



2025 Annual Report



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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge that Sovereignty was never ceded and that it Always Was, Always Will Be Aboriginal land.

About IUCN

1,400+
MEMBERS

17,000+
EXPERTS

160+
COUNTRIES

A unique and powerful union

The world's largest and most diverse environmental network

Vision: A just world that values and conserves nature.

Mission: Influence, encourage and assist societies to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

Created in 1948, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) is now the world's largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of our more than 1,400 Member organisations and 17,000 experts.

This diversity and expertise makes IUCN the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

The broad membership of IUCN means we can incubate ideas and are a trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral platform where governments, academics, businesses, NGOs, local communities, Indigenous Peoples and others can work together to solve environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development.

Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. These projects combine Western science with Indigenous science and the traditional knowledge of local communities to work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people's well-being.

IUCN Members, expert Commissions and Secretariat work together in a combined effort to conserve nature and accelerate sustainable development.

Members

IUCN Member organisations set the direction of the work of IUCN, and global conservation efforts more broadly, every four years at the IUCN World Conservation Congress.

Commissions

Seven expert Commissions include thousands of experts from around the world who inform IUCN's knowledge and help produce its work.

Secretariat

In addition to contributing knowledge, convening and capacity-building work, the Secretariat manages projects worldwide and coordinates support services to Members and Commissions.

About ACIUCN

46+
YEARS

1000+
EXPERTS

59+
MEMBERS

The IUCN Australian Committee

A growing alliance for nature conservation in Australia

The Australian Committee for IUCN

(ACIUCN) was founded in 1979 to provide a focus and platform for Australian nature conservation organisations to advance the IUCN vision of *a just world that values and conserves nature*.

In 2025, our constituency in Australia comprises a growing network of 59 Members and Associates, and over 1000 IUCN Commission experts.

We harness our unique convening power to provide a neutral and innovative platform for collaboration.

Together we tackle critical challenges, share knowledge, build capacity, drive action and change, pursue common goals, and work towards our shared vision for nature.

ACIUCN also serves as a vital link with the regional and global IUCN network, including the Secretariat, Oceania Regional Office, other National Committees and the 7 IUCN expert Commissions.

ACIUCN is an incorporated association and registered charity. We are regulated by NSW Fair Trading, the Australian Taxation Office and the Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission.

Mission

Bring together Australian members of IUCN in collaborative and inclusive partnerships to further IUCN's Mission

Strategic Goals

- Facilitate improved environmental outcomes in Australia by bringing together ACIUCN members and diverse partners in an inclusive platform to build capacity, share knowledge and stimulate cooperation across sectors.
- Strengthen and build the membership and profile of ACIUCN and IUCN networks across Australia.
- Ensure ACIUCN's long-term organisational sustainability.

Values

The following core values form our ethical foundation, guiding our activities and decisions:

- Integrity
- Respectful engagement
- Recognition and respect for Indigenous Traditional Knowledge
- Finding common ground across diverse perspectives
- Evidence-based practice and policies



2025 MEMBERS

Our 2025 membership base is made up of **51 organisations and 8 individuals, 59 in total**. This includes **3 new IUCN members** and **3 new Associate Members** who joined the committee in 2025.

The 26 IUCN members with voting rights include 10 Government organisations, 1 Indigenous Peoples Organisation and 15 Non-Government Organisations. Our 25 Associate members consist of 2 Government and 23 Non-Government Organisations.

IUCN Member Organisations

Government House

1. ACT City and Environment Directorate
2. Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment & Water
3. Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
4. NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
5. Parks Victoria
6. QLD Department of Environment, Tourism Science & Innovation
7. SA Department of Environment and Water
8. VIC Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action
9. WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
10. Zoos Victoria

Indigenous Peoples Organisations

1. North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance

Non-Government House

1. Australian Conservation Foundation
2. Australian Foundation for Wilderness Limited
3. Australian Land Conservation Alliance
4. Australian Marine Conservation Society
5. Australian Rainforest Conservation Society
6. Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute
7. Environmental Defenders Offices of Australia
8. Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
9. Environmental Justice Australia
10. Minderoo Foundation
11. National Environmental Law Association
12. Nature Conservation Council of NSW
13. Ocean Earth Foundation (Tierra Mar)
14. The Wilderness Society
15. WWF-Australia



2025 MEMBERS

Associate Member Organisations

Government Associates

1. NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust
2. Taronga Conservation Society Australia

Non-Government Associates

1. Australian Wildlife Conservancy
2. Biodiversity Council Australia
3. Birdlife Australia
4. Bush Heritage Australia
5. Conservation Volunteers Australia
6. Country Needs People
7. Earthwatch Institute (Australia)
8. Enviro-Dynamics
9. Forest Stewardship Council
10. Fungimap
11. Humane World for Animals
12. International Fund for Animal Welfare
13. Invasives Species Council
14. Land for Wildlife
15. Major Projects Foundation
16. National Parks Association of NSW
17. Pew Charitable Trusts
18. People and Parks Foundation
19. Queensland Conservation Council
20. South Endeavour Trust
21. The Nature Conservancy
22. Trust for Nature, Victoria
23. UQ School of Earth and Environmental Sciences

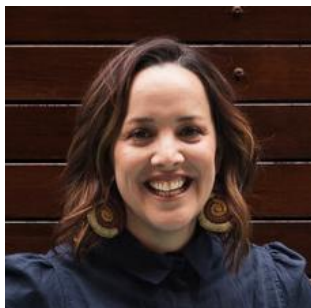
Individual Associates & Honorary Life Members

1. Professor Richard Mackay AM
2. Penelope Figgis AO
3. Peter Cochrane
4. Diane Tarte
5. Pam Eiser
6. Dr Jon Day PSM
7. Professor Marc Hockings
8. Professor Brendan Mackey

2025 BOARD



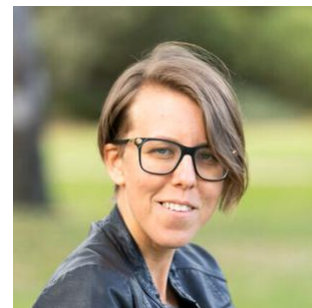
Fleur Downard
Chair, GOV House
DCCEEW



Erica McCreedy
NGO House
NAILSMA



Mary-Anne Healy
GOV House
SA DEW



Basha Stasak
NGO House
ACF



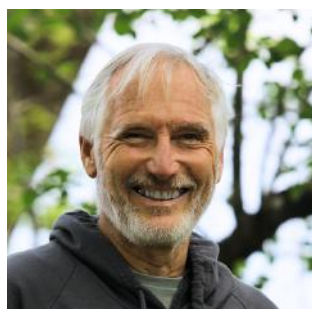
Dr Joanne Wilson
Public Officer



Philip Prentice
Treasurer



Jo Hopkins
Commissions Liaison



Peter Cochrane
IUCN Councillor

The ACIUCN Board oversees the organisation's strategic direction, governance, risks, and performance. Board members give advice, support, and work with the Executive Director to deliver on the mission and the strategic plan.

Elected Board members include:

- 2 x Government member representatives
- 2 x Non-Government member representatives
- IUCN Councillor residing in Australia
- Independent Indigenous Board member (new seat, starting from the 2025 AGM)

The Board-appointed office bearers include:

- Public Officer
- Treasurer
- IUCN Commissions Liaison



EXECUTIVE REPORT

From the Executive Director

HIGHLIGHTS

2025 was a positive year of growth, action and connection for ACIUCN.

Welcoming new members: 4 new Australian nature conservation organisations joined IUCN this year, and 3 new organisations joined the Australian Committee as Associate members. 2 of the new IUCN Members were already Associate Members of the Committee, bringing the total number of ACIUCN members to 59.

Activities and Events: we hosted 12 well-attended events this year, including webinars, workshops, a 2-day Symposium, roundtable meetings with the IUCN Director General, a delegation to the IUCN World Conservation Congress, and our 46th AGM on the 17th December 2025.

Connection and Engagement: we saw increased connection and engagement at our events, both in person and online, and across our digital channels, including a marked increase in visits, event registrations and ticket sales via our revamped website, as well as increased views of videos on our revitalised YouTube channel.

Financial Performance: 2025 showed improvements in our financial performance and position, with a bank balance of approx. \$328,350 at June 30, cash revenue of over \$303,000 for the year and a profit surplus of over \$103,000. This is compared to a cash deficit of approx. \$95,000 in 2024.

GOVERNANCE & OPERATIONS

New website: we launched a new website in January, with a new design and new functions including event registrations, ticket sales and donations processing.

New Constitution: We worked with Norton Rose Fulbright pro-bono lawyers to update our Constitution, allowing for the creation of a new Indigenous Board Member position as well as ensuring we are compliant with current regulations for Australian not-for-profits. The updated Constitution was passed unanimously by Members at a General Meeting on Oct 1st and we announced our new Indigenous Board Member at the 2025 AGM.

New Strategic Plan for 2026: The current Strategic Plan expires in 2025, in line with the IUCN Work Programme cycles. A new strategic plan was drafted in sync with the new IUCN 20 Year Vision and 2026-2029 Work Programme. This new strategic plan will be finalised in early 2026.

IUCN Commissions & Secretariat relations: We met regularly with our Commissions sub-committee, the IUCN Secretariat, the Oceania Regional Office, and the IUCN Global Group for National and Regional Committee development.

Staff changes: In July we bid farewell to Lisa Malcolm and wished her the best in her new role as CEO of the Sunshine Coast Environment Council.



EXECUTIVE REPORT

From the Executive Director

PERFORMANCE

In June we closed the 24-25 financial year with cash revenue of \$303,501 and accrued revenue of \$250,501, a budget surplus of \$103,193 and a bank balance of \$328,350.

This financial performance showed a \$28,235 increase to our projected budget surplus of \$74,958 - as presented to members at the 2024 AGM.

The revenue surplus recorded was primarily due to events income, which exceeded the projected income by over \$19,000, as well as some event costs not being invoiced until after June 30.

Moving forward our financial goals will be to increase revenue and alleviate the historical gap between membership income and operating expenses. We are developing a fundraising strategy to explore alternative income streams, including donations and projects income. Membership fees will be invoiced in March to help ensure payment before June 30.

Thank you to chartered accountant David Perceval for conducting our annual audit for 24-25.

Our membership network is also steadily increasing, with 4 new IUCN members, 3 new Associate Members and a total network of 59 members in 2025.

ACTIVITIES

We held 12 events in 2025, including:

- 3 x NGO Governance Exchanges
- 2 x Roundtables with the IUCN Director General in Sydney and Cairns
- 2-Day Species Survival Symposium
- Delegation to the IUCN World Conservation Congress
- IUCN Membership Recruitment Webinar
- IUCN Congress in-Person Workshop
- IUCN Congress Online Workshop
- IUCN Oceania Candidates & Delegates
- 46th Annual General Meeting

ACIUCN Executive Director Sarah Terkes also sits on the IUCN Key Biodiversity Areas National Coordination Group.

More details about our key events and activities are laid out over the following pages.

PUBLICATIONS

The final key themes report from the 2024 Reimagining Conservation Forum on Djabugay Country was published on the NAILSMA website in November 2025 and ACIUCN website in late 2025.

The 2024 National Ecosystem Restoration Workshop report was written in collaboration with 3 co-authors and 11 contributing editors throughout late 2024 and 2025, socialised at the IUCN Congress, and then published on our website in late 2025.

2025 **ACTIVITIES**

JAN

NEW WEBSITE

NEW DESIGN & RSVP FUNCTIONS
TICKET SALES AND DONATIONS

FEB

NGO EXCHANGE LAUNCH

IN COLLABORATION WITH BOARD
MEMBERS FROM ACF, AMCS AND WWF

MAR

WEBINAR

IUCN MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS
RECRUITMENT WEBINAR

MAY

NGO EXCHANGE

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF COMPANY
DIRECTORS NOT FOR PROFIT ADVICE

JUN

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

GIVE BACK TO NATURE GROUP
CAMPAIGN WITH MEMBERS

JUL

SPECIES SYMPOSIUM TARONGA ZOO

JUL

CONGRESS WORKSHOP

NEGOTIATIONS TRAINING & DETAILED
SCHEDULE OVERVIEW FOR ATTENDEES



2025 ACTIVITIES



SPOTLIGHT

SPECIES SURVIVAL SYMPOSIUM

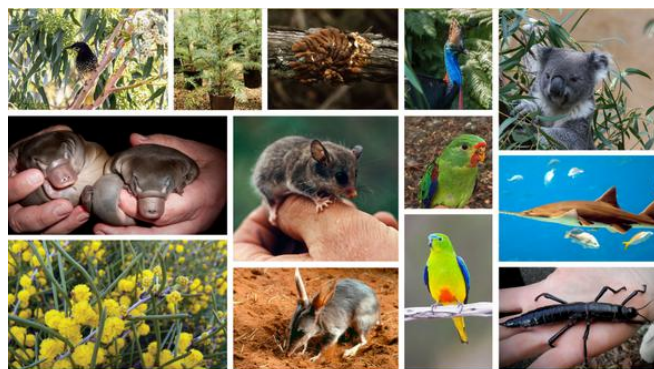
July 2-4, 2025

In 2024, Australia's National Biodiversity Strategy was updated to include 6 national targets to address the drivers of biodiversity decline.

A key target is **No New Extinctions** and includes preventing new extinctions of native species, supporting the recovery of threatened species and maintaining genetic diversity. Achieving this target will require more collaboration and support for biodiversity conservation, and a transformative shift to a nature-positive society.

In recognition of this, we convened over 200 experts, practitioners and decision makers to:

- Share research, knowledge, and experience across sectors
- Explore innovative, collaborative and transformative approaches to removing threats, overcoming barriers, and conserving biodiversity, including partnerships with industry.
- Listen to First Nations experts, incorporate their perspectives, and support their leadership in healing Country
- Make recommendations for halting extinctions and achieving genetically diverse, long-term species recovery in Australia.



200+ PARTICIPANTS

**90+ PRESENTERS
& FACILITATORS**

**40 PRESENTATION
VIDEOS**

**10 SPONSORS
& PARTNERS**

The Symposium report is being drafted and is due for publication in 2026

SPOTLIGHT

IUCN WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS

October 8-15, Abu Dhabi

The 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress was the largest gathering in IUCN history.

It brought together over 10,000 participants from 189 countries both on-site and online, and included 140 booths and pavilions and over 1000 events.

The Members' Assembly adopted 144 Resolutions and Recommendations, including a new 20 year Strategic Vision, the first IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation, and the recognition of ecocide as a crime.

Members also elected the IUCN leadership team for the next four years at Congress, including Councillors and Commission Chairs. We were thrilled to announce Australian delegates Erica McCreedy and Blathnaid Byrne as new IUCN Councillors for the next 4 years.

The Australia-Oceania delegation to Congress included over 75 representatives, Commissions experts, staff and other interested parties. The Australia-Oceania delegation was involved in over 65 events, and our Australian delegates received 18 awards in recognition of their world-leading efforts in nature conservation.



10,000+ PARTICIPANTS

1000+ EVENTS

**144 RESOLUTIONS &
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**75+ AUSTRALIA-OCEANIA
DELEGATES**

**65+ AUSTRALIA-OCEANIA
EVENTS**

**18 AUSTRALIAN AWARD
WINNERS**

SPOTLIGHT

NGO GOVERNANCE EXCHANGE

A new initiative in collaboration with NGO Members

In early 2025 we were approached by Board Members from the Australian Marine Conservation Society, the Australian Conservation Foundation and WWF Australia. They had identified ACIUCN as the best vehicle to facilitate a network and a knowledge exchange for Board Members of Australian environmental NGOs.

We were delighted to coordinate the exchange in collaboration with our NGO Members, and the network was launched in February 2025.

It was agreed we would aim to host a quarterly forum for Board Members of Environmental NGOs across Australia to share governance knowledge and resources, learn, network, and collaborate. The overall aim would be to support and strengthen the governance of mission-aligned Australian environmental organisations.

We held **3 Online NGO Governance Exchange meetings in 2025**, including an inaugural meeting with our fledgling network to co-design the meetings, and then two subsequent quarterly meetings with expert guest speakers who spoke on Best Practice and Guidelines for Not for Profit Governance, as well as AI Policy and Capacity Building for Not for Profits.

Since the network was launched, it has grown into a network of over 60 Board Members and Chief Executives of Environmental NGOs across Australia, including organisations outside our membership network.

We look forward to continuing the NGO Governance Exchange for as long as it provides value and connection to our Members and the Nature Conservation Sector in Australia.



3 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

3 ONLINE MEETINGS

2 EXPERT GUEST SPEAKERS

60+ INDIVIDUAL NETWORK MEMBERS

SPOTLIGHT

WEBINARS & ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Other Online Events in 2025

March 2025

IUCN Membership Recruitment Webinar

Speakers:

Dr Kira Mileham, IUCN SSC
Kate Noble, WWF Australia
Bronwen Golder, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition
Sarah Terkes, ACIUCN Exec Director
Lupe Tupou, IUCN Memberships Officer



IUCN Membership
Information Session



WEBINAR | 27TH MARCH | 12:30PM AEDT



Lupe Moala Tupou
IUCN Oceania
Regional Office, Fiji



Kate Noble
WWF Australia
Oceans Policy



Kira Mileham
IUCN Species
Survival Commission



Bronwen Golder
Deep Sea
Conservation Coalition

August 2025

IUCN Congress Online Workshop

Presenters:

Fleur Downard, ACIUCN Chair and Director
International Environment Section, DCCEEW
Peter Cochrane, IUCN Vice President and Regional
Councillor



IUCN
World
Conservation
Congress

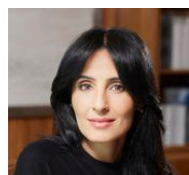
Webinar | August 20

October 2025

Meet the IUCN Oceania Candidates + Delegates

Presenters:

Razan Al Mubarak, IUCN President
Peter Cochrane, IUCN Vice President and Regional
Councillor
Erica McCreedy, Nominee for Councillor
Blathnaid Byrne, Nominee for Treasurer
Isoa Korovulavula, Nominee for Councillor
Brendan Mackey, Nominee for Commission Chair



Razan Al Mubarak
Current & Nominated IUCN President



Peter Cochrane
Current IUCN Vice President



Blathnaid Byrne
Nominated: IUCN Treasurer



Dr Isoa Korovulavula
Nominated: Councillor, Oceania



Erica McCreedy
Nominated: Councillor, Oceania

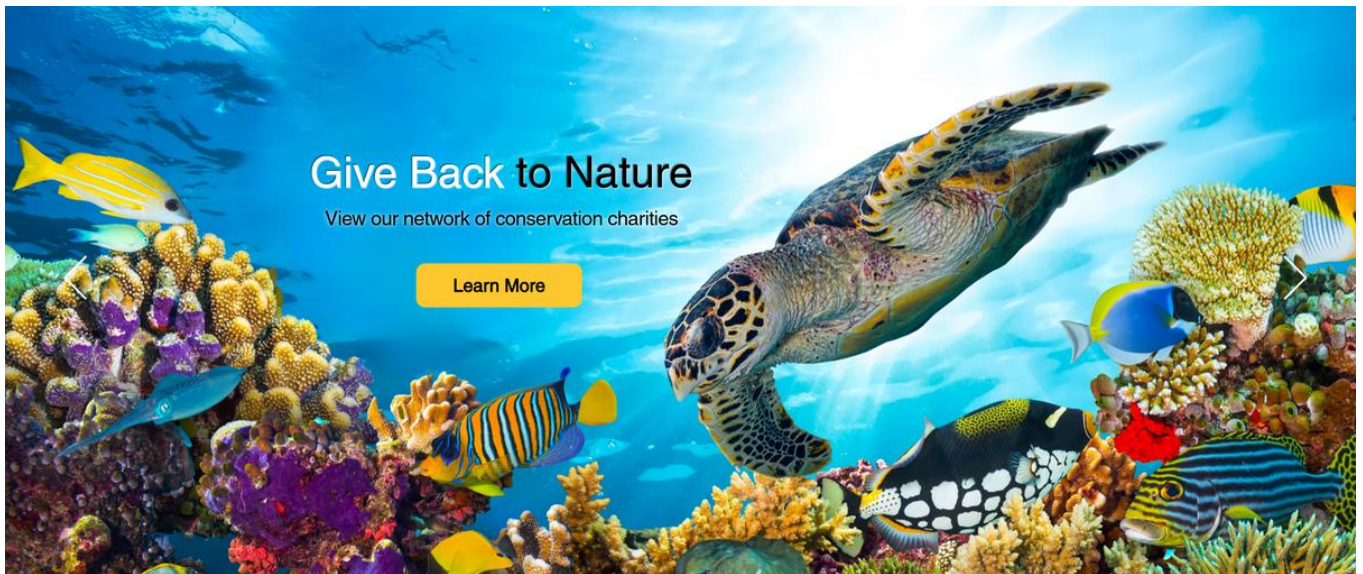


Prof Brendan Mackey
Nominated: Chair, Climate Commission

SPOTLIGHT

GIVE BACK TO NATURE CAMPAIGN

Launched June 2025



In May 2025, we launched our “Always On” Group Fundraising Campaign with our Not for Profit members.

The campaign has a permanent banner on the front page of our website, leading to a web page asking visitors to consider giving back to the Conservation sector in Australia.

We have 35 Non-Government / Not for Profit Organisations in our Membership Network, so we worked with our members to include their images and logos and link to their respective donation pages.

We ran one soft ‘push’ campaign in June 2025, at the end of financial year tax period, and will continue to run an EOFY campaign push each year from hereon.

**35 MEMBERS & ASSOCIATES
REPRESENTED**

**605 UNIQUE PAGE
VISITORS**

**234 CLICKS TO VISIT
MEMBER PAGES**

**3 MINUTE AVERAGE
VIEW TIME**

2025 BALANCE SHEET

1st July 2024 - 30 June 2025 | CASH BASIS

ASSETS	
Bank	
Expenses Account	2,064
Operating Account	137,473
Term Deposit 1	129,474
Term Deposit 2	59,339
Total Bank	328,350
TOTAL ASSETS	328,350
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities	
GST	11,706
PAYG Withholdings Payable	3,184
Superannuation Payable	2,892
Wages Payable - Payroll	3,462
Total Current Liabilities	21,244
TOTAL LIABILITIES	21,244
NET ASSETS	307,106
EQUITY	
Current Year Earnings	278,877
Retained Earnings	95,719
TOTAL EQUITY	307,106

2025 PROFIT & LOSS

1st July 2024 - 30 June 2025 | CASH BASIS

INCOME	
Events & Projects	129,268
Interest & Investments	9,018
Membership Dues	65,080.00
DCCEEW Support	100,000.00
Donations	134
TOTAL INCOME	303,501
GROSS PROFIT	303,501
EXPENSES	
Bank charges	301
Bookkeeping Support	812
Expenses - Events	85,719
Expenses - General Office	1169
Insurance	1320
Meetings	593
Platform Fees - Website, Xero	1148
Salaries	96,199
Stripe Fees	399
Superannuation	11,083
Travel & Accommodation	1863
TOTAL EXPENSES	200,308
NET PROFIT	103,193

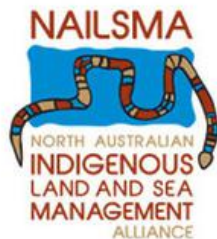
Please refer to separate 2025 Financial Reports for details and analysis of the financials

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our Board Members

who generously provide time, advice, help and expertise in support of the organisation and our members:

- Fleur Downard
- Peter Cochrane
- Mary-Anne Healy
- Jo Hopkins
- Erica McCreedy
- Philip Prentice
- Basha Stasak
- Joanne Wilson



Special thanks to Public Officer Joanne Wilson who consistently provides extra time, advice and help to ensure compliance and to support the organisation.

Thank you to our Species Survival Symposium Steering Committee

who provided expert advice and helped shaped the program for our successful 2-day event at Taronga Zoo.

- Dr Kira Mileham
- James Biggs
- Dr Andy Sheppard
- Dr Rosie Cooney
- Andrew Elphinstone
- Monique van Sluys
- Darren Grover
- Bruce Hammond
- Elliot Bell
- Dylan Pursche
- Dr Anne Wignall



Department of
Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water



AUSTRALIAN
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION





aciucn.org.au

director@aciucn.org.au