

2022

ANNUAL REPORT

Wildlife Preservation
Society of Queensland



Wildlife Queensland Annual Report 2021—2022



Wildlife Queensland is a leading, state-wide wildlife conservation organisation providing practical community programs to enhance knowledge of wildlife and its habitat.

Wildlife Queensland influences decision makers to make the right choices for Queensland's wildlife.



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Wildlife Queensland

MISSION

Our mission is to be the leading non-government organisation advocating protection and conservation of Queensland's native terrestrial and marine plants, animals and landscapes by educating and engaging communities, influencing decision-making, advancing solutions and connecting people with wildlife.

VISION

People value, respect and support the conservation of Queensland's native wildlife*.

*Wildlife embraces plants, animals and their habitat.

OBJECTIVES

Preserve the flora and fauna of Australia by lawful means

Educate the community in an understanding of the principles of conservation and preservation of the natural environment

Discourage, by all legal means, the possible destruction, exploitation and unnecessary development of any part of the natural environment

Encourage rational land use and proper land planning of existing and future development, and the use of the natural environment and its management.

Vice President's Report

Michael Lusic, State Vice President, Wildlife Queensland

The percentage of the State managed by the Queensland Government (QG), as protected area estate was less than 9%. The recent QG budget includes approximately \$262 million for new protected areas and resources for threatened species. Yet, we may still fall short of the QG contribution toward the Australian commitment to the international biodiversity convention of 30% of terrestrial land be protected by 2030; for example, the national assessment in 2020 found while Queensland's protected areas were 8.71% of the State, others were higher, including 42.3% in Tasmania and 23.3% in Western Australia.



A University of Queensland report commissioned by the QG noted protected areas provide \$3.7 billion in tourism per annum. It may seem to many people, the QG is seeking to exploit the use of protected areas; for example, by establishing privately owned tourist resorts inside National Parks (NPs). It has happened in Main Range NP, the Cooloola section of Great Sandy NP and it is proposed in several other protected areas. Many protected areas are suffering from the effects of climate change, and privately owned tourist facilities may contribute.

We have about 70% of the Queensland coastline covered by three State marine parks (MPs) — the Great Barrier Reef Coast MP, Great Sandy MP and Moreton Bay MP. In 1997, every State and Federal Minister agreed that future reviews of MPs would result in at least 10% becoming Marine National Parks (MNPs). MNPs are the equivalent to NPs in Queensland. It took three years for the review of Moreton Bay MP to be completed (and resulted in 16% becoming MNP) and four years to complete the review of the Great Barrier Reef Coastal MP (it yielded 32% MNP). To date it has taken five years to review the Great Sandy MP — members ask 'why so long?'

Our field projects have continued due to the funding from local governments and generous donations. Our project work contributes to the conservation of threatened wildlife and distinguishes us from many others. For example, field work with the Queensland Glider Network concentrates on the greater glider (*Petauroides volans*) and yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*). PlatypusWatch, which involves the collection and analysis of environmental DNA (eDNA) has been successfully led by platypus ecologist Tamielle Brunt. The Quoll Seekers team surveys involve detection dogs and infra-red cameras, while the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network has established corridors and provided source materials for local governments.

Emphasis has been placed on several campaigns during the year: For example, liaison with QG representatives through participation on committees or in person on issues raised by members. The campaign to reduce plastic waste is progressing well. Our efforts to have opera house traps banned in Queensland continue. These traps are responsible for drowning platypus, native water rats and freshwater turtles. Industry placement university students have been involved in preparing new policy material and modifying existing policies.

In terms of communication, increased emphasis has been placed on our social media. The efforts by the team have increased Wildlife Conservation project interest by our Facebook and Instagram followers. The monthly my.Wildlife eBulletin keeps members and supporters informed about our news and issues, and our website looks fabulous. COVID-19 constraints reduced the number of funding appeals during the year, and we did not host symposiums or dinners. We did host webinars, which focused upon the field work on our projects.

The *Wildlife Australia* magazine continues to operate at a loss. Next year, in 2023, is the 60th anniversary of the magazine. Several ideas have been submitted by the magazine committee to the Editor, including publishing several branch achievements since the 50th anniversary. Although the magazine committee had prepared annual business plans to breakeven by 2023, the State Council has extended the timeframe until 2024/2025.

The operations manager role does hold the organization together. The tasks include the reporting on human resources, monetary management, membership matters, general administration, support for projects and networks, IT requirements, volunteer coordination, and merchandise sales. Managing these matters during the 2021 and 2022 COVID-19 periods and associated office closures added extra responsibility.

Our organisation's AGM was held in September 2021 at the Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre in Nudgee. Attendee numbers were limited due to COVID-19 constraints. In mid-December 2021, we had a thank-you lunch for our volunteers in recognition of the valuable work they undertake throughout the year.

Six branches have taken up the offer by State Council of \$1000 towards an event to celebrate Wildlife Queensland's 60th year anniversary. Many of them will deliver their events during the 2022/2023 period.

Thanks is afforded to the Wildlife Queensland staff, contractors, councillors and other volunteers for their contribution, particularly to Janelle Devery (Operations Manager), Des Boyland (Policies and Campaigns Manager and Secretary to Council), Matt Cecil (Projects Manager), Amanda Little (Social Media Officer), Karin Cox (Communications Officer), Mike Sullivan (WAM Editor), and Doreen Payne (Membership Support Officer) and our many volunteers. The thanks extends to other State Councillors including Peter Ogilvie (President), Des Boyland (Secretary), Susan Vernon (Treasurer), Mike West, Andrew Dinwoodie, Paul Sutton, and Dave Wright.

Policies and Campaigns

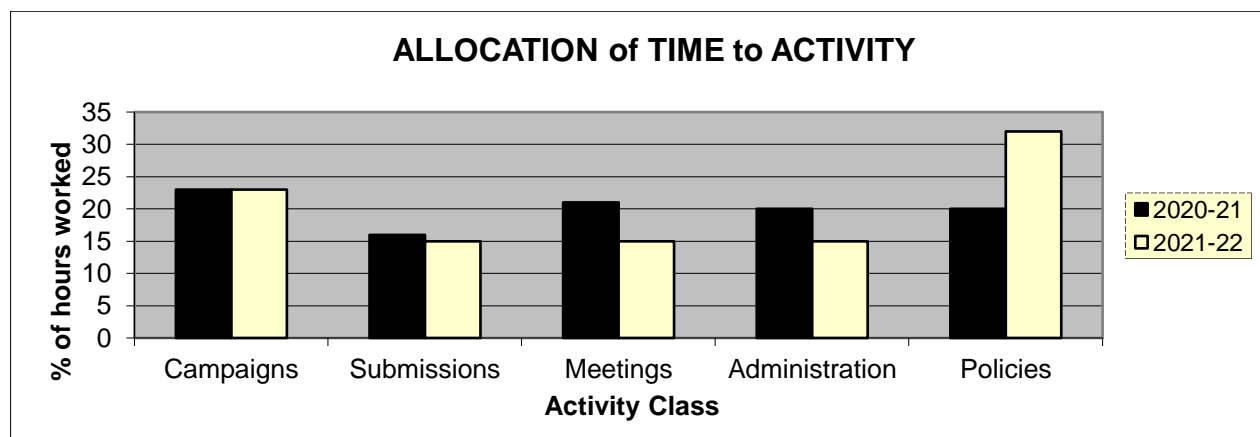
Des Boyland, Policies and Campaigns Manager

The 2021-2022 financial year yet again raised questions about the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to caring for our environment and its wildlife. Granted the ongoing commitment to addressing plastic waste has occurred and funding to protect the Great Barrier Reef continued. Some acquisition of national parks has occurred but commercial resort development in national parks is still on the agenda. The cardinal principle of management for national parks has not been restored and is not likely to be. Grants under Nature Assist program to assist in enhancing the management of nature refuges will now be limited to nature refuges at least 1000 ha in extent. The revised zoning plan for the Great Sandy Marine Park still is not available to the public. In fairness, there were some positive outcomes for the environment and its wildlife. Funds were made available for koalas and flying-foxes. However, the future looks brighter. The recent State budget saw significant increase in funds for national parks acquisition and management as well as for endangered species including the koala. Furthermore, a positive outcome for the long term banning of opera house yabby traps campaign may even surface.

Activities within the Division

A productive year within the policy component with 5 industry placement students from University of Queensland and a policy volunteer from QUT, resulting in more work hours available for the Division. Total hours available for the various activities 2550 (approx.) compared to 1920 hours last year. Councillors provided comment on the directional paper and policies prepared by the students.

The table below provides the percentage of total hours committed to each the major activities within the Division for the financial year.



There was a significant increase in time committed to policies with the industry placement's contribution. National park policy and marine park policy were reviewed and directional papers were prepared on carbon sequestration and potential to expand the protected area estate as well as the common assessment method for determining conservation status of species. The excellent work on spotter catcher policy again fell on deaf ears. Advice from Minister Scanlon's office indicated there was no interest in amending relevant legislation. The significant increase in total hours contributed by

students to the policy area results in a slight distortion of hours spent on other activities by the Divisional Manager compared to last year.

CAMPAIGNS

Expansion of the protected Area estate

Type of Protected Area	Number		Area (ha)		% of QLD	
	16/7/21	30/6/22	16/7/21	30/6/22	16/7/21	30/6/22
National Park Type						
National Park	9	9	53,189	53,189		
(scientific)	275	275	7,176,441	7,027,417		
National Park	28	32	2,171,852	2,331,960		
National Park (CYPAL)	312	316	9,401,482	9,412,566	5.43	5.44
Total national park						
Tenured Protected Areas						
Conservation Parks	235	236	85,722	88,380		
Resources Reserves	46	46	231,029	231,029		
Total tenured protected areas	593	593	9,718,233	9,731,974	5.61	5.62
Non-tenured Protected Areas						
Nature Refuges	541	553	4,418,479	4,416,030		
Special wildlife Reserve	1	1	56,392	56,392		
Coordinated Conservation Areas	2	2	2,121	2,121		
Total non-tenured protected areas	536	556	4,476,991	4,474,543	2.59	2.59
Total Protected Areas in QLD	1137	1137	14,195,22	14,206,517	8.20	8.21

The commitment to expand the Protected Area Estate to 17% of Queensland is progressing very slowly. The Government has taken some positive action to expand the tenured Protected Area Estate slightly. Wildlife Queensland continues to lobby against the ongoing construction of commercial resorts in national parks with very limited success. It is reported the potential development within the Cooloola National Park is to be relocated but not outside the park.

Waste and Plastics Campaign: The Palaszczuk Government continues to wage the war on plastic waste. Wildlife Queensland continues to urge for more rapid progress. While much has been achieved, there is still work to be done. Plastic waste in the marine environment is the next major challenge to be addressed and the Commonwealth Government has to be involved.

Stock Route Network Legislation: Wildlife Queensland remains active in this area and serves on the Stock Route Network working group.

Wildlife Management: Efforts to have opera house traps banned to save air-breathing fauna from drowning, in particular the platypus, have been unsuccessful. However, there are rumours that there may be a significant positive development during 2023.

State Marine Parks: Liaison with the Minister's Office advocating for the release of the zoning plan for the Great Sandy Marine Park has continued. Advice is that cultural issues with the Butchulla peoples are yet to be resolved. Discussions have continued occurred with staff of AMCS on various marine park matters.

POLICIES: Efforts in this area have been addressed earlier in the report.

SUBMISSIONS

Submissions prepared by Wildlife Queensland totalled 12. The Commonwealth Government, the Queensland Government and relevant departments and Brisbane City Council were recipients of the various submissions. Topics included but were not limited to plastic waste, management strategies for the Stock Route network, translocation of wildlife, Establishment of an Independent EPA, apiary sites in national parks and development approvals.

MEETINGS & REPRESENTATION

Wildlife Queensland serves on a number of government working groups including QDOG, Stock Routes Network working and stakeholder groups for macropods. The President has attended Ministerial Environmental Round Table (MERT) meetings. Representatives of Wildlife Queensland participated in various meetings with other conservation groups. Various issues have been discussed with Minister Scanlon's staff. Meetings have also been held with senior bureaucrats of Department of Environment and Science to discuss Protected Area Estate issues, marine park issues, waste, carbon sequestration related matters and the Common Assessment Method for determining conservation status of species. Meetings and liaison with University of Queensland staff concerning industry placement positions for students have been held. A meeting to determine Wildlife Queensland's attitude to OECMs (Other Effective Conservation Measures), a recent internationally recognised concept (2010) and an addition to the conservation tool-box, has been held recently. This is worthy of mention as the concept may surface in the near future.

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Striving for the expansion of the Protected Area Estate and enhanced management of national parks while opposing certain commercial resort developments within the parks activities will remain a key focus moving forward. State Marine Parks must surface as an issue as soon as the zoning plan for the Great Sandy Marine Park is public. Endangered species will be on the agenda as a result of recent budget funding. Submission writing and meeting attendance will continue as it is essential that Wildlife Queensland's voice is heard.

Projects

Matt Cecil, Projects Manager

Activities within the four main networks under management of the Projects Division have continued during 2021-2022. The team have worked hard to expand current projects and implement new conservation programs for each key species. Our efforts have been greatly assisted through volunteer help, Wildlife Queensland donor contributions and local government project funding. Over the years, each network has consistently delivered beneficial conservation projects and 2021-2022 was no different. We have engaged contract project officers to assist with projects. Contracts are funded from the grant funding. Paul Revie and Hannah Thomas are working on glider, brush-tailed rock-wallaby, quoll and Richmond birdwing butterfly projects. Assistance as required is provided by Wayne Cavanagh and Jessica Walsh.

Greater glider and yellow-bellied glider bushfire recovery project

- Four community workshops hosted between March and May 2022 (Gatton, Jimna, Crows Nest, Moogerah)
- Habitat guidelines produced to assist property planning to conserve hollow-dependent species with a focus on large gliders
- Grant body has approved transfer of unspent funds towards additional field surveys to identify GG/YBG in bushfire-affected landscapes
- Glider surveys still being undertaken in and adjacent to bushfire-affected areas in South East Queensland
- Greater gliders confirmed as persisting in Spicers Gap section of Main Range National Park
- Invited to attend glider-specific seminar as part of the Ecological Society of Australia 2022 conference, however invitation declined as opportunity was only available for in-person delivery (inter-state)

Noosa Landcare's greater glider and yellow-bellied glider bushfire recovery in Cooloola project

- Currently undertaking analyses of acoustic monitoring data (Josh Bowell YBG Network)
- Wildlife Queensland to host a Webinar for Noosa Landcare (a project requirement for Noosa Landcare, funded through their grant). Paul Revie, Liz Gould Healthy Land and Water & Rachel Lyons from Noosa Landcare will present. Topic is conservation of large glider species and post bushfire recovery. Karin Cox is managing the webinar delivery logistics.

Logan City Council brush-tailed rock-wallaby project

- Field work/site visits undertaken during July no cameras deployed. More planned for August 2022

Mary Valley quoll project (Community Sustainability Action grant)

- All deliverables of the project were achieved with detection dogs and camera trap surveys undertaken on 5 properties in the Mary Valley catchment in March/April 2022
- Currently completing project acquittal requirements (due 31 July 2022)

Bushfire recovery Platypus project

- A second community workshop is planned to be held at the Mt Barney Lodge (7th August 2022)
- Field work/sample collection to begin and be completed during August

Scenic Rim Land for Wildlife Projects:**Quoll Surveys**

- Camera trap surveys for spotted-tailed quolls on Land for Wildlife properties
- Cameras have been deployed on 6 properties
- Collection due to take place in first two weeks of August
- Have assisted Catherine Madden (LfW) with recruiting an additional property to the program
- Potential for additional project funding in FY22/23

Greater and Yellow-bellied Glider Surveys

- Josh Bowell (YBG Network) has undertaken spotlight and acoustic monitoring surveys of several properties, additional properties to be targeted in consultation with Scenic Rim Council
- YBG chew trees have been identified, some of which are active. Only being found in grey gums (either *E. propinqua* or *E. bitburbinata*). Some interesting temporal data on chew tree usage has been obtained

Birdwing Butterfly Vine Planting

- 100 vines will be planted by project end — planting to begin Thursday 28th July
- A contractor has been selected to assist with planting and maintenance across 4 properties

2022 Platypus eDNA Surveys

- Samples have been collected for all contracts (LCC, ICC, MBRC), results/reports provided to clients and invoiced

Upper Dawson Platypus eDNA Citizen Science Grant

- Tamielle Brunt has completed the last round of sample collection, awaiting one more sample from a community member to be returned. This completes all of the sampling requirements for the grant. Currently waiting for lab analysis and results.

Logan Council Nest Box Projects

- Bi-annual nest box surveys for Logan Council has been completed and invoiced.

City of Gold Coast “Naturally GC” program community workshop/spotlight training and spotlight surveys

- Two workshops will provide the community with project background and safety information, then workshops attendees will be permitted to assist with four guided spotlight surveys, targeting greater glider populations in the Gold Coast Region. Data to be provided to Gold Coast Council. Program begins 22nd July (1st workshop).

Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby Threatened Species Strategy Action Grant

- Monitoring, pest control and weed control around important populations of BTRW in South East Queensland
- Currently in detailed planning and landholder recruiting phase
- Working closely with Logan, Ipswich, Scenic Rim and Somerset Regional Council officers
- Project includes creation of BTRW Conservation Network along the same lines as Queensland Glider Network, Quoll Seekers Network, etc.
- Logo has been designed and website page in draft phase

- Drone training in progress which will hopefully open up additional opportunities for threatened species monitoring
- Project to be designed as a landscape-scale experiment to assess benefits to BTRW populations of pest control and weed control versus control sites
- Claire Lorette from UQ is undertaking an industry placement 3 days a week from late July and will assist with project activities and undertake habitat suitability mapping
- Plan is for baseline monitoring to be undertaken around September with weed and pest control to follow through Spring/Summer

Quoll Society of Australia – Wildlife Queensland Sponsored Projects

WPSQ is sponsoring the Quoll Society of Australia for (1) Stepping Stones in the Southern Downs large-scale revegetation project, and (2) GPS tracking of spotted-tailed quolls in Girraween National Park.

- Stepping Stones project launch event will be held Saturday July 30 in Stanthorpe. The aim is to undertake revegetation on 30 properties in and around the Southern Downs with minimum of 15,000 trees and shrubs planted before March 31 2023. Have already recruited ~12 landholders to project
- GPS collars have been ordered for GPS tracking project. Trapping and collaring to commence in September/October 2022
- Projects provide opportunities for WPSQ to increase reach and gain additional publicity

Other

Memorandum of Understanding with Redlands Indigiscapes for the development of a birdwing vine nursery — a DRAFT MOU has been reviewed by Indigiscapes and has been forwarded to Redland Council legal department for approval.

Four grant applications have been awarded to Wildlife Queensland:

- Logan Envirogrant — Birdwing butterfly Vine project for California Creek, Cornubia
- Logan Envirogrant — Spotted-tailed quoll camera surveys in West Logan
- QLD Govt. Community Sustainability Action Grant — Spotted-tailed quoll Surveys on the Sunshine Coast
- Redland Council Community Environment Grant — Controlling Dutchman’s Pipe Vine for the conservation of the Richmond birdwing butterfly

Two grants were unsuccessful:

- Aurizon Community Grants Program — Spotted-tailed quoll Surveys on the Sunshine Coast
- Gambling Community Benefit Fund — Application for funds to purchase a 4WD for Wildlife Queensland field work as currently staff have to use their own vehicles for field work.

STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS

Wildlife Queensland continues to hold Department of Environment and Science Scientific Purpose Permit WA0009377, Animal Ethics Approval (through DAF Animal Ethics) CA 2020/07/1395 and Scientific User Registration SUR000216.

***Wildlife Australia* magazine**

Michael Lusis, Wildlife Australia Magazine Committee Chair

The *Wildlife Australia* magazine has continued to be published every quarter since 1963 — a year after the Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland (Wildlife Queensland) was established.

The magazine reporting to 2021/2022 reflects positively on those people who contribute to Wildlife Australia. Their contribution towards the preservation of native wildlife in Australia is outstanding. The articles by scientists, conservationists, educators, and citizens published within the Winter 2021, Spring 2021, Summer 2022, and Autumn 2022 editions provide important wildlife conservation messages.

The commitment of the people involved in the publication during 2021/2022 has been amazing. The professional payments to the editor (Mike Sullivan) and designer (Deidre Lynch) are modest by industry standards. Other financial considerations include the cost of publication (ACS Printer Group Pty Ltd), and postage (Australia Post). Wildlife Queensland Operations Manager (Janelle Devery) coordinates the production and distribution of each edition of the magazine.

The authors whose articles are published receive our genuine thanks for their contribution. The designer also sources images to support the articles. In addition to our editor, our other proof-readers (Jenny Curnow, Glen Fergus, and Saren Starbridge) complete their task for free. The magazine committee (Janelle Devery, Steve Homewood, Jo Towsey, Sue Ogilvie and myself) and distribution team are also Wildlife Queensland volunteers.

A Business Plan has been prepared for the last three financial years to ensure there is value for money. Business Acumen have been re-appointed as the production company for editions of Wildlife Australia until December 2023 (Summer 2024 edition). It is important to note, Business Acumen has returned one-half of the editorial fees during 2022 to Wildlife Queensland. Next year (2023) is the 60th anniversary of the magazine and the committee and editor have put in place several ideas to promote Australian wildlife.

In August 2022, the State Council endorsed two requests from the magazine committee; these were to:

- (a) allow any deficit that may incur over the next three years to be carried over
- (b) increase the cost of annual subscriptions in Australia — the increase of \$2 from \$47 to \$49, is the first increase in eight years.

There are presently more subscribers of the magazine than members of Wildlife Queensland; however, some of our members are subscribers, and they also contribute to wildlife appeals — their contributions should be applauded. While we may seek more members to be subscribers, we also need more subscribers to become members. Importantly, we need the members, subscribers, and community's continued support for Wildlife Queensland in the preservation of wildlife. One of our communication mediums is the production and publication of *Wildlife Australia* magazine. It is one of the legacies left by the founders of the organisation.

Communications

Karin Cox, Communications Officer

SOCIAL MEDIA





Growing and engaging Wildlife Queensland's social media audience has remained a focus throughout 2021–2022. Our social networks have grown considerably and consistently, as shown in the Social Media Officer's report by Amanda Little, below.

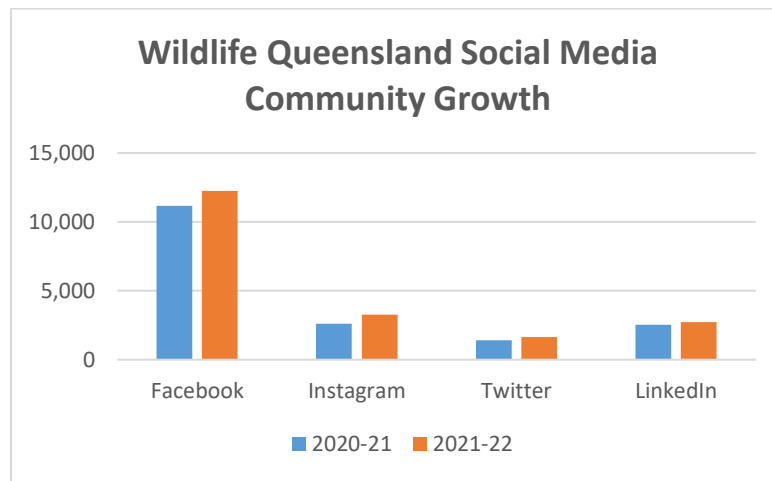
Wildlife Queensland's social media content strategy incorporates 50% user-generated content and 50% original content. Our focus throughout 2021–22 has been to increase audience engagement and grow our following across all social media platforms.

HIGHLIGHTS:

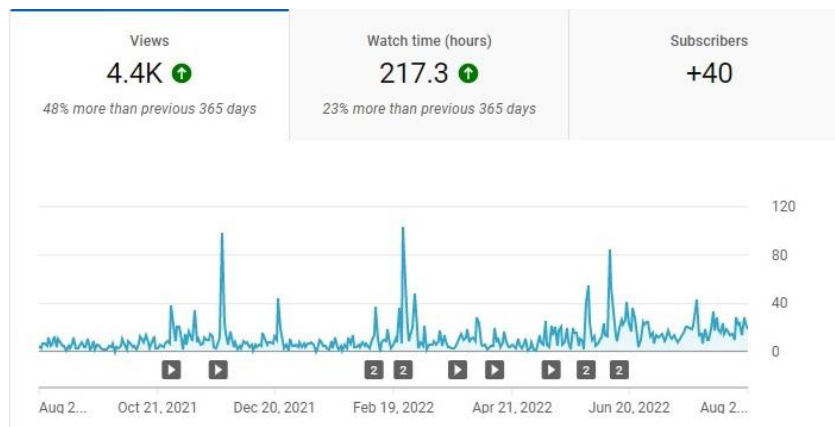
- Instagram following **increased 24%**, up from 2,626 to 3,266; and Instagram page reach **increased 87.6%**.
- Facebook page likes **increased 38.8%** and following **increased 9.7%**.
- Wildlife Queensland's YouTube channel recorded a **48% increase in views** and a **23% increase in watch time hours**.

Social Media KPI Scorecard: Audience Size (Following)

Audience Size (following)	Actual	Target	To Target	Prev Period	To Previous
 Facebook @WildlifeQueensland	12,265	12,182	+0.7%	11,182	+9.7%
 Instagram @wildlifequeensland	3,266	3,126	+4.5%	2,626	+24%
 Twitter @WildlifeQLD	1,661	1,495	+11%	1,395	+19%
 LinkedIn Wildlife Queensland	2,719	2,641	+3%	2,541	7%



Wildlife Queensland YouTube Channel Analytics



WILDLIFE QUEENSLAND WEBSITE UPGRADE

Wildlife Queensland was happy to launch our upgraded website in July 2022. The upgraded site features a more responsive, user-friendly structure and updated content.

In the 2022–23 financial year, further website enhancements include tweaks and fine-tuning and the rollout of a new direct debit payment gateway.

EBULLETIN

We have not yet run the competition to rename the eBulletin, purely due to time constraints, but will do so with the next issue. As a tool for keeping our member and subscribers informed and engaged and directing them our new website for further information, it is largely effective. We are looking at templating the eBulletin to streamline the creation of these newsletters and reduce time, as well as documenting the process.

The total number of subscribers has increased (from 5,053 last financial year to 6,726). The Operations Manager and Communications Officer have worked out a less time-consuming system for keeping track of new subscribers, automating their subscription to Mailchimp, and tagging them according to relevant projects or events attended. The Social Media Officer has done great work directing social traffic to our sign-up form.

The average open rate of the eBulletin increased to **31.75%** (up from 29%) during the 2021–2022 financial year, with the average click rate increasing slightly to **6.5%** (from 6.0%), suggesting continued reader engagement. It should be noted that this included 10 eBulletins and 2 smaller ‘mini eBulletins’ due to the volume of events and activities on offer and increased grant-funding and collaborative opportunities. The smaller eBulletins enjoyed slightly higher than average opens and clicks, suggesting that a trimmed-down version, even if more frequent, is more appealing for this audience.

Our current open rate sits just above the benchmark for the non-profit industry (30%), but our average click rate is almost double the benchmark for the industry, which currently is just 3.6%.

FUNDRAISING APPEALS

CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2021 – Yell out for the yellow-bellied glider



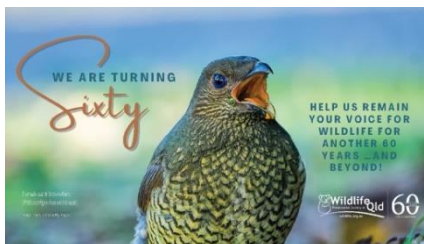
- ~ 1000 flyer/order forms distributed in outgoing mail
- ~ One launch and 3 update emails sent to recipients
- ~ Design: in-house; Printing: Vistaprint
- ~ **135 donations, target exceeded, \$37,491 raised in total.**

SINGLE GIVING DAY APPEAL 2021 – In conjunction with Wildcare & Wilvos

- ~ One launch and 4 update emails sent to recipients
- ~ Design: in-house; Printing: Vistaprint
- ~ **117 donations, target exceeded, \$11,359 raised.**



EOFY APPEAL 2021 – 60 years



- ~ 1000 flyer/order forms distributed in outgoing mail
- ~ One launch and 4 update emails sent to recipients
- ~ Design: in-house; Printing: Vistaprint
- ~ **156 donations, target exceeded, \$60,404 raised.**

The graphic design of our funding appeals has been carried out in-house along with the drafting, editing and production of their written copy.

EVENTS

We ran 12 events during the 2021–2022 financial year. Due to COVID-19 lockdowns and flooding, some events were postponed. Our event numbers are picking up, and we regularly sell out events for the venue capacity. WPSQ shop products were also sold at these events to raise funds.

GLIDER BUSHFIRE RECOVERY WORKSHOPS

- Spotlight on the Scenic Rim (5 Mar 2021, Moogerah) – 44 tickets sold (postponed)

- Glider 'Dine & Shine' Jimna (23 Apr 2021) – 44 tickets (sold out)
- Glide 'Dine & Shine' Crows Nest (8 May 2021, Crows Nest) – 54 tickets (sold out)
- Glider 'Dine & Shine' Camp Moogerah (28 May, Lake Moogerah) – 46 tickets sold

PLATYPUSWATCH

- Platypus eDNA workshop Canungra (28 Nov 21) – 45 tickets sold

QUOLL DISCOVERY DAYS

- Pomona Quoll Discovery Day (23 October 2021) – 31 tickets (sold out)
- Park Ridge Quoll Discovery Day (26 March 2022) – 56 tickets (sold out)

BATTY BOAT CRUISES

- 1 October 2021 – 47 tickets sold (sold out)
- 28 November 2021 – 40 tickets sold (sold out)
- 19 December 2021 – 46 tickets sold (sold out)
- 16 January 2022 – 51 tickets sold
- 13 February 2022 – 34 tickets sold

TALKING WILDLIFE WEBINAR SERIES

During the 2021–2021 year, we ran one free webinar.

28 Oct 2021, *Are you koalafied?* Webinar with Logan City Council: final registrant count 177. The event was well-received and survey feedback was overwhelmingly positive (95% promotor score), despite a few technical glitches on the day.

VIDEOS

During the 2021–2021 year, we produced 13 short videos to promote our events, programs, or appeals.

- Quollity Father's Day Offer (27 views) <https://youtu.be/kZQ6tPMAxdU>
- Are you koalafied (285 views) <https://youtu.be/OLkNpWMM2yI>
- Yell out for yellow-bellied gliders (400 view) https://youtu.be/9AdZlofK_KU
- Celebrating Women & Girls in Science (86 views) https://youtu.be/z_5aymfd50
- RBCN Seedbank (38 views) <https://youtu.be/povsbsjBpac>
- All for One Giving Day (200 views) <https://youtu.be/zkRPqpPbFBo>
- World Wildlife Day (29 views) https://youtu.be/A43_aMpitv4
- Introduction to Wildlife Qld (90) views <https://youtu.be/ZcMp8QOhW4Y>
- We're Turning 60 (38 views) <https://youtu.be/w87BikmLgEY>
- Glider Dine & Shine Moogerah (77 views) <https://youtu.be/NosuZc0pHso>
- Quoll Seekers Network Camera Surveys in the Mary River Valley (205 views) <https://youtu.be/7cIf1s6TEbM>
- Wildlife Queensland PlatypusWatch Network (57 views) <https://youtu.be/S74oYFNBR0U>
- We Need to Talk About Helium Balloons (661 views) https://youtu.be/kNX0H-az_Rk

PUBLICATIONS

During the 2021–2022 year, we produced several publications as part of grant-funded projects and one internal procedural document. Print-ready graphics and flyers were also produced for several workshops and the Society’s 60 years celebrations across the branches.

- Creation of *Bring Back the Birdwing* flyer for distribution to Noosa & District Landcare Creation (with Tamielle Brunt) of platypus interpretative signage
- *Gliding Mammals: A Landholder guide* <https://wildlifeqld.aflip.in/682c778b2a.html>
- *A Revegetation Guide to the Threatened Gliders of Southern Queensland* <https://wildlifeqld.aflip.in/11dd2b7b4f.html>
- *Spotlighting for gliders* <https://wildlifeqld.aflip.in/d9fafddb59.html>
- *Nest boxes for large gliders* <https://wildlifeqld.aflip.in/272eb04477.html>
- *Working with Wildlife Queensland* <https://wildlifeqld.aflip.in/WorkingWithUs>
- Graphics for 60 years celebrations for Logan, Scenic Rim, Upper Dawson, Sunshine Coast & Fraser Coast 60 years celebrations

MEDIA/PUBLICITY

14 Oct: [Protecting the platypus](#) (interview by Tamielle in *Noosa Today*)

15 Oct: [Council commits to issue while urgent calls for flying fox reforms surface](#) (interview John McCabe WPSQ Capricorn in *CQ Today*)

5 Nov: [Can Logan Save SE Qld’s Last Quolls](#), *Park Ridge News* (interview Paul Revie)

22 Nov: *Why Everybody Needs Noisy Neighbours this Christmas!* — Picked up by Wide Bay Burnett Radio, which did a 5 min interview segment with Paul Revie on 23 Nov.

12 Dec: 1 X article on quolls for *Wildlife Queensland* December Member Newsletter for Doreen

26 Dec: [Glider Nest Boxes Installed at Park Ridge](#), *Park Ridge News*

11 Jan: Created survey monkey survey for distribution via Gold Coast Branch and media (401 responses) See https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-XFHNoOtU2lViGXhhy_2BQh6A_3D_3D/

2 Feb: *Tear up Toondah*, petition to stop Toondah Harbour

4 Mar: *Resident views on Kurrawa Beach Bar trial on Gold Coast*, *Gold Coast Bulletin*

June 22: Article *Glider Recovery: the only way forward is back* that ran in *Wildlife Australia’s* June issue.

Note: some of the above were directly facilitated by branches/project officers and/or media requests.

THE YEAR AHEAD

From July 2022, communications will continue to be shared between Karin Cox and Amanda Little. Areas of communications targeted for further development in the coming year include:

- a more tailored, templated approach to social media marketing and EDMs to save time and reflect the brand
- production of and implementation of an over-arching communications strategy
- better documentation of processes and procedures
- a review of the role and hopefully an injection of specialised capabilities for single giving day/appeals/fund-raising.

Members, Branches and Administration

Doreen Payne, Member Support Officer

This year has proven to be easier particularly for branches as they were able to resume a lot of their activities that had been restricted in the years before due to Covid. Considering the problems the Society faced and overcame last year, I am sure the branches will be well prepared in the future for any delays occasioned by these types of restrictions.

The Society has lost a number of long-term and active members over the last few years. This is a great loss to our Society which relies on these dedicated members to take the nature conservation message to the community and fight for our wildlife. One particularly sad loss was Adam Clark from Upper Dawson branch. But there are many who remain to keep the Society active and vibrant.

2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SOUTHERN BRANCHES GET TOGETHER

The 58th Annual General Meeting (AGM) was on Saturday 11 September 2021 at Nudgee Beach Environmental Education Centre, Nudgee, proving to be a good location with a large venue set in pleasant surroundings. The event was fairly well attended by members and together with proxies received, there was sufficient for the AGM to meet its obligations.

Nine branches were represented at the AGM. Seven branch representatives gave a verbal report on their branch's activities and achievements. These were Bayside, Brisbane, Capricorn, Gold Coast, Kedron Brook, Sunshine Coast and Upper Dawson. These reports were the highlight of the day as branches have achieved a lot in spite of the restrictions some have faced over the year.

The AGM commenced with President, Peter Ogilvie, formally welcoming members and guests and thanking staff for organising the event. He presented his report on the Society's activities and projects for the 2020-2021 year and outlined future plans.

Copies of the annual report, financial report and minutes of the last AGM and were distributed. At last year's AGM, councilors were elected for two years so the only person to be elected as a member of council this year was Paul Sutton. Unfortunately, the treasurer Madeleine Hodder resigned. Susan Vernon from the Brisbane Branch has since accepted the position of treasurer.

Annual Awards for the year July 2020 to June 2021

The Margaret Thorsborne Award named in honour of our late Patron, Margaret Thorsborne acknowledges members who have made an outstanding contribution to Wildlife Queensland, conservation and the community. This year we received three nominations for the Margaret Thorsborne award. We found it impossible to choose one as all nominees have made outstanding contributions to conservation in their area. The award was given to **Melanie Simmons** of Upper Dawson branch, **Suzie Smith** of Cassowary Coast-Hinchinbrook branch, and **Jill Chamberlain** of Sunshine Coast and Hinterland branch.

Melanie Simmons is an effectively quiet voice for wildlife. After orchestrating the opening of the Castle Creek bird hide in Theodore, she continued with the WPSQ-FBA project to produce twelve wildlife signs on the Creek Walkway around the bird hide, contributing her considerable knowledge of birds and riparian animals. Melanie is a key team player, the heart of a group of sometimes outspoken people, a person whose actions and interests, shared without fanfare, speak of an abiding wonder at all nature and respect for all.

Suzie Smith was a founding member of the Cassowary Coast Hinchinbrook branch (formerly Tully branch) and has been an active member and office bearer since 1980. In addition to our project work and liaison with partners, she oversees the annual Pied Imperial Pidgeon Counts, volunteers at the local council community nursery and maintains the branch contact with schools and the community.

Jill Chamberlain was nominated because of her many years of hard work as an office bearer of the Sunshine Coast branch. In 2007 she was awarded an Honorary Life Membership, in 2009 she took on the role of President and in 2010 received an Order of Australia, in 2014 she became an Honorary Senior Fellow of the University of the Sunshine Coast, and was honoured by the naming of the 'Jill Chamberlain Nature Refuge' at Little Mountain. She has been active in many ways from letter writing to on the ground weeding, surveys, working with the community and with all levels of government.



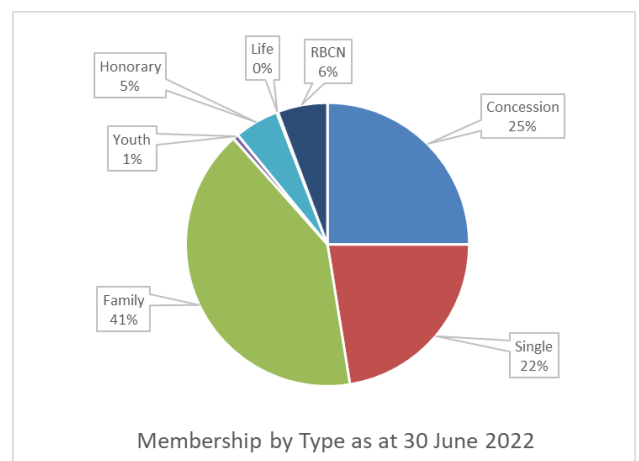
L-R: Suzie Smith (in front of Margaret Thorsborne portrait; Melanie Simmons and Jill Chamberlain with their awards

Award for a Wildlife Queensland branch for community engagement and/or education

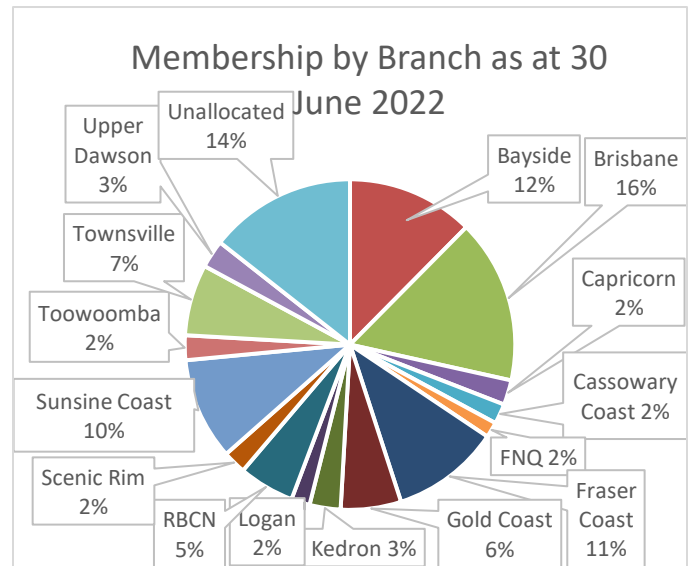
There were no nominations this year.

ADMINISTRATION

Membership fees, together with member lists, were distributed to branches during the year. Member lists are provided both when the membership fees are paid as well as on an ad hoc basis for a number of branches. Some branches have proved to be very good at following up members who fall behind. Matters relating to members and branches are many and varied. Events are seen as a good opportunity to advertise the Society and its aims, and to attract



members and encourage subscriptions to *Wildlife Australia*. Branches have struggled with the usual public apathy. People seem to be less ready to join organisations so it is difficult to gain members. The Society newsletter, compiled and edited by the head office administrative staff, is a connection between the Society and its members, and is produced in both electronic and print formats. The frequency of production has reduced from three per year to two per year to save costs of printing. Hard copies are included in the new member packs, distributed at events and sent to branches for events.



Volunteers are the backbone of our Society. A thank you lunch for volunteers was held in December. This annual celebration is a way of expressing our thanks to the volunteers for their valuable work during the year and was attended by volunteers, staff and some councillors.

MEDIA

It is very difficult to get coverage in newspapers etc. for environmental matters, though some branches do. Media coverage last year for two categories remained constant but while the radio interviews helped immensely, overall coverage is still nowhere near where it used to be. Matt Cecil and Tamielle Brunt have contributed the most to this with interviews and reports on projects.

Of course, we now have very good coverage on social media.

Management Team (MT)

Janelle Devery, Matt Cecil and Des Boyland, Management Team

The Management Team (MT) is comprised of the Operations, Projects and Policies, and Campaigns Managers. The MT works with State Council to implement strategic planning to guide future directions, seek funding, establish and maintain balanced work programs in line with available funding/resource, devise strategies for succession planning, and ensuring procedures are in place for efficient and effective operations, financial management while increasing support and participation within the organisation and from external stakeholders and communities. The MT ensures communications, publications and media comments reflect Wildlife Queensland policy and values and meets our standards and timelines. They provide input into the production and development of the Society's publications.

The MT continues to work together to ensure the health and safety of our staff and volunteers while continuing our work. A focus for the coming year will be to work with Council to develop a new business model. We will undertake a review of current position descriptions and update as required. Part of this strategy will be to develop succession plans for key staff and contractors.

Operations

Janelle Devery, Operations Manager

The role of Operations Manager entails overseeing the day-to-day administration of the Society, as well as contributing to the strategic decision-making of the Executive Management Team (EMT). The role covers: operations, reports (internal and external), human resources, financial management, and reporting including trust funds, general administration e.g. administrative support to projects, networks, and Wildlife Land Fund, and information technology.

Volunteers: It goes without saying that the Society could not run efficiently or effectively without dedicated staff and volunteers. The easing of COVID restrictions saw a return to the office for vaccinated staff and volunteers. Wildlife Queensland has followed Qld government guidelines and advice throughout the pandemic. We appreciate the return of these happy, dedicated people who give their time to us and take on tasks with enthusiasm. It was a very quiet office without them.

Thanks to our regular office volunteers: Warren, MaryAnn, Steve and Jenny and Doreen who is both volunteer and staff. A huge thank you to those willing members who always make themselves available to help at the mail-out of magazines, newsletters and major appeals — sometimes (usually) on short notice. Please accept my very sincere thanks for your willingness, flexibility and good humour that ensures smooth running on the day. I really do appreciate it.

Staff/Contractors: We are happy to now have Adriana move from volunteer to a one-day a week contract position. Adriana has developed a bequest strategy, a Gift in Will brochure, liaises with those who have advised they are remembering us in their will and those who are thinking about it. She is currently developing a member's survey. Paul Revie joined the team as project officer to support Matt and run some of the projects we received funding for. He has been successful in further grant applications which sees him extend his time with us. Hannah Thomas is working on the brush-tailed rock-wallaby project and assists with Richmond birdwing projects. Jessica Walsh and Wayne Cavanagh assist with projects on an as-needs basis. All contracted positions are funded from grants — local council, state and federal governments.

Appeals: This year we ran 3 appeals: Christmas 2021 — Yellow-bellied glider; Giving Day — with 50% shared between Wildcare and WILVOS to support carers working with flood affected wildlife. See Communications Officer report for more details.

Adoptions: While income from donations is down a fraction from last year they still provide good if irregular income.

Bequests: are an unexpected surprise. We have received some direct bequests and receive regular income from trusts set up through the Public trustee, Australian Community Foundation, and private trusts managed by family or executors. With a bequest strategy now in place we are seeing an increase in

supporters advising us of their intentions. We have increased our range of **merchandise** in our online shop. Sales are steady. We hope customers will find out more about us when they purchase from our shop.

The **Wildlife Protector Program** donor numbers continue to decrease. We hope to add a self-sign-up option to the web for individuals to make regular donations. This will provide both credit card and direct debit payment options and be managed by the donor.

The **Batty Boat Cruises** are still popular. In 2021-2022 cruise season, we ran cruises on four separate dates from December 2020 to February 2021. Numbers were low due to COVID restrictions but we always meet the required number. At the close of the cruise season, we donate funds to BCR to assist with the care of injured and orphaned bats. Brisbane City Council Environmental groups booked a cruise for a social event. We have been unable to find a venue for an annual dinner for 2022. Venues have either closed, or request too high a price per person to make the event feasible.

Holly Bryant Award Winner — No award presented in 2021

Our long term partnership with our IT support is ending. The company has advised they have been purchased and new management is opting out of managing smaller organisations such as ours. 1iCT were generous with their time and support. We have appreciated the work they have done for us. We are in the process of engaging a new organisation to provide IT support.

FUTURE PLANS

- Work with new IT support group to ensure we have systems that work, are current, and suit our needs
- Work towards implementing a cloud solution (or hybrid of cloud and serve/VPN) to support staff and contractors and allow more flexibility and a work-from-home solution as well as access for officers in the field
- Document procedures and policies to support both the CRM and website (ongoing)
- Work with Wildlife Australia committee and consultant (Business Acumen) to increase revenue, find partnerships, advertising and marketing opportunities
- Actively seek out marketing opportunities for both the Society and magazine
- Work with the Management Team and communications officer to increase awareness and to develop partnerships
- Continue writing 'fact sheets' for operations role
- Develop a succession plan for Operations Manager
- Write/update all job descriptions
- Liaise with consultants as required for strategic planning, fundraising and events.



THE WILDLIFE LAND FUND

Wildlife Land Fund Limited

Chair, Stacey McLean

An important achievement this year is the finalisation of our 2022 – 2024 Strategic Plan! A draft was released at our 2021 Annual General Meeting with a call for comments. Our new Strategic Plan tells our story. It recognises our achievements so far, our commitments, and what we need to do to secure future successes. It also plays an important role in identifying opportunities for our members, supporters, and potential partners to work with us to deliver on key strategies and actions.

Through Key Outcomes, supported by a set of Goals, Strategies and Action, the Plan will guide Board decisions regarding where the Fund's investments and efforts are focussed over the next three years. The Plan is available on our website and hard copies are available upon request.

Witta Nature Refuge: Funding from the Sunshine Coast Council through their voluntary conservation agreement (VCA) program continued, enabling us to engage Natural Bushland Ecology to undertake targeted weed removal and follow-up management. Some volunteer works was undertaken to complement that being delivered by the contractor.

Neil Holloway Reesville Nature Refuge: As with Witta, we were again successful in continuing a VCA with Sunshine Coast Council, allowing us to re-engage Brush Turkey Enterprises to continue with targeted weed management and management of the 2019 revegetation site. The Board was successful in securing a Queensland Government Nature Refuge Landholder Grant Agreement to the value of \$5 000, primarily addressing broad leaf privet. The work will also be delivered by Brush Turkey Enterprise on Reesville Nature Refuge primarily. The Council have placed a camera on the holding as a component of the feral deer control program.

It is important to acknowledge that the funds received from the Council for both Witta and Reesville are significantly enhanced through the generous donations

we receive from members and supporters, enabling larger contracts to be issued for works.

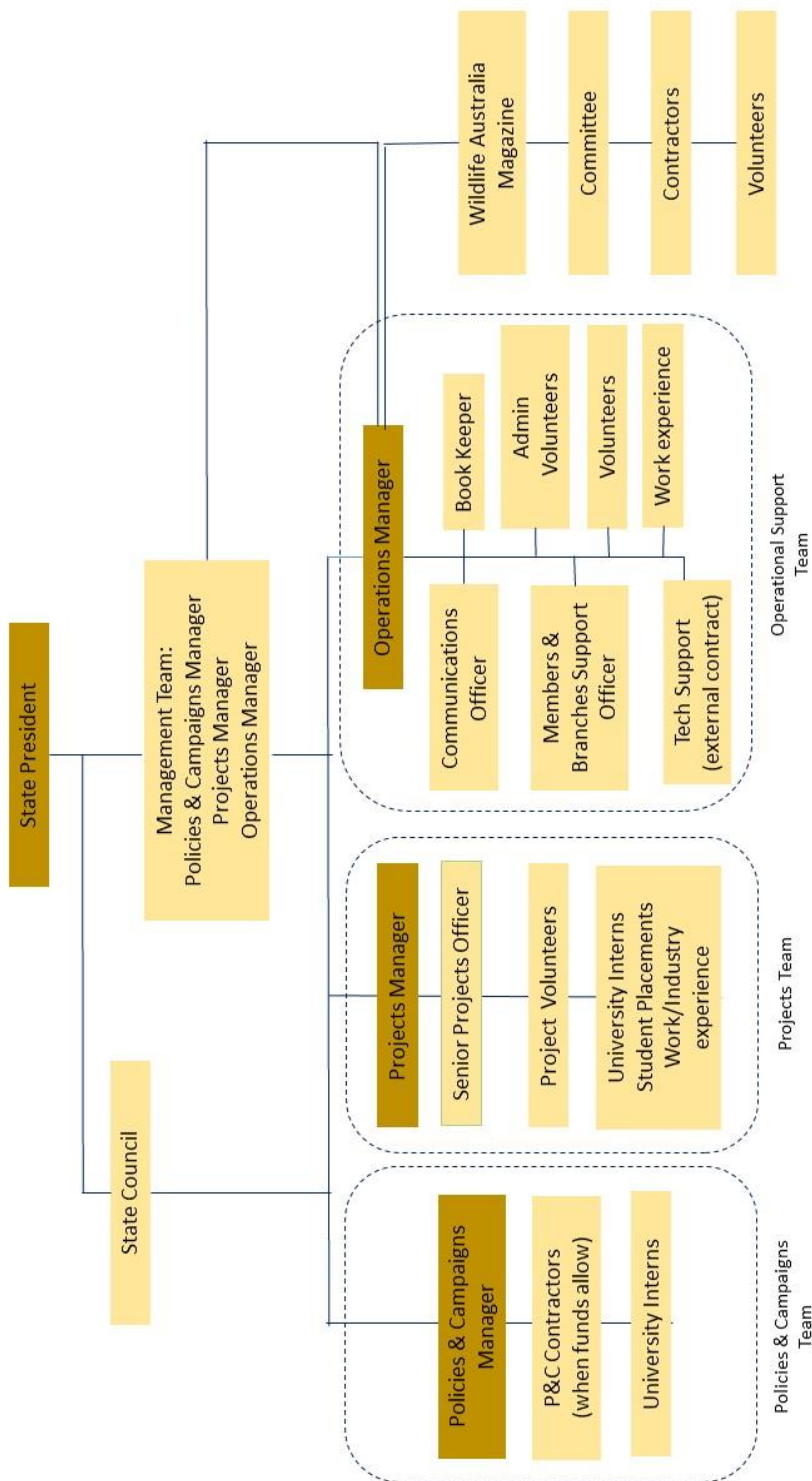
Bukkulla Conservation Park: As outlined at last year's Annual General Meeting, the Board has commenced a review of the Statement of Management Intent for Bukkulla and will continue to liaise with the Queensland Department of Environment and Science in this regard. The Board will provide members with updates on this work throughout the coming year. Certain circumstances have changed significantly since Bukkulla was initially acquired. Some periodic stock grazing continued again this year undertaken by the Bowman Cattle Co. Subject to seasonal conditions, this company is permitted to graze a maximum of 80 head of cattle on the Park but numbers rarely exceed 55. Such arrangements have been in place since the holding was purchase from the Bowman family by the Crown in 2001. Wildlife Land Fund Limited (WLFL) raised about 75% of the purchase price, the reason WLFL is sole trustee.

Weranga Scarps Nature Reserve: The Board is in the process of preparing more detailed regional ecosystem mapping for our most recent land purchase and organising on-ground inspections following the good rains earlier this year. This work is important in establishing the current condition of the various habitats, any management actions needed in coming months and appropriate locations for future natural history surveys and alike.

Wildlife Land Fund Limited Board: The Board of Directors met formally three times during the 2021-22 financial year: August and November 2021, and again in May 2022. I thank fellow Board members for their commitment to advancing the Fund's activities and objectives. Trustees of the Wildlife Nature Reserve Fund, our public fund, carried out all necessary functions, as usual. At the end of June 2022 our land and cash on hand assets approaches \$900,000, providing a very sound base on which to build in our 21st year. We are financially viable and able to pay our debts as and when they become due. Our membership stands at 63.

Acknowledgements: The Board of Directors would like to thank Peter Hallahan for his on-going assistance in financial operations. The on-going support and assistance from The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland is very much appreciated and acknowledged.

About Wildlife Queensland....





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