

Australian Wildlife Society

Supports Possums in South Australia



SAVE OUR WILDLIFE FOUNDATION INC.

Marian MacLucas, Save Our Wildlife Foundation

As an all-species wildlife rescue, Save Our Wildlife Foundation Inc (SOWFI) members provide vital assistance and advice for South Australia's wildlife. Over time, we have earned a reputation for our commitment to caring for possums, the second biggest species group called into our hotline. With habitat destruction and human activity taking a toll on wild populations, our mission focuses on helping to restore balance and support these incredible creatures. In South Australia, brushtails are considered a species of conservation concern, meaning they are vulnerable to becoming endangered. They come into care because they are injured, sick, orphaned, or displaced, often as a result of direct or indirect human impact.

We are thrilled that we have received a generous grant from the Australian Wildlife Society, allowing us to purchase fifty possum boxes for our current and future animals in care.

What makes these possum boxes special is that they are designed with input from our experienced possum carers, ensuring they meet

the specific needs of each species. The boxes provide a secure environment for our young possums as they move from advanced care to the final stages of rehabilitation. At the aviary stage, they are given a box and time to imprint as their home, ready for release back into the wild. Once the flat-packed boxes arrive, Kim, our lead box maker, assembles them. Installation is overseen by members of the box installation team, who take great care to ensure the boxes are correctly oriented, providing a safe future home for the possums on release.

Thanks to the support from the Australian Wildlife Society and the dedication of our team, South Australia's



Benji, the brushtail possum (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), occupies a SOWFI release box, ready to be released back into the wild. Image: SOWFI.

common ringtail (*Pseudocheirus peregrinus*) and common brushtail possums (*Trichosurus vulpecula*) are getting a second chance to live as wildlife. Each box represents a step toward giving these remarkable animals the future they deserve.



Kim F assembles our possum boxes, ready to go out to our Wildlife Carers for the final stage of rehabilitation for their possums in care. Image: SOWFI.



Sharon B volunteers on our Box Installation team. She met the Wildlife Carer at the release site to safely install the box and possum in their new home. Image: SOWFI.