state and territory of Australia. The first place finalist in each state and territory will go into a draw to have their artwork published in the Society's magazine *Australian Wildlife*. All first place winners will receive an annual family membership, valued at \$70, and a certificate of congratulations. Their artwork will be published in the Society's e-newsletter and social media platforms. Second and third place winners will receive a certificate of congratulations and their artwork will be published in the e-newsletter and social media platforms.

### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

When you submit your entry, please include the following information:

- Your name and age
- Your state of residence
- Telephone number and/or email address (this is how we will notify the winners)
- Parent/guardian signature as consent for entry into the competition

### SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

- Entries are limited to one (1) entry per person
- To submit your entry, please take a photo or scan the completed artwork and email a copy to [info@aws.org.au](mailto:info@aws.org.au)
- Please name your file according to the format: Name, Age, State (For example: Mark5yoNSW)

**CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES:** 30 NOVEMBER

**PARTICIPANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED BY EMAIL/PHONE IN MID-DECEMBER**

# Annual Awards

## Serventy Conservation Award

Established in 1999 to Honour the conservation work of the Serventy family. Awarded to a dedicated volunteer.

## Wildlife Rehabilitation Award

Awarded to an individual and group working to rescue, rehabilitate, and release native wildlife.

## Community Conservation Award

Awarded to a wildlife group contributing to wildlife preservation in Australia.

## Youth Conservation Awards

Inspire young people to have a stake in wildlife conservation by rewarding their efforts.



Due 31 Dec



# Grants & Scholarships

## University Research Grants

- Australian Honours and Postgraduate students.
- For research projects directly relevant to conserving Australia's flora and fauna.

## University Scholarships

- Postgraduate students at UNSW, UTS, UoN.
- For research projects directly relevant to conserving Australia's flora and fauna.

## Conservation Group Grants

- The Board considers requests from groups that place a special emphasis on wildlife preservation.



UNSW  
SYDNEY



Due 31 May

## 2024 UNIVERSITY RESEARCH GRANT WINNERS

The Australian Wildlife Society's University Research Grants are offered to honours or postgraduate students at Australian universities conducting research that contributes to the conservation of Australian wildlife (flora or fauna). Ten grants are awarded each year: one \$5,000 scholarship and nine \$3,000 grants.

The Dr Clive Williams OAM Memorial Wildlife Conservation Scholarship is awarded to the highest-ranked applicant of all our University Research Grants in honour of former Director Dr Clive Williams.

Grants may be used to purchase equipment and consumables, travel expenses related to field research, or attend a conference where the student presents their research.

### THE AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE SOCIETY IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS FOR 2024:

#### GEORGE LESTER

(Dr Clive Williams OAM Memorial Wildlife Conservation Scholarship Recipient)

School of BioSciences,  
The University of Melbourne.

#### Project Title:

Pollination Networks in East-Arnhem Land: Analysing Effects of Climate Change on Stingless Bees through DNA Metabarcoding of Foraged Pollen.

#### ALEXANDRA IKPE

School of Science, Technology and Engineering,  
The University of the Sunshine Coast.

#### Project Title:

Tracking an Elusive Predator, Mature Male Tiger Sharks, Along Eastern Australia.

#### ALICE HOWIE

School of Natural Sciences,  
Macquarie University.

#### Project Title:

Sound as an Emerging Technology to Monitor Biodiversity Across Seascapes.

#### EMMELINE NORRIS

Centre for Tropical Environmental and Sustainability Science,  
James Cook University.

#### Project Title:

Utilising Drone-Based Thermal Imagery to Accurately Estimate the Abundance of the Endangered Spectacled Flying-Fox (*Pteropus conspicillatus*) and Model Population Trajectories.

#### LUKE FLORENCE

Department of Environment and Genetics,  
La Trobe University.

#### Project Title:

Mycorrhizal Diversity in Australian Temperate Forests in the Context of Drought and Nitrogen Deposition.

#### ROSE LOWNDIS

School of Science, Western Sydney University.

#### Project Title:

Determining the Distribution and Migratory Flyways of Bogong Moths (*Agrotis infusa*) Using Genetic and Stable Isotope Analyses.

#### JASMINE TOWLE

School of Biological Sciences,  
The University of Adelaide.

#### Project Title:

Climate Change Impacts on Marine Invertebrates in Temperate Australia.

#### MATTHEW ROSE

Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies,  
University of Tasmania.

#### Project Title:

Collapsed Habitat Threatens Australian Marine Wildlife.

#### NATALIE GRASSI

School of Environmental and Conservation Sciences,  
Murdoch University.

#### Project Title:

Does Fragmentation Alter Predator Diets?

#### REBECCA QUAH

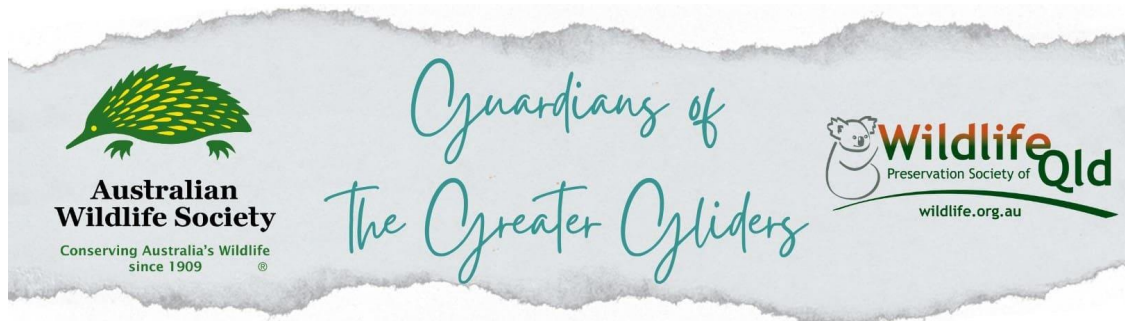
School of Science, Edith Cowan University.

#### Project Title:

Is There Mush-Room for Bettongs? Resource Use and Availability for Bettong Reintroductions to Dirk Hartog Island.

# Conservation Group Grants – Supported Projects

- **Cedar Creek Wombat Rescue Inc & Hospital – NSW**
  - **Wombat Hospital Development**
- Guardians of the Greater Gliders – QLD
  - Greater Glider Conservation
- Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre – WA
  - Black Cockatoo Conservation





# Wombats

- Herbivorous, burrowing marsupial.
- Feeds on native grasses, tussocks, and sedges.
- Occurs in woodland habitats and coastal heath.
- Digs impressive tunnel systems (2 – 20 m in length) (*Image*).
- Distributed across southeast Australia (QLD, VIC, SA, TAS).
- Threats: sarcoptic mange, habitat loss, and vehicle collisions.



Image: Wombat Burrow, Camden, NSW.



# Wombats

- Can live for up to 14 years in the wild and up to 32 years in captivity.
- A reinforced rump protects them from predators.
- Females have a backward-facing pouch.
- Can move at speeds up to 40km/h.
- Closest living relative is the koala.
- Wombats produce cubic faeces (*Image*).

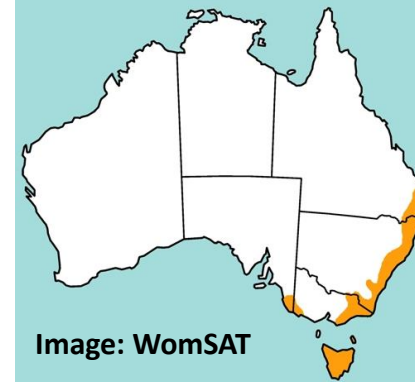
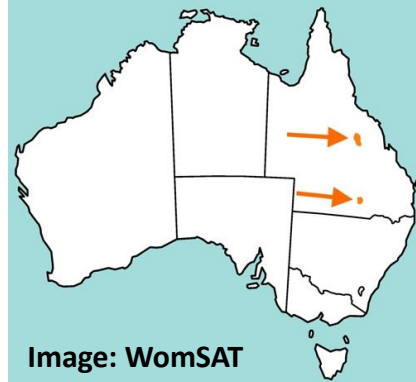
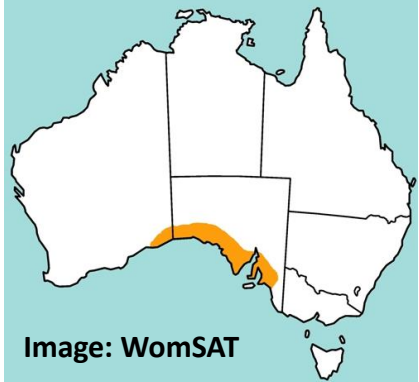


Image: Wombat Faeces, Camden, NSW.



# Wombats

- There are three species of wombat:
  - Southern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorhinus latifrons*) (1)
  - Northern hairy-nosed wombat (*Lasiorhinus krefftii*) (2)
  - Bare-nosed wombat (*Vombatus ursinus*) (3)





## *About us...*

Over 30 years ago, Roz and Kev Holme recognized the plight of the bare nosed wombat. The loss of habitat, road hazards, and debilitating sarcoptic mange have all contributed to their steady decline.

[Read more >>](#)

*Cedar Creek Wombat Rescue Inc.*



**Australian  
Wildlife Society**

Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909 ®

- A NFP organisation dedicated to rescuing wombats that require medical care, whether it be from vehicle trauma, dog attack, or mange.
- Run Australia's only dedicated Wombat Hospital and aim to release wombats back into their home range.





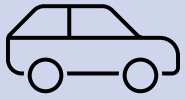


Funds provided by the Society assisted Cedar Creek Wombat Hospital to:

- Expand and upgrade their wildlife hospital, and
- Add additional intensive care pens.



# Wombat Conservation



Drive safely, between dawn and dusk.



Become a member of your local wildlife group.



Responsible pet ownership.



Report wombat and burrow sightings.



**Australian  
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Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909 ®

# WomSAT



- Established in 2015.
- An online tool: reporting wombat and burrow sightings and recording the animals' health (sarcoptic mange rating).
- An educational resource: raise awareness of declining populations due to sarcoptic mange and wildlife-vehicle collisions.
- Help scientists understand the distribution and conservation needs of the three wombat species.

**HEY THERE! YES, YOU!**



**Have you seen me or my burrow lately?**

If so, I need to be reported. It's easy!



WomSAT.org.au

**Every Wombat Deserves  
to Get Home Safely**



Identification of  
roadkill hotspots  
using WomSAT



WomSAT.org.au

# Conservation Group Grants – Supported Projects

- Cedar Creek Wombat Rescue Inc & Hospital – NSW
  - Wombat Hospital Development
- **Guardians of the Greater Gliders – QLD**
  - **Greater Glider Conservation**
- Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre – WA
  - Black Cockatoo Conservation



# Greater Gliders

- Large gliding nocturnal marsupial.
- There are three species of greater gliders:
  - Central greater glider (*Petauroides armillatus*)
  - Northern greater glider (*Petauroides minor*)
  - Southern greater glider (*Petauroides Volans*)
- Found in eucalypt forests across Australia's eastern coast.
- Northern gliders live in QLD, and southern and central gliders live in parts of south-east QLD, NSW, and VIC.



Southern Greater Glider. Image: Josh Bowell.





# Greater Gliders



- Long, furry, prehensile tail and large furry ears.
- Can glide up to 100 metres in one jump (200 times their body length).
- Thick, dark grey-brown fur on their back and creamy white fur on their underside. Different colour morphs.
- Live high in the canopy, use hollow-bearing trees for shelter (30m high).
- Their dens/hollows are often lined with leaves and strips of bark.
- Herbivores, feeding almost exclusively on Eucalyptus leaves and buds.



# Greater Gliders

- Listed as Endangered, nationally EPBC Act 1999.
- Threats:
  - Deforestation: habitat loss and fragmentation through clearing and logging old-growth forests.
  - Climate change: gliders are heat-sensitive. As temperatures rise, this will impact their habitat (bushfires), food quality, and stress levels.
  - Barbed wire fencing: entanglement (thin gliding membrane).
  - Predation by owls e.g., powerful owl and sooty owl.
- Greater gliders play a crucial role as indicators of forest health.







# Guardians of The Greater Gliders

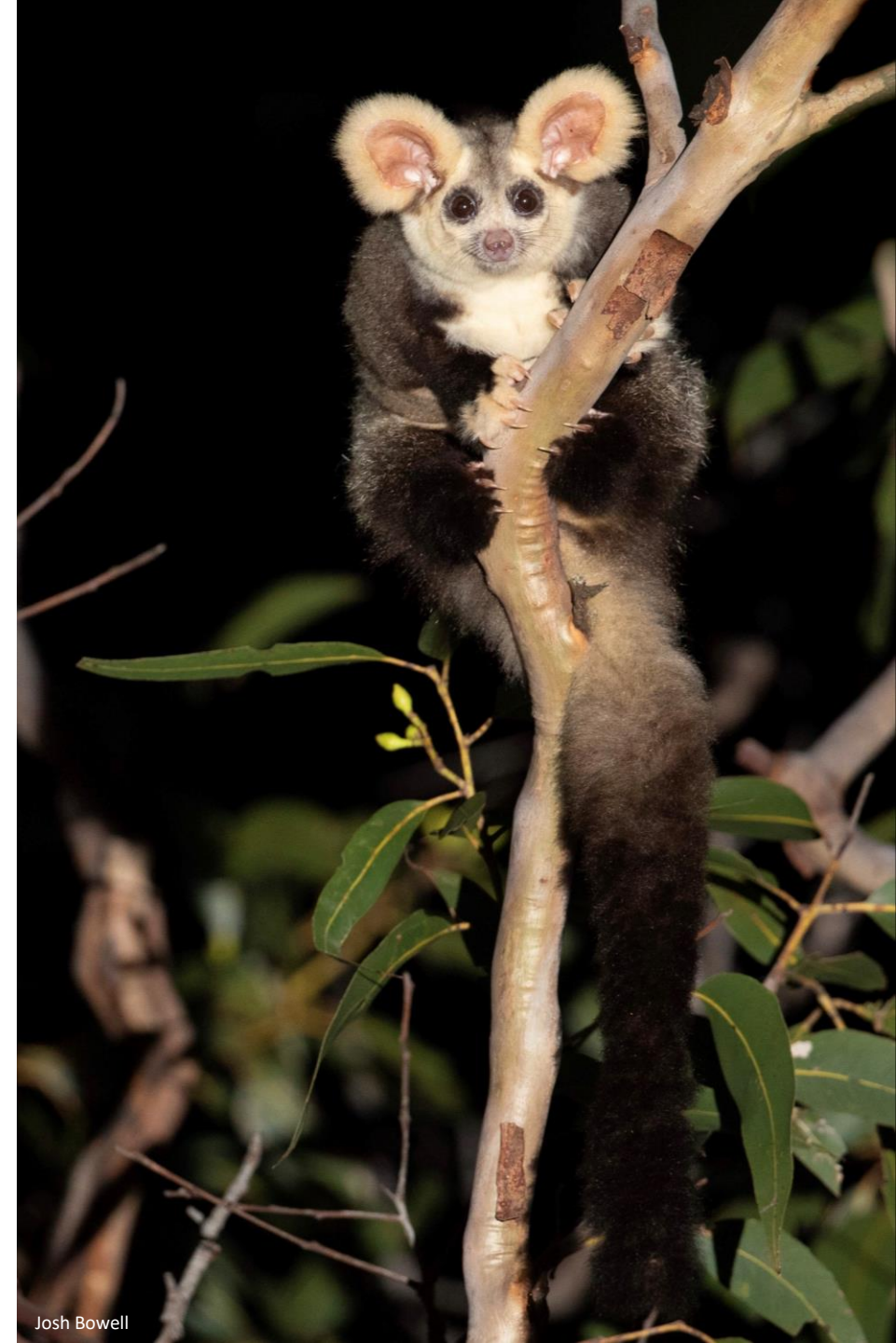


- Aim to raise their profile, encourage successful conservation outcomes, and provide additional support in 2024 to ensure their survival.
- GOGG was established to raise funds for greater glider conservation in Queensland.
- Identify preferred trees, hollows, and nest boxes:
  - VHF collars will be attached to gliders to monitor their movements.
- Determine ideal conditions within glider hollows:
  - Data loggers will record temperature and humidity across seasons.



# Greater Glider Conservation

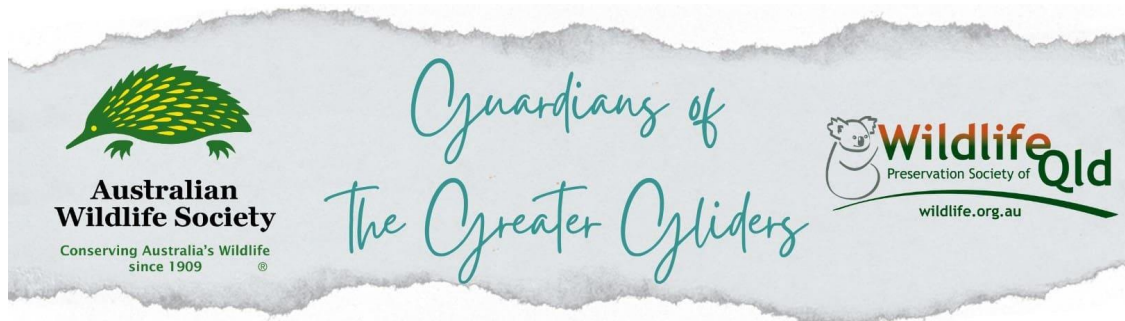
- Advocate for stronger nature laws to protect habitat and prevent unsustainable logging of hollow-bearing trees.
- Sign petitions and contact your local MP.
- Donate to greater glider research, projects, and appeals.
- Plant native vegetation to restore habitat for gliders.
- Avoid the use of barbed wire.
- Learn how to make a 'Goldilocks' nest box and donate it to greater glider recovery efforts.
- Join wildlife groups and report any greater glider sightings.





# Conservation Group Grants – Supported Projects

- Cedar Creek Wombat Rescue Inc & Hospital – NSW
  - Wombat Hospital Development
- Guardians of the Greater Gliders – QLD
  - Greater Glider Conservation
- **Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre – WA**
  - **Black Cockatoo Conservation**



# Black Cockatoos

In Australia, there are five species of black cockatoos:

1. The glossy black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*)
2. The yellow-tailed black cockatoo (*Zanda funereal*)
3. The Carnaby's black cockatoo (*Zanda latirostris*)
4. The Baudin's black cockatoo (*Zanda baudinii*)
5. The red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksia*)
  - The forest red-tailed black cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*)  
is a sub-species of the red-tailed black cockatoo.



Black Cockatoo Distribution Maps.  
Images: Birdlife Australia.



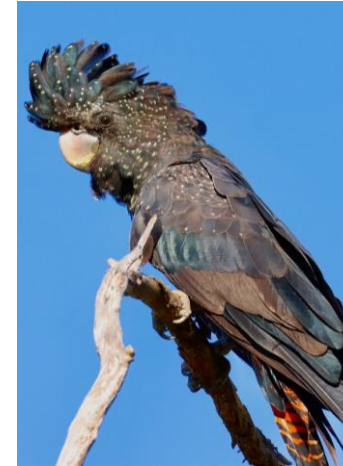
# Black Cockatoos in WA



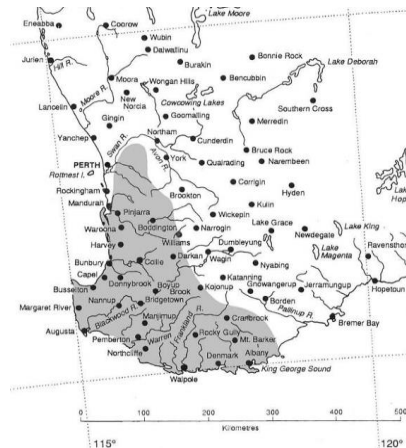
**Endangered**  
Carnaby's black cockatoo  
(*Zanda latirostris*)  
Image: Rebecca Harris.



**Endangered**  
Baudin's black cockatoo  
(*Zanda baudiini*)  
Image: Kaarakin.



**Vulnerable**  
Forest red-tailed black cockatoo  
(*Calyptorhynchus banksii naso*)  
Image: Joe Ball.



South-west corner of WA,  
incl. Perth. Maps: Kaarakin.

# Black Cockatoos

- Black cockatoos like to eat the seeds of native plants such as *Marri*, *Hakea*, and *Banksia*. Plant preferences vary between species.
- Found in Jarrah, Karri, and Eucalypt forests and woodlands and nest in hollows of old-growth trees. Habitat types vary between species.
- Threats:
  - Habitat loss, logging, and land clearing.
  - Competition with other species (bees, galahs, corellas) for nesting hollows.
  - Shot by farmers for threatening food stocks i.e. apple orchids.
  - Poisoning i.e. poisoned grain used to control mouse plagues.
  - Vehicle strikes.







# Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre

Protecting WA's Endangered species



- A NFP organisation conserving black cockatoos through rehabilitation, revegetation, education, and research.
- Rescues wild cockatoos in distress – struck by vehicles, shot, fallen from their nest, attacked by bees, cats, or other birds, or suffering the effects of poisons.
- Run education programs to raise awareness through their purpose-built Education Centre.





Carnaby's and Forest Red-Tailed Black Cockatoos in rehabilitation. Image: Kaarakin.



Funds provided by the Society assisted Kaarakin in rescuing, rehabilitating, and releasing black cockatoos back into the wild.



# Black Cockatoo Conservation

- Watch *Black Cockatoo Crisis*, which shines a light on the plight of black cockatoos.
- Write to the WA government asking them to implement the 12-point Emergency Plan.
- Plant cockatoo-friendly gardens.
- Sign up for the Save the Black Cockatoos and Kaarakin newsletters.
- Write to Minister Plibersek asking for new laws to stop habitat clearing.



# BLACK COCKATOO CRISIS

DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY JANE HAMMOND  
NARRATED BY JANINE GUNNAM | EDITED BY NICHOLAS HUNLAP

*The extinction clock is ticking on our black cockatoos. Will we save them in time?*

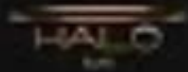
Presented by Fremantle Freelance in association with the WFA Forest Alliance and the Wilderness Society.




Co-funded with the assistance of Government and Industry



Approved with the audience  
of Documentary Australia







# BLACK COCKATOO CRISIS

*The extinction clock is ticking on the black cockatoos.*

Dear Minister Plibersek,

Huge flocks of black cockatoos once filled the skies over Boorloo/Perth and South West WA, but now all three species are threatened with extinction.

Sadly, this is a trend that is shared with many of Australia's threatened species.

Current laws and recovery plans are failing to protect their forest and woodland habitat from clearing, nor do they adequately address key threats.

I am calling on you to provide community rights in environmental decision-making\* and allow a genuine say in decisions that impact nature.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

P/code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\* The petition to call for community rights in environmental decision-making can be found here: [wilderness.good.do/commrights/call4cred/](http://wilderness.good.do/commrights/call4cred/)

Affix stamp if posting



The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP  
Minister for the Environment & Water

C/o Wilderness Society  
2 Delhi Street  
West Perth WA 6005

☐ Tick here if you don't want campaign updates.

All threatened species and ecological communities listed under the EPBC Act have a conservation plan to guide protection and recovery efforts. This includes Conservation Advice that is in place for the endangered Carnaby's black cockatoo, the endangered Baudin's cockatoo and the vulnerable Forest red-tailed black cockatoo. A new Recovery Plan is also currently under development for the three species in collaboration with experts, conservation groups and the Western Australian Government.

To help implement recovery action, the government has provided funding to Birdlife Australia for southwest black cockatoo recovery. More information on this important work is available at [birdlife.org.au/projects/southwest-black-cockatoo-recovery/](http://birdlife.org.au/projects/southwest-black-cockatoo-recovery/).

In addition, the government has committed to the 'Nature Positive Plan: better for the environment, better for business'. This Plan sets out how the government will create the framework for a nature positive Australia where we halt decline and repair nature. This is the most comprehensive reform of Australia's national environmental law since it commenced in 2000 and will deliver stronger environment powers that will help to ensure that our precious plants, animals and places, such as Western Australia's threatened black cockatoos are better protected.

# Wildlife Conservation Campaigns

## Australian Wildlife Week

Held During the First Week of October Each Year



*Platypus Alliance*





# Australian Wildlife Week

**Held During the First Week of October Each Year**

# Australian Wildlife Week

Held During the First Week of October Each Year

- The Society launched Australian Wildlife Week in 2019.
- To encourage a positive relationship between humanity and nature.
- We hold events each year to encourage participation in conservation action, for example:
  - Online Webinar and
  - Art Display.





# Platypus Alliance





# *The Platypus*



# The Platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*)

- Semi-aquatic egg-laying mammal (monotreme).
- Endemic to eastern Australia, including TAS.
  - Image: platypus distribution (shaded area).
- Live in burrows along rivers and creeks.
- Average lifespan of around 7 years (up to 20).
- Predominantly nocturnal and crepuscular. Forage dawn and dusk.
- Carnivorous: worms, insect larvae, freshwater shrimps, and yabbies.
- Their bill surfaces are packed with thousands of electroreceptors.

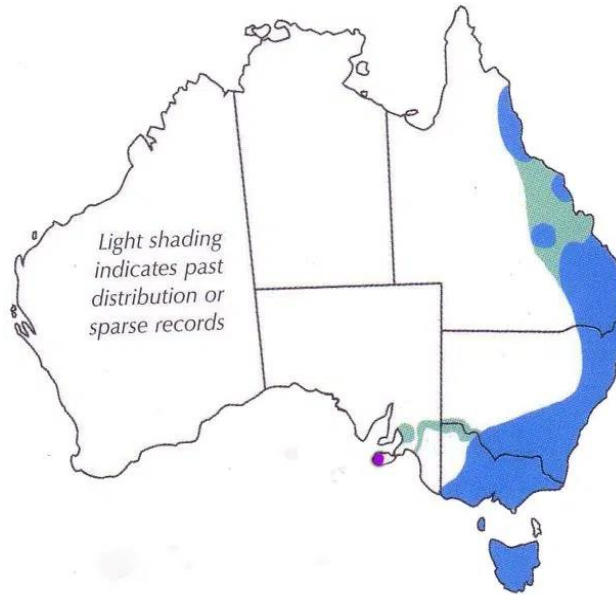
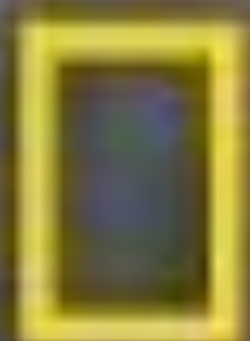


Image: Platypus distribution map.  
Credit: Map adapted from R. Strahan  
and S. van Dyck. (2008). The  
Mammals of Australia, 3rd edition.  
(New Holland: Sydney).





# **WORLD'S DEADLIEST**

# Ecological Significance

- Freshwater carnivore:
  - keep species at lower levels of the food chain in check.
- Ecosystem engineer:
  - construction of burrows increases habitat quality and nutrient cycling through the turnover of soil.





# Threats

- Predators such as dogs and foxes.
- Flooding and riverbank erosion.
- Reduced river flow due to drought.
- Human activities:
  - Habitat destruction from agriculture and urban development.
  - Pollution and litter.
  - Entanglement in fishing gear such as enclosed yabby traps.



# Platypus Alliance



Secret Creek Sanctuary



Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW

Promoting sustainable fishing

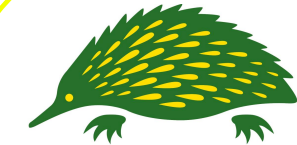
VICTORIAN ALLIANCE FOR PLATYPUS  
SAFE YABBY TRAPS



Nature Conservation Council  
The voice for nature in NSW



Local Land  
Services  
Greater Sydney



Australian  
Wildlife Society

Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909



UNSW  
SYDNEY



Australian  
Ecosystems  
Foundation Inc.



The  
Australian  
Mammal Society







Open-top yabby net



Enclosed yabby trap

# Changing the rules to protect native wildlife

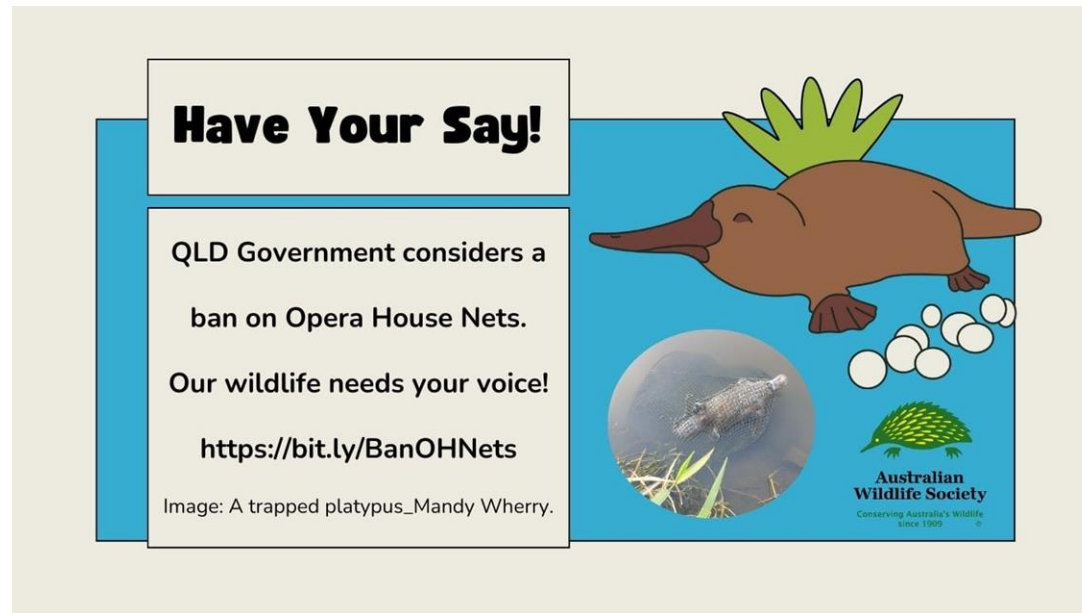
Banned in NSW from 30 April 2021

# National Overview

STATE/TERRITORY	CONSERVATION STATUS	POSITION	ACTION
ACT	Protected	Banned	17-Sep-19
TAS	Protected	Banned	Prohibitions in place
VIC	Vulnerable	Banned	1-Jul-19
NSW	Protected	Banned	30-Apr-21
SA	Endangered	Banned	1-Jul-23
NT	<i>Not present</i>	Not Banned	TBA
WA	<i>Not present</i>	Banned	Prohibitions in place
QLD	Protected	Not Banned	Discussions occurring

# Queensland Update

- Fisheries Queensland (FFWG) sought feedback from the community reading a proposed ban on opera house nets.
- Submissions closed in May 2024.
- We are waiting for a response.





# Platypus Conservation

## What can you do?

- Dispose of litter appropriately.
- Fish responsibly.
- Keep rivers clean and healthy.
- Reduce water consumption.
- Educate yourself.
- Sign petitions to protect wildlife.
- Report sightings of platypus and entanglements.



**THE *amazing* PLATYPUS**

### HOW CAN YOU HELP THEM?

**USE LESS WATER**

The water we use in our homes and gardens can come from rivers where platypus live, so the less water we use, the more there is for platypus.

**KEEP RIVERS CLEAN & HEALTHY**

Pick up any plastic rings, rubber bands or hair ties you see, even those on the street. Rubbish can get washed into rivers and platypuses can get tangled in them. Try to pick up one piece every day.

**FISH RESPONSIBLY**

Don't use illegal opera house yabby nets. Let your parents know if you see any, as platypuses can drown in them. Also make sure you take all your fishing lines and rubbish with you.

Produced by Doug Gimey and Joshua Griffiths. Supported by a grant from the Australian Wildlife Society. Image: Doug Gimey. Report any sightings to [www.platypusSPOT.org](http://www.platypusSPOT.org)



This week we launched [iNaturalist Australia](#), the Australian node of iNaturalist, the world's leading global social biodiversity network.

We now encourage you to use [iNaturalist Australia](#) to record your individual plant, animal and fungi sightings. You can still upload sightings using our Record a Sighting function, but we will be phasing it out.

## How to record an observation with iNaturalist Australia

You can record observations with [iNaturalist Australia](#) on your desktop and by using the [iNaturalist app](#) on your iPhone or Android device. Uploading an observation to iNaturalist Australia on your desktop is very similar to using the ALA's Record a Sighting function.

1. First, go to [iNaturalist Australia](#) and click **Sign up** to create an account.
2. Log in to iNaturalist Australia and click **Upload**.
3. Drag and drop your image file or choose the file from your device.
4. Click in the species name box, then select from the list of suggested species.
5. Enter date and location details.
6. Click **Submit 1 observation**.
7. Your record will appear on the **Your observations** page, where you can see all your records in a list or on a map. On this page, you can sort and search your observations by date, taxonomy or location.

All iNaturalist Australia observations are loaded into the ALA regularly.



Environment  
& Heritage



Home ☐ BioNet

## NSW BioNet

■ gateway to NSW biodiversity information



NSW BioNet is the repository for biodiversity data products managed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

BioNet aims to improve biodiversity outcomes by enabling the community and government to proactively manage and enhance biodiversity in NSW through comprehensive, credible and robust information.

### Getting started

BioNet is made up of a number of data collections. Refer to the links under 'Data collections' for more information. These collections are mostly contained within two core applications; [BioNet Atlas](#) and [BioNet Vegetation Classification](#).

In addition to these applications, biodiversity information can also be accessed via:

- an Open Application Programming Interface (API). [Learn more about BioNet Web Services](#)
- [SEED](#) environmental data portal.

You can submit your own sightings records to BioNet Atlas. [Learn more about contributing](#).

### How to access BioNet Atlas

# Report Sightings of Platypus

Report sightings to iNaturalist or NSW BioNet (which regularly passes state records on to ALA).  
Help understand the distribution and conservation needs of these animals.



## To Access Entangled Wildlife Australia

Please visit [bit.ly/3q1EHPH](https://bit.ly/3q1EHPH),  
scan the QR code, or  
email [entangledwildlifeaustralia@ihug.com.au](mailto:entangledwildlifeaustralia@ihug.com.au)



# Report Sightings of Wildlife Entanglement

Australian-wide citizen science project and database that wildlife groups or the public can use to record sightings of entangled wildlife.





**Australian  
Wildlife Society**

Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909 <sup>®</sup>

# Snip Rings for Wildlife

Est. 2020



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



- Cut through ring-shaped items:
  - Plastic rings
  - Rubber bands
  - Hair ties
  - Loops of facemasks
  - Plastic dome shaped lids



**Before** throwing them away to protect native wildlife.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Each year, thousands of birds and semi-aquatic wildlife are strangled, obtain significant injuries, and often die horrific deaths from ring-shaped items.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Native wildlife becomes entangled in these items that wrap around their beak or muzzle, preventing them from eating.

# Snip Rings for Wildlife



These items can also tangle up their feet, wings, or fins, limiting their movement.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Young animals can become entrapped in these items, and as they grow, these items cut into their flesh, sometimes amputating limbs or killing the animal.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Despite contacting numerous manufacturers, the issue persists.  
Jars and bottles come with a plastic ring that snaps apart from the lid upon opening  
or a peel-off seal under the cap.



# *Snip Rings for Wildlife*



What can you do to help protect wildlife from  
the risk of entanglement and death?



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Snip through ring-shaped items before disposing of them.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



## MAKE USE OF ALTERNATIVES & SWAP:



Plastic rings



Peel & seal lids



Make us of alternatives such as peel-and-seal lids or milk cartons.

# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Swap disposable facemasks for a reusable facemasks, and don't forget to cut the loops.

# Snip Rings for Wildlife



Ask for no dome-shaped lid (or straw) when ordering a drink.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



## Community-Level

- Engage with and educate children and members of the community through:
  - Our social media platforms,
  - Our magazine *Australian Wildlife*,
  - Our newsletter *Wildlife Wisdom*,
  - Our website [aws.org.au](http://aws.org.au), and
  - In person at education days and school events.



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



## Organisational-Level

- Write to manufacturers and businesses to encourage them to improve the design of their products to protect native wildlife.
- Encourage members of the community to do the same by providing a template letter (*Left*).



### SNIP RINGS FOR WILDLIFE



Date: ..... / ..... / .....

Name/Company: .....

Address: .....

Suburb: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....

**Re: plastic rings, rubber bands and hair ties pose danger to Australia's native wildlife**

Dear .....

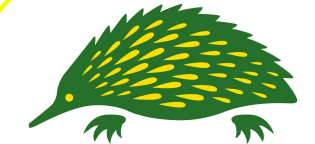
Each year, thousands of birds and air-breathing aquatic wildlife such as platypus, turtles and water dragons are strangled, obtain significant injuries and often die horrific deaths from discarded litter. Wildlife often becomes entangled in plastic rings, rubber bands and hair ties that wrap around their beak or muzzle, preventing them from eating. These items can also tangle up their feet, wings, or fins, limiting their movement. Young animals can become entrapped in these items, and as they grow, these items cut into their flesh, sometimes amputating limbs or killing the animal. Other animals mistake these items for food and ingest them.

Some manufacturers produce jars, bottles, and tetra packs with plastic lids that come with a plastic ring that snaps apart from the lid upon opening or a peel-off seal under the cap. If a plastic ring is not snipped before disposal, by a particularly environmentally aware person, then it enters our waste or natural water systems as a whole ring. This ring has the potential to cause a slow and painful death to a variety of Australia's native wildlife through strangulation, starvation, deformation, or infection.

I write to urge your company to change the design of your product and tetra packs to a peel-off seal under the cap or ring that snaps apart easily upon opening, to prevent the needless suffering of Australia's precious native wildlife.

Thank you in advance for your time and I look forward to your response.  
My details are provided below.

Yours sincerely



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since 1909 ®



# Snip Rings for Wildlife



## Government-Level (National)

- Meet with and write to Ministers, state and federal, to advocate for a ban on ring-shaped items to protect native wildlife from the risk of entanglement and death.





# WILDLIFE EMERGENCY CONTACTS

STATE	WILDLIFE GROUP	CONTACT
National	Wildlife Rescue Australia	1300 596 457
ACT	ACT Wildlife	0432 300 033
TAS	Bonorong Wildlife Rescue	0447 264 625
VIC	Wildlife Victoria	(03) 8400 7300
NSW	WIRES	1300 094 737
SA	Fauna Rescue SA	(08) 8289 0896
WA	Native Animal Rescue	(08) 9249 3434



State	Organisation/s	Contact
NSW	National Parks and Wildlife ORRCA	1300 072 757 02 9415 3333
QLD	Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service	1300 130 372
SA	Australian Marine Wildlife Research & Rescue Organisation	08 8262 5452 or 0411 057 551
TAS	Department of Natural Resources and Environment	0427 942 537
VIC	Whale and Dolphin Emergency Hotline	1300 136 017
WA	Wildcare	08 9474 9055
NT	Marine Wildwatch	1800 453 941



# Social Media Channels

- The Society is active on five social media platforms.
- We welcome you to join us. Student membership is FREE!







## Magazine

Receive the quarterly issue of **Australian Wildlife** via email or post to keep up-to-date with the collective work promoted nationally.



## Social Media

Contribute to our **social media platforms**: Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Website.



## E-Newsletter

Receive the monthly **e-newsletter**. Keep up-to-date with news from our members and on the work of the Society.



## Right to Vote

You have the **right to vote** on important matters at Society general meetings (financial members only).



## AWS Portal

Access the **Members' Resource Centre** - your destination for resources and materials on various wildlife-related topics.



## Other Benefits

**Awards, Scholarships, Grants**, and the opportunity to **network** with like-minded people.

# SAVE OUR WILDLIFE



## Australian Wildlife Society

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since 1909

# JOIN NOW!

**aws.org.au**

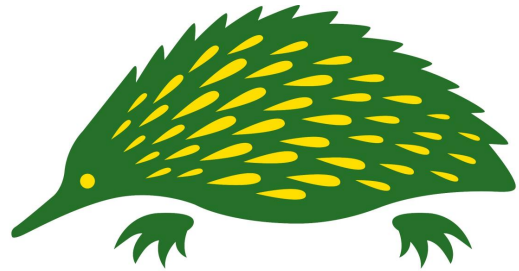




# Summary

- Our mission is to conserve Australia's wildlife (flora and fauna).
- To conserve Australia's wildlife, we are dedicated and have many projects in place to help us achieve our mission.
- You can also help preserve Australia's wildlife by becoming a member of the Society.
- Don't forget to #SnipRingsforWildlife.





## **Australian Wildlife Society**

Conserving Australia's Wildlife  
since 1909 <sup>®</sup>

# Contact

- Email: [info@aws.org.au](mailto:info@aws.org.au)
- Telephone: 0424 287 297
- Address: 9/121 Queen Street, Campbelltown NSW 2560
- Website: [www.aws.org.au](http://www.aws.org.au)





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