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VISION STATEMENT

Queensland's wildlife and habitats are secure, valued and prioritised.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

2025 has been a landmark year. Together with branches, volunteers, partners and supporters, we delivered conservation milestones for threatened species, strengthened our advocacy voice and empowered communities. We also modernised core systems to build a resilient, future-focused organisation. We were pleased to welcome Dr John Tracey as our new CEO.

— *Emeritus Professor Marc Hockings, President*



A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

A year of growth, collaboration and impact. We expanded our project portfolio, strengthened our advocacy on bioregional planning, offsets, land clearing, forestry, plastics, and ecotourism, and engaged more Queenslanders through events, branches, and digital channels. Organisational reforms, a transformational bequest and stronger regular giving set solid foundations for the next phase.

— *Dr John Tracey, CEO*





YEAR IN REVIEW

14 +

active projects

with \$680k in project revenue (up 71%)

130+ ha

surveyed Redland private lands

Koalas and multiple fauna confirmed

15,000 ha

under targeted predator control

Increased survival of brush-tailed rock-wallabies in SEQ

6,700

camera-trap nights

across 160 cameras. 45 native species deted

\$1.2m

Resilient Rivers contract

SEQ regional, 250planned eDNA sites for platypus/lungfish/Mary River cod. 500+ sites surveyed since 2016

5,216

Instagram followers

reach hit 61,428 (↑ 47%)

19,693

Facebook followers

reach hit 605,212 (↑ 80%)

120+

community events

800+ people engaged directly

8,400

e-news subscribers

average 41% opens (↑12% YoY)

Advocacy

submissions and minister meetings

Forests for everyone, ecotourism, forestry, SLATS land clearing, banning enclosed yabby traps, ACCC determination on soft plastics, renewable energy & biodiversity, Qld Timber Future Plan, Private Protected Areas

1,806

petition signatures

to ban enclosed yabby traps

1.13

MILLION

Operating surplus (from \$226,994)

1.13

MILLION

Retained earnings

1.29

MILLION

Accumulated surplus (from \$158,950)

Protecting wildlife



Under Matt Cecil's leadership, we've grown our projects area, including critical actions on brush-tailed rock-wallabies, platypus, lungfish, and Mary River cod, as well as quolls, Richmond Birdwing butterflies, gliders, echidnas, and many more.

Rock-wallabies: predator control improves juvenile survival

Paul Revie, Jessica Guidotti, Jesse Wojtala

targeted fox and cat control across eight sites (Flinders-Coolman, Perseverance Crows Nest, Cressbrook Dam, North D'Aguilar, Somerset-Esk, Lockyer Valley, Main Range incl. Glen Rock, Mt Barney and Mt Maroon, Moogerah Peaks) covering over 15,000 ha using FoxOff baits, Canid Pest Ejectors and Felixers has coincided with anecdotal increases in juvenile survival of rock-wallabies compared with previous years. Baseline monitoring across five priority sites confirmed the presence with new detections in the Scenic Rim, highlighting the value of volunteer monitoring. Predator control and UQ connectivity analysis support habitat resilience; fire workshops and engagement with Traditional Owners are the next steps. The project is scheduled for completion in March 2026, with additional funding required.

PlatypusWatch turns 10: eDNA scale-up

Dr Tam Brunt

LA \$1.2m, five-year SEQ multi-species eDNA partnership (Resilient Rivers SEQ/SEQ City Deal) is surveying 250 sites, alongside the annual councils' eDNA programs and the Omega Chemicals' Bullock Head Creek project. The program will provide a full atlas of species (vertebrate, invertebrate and microorganisms) along with critical baselines for platypus, lungfish and Mary River cod, create jobs and training for Indigenous ranger groups, and is linked to restoration and threat reduction (e.g., cats-claw biocontrol along waterways).

Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network

Matt Cecil, Richard Bull, Dr Chris Hosking

Wildlife Queensland continued to safeguard the spectacular but threatened Richmond birdwing butterfly (*Ornithoptera richmondia*) this year. Through partnerships with landholders, councils, schools, and community groups, the network is restoring habitat by planting the butterfly's sole larval food plant, the birdwing butterfly vine (*Aristolochia praevenosa*). This year's work strengthened habitat corridors, with over 700 vines distributed into the community and planted in backyards and bushland reserves. Engagement and education focused on the removal of Dutchman's Pipe, a key threat to Birdwing caterpillars and engaged communities in monitoring and education, building awareness of rainforest restoration while helping secure the future of one of Queensland's most iconic invertebrates.



Habitat restoration, species recovery and biodiversity protection

Wildlife Queensland branches led numerous significant projects across the State, including the rehabilitation of Mt Etna vine thicket (Capricorn) and invasive species control (Cassowary Coast, Capricorn). Capricorn collaborated with the Fitzroy Basin Association to integrate regenerative grazing and habitat connectivity. Upper Dawson highlighted risks associated with wind farms, carbon projects, and gas extraction. The Gold Coast advocated for the safeguarding of Springbrook (a Gondwana World Heritage site) and the Broadwater, opposing inappropriate developments such as cableways and tourism at Wave Break Island. Scenic Rim completed surveys across 35 wildlife corridor sites, contributing vital baseline data to be revisited in 2029 and 2034, and supported koala and species surveys within Logan and Albert River Catchments to guide future connectivity. Plans are underway to install microbat nesting boxes in the Scenic Rim and build a database of local bat species. Kedron Brook members removed over 1,150 cane toads through coordinated "toad busts," released jewel beetles to control cat's claw vine, and conducted moth, microbat, and butterfly surveys, including recording 21 butterfly species and one new species to support local biodiversity knowledge. Kedron Brook is also collaborating with Healthy Land and Water on a major restoration project aimed at improving waterway health and enhancing habitat resilience.

Turtles, shorebirds, pied imperial-pigeons and coastal ecosystems

The Fraser Coast branch is continuing to fight the impacts of high-rise development on nesting turtles and nearshore corals. The Capricorn and Cassowary Coast branch supported dune stabilisation and turtle-nesting habitat protection. These actions are particularly important for mitigating the impacts of light pollution (which disorients nesting females and hatchlings) and for protecting nearshore corals and seagrass meadows that green turtles rely on. Dune stabilisation work helps maintain dark, stable nesting beaches vital for loggerhead, flatback, and green turtles. The Sunshine Coast branch has been tireless in its efforts to save migratory shorebirds at risk of development at Coochin Creek. The Cassowary Coast Branch members continued their commitment to the annual Nutmeg (pied imperial)-pigeon monitoring program across the Torres Strait - one of Australia's longest-running citizen science projects, first initiated in the 1960s by conservationist Margaret Thorsborne. These dedicated counts provide a critical long-term dataset on population trends for this important migratory species, which plays a vital role in dispersing rainforest seeds and connecting ecosystems between northern Australia and Papua New Guinea. The monitoring has informed the protection of key nesting islands, guided coastal habitat management, and remains a powerful example of how sustained community science underpins conservation outcomes.



EchidnaWatch

Dr Kate Dutton-Regester

A key program championed by our EchidnaWatch Coordinator, Dr Kate, EchidnaWatch is rapidly expanding its reach and impact. The program now encompasses five funded projects involving more than 30–40 Friends of Parks and Bushcare groups across Queensland. Innovative eDNA scat pilots are underway in partnership with enviroDNA to improve monitoring, while collaboration with the National Fire Ant Eradication Program is investigating the impact of invasive fire ants on echidnas. Looking ahead, an ARC Linkage proposal is in development to strengthen research partnerships and secure long-term outcomes for this iconic species.

Spotted-tailed quolls

Paul Revie

Wildlife Queensland's Quoll Seekers Network continues to lead research and community engagement for Queensland's elusive quolls. Recent surveys across six protected areas and state forests in the Sunshine Coast hinterland deployed over 160 cameras and generated 6,700 trap nights. While no quolls were recorded, 45 native species, including koalas, echidnas, and potoroos, were detected, along with pest species such as foxes, cats, and deer. These results are informing predator control and wildlife management strategies. At the same time, the Quoll Seekers Network advances research into urgent threats such as mange and builds partnerships with universities, researchers, and citizen scientists to improve monitoring, raise awareness, and strengthen habitat protection for quoll recovery.

short beaked echidna (*Tachyglossus aculeatus*)



Greater glider (*Petauroides volans*) © Josh Bowell



“Each one of us matters, has a role to play, and makes a difference”.

Dr Jane Goodall

Discover & Protect

Ali Baker-Lahey, Jaclyn Hood, Paul Donatiu, James Watson

A statewide, community-driven pilot project that commenced in May is closing critical gaps in knowledge for Queensland’s threatened species. Sixteen partner organisations are now trialling the first component of Discover & Protect, which aims to engage citizen scientists and the community across Queensland in actions for their recovery. Two pilot projects, one for fauna and one for flora, are testing repeatable monitoring methods by the community to track species and identify threats.

For flora, the Queensland Threatened Plant Network is continuing to build strong momentum through presentations, workshops, and collaborations with Traditional Owners from Minjerrabah to Far North Queensland. These partnerships are strengthening protection for some of our most vulnerable plants, while building cultural knowledge and community capacity to identify threats and drive recovery efforts. awareness, and strengthen habitat protection for quoll recovery.

Grant successes 2024–25 (selection)

Resilient Rivers and Council of Mayors \$1.2m, Saving Native Species (BTRW), National Eucalypt Day – Hollow Havens, Detection Dogs for Greater Gliders, multiple EchidnaWatch grants, Heidelberg Materials Quarry Life Award, Norman Wettenhall Trust, and more.

Influencing choices

We advanced practical, evidence-based reforms while keeping wildlife central to decision-making. The dedication of our branches shows how vigilance and grassroots advocacy can shape lasting outcomes for Queensland's wildlife and habitats

Advocacy highlights

- Protected Area Estate expansion: Lakes NP, Malbon Thompson Range NP and 18 new nature refuges — progress toward 30x30.
- Conserved Areas (known formally as 'Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures' or OECMs) emerge (including WLFL Weranga Scarps) as credible conservation tools.
- Over the past year, we supported the Forests for Everyone / Protect South-East Queensland's Forests campaign, aimed at permanently safeguarding native forests in SEQ. This campaign champions the transformation of recently logged public lands into a mix of national and conservation parks, designed in consultation with First Nations peoples, local communities, and outdoor groups. By backing this initiative, we reaffirm our commitment to protecting threatened species, promoting biodiversity, and ensuring healthy public spaces for future generations.
- Ecotourism: responded to Destination 2045 – biodiversity at the core; no commercial development in national parks; expand and responsibly manage protected areas.
- Forestry: urged precautionary approach in glider habitats; responded to the Queensland Future Timber Plan, calling for a stop to logging of native forests.
- Bioregional planning: engaged in the development of Queensland's bioregional planning framework to ensure ecological values, connectivity, and threatened species recovery are embedded in land-use decisions and call for urgency and emphasis on 'No go' zones to protect wildlife and avoid conflict.
- Offsets: called for stronger environmental offset policies that prioritise avoidance, deliver measurable biodiversity gains, and ensure genuine, permanent conservation outcomes.
- Land clearing: strong responses following the Statewide Landcover and Trees Study report.
- Soft plastics and the ACCC determination: called for a credible, enforceable EPR-based SPSA scheme.
- Renewable energy & biodiversity: position statement to align both goals.
- Yabby traps: continued campaign to ban enclosed traps; 1,790 petition signatures.
- Bayside successfully opposed Toondah Harbour's Ramsar wetland development but continues resisting koala habitat clearing and Olympic whitewater proposals. Fraser Coast ran the high-profile "Fight the Height" Torquay Towers appeal and opposed a foreshore hotel licence.
- Gold Coast Branch fought the Springbrook cableway and "Bar the Beach Bar" campaigns; engaged through Save the Spit Alliance, GECKO, and Community Alliance. Upper Dawson lodged submissions on renewable energy, transmission corridors, coal seam gas, and state tourism policy.
- Cassowary Coast Branch shaped the Cassowary Coast Regional Council's Mahogany Glider Conservation Policy. Branches joined broader advocacy with BirdLife, ACF, and others on local planning and biodiversity issues.
- The Sunshine Coast Branch has worked tirelessly to protect internationally significant migratory shorebird habitats at Coochin Creek and beyond. These wetlands are part of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway, supporting species such as the far eastern curlew and bar-tailed godwit. Through detailed submissions, direct engagement with Ministers and decision-makers, and strong community advocacy, its members have ensured both local and global conservation voices are heard in planning processes.
- Scenic Rim members advocated for wildlife-friendly infrastructure through council planning workshops, calling for road underpasses, lower speed zones, and retention of key corridors like Todd Lane.

Capacity and credibility

- **Policy & Advocacy Committee established.**
- **Ongoing engagement with Ministers, DETSI and advisory bodies, including Threatened Species and koala committees, Queensland Department of Resources' Dog Control Advisory Group (QDOG), Stock Routes and K'gari World Heritage Advisory Committee.**
- **University of Queensland student essays inform offsets reform, hollow-bearing tree protection and Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) planning.**



Engaging communities

WALK AND TALKS



Platypus and echidna walk and talks across catchments; two Monotreme Mania days.

SPOTLIGHT SURVEYS



Greater glider and hollow-dependent fauna spotlight surveys and workshops with councils; “Life Inside a Hollow” walks.

WORKSHOPS



RBCN and Hollow Havens workshops, plantings and excursions, including corporate engagement at 66 Eagle Street and Sherwood Kindy.

COMMUNITY



Wildlife-friendly backyard webinars, fauna camera workshops, Logan Eco Action Festival stand and more. • Conference presence at the Ecological Society of Australia and the Australian Mammal Society; Reef Guardians seminar.

BRANCHES



Our branches held over 70 community events in 2024–25, ranging from bushwalks and citizen science surveys to clean-up days, public talks, and school engagement activities. These events engaged hundreds of Queenslanders directly and reached thousands more through newsletters, social media, and campaign activities.

Increasing reach for greater impact



reach ↑ 80%



reach ↑ 47%



eBulletins opens averaged 41%
↑ 12%



appeal email opens 34%



event email opens 48%
↑ 27%

- Strategy pivot to three high-quality posts/week following data analysis by our new Communications Officer and QUT program.
- Branches invested in newsletters (Fraser Coast's Wambaliman), social media (Bayside, Fraser Coast, Cassowary Coast, Gold Coast), and branding (Gold Coast introduced t-shirts and business cards).

**When people come together
for nature, extraordinary
things happen.**

 **Wildlife Qld**
Preservation Society of
wildlife.org.au

Organisational sustainability

Overview

Wildlife Queensland strengthened its foundations in 2024–25 through new strategic and fundraising strategies, governance reforms, upgraded systems, and record income growth, progressing towards long-term organisational sustainability and increasing impact for wildlife.



Fundraising: Wildlife Protector, Community, Appeal and Giving Days, Bequests and Philanthropy, and People and partners.

76.9%

Increase in Wildlife Protector Program membership

19k +

Social audience combined

\$191k +

Raised by two appeals and two giving days

\$1m

A transformational bequest

Strategic focus: New Strategic Plan, Sustainable Growth Strategy (2025–28) & Fundraising Strategy adopted.

Governance: Transition to a Company Limited by Guarantee underway; draft constitution and branch agreement prepared.

Systems: New Microsoft Dynamics CRM, with further work needed to optimise the transition, digitisation of archives, and IT hardware upgrades.

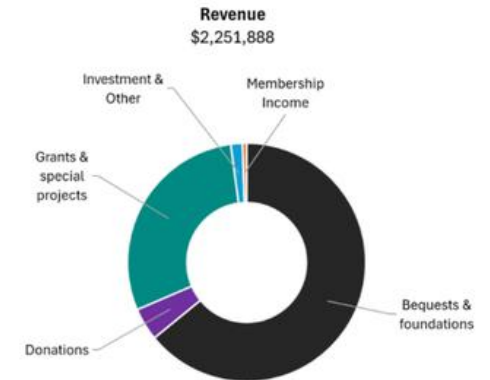
People and partners:

- Farelled Des Boyland after two decades of policy leadership
- Farelled Janelle Devery after 16 years of dedicated service and branch support.
- Welcomed Jodie Blewett (Office Manager) and Amy Hyslop (Communications and Fundraising Lead).
- QUT Masters students analysed our digital presence, shaping future strategy.
- Core partners Queensland Threatened Plants Network, UQ, Griffith, QUT, UniSQ, Queensland Field Naturalists, Friends of Parks, Co-exist, Land for Wildlife, councils and NRM groups.

Financial snapshot

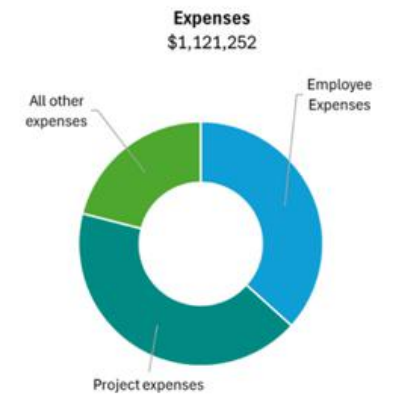
Income growth

- Bequests & foundations: \$1,499,790 (from \$540,135)
- Grants & special projects: \$686,281 (from \$400,538)
- Gift Fund balance: \$983,034 (from \$879,459)



Expenditure & result

- Expenditure: \$1,121,252 (from \$965,379)
- Operating surplus: \$1,130,637 (from \$226,994)
- Accumulated surplus: \$1,289,586 (from \$158,950)



Note: Even excluding the major bequest, income grew 19%, exceeding the 10% annual growth target and putting WQ ahead of schedule to double revenue by 2028.



Our branches, volunteer and supporters

Wildlife Queensland's 13 branches, volunteers and supporters continue to be the lifeblood of our organisation – protecting wildlife, influencing choices and engaging communities across the state. More than 18,000 people now support our mission as members, donors, e-news subscribers, and social media followers, together amplifying our voice for wildlife and driving meaningful change.

Our passionate volunteers, including those powering our six specialist networks (Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby, Queensland Glider, Quoll Seekers, EchidnaWatch, Richmond Birdwing, and PlatypusWatch), dedicated thousands of hours this year to species monitoring, surveys, recovery programs, and everyday advocacy on critical wildlife issues. These efforts have driven on-ground action to protect threatened species and their habitats, from monitoring gliders and pied imperial-pigeons to eDNA sampling, FaunaWatch surveys, and advisory work with landholders to embed biodiversity in planning and grazing systems.

Branches and networks also delivered many community events, with walks, talks, school programs, Clean Up Australia Day events, nest box installations, weed control, and habitat restoration projects drawing people into hands-on conservation. Long-running initiatives such as the Wambaliman newsletter, regular nature walks, and local markets keep wildlife issues visible and relevant.

Advocacy was a core strength this year, with branches challenging destructive coastal developments, shaping council policies on endangered species such as the mahogany glider, and championing stronger protections for vital habitats. Partnerships with universities, NRM groups, councils, and other conservation organisations continued to expand our impact, bringing in new expertise and audiences.

Despite challenges such as ageing memberships and limited capacity in some regions, our branches and volunteers have demonstrated their resilience, forming a powerful network of local knowledge, commitment, and action. Their resilience, creativity, and deep connection to place ensure that Wildlife Queensland's statewide efforts are grounded in community values, protecting the wildlife and wild places that define our state.



We are deeply grateful to all our volunteers and supporters for your generosity and commitment, which makes all this possible.



Our supporters and sponsors



Wildlife Land Fund Ltd (WLFL)



Highlights

- Weranga Scarps recognised as Australia's first OECM
- New Gowrie Scrubs reserve
- Upcoming SEQ Restore & Reconnect koala project at Neil Holloway Reesville Nature Refuge
- \$157,500+ invested over a decade in weed control and restoration across Sunshine Coast refuges.

The past year has seen Wildlife Land Fund Ltd (WLFL) achieve significant milestones while continuing to deliver strong on-ground outcomes. Chair Adrian Caneris and the Board of Directors (Des Boyland, Dr Bill McDonald, Dr Andrew Daniel, Sally Spain, Paul Revie and Matt Cecil) reaffirmed the organisation's enduring mission to protect Queensland's natural environment, highlighted by the recognition of Weranga Scarps as Australia's first officially listed Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure (OECM). This landmark designation, made possible through the legacy of the late Wayne Lawler and the generosity of donors, underscores the vital role of privately protected areas in meeting global biodiversity targets. WLFL also strengthened its conservation portfolio with the addition of Gowrie Scrubs Conservation Reserve near Toowoomba, a 17.5-hectare donation of ecologically valuable habitat supporting threatened species and remnant mountain coolabah woodland.

On the Sunshine Coast, WLFL's Neil Holloway Reesville Nature Refuge will soon benefit from a major new koala conservation initiative under the SEQ Restore & Reconnect program, funded by the Department of Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation. Delivered in partnership with Sunshine Coast Council and Healthy Land and Water, the project will provide weed management and the planting of thousands of eucalypts to support one of South East Queensland's densest koala populations. Both the Neil Holloway Reesville and Witta Nature Refuges have also continued to thrive under long-term Voluntary Conservation Agreements with the Sunshine Coast Council, which, together with WLFL's cash contributions, have directed more than \$157,500 into weed management and bushland restoration over the past decade. These sustained efforts ensure critical habitat recovery and lasting ecological resilience.

Together, these achievements demonstrate WLFL's growing impact and the strength of its partnerships, securing vital habitats for wildlife and contributing to an ecologically sustainable future for Queensland.

Looking ahead

- Expand citizen science and research collaborations to fill data gaps for Queensland's 1,069 threatened species, including a priority to seek funding to continue the important brush-tailed rock wallaby recovery and an increased focus on threatened flora, managing threats and recovery actions.
- Advocate for stronger land-clearing controls, bioregional planning and 'No go zones' to protect critical habitat, and responsible ecotourism developments and renewables roll-out.
- Grow youth engagement through branches, partnerships and digital.
- Consolidate governance reforms, CRM roll-out, digitisation and cost recovery to future-proof WQ.



Join. Donate. Volunteer.

Scan to support priority projects, find your local branch, or become a Wildlife Protector.



Contact us for your free
Will for Wildlife guide today.



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Remember Wildlife Queensland in your Will