



Foundation for  
National Parks  
& Wildlife

# YEAR IN REVIEW 2016

Creating parks, saving species

[fnpw.org.au](http://fnpw.org.au)

**PROTECTING** our National Parks, native wildlife, natural resources and the environment by funding critical conservation projects.

**CONNECTING** Australians with their natural landscapes, vibrant culture, rich history and supporting our project partners.

**INSPIRING** lifelong engagement and enjoyment of nature by all Australians including the next generation of National Park stewards.







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*Cover photo: Cabbage Palm loop, Wallingat National Park.*

*Left: Kamay Botany Bay National Park.*

*Above: Conducting a bird survey by kayak in Macquarie Marshes Nature Reserve.*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Two thousand and sixteen was a year of transformation for the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife. To help position us for future success, we undertook a realignment of the business, in terms of both strategy and structure.

It's been a challenging yet rewarding year, with the dividends of the changes made set to be reaped in 2017. I am pleased to report that in the last 12 months we have made significant progress in creating parks and saving species.

We celebrated 10 years of conservation on private land in NSW – a significant achievement that has seen FNPW allocate almost \$2 million in Private Land Conservation Grants (PLCG) funding in this period – including \$300,000 allocated to successful recipients of the Grant Program in 2016.

We were awarded a two-year grant via the LECG program (administered by Environmental Trust) to support FNPW's Nurturing Private Land Conservation in NSW project. The program aims to research the impact of private land conservation in NSW and the social value of conservation activities.

In September, Yellow Rock - 137 hectares of diverse bushland, remnant rainforests and ironbark forests – was added to the Yellomundee Regional Park when the Office of Environment and Heritage gazetted it part of Yellomundee Regional Park under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974.

We embarked on a campaign to save the Murray River turtles – contributing funding to the largest river study of turtles in Australia and the first river-wide study of turtles.

We have enjoyed many wonderful partnerships – with scientists, volunteers, community groups, indigenous communities, National Park rangers, individual landowners, government agencies, corporate

partners and others. We thank them all for their support and ongoing commitment to our cause.

There has been considerable change both within the Foundation and in the political environment we operate in, and I thank the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife team, led by our new CEO Ian Darbyshire, for their hard work, particularly during the last 12 months.

I'd also like to thank the Board for their commitment – Treasurer Catherine Lloyd, Patrick Medley, Charlie Graham, David Pumphrey and Mary-Louise Williams. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Mark Bethwaite, for his great service of some ten years, who retires from the Board this year and Melinda Murray who left the Board last year.

We have restructured the Foundation for long-term success and we are looking forward to continuing to build on our momentum in 2017.


As always - thank you for your support.



Garry Browne  
President, FNPW





A photograph of a massive sandstone overhang in a forest. The rock face shows distinct horizontal layering and some darker, possibly fossiliferous or mineral-stained areas. A person wearing a white shirt, light-colored pants, a white cap, and a backpack stands in the lower right foreground, looking up at the rock. The ground is covered with green ferns and other low-lying vegetation. A large tree trunk is visible on the right side of the frame.

In September,  
Yellow Rock - 137 hectares  
of diverse bushland, remnant  
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when it was gazetted by the  
Office of Environment and  
Heritage.

*Yellomundee Sandstone Overhang, Yellomundee Regional Park.*

# CEO REPORT



**T**he 46th year for FNPW has been quite challenging as we navigate the very rapidly changing market place and hardening economic environment, while, at the same time, re-aligning ourselves to our new strategy. The FNPW team have risen to the challenge and have achieved much over the last 12 months.

**Strategy:** In the next 3 years, we will be recognised as one of the top 3 conservation and education organisations supporting Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

The new FNPW brand and website, have been launched.

This was a very important move since we wanted to modernise our image, appeal to a wider audience and make on-line donations more user friendly. At the same time, we also wanted to recognise our history, reliability and achievements over the last 46 years.

PAWS Magazine has been successfully re-designed and from the feedback received has been very well received and broadened its appeal to new audiences.

We have developed closer ties to the media, via professional public relations organisations, with a view to increasing the public awareness of our organisation and its achievements.

**Strategy:** In the next 3 years, we will establish ourselves as the peak environmental education vehicle on Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

Following extensive consumer and user research, we have launched a new Backyard Buddies brand and website.

The new direction of Backyard Buddies encourages the audience to explore, help create habitat for their backyard buddies while also introducing resources to help the user develop their journey of understanding, education and conservation. It will encourage the user to enjoy the big backyard of Parks and reserves across Australia.

The new Backyard Buddies logo will soon be appearing on footpath signs in the Sydney Harbour National Parks thanks to the work of local schools that have helped create and design the signage.



**Strategy:** In the next 3 years, we will build our tied funding to \$2.2m and our untied funding to \$1.8m.

In order to raise awareness of our cause in the corporate world we have continued to run Corporate Volunteer Days in National Parks. Our Corporate Days have been attended by more than 1,000 employees and for the first time included events in a Victorian National Park.

Raising sponsorship from the corporate world remains a challenge and we are grateful for



all the introductions that our supporters can offer us.

**Strategy:** In the next 3 years, we will add land to 12 national parks/reserves and grant funding to at least 250 projects across all state and territories.

Currently we have 3 land donations underway - 2 in NSW and 1 (our first) in Victoria.

The Heritage Estates project is back up and running with completion planned for 2018.

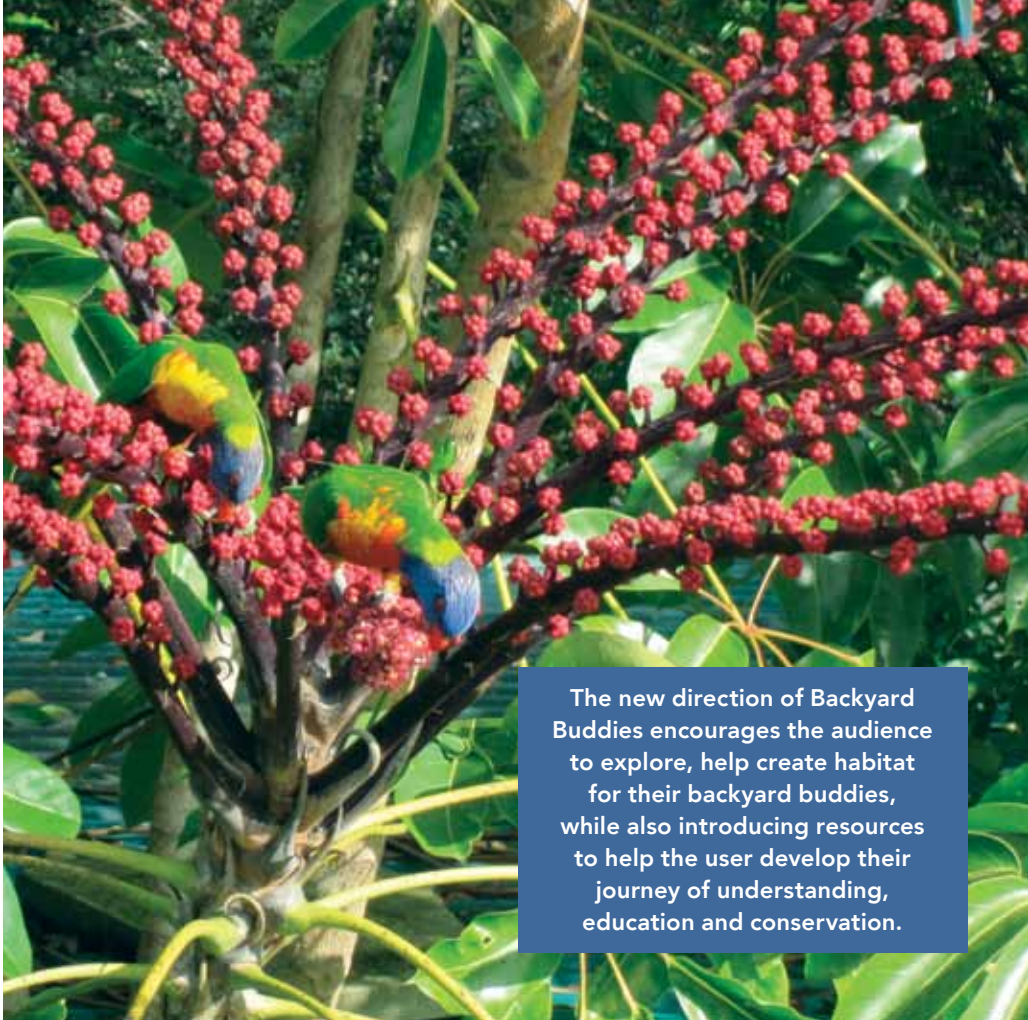
We have continued to manage agency grants in the Great Eastern Ranges initiative and Private Land Conservation Grants. This year's Private Land Conservation Grant application round closed in March.

I hope you will agree that the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife is playing a vital and valuable role helping to protect and preserve wilderness and wildlife for future generations.

Sadly, our journey is one that does not seem to have an end, but rather will require us to continue to have the stamina and ability to evolve and adapt to a challenging business and environmental landscape, as we work to save species and create parks in this great country of ours.



Ian Darbyshire - CEO, FNPW



The new direction of Backyard Buddies encourages the audience to explore, help create habitat for their backyard buddies, while also introducing resources to help the user develop their journey of understanding, education and conservation.

A photograph of two children sitting on a rocky outcrop overlooking a vast canyon at sunset. The child in the foreground is wearing a pink shirt, pink pants, and a colorful bucket hat, sitting on the edge of the rock. The child behind them is wearing a pink shirt and red pants, sitting on the ground. They are both looking out over the canyon. A rustic shelter made of sticks and branches is built on the rock. The sun is setting on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The sky is blue with some clouds. The canyon is filled with green vegetation and distant mountains are visible.

## **FNPW STRATEGIC FOCUS**



## Threatened Species

A global hotspot for biodiversity, Australia really is the lucky country. With around 600,000 to 700,000 species, we have some of the most diverse and unique environments in the world. Many of our species are found nowhere else on earth, so if we lose them, the common heritage of our planet is diminished. FNPW funds projects to reduce threats to the survival of our native species and ensure their survival into the future.

## Land & Water Conservation

Australia's landscapes and ecosystems are national treasures, places for recreation, and essential habitat for our native species. FNPW negotiates and funds the acquisition of high conservation value land for permanent protection within Australia's National Parks system. It also funds conservation on public and private land including weed and feral animal control, bush regeneration work, tree plantings, wildlife corridor creation and more.

## Parks for People

National Parks are incredible reserves of habitat and native species. Another important function they play is allowing people to reconnect with their environment and heritage. Through accessing National Parks, people can experience for themselves the grandeur of our natural world, and understand why it is worth preserving. In 2016, FNPW funded projects to build boardwalks, install nature play equipment and interpretive materials in National Parks to improve visitor experiences and knowledge, and to reduce human impacts on the environment.

## Cultural Heritage

Funding projects to conserve and communicate the stories of Australia's Indigenous and European heritage is a priority for FNPW. FNPW supports the maintenance, accessibility and interpretation of cultural heritage sites and artefacts for the benefit of future generations. FNPW Cultural Heritage projects support our partners to conserve and tell the many stories that make up Australia's cultural heritage - our heritage consists of the places, objects and knowledge we have inherited from past generations.

## Environmental Education

*"Bringing nature into the classroom can kindle a fascination and passion for the diversity of life on earth and can motivate a sense of responsibility to safeguard it."*

*Sir David Attenborough*

This is why FNPW supports projects to develop a sense of love for and excitement about nature through education and learning. By sharing information about the natural world and how we can have positive impacts upon it, together we can create a better future.

**\$300,000+**

invested in Private Land Conservation projects



## Platypus: is this iconic species disappearing?

The platypus is considered a species in decline. It is a species of high significance yet not enough is known about their populations.

**F**NPW helped fund a team of scientists from the University of NSW, the University of Sydney and the Office of Environment and Heritage, led by Dr. Daniel Lunney, to gather data to fill the gaps and track changes in platypus populations and their habitat.

The Project Platypus study results will contribute to a national assessment of the status of the platypus.

The project will analyse platypus distribution against habitat conditions like stream health and surrounding habitat and land use to identify the management issues of the platypus in the fragile riparian environments throughout NSW.

Development of a mapping system will highlight areas where local and regional land and river managers will focus future surveys, restoration and management efforts.

**100+**  
threatened native species  
protected since 1970



This study shows the value of community wildlife surveys for obtaining crucial data on the distribution of species and their conservation status, particularly on private land.

**Project Platypus will give a better understanding of where platypus live across all of NSW and the ecological characteristics of their habitat.**

This information will direct which rivers should be managed in relation to the platypus and help determine the true status of the platypus as a threatened species, not just 'near threatened'.

*This juvenile Platypus was discovered on a busy street in Dubbo, saved by National Parks and Wildlife staff and released into the Macquarie River.*





## Growing private land conservation

Australia has lost 75% of its rainforests and nearly 50% of all forests in the last 200 years. The remainder is fast disappearing, threatening the survival of native wildlife. So it is crucial to preserve habitat on privately owned land.



The Private Land Conservation Grants (PLCG) program provides small grants to support NSW landowners to conduct activities which enhance the biodiversity conservation value of their registered properties and also funds education and training activities to increase local community members' knowledge and skills in conservation.

Over the last decade, FNPW has invested over \$1.9 million in the PLCG Program, with a total of 381 grants awarded, including \$300,000 in funding to successful recipients in 2016.

FNPW created and launched the PLCG program in 2008 with the valuable support of our project partners to increase the amount

of high value conservation areas on private land. Australia's biodiversity cannot be conserved only through National Parks and the public reserve system.

**Conservation efforts on private land need to be encouraged, promoted and supported.**

Conservation activities on private land connects habitats across the state by creating wildlife corridors between National Parks and improving their resilience.

*Above: PLCG program volunteers take part in a Sycamore Maple eradication program in Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve.*



## Cassowary buyback

For the past 46 years, FNPW has been buying back strategic parcels of land to create wildlife corridors.

In 2016, FNPW together with project partner Rainforest Rescue purchased a rainforest property under threat of development, to protect Cassowary habitat in tropical Far North Queensland.

Lot 38, now named the Chris Bennett Reserve is situated in the Daintree and connects Daintree National Park and the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area via Swamp Forest Nature Reserve.

In addition, two further properties have been gifted to the adjacent Daintree National Park.

It's the linking piece in a jigsaw of protected habitat and the start of a strategic new wildlife corridor in the Cape Kimberley region.

The combined impacts of climate change

and development are impacting on rainforests around the world. In the Daintree, the lowland rainforest is under the greatest threat from break-up and change. Research shows the disproportionate impacts on biodiversity when a rainforest is fragmented.

The Cassowary relies on certain species of fruit to get it through lean times; the availability and distribution of these fruit will impact on future Cassowary numbers.

The Cassowary is also needed by certain trees for seed dispersal; its ability to move through the local environment impacts on tree distribution. When we destroy natural habitat, build roads, introduce invasive weeds and generally disrupt the Cassowary's mobility we upset this balance.

Add in the extra pressures brought by greater variability in weather patterns, from droughts and floods, and the resilience of the rainforest starts to be compromised. If a Cassowary is unable to travel to an area and disperse a seed, we lose a potential tree and all the other species that rely on that tree for life. A small impact, but one that is cumulative.



Credit: Paul Ijsendoorn



1,000+

hectares added to National Parks  
and Australia's reserves system

## Encouraging new Australians to love nature

FNPW worked with NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service and Settlement Services International, the largest not-for-profit humanitarian settlement organisation in Australia, to deliver a project to support new Australians.

The program, which started as a 12-week pilot project in 2015, was extended in 2016 with a grant from the Sidney Myer Fund.

NSW has the largest number of refugees and asylum seekers in the country. This project demonstrated an innovative and effective way of engaging a group of recent migrants, refugees and asylum seekers to interact within our National Parks.

This project provided a pathway for the participants to more easily integrate into the wider community, supported the development of new skills and provided an opportunity for the group to undertake environmental volunteer work.

Together, volunteers, Field Officers, and Rangers took part in weeding, planting native species, carpentry work and the repainting of an historic fort.

Shukrullah, a refugee from Afghanistan, said, ***"I like coming here because if I stay at home the whole day I think too much and I feel too stressed. Here you get to meet new friends and spend the day in a nice place helping the environment."***

This project created new opportunities, broke down barriers and supported a positive contribution to the Australian environment by people that want to call Australia home.





*Refugees, volunteers, Field Officers and Rangers come together to clear weeds and plant new native species.*



*The breathtaking natural beauty of Millstream Chichester National Park in Western Australia. (Credit: Graeme Churchard).*



## Indigenous rangers caring for country

FNPW partnering with the Aurizon Community Giving Fund, provided \$15,000 to bring together a team of local traditional owners and parks staff to undertake a threatened species recovery project in the Millstream Chichester National Park (MCNP) in WA.

**M**CNP is in traditional country of the Yindjibarndi people. Department of Parks and Wildlife (DPaW) staff worked with the Ngurrawaana Ranger Team and Yindjibarndi men and women to control Stinking Passionflower weed.

The team removed the introduced weed from 21 hectares at Cliff Lookout (Warrungunha), an important Yindjibarndi cultural site and a key breeding ground for the Olive Python.

The Olive Python is culturally important to the Yindjibarndi people as a traditional food source and through mythological narratives and Law song cycles.

Controlling the Stinking Passionflower helps protect the Pilbara Olive Python's breeding grounds and the Northern Quoll's habitat and food sources.

Stinking Passionflower greatly affects invertebrate diversity and abundance, reducing available insect prey for the Northern

Quolls. Olive Python and Northern Quoll habitat is restricted within the Pilbara region in Western Australia, amongst rocky escarpments and gorges next to permanent or semi-permanent waterholes and rivers.

Cliff Lookout is also an important Yindjibarndi cultural site. The pool at the base of Cliff Lookout is a Murlurnmunyjurna Wurndu (Crossing Pool) and was an important camping site for the Yindjibarndi.

**200+**

cultural heritage project completed since 1970  
to increase our appreciation of Indigenous &  
European History.





## Designing new signage is a walk in the park for local kids.

Fifty-two new interpretive signs will help visitors of all ages to discover more about the plants and animals found along the scenic walk overlooking Sydney Harbour.

**D**esigned by the school students from Beauty Point Public School and funded by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and FNPW, this project incorporated Backyard Buddies educational resources to produce wonderful results.

Involving local primary school students to design the signage was a great way to engage them in the importance of our environment and build their knowledge to benefit the community.

Having these students work alongside National Parks staff is an innovative way to ensure they will have a lasting connection with these special places and demonstrates how young people can be actively engaged in environmental education activities.

With a focus on the native plants and animals that share our built-up areas, waterways, backyards and parks, Backyard



Buddies, an environmental education initiative of FNPW, encourages all of us to make small changes to our homes, school yards and communities to better support our native wildlife.

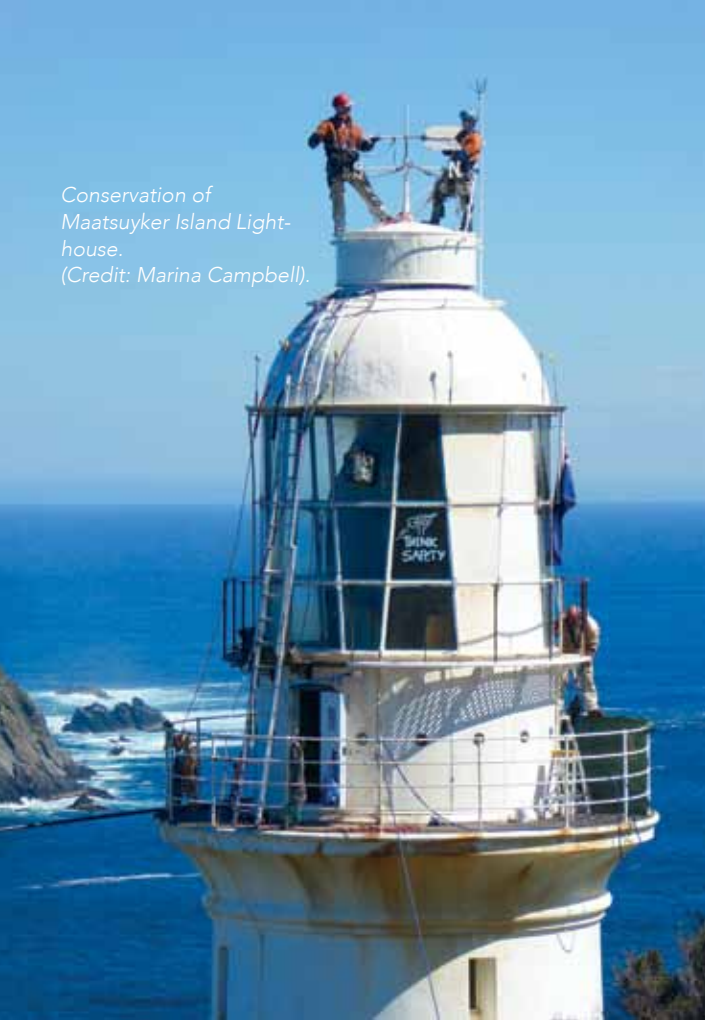
The refreshed Backyard Buddies website reinforces the concept of connectivity - the connection between backyards, school yards and local parks that help create green corridors, which in turn supports the Big Backyard – our National Parks across Australia.

**100+**  
conservation & environmental education  
projects funded across Australia





*NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service rangers educate children on biodiversity at Fairfax Walking Track.*

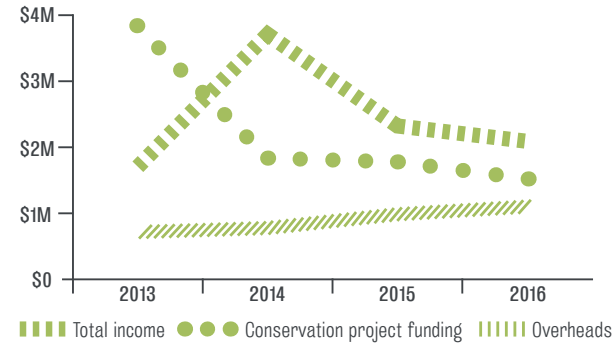


Conservation of  
Maatsuyker Island Light-  
house.  
(Credit: Marina Campbell).

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

	2013	2014	2015	2016
1: OVERVIEW	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total Income	1,611,116	3,557,557	2,225,751	2,009,940
Conservation project funding	3,804,376	1,827,519	1,844,868	1,122,965
Overheads	573,964	581,563	763,028	825,822
Surplus (Deficit)	(2,767,224)	1,148,475	(382,145)	61,153

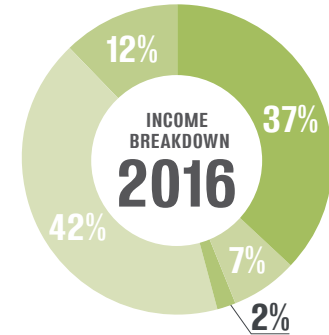
## INCOME, DISBURSEMENTS & EXPENDITURE COMPARISON





## 2: INCOME

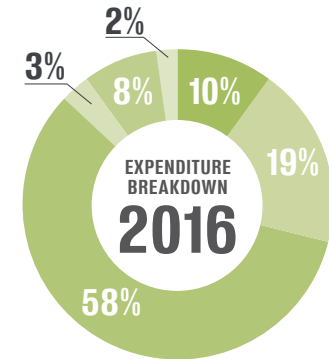
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Donations	810,391	764,412	832,470	737,838
Sponsorship	49,194	316,136	305,810	141,738
Government Grants	50,000	95,000	50,000	50,000
Agency Income	582,692	2,099,092	892,205	845,117
Bequests	2,000	200,000	-	-
Investment Income	106,944	60,945	100,397	232,632
Other Income	9,895	21,972	44,869	2,615
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,611,116</b>	<b>3,557,557</b>	<b>2,225,751</b>	<b>2,009,940</b>



- Public donations 37%
- Sponsorship 7%
- Government Grants 2%
- Agency Income 42%
- Investment Income 12%

## 3: EXPENSES

	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cost of fundraising	162,935	181,920	219,206	201,284
Employment costs	220,218	241,192	337,285	374,175
Conservation projects	3,804,376	1,827,519	1,844,868	1,122,965
Marketing & promotion	38,062	37,812	96,057	54,424
Other	112,302	86,370	74,053	157,088
Rent & Insurance	40,447	34,269	36,427	38,851
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>4,378,340</b>	<b>2,409,082</b>	<b>2,607,896</b>	<b>1,948,787</b>



- Cost of fundraising 10%
- Employment costs 19%
- Conservation projects 58%
- Marketing & Promotion 3%
- Other 8%
- Rent & Insurance 2%

# FNPW PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

## CORPORATE

Egencia Australia

Experia

IAG & NRMA Superannuation Pty. Ltd.

Marsh Pty. Ltd.

Mawland Quarantine Station Pty. Ltd.

Nudie Foods

Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers Services  
Pty. Ltd.

Reckitt Benckiser (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

SC Johnson

St. George Bank Ltd.

Stuart Alexander & Co.

## GOVERNMENT

NSW Environmental Trust

NSW Office of Environment & Heritage

Prime Minister's Community Business  
Partnership



## TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

Awaken Foundation

Beswick Family Fund

Broinowski Foundation

Dick and Pip Smith Foundation

Diversicon Environmental Foundation

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal

JB Davros Family Foundation

Kahn Friedlander Family Foundation

Maple-Brown Family Charitable  
Foundation Ltd.

Paddy Pallin Foundation

## IN-KIND & PRO BONO SUPPORT

Australian Geographic (Bauer Media  
Group)

Chancellor Portfolio Services

Fujitsu

Grant Thornton

Q Station

**1,000+**  
corporate volunteers engaged  
over 60+ events





THANK YOU!

F NPNW donors believe in the importance of investing in our unique landscape, native animals and cultural heritage. Together we are working towards saving Australia's native species from extinction, funding habitat restoration programs and threatened species recovery projects and involving the community in the conservation of Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

Our donors' financial support allows FNPW to deliver tangible conservation outcomes that support our forests, wetlands, wildlife, recreation areas and cultural heritage.

FNPW donors believe in the importance of investing in our unique landscape, native animals and cultural heritage.

## OUR VALUES

At the heart of everything we do are the Foundation's values. They are the set of behaviours that we embrace to further our ambitions for our cause. They are:

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**We're proud of what we do** – we value the environment and work to protect it. The environment provides us with so much – clean air, fresh water, nutritious food, resources and livelihoods, fun and enjoyment, health and wellbeing, and so much more.

**We're passionate about our supporters** – you make great things happen when you support what you believe in. Our curiosity and supporter insights drive growth.

**We care for our brands** – we're courageous in pursuing their full potential.

**We're innovative** - constantly searching for new ideas that drive growth and spinning them across our business.

**We strive to be the best** – we are restless, always learning, always improving. We set high standards and try hard to exceed them. We deliver results and celebrate our success.

**We value each other** – we strive to create mutually fulfilling relationships and partnerships.





## Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife - (FNPW)

FNPW is the charity partner of Australia's National Parks. We're a non-government organisation on a mission to protect Australia's ecosystems and native species for generations to come.

Website [www.fnpw.org.au](http://www.fnpw.org.au)

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Youtube fnpw1970

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