

Approved Threatened Species Recovery Fund Open Round Projects

Funding recipient	Title	Description	Funding (GST excl.)	Project locations
Southern Regional Natural Resource Management Association	Saving Eucalyptus morrisbyi, one of Australia's most threatened Eucalypts	Emergency intervention will be undertaken to secure Eucalyptus morrisbyi in the wild. This species is on the brink of extinction with only a small number of non-reproductive individuals remaining and poor representation in seed banks. Emergency intervention will be realised through an NRM South facilitated collaboration between community groups and the Parks and Wildlife Service, with support from key experts. Safe havens will be created, protecting plants from browsing and wildfire. Habitat will be improved by infill planting and controlling invasive grasses to reduce competition. Activities will be informed by the results of recent field trials investigating successful methodologies for protecting juvenile plants and revegetation. The genetic diversity of the existing seed banked material will be supplemented by investigating the provenance and genetic diversity of community plantings.	\$82,000	TAS
Royal Botanic Gardens Board	A conservation strategy integrating seed biology, ex-situ collections and genetic characterisation to secure a viable future for the endangered chenopod Sclerolaena napiformis	Detailed field surveys of populations will establish baselines for ongoing monitoring. Seed will be banked at RBGV and germination cues identified. Genetic testing of mature plants and seeds ensures that natural variation is represented in banked seed to facilitate future genetic manipulation of populations. New seed from each population will be collected, tested for viability and a subset characterised genetically to allow detection of selfing/outcrossing. Combined, this information will indicate any need for mitigating the negative effects of low diversity and/or inbreeding depression through mixing genetic material between populations. Ex-situ plants will be used experimentally to identify growth responses to heat and water stress to approximate responses of populations under warming climatic conditions, as well as serving as a seed orchard to provide extra seed for future restorations.	\$104,967	NSW, VIC
Office of Environment and Heritage	Protect magenta lilly pilly & improve habitat in the Great Lakes through broadscale weed treatment delivered by cross-tenure partnerships	The project will protect magenta lilly pilly and improve habitat to conserve a large, interlinked, wild population of the species in the Great Lakes. The project will reduce threats to magenta lilly pilly, the endangered ecological community littoral rainforest & habitat for 8 other threatened species including the white-flowered wax plant & grey-headed flying-fox. This will be achieved by implementing a strategic, broad scale weed program to target weeds of national significance & transformer weeds across 70km of coastline in cross-tenure partnerships. Selective revegetation, seed collection, fencing, flora survey & monitoring will complement the weed program, which will be delivered by the National Parks and Wildlife Service in partnership with MidCoast Council, the Aboriginal community & volunteer Landcare groups.	\$250,000	NSW
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia	Preserving Australia's Ark - Safeguarding golden bandicoots and brush-tailed rabbit-rats in the Dambimangari and Uunguu Indigenous Protected Areas, North Kimberley.	The Kimberley is an internationally recognised hotspot for critical weight range (CWR) mammals. Significant capacity (Indigenous Rangers) exists to address key threats. This project will protect populations of brush-tailed rabbit-rat and golden bandicoot in the Dambimangari and Uunguu Indigenous Protected Areas, including mainland hotspots (Mitchell Plateau and Yampi Peninsula) and offshore islands (Augustus, Storr and Uwins Island, and other islands with similar habitats). Targeted management of these threatened species will be undertaken by Indigenous Rangers and Traditional Owners with support by WWF and BHA ecologists. Actions include: reducing the threat of wildfire and enhancing habitat with fire; identifying and controlling feral cats around key populations; managing impacts of feral cattle; maintaining island biosecurity and identifying new populations of CWR mammals.	\$205,120	WA
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board	Returning a priority bird species under the Threatened Species Strategy to South Australia: Reintroduction of the mallee emu-wren (Stipiturus mallee) to Ngarkat Conservation Park	The endangered mallee emu-wren has recently become extinct in South Australia, and has significantly declined in Victoria, due to large wildfires further exacerbated by drought. They now persist in three Victorian populations only, which are at high risk of extinction due to wildfire. Re-establishing populations via reintroductions is essential to reduce extinction risk and improve their overall population trajectory. Using an adaptive management framework, we aim to transfer 60-80 birds to Ngarkat Conservation Park (South Australia) to establish a new population and refine the release strategy necessary for this establishment. The translocation will draw upon a large team of national experts from the Threatened Mallee Birds Steering Committee, with support from scientists, local community, and critical logistics from regional Rotary groups.	\$225,322	VIC, SA
Birdlife Australia Ltd.	Restoring the regent honeyeater: implementing both cutting edge science and well proven conservation practices to turn the recovery trajectory for the species	This project will use a mix of cutting edge science, along with tried and tested conservation practices, to help save the regent honeyeater from extinction. Satellite tracking will be employed to learn about their movements like never before, while key partners from the national recovery team and other organisations, supported by over a thousand community members, will work to implement actions like habitat planting, restoration and fencing to protect and restore the best parts of the landscape for the species. A key competitor, the noisy miner, will also be removed from one key region in a bid to ensure the species has best access to foraging and breeding areas in Victoria.	\$249,570	NSW, VIC

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Trees For Life Inc	Community action across South Australia to secure the future of the silver daisy bush in a changing climate.	Climatic changes over the coming decades will determine the future of the silver daisy bush in SA. Currently found in Mediterranean habitats, increasing aridity & shifting rainfall patterns are placing many populations at risk of extinction, particularly those in the north of its range. Our project will secure the species' ongoing future by undertaking translocations to: (i) establish new populations in areas of suitable future habitat, to reduce the probability of total extinction, (ii) introduce genetic material from northern populations into those of the south, to broaden the species' evolutionary capacity to adapt to climatic shifts, & (iii) increase local population size, to mitigate against extinction from stochastic catastrophes. The project will cover the entire range of the species & will use innovative techniques to target on-ground conservation actions in priority locations.	\$249,780	SA
The Trustee for Wandiyali Restoration Trust	Wandiyali Restoration Trust grassy woodland-small purple-pea restoration and resilience	The Wandiyali Swainsona Project will help protect 100ha of regionally recognised box gum grassy woodland. In partnership with the Australian National Botanic Gardens, and in consultation with the Office of Environment & Heritage SE NSW Threatened Species team, existing Swainsona recta will be intensively managed, with translocations to establish new populations, and special purpose conservation fencing. Intensive and ongoing management will involve groups such as Conservation Volunteers Australia, Canberra Nature Map, Queanbeyan Landcare & Molonglo Catchment Group. The Project sits within Wandiyali Conservation Area, 400ha of mostly Endangered Ecological Community box gum grassy woodland, and 3.2km of riparian grassy woodlands and serpentine gorges of Jerrabomberra Creek. In partnership with Mt Rothwell Conservation & Research Centre, and in consultation with Australian Wildlife Conservancy, feral predators will be excluded from this Conservation Area, and critical weight range mammals reintroduced.	\$90,000	NSW
Bush Heritage Australia	Traditional knowledge for large scale, long-term protection of threatened species habitat	Adopting a two-way science approach, Birriliburu Rangers will work in partnership with Bush Heritage Australia (BHA) & Central Desert Native Title Service to undertake traditional mosaic burning within the Mungkalu Management Zone (81,675 ha) Birriliburu Indigenous Protected Area, WA. This zone provides habitat for the bilby, probably the night parrot & possibly the great desert skink. The project would extend the existing ranger program into a new culturally & ecologically significant area. On-ground works will include patch burning at Mungkalu using vehicles (where possible) or helicopter. This targeted burning will increase seral forest diversity, reduce wildfire intensity & protect long unburnt vegetation, providing optimal cover for threatened species & thereby reducing vulnerability to predation. Monitoring will be undertaken using traditional tracking skills, motion-sensor cameras & sound recorders.	\$218,020	WA
Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Management Board	Felixers versus Felis: Innovative engagement of Kangaroo Island landholders in feral cat control activities.	This project will engage landholders and Friends of Parks groups on KI in feral cat control activities by training them to deploy and operate toxic Felixer™ grooming traps on private and public land. These groups will also be trained to verify Felixer mortalities through radio-tracking and to analyse images from grooming trap and motion-activated cameras to record target and non-target encounters. This will provide a vital opportunity to comprehensively field test and improve grooming trap effectiveness in a broad range of landscapes, establish a community of practice comprised of skilled operators, and collect data on cat abundance and distribution, in preparation for the onset of landscape-scale eradication of feral cats in 2019. Community control and monitoring activities will be coordinated and supported by a liaison officer who will also be responsible for handling toxic cartridges.	\$236,500	SA
Kowree Farm Tree Group Inc	Kids helping Cockies Helping Cockies: schools are engaged to grow seedlings and engage farmers in revegetating private land for the south-eastern red-tailed black-cockatoo.	Science indicates that increasing & improving the condition of feeding habitat is critical to the recovery of the nationally threatened south-eastern red-tailed black-cockatoo. Building on previously successful programs, school communities and land owners will be recruited to grow seedlings and be involved in revegetation projects on private land; delivering on-ground benefits including improving habitat and creating safe havens for this iconic species. Based on existing strong partnerships between NRM organisations, local governments, landcare and community groups, this project will also grow community awareness and support for threatened species recovery.	\$49,500	SA, VIC
Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers	Community Conservation of Eastern curlew: restoring key habitats, reducing human disturbance and promoting best practice at priority sites from Darwin to Wollongong.	This is a partnership project led by Conservation Volunteers Australia with BirdLife Australia, land managers and local communities. We will restore 10 Eastern curlew sites at 5 locations from Darwin to Wollongong addressing 2 key threats: habitat degradation & human disturbance. Supervised volunteer teams will improve priority habitat by controlling weeds, removing mangroves under license, clearing marine debris, revegetating saltmarsh buffers and closing unauthorised access. An engagement program will reduce human disturbance by educating beach users to appreciate and stay clear of these incredible long-haul fliers. BirdLife Australia will be our Science Partner, providing monitoring and technical advice. Best practice will be shared at stakeholder workshops and a report on methods and outcomes will be disseminated by the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership.	\$204,590	NT, QLD, NSW

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Envite Inc	Restoring and connecting habitat for 21 EPBC threatened species and lowland rainforest EEC in Nightcap Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area	Critically endangered lowland subtropical rainforest (EEC) will be restored at Nightcap National Park Gondwana Rainforest World Heritage Area. Wanganui Gorge and Minyon Falls in Nightcap National Park are in a wildlife corridor providing habitat for 21 EPBC listed threatened species. Extensive areas of Lantana and other weeds degrade habitat. Systematic weed control over 35 ha will stimulate natural rainforest regeneration with benefits for the health and connectivity of threatened flora and fauna habitat. This will build on adjoining previous restoration works which have been extremely effective in restoring lowland rainforest and threatened species habitat. Community field days, local school biodiversity workshops and project promotions will develop awareness of the significance of threatened species and lowland rainforest and skills in weed control and restoration techniques.	\$119,770	NSW
Aroo K Pty. Ltd.	Trowunna Wildlife Sanctuary - Tasmanian bettong and Eastern barred bandicoot conservation breeding program	This project will provide direct support to two target threatened mammal species (the Tasmanian bettong and Eastern barred bandicoot) under an ex-situ conservation program developed and managed onsite at Trowunna Wildlife Park, Tasmania. Support towards both of these species will be in the form of direct conservation breeding outcomes, as well as significant education, conservation messaging and public awareness outcomes with the ongoing potential for the implementation of release to the wild programs to reinforce and augment existing wild populations.	\$46,145	TAS
Charles Sturt University	Vaccination protocols for controlling psittacine beak and feather disease	The main aim of the project is to develop vaccination protocols to control psittacine beak and feather disease (Pbfd) in critically endangered and threatened bird species. Pbfd is a chronic and ultimately fatal disease in parrots. The species at most risk is the critically endangered orange-bellied parrot with an estimated current wild population of less than 50 birds. The last remaining populations of the orange-bellied parrots have been hampered by Pbfd which is considered a key threatening process to at least 16 endangered and vulnerable bird species in Australia.	\$250,000	VIC, TAS, NSW
Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board	Local Community and School Students work together to help save Acacia whibleyana at Tumby Bay, Eyre Peninsula, SA.	Acacia whibleyana only grows at Tumby Bay (Eyre Peninsula, SA) and nowhere else in the world. Only 4 isolated sub-populations occur in an area of 0.4km ² . Genetic testing on a new sub-population and its relatedness and heterozygosity to existing sub-populations will identify how to mix the seed to get the best genetic outcome to increase its resilience from the threats of inbreeding suppression and climate change. School students will revisit recovery sites and propagate 800 seedlings, which will be adopted by landholders within the Whibley zone to plant on their property. Landholders and students will participate in a "get to know your Whibley wattle day" that will raise the awareness of Acacia whibleyana and how to care for your seedlings. On-ground works at Moonlight Bay will reduce threats and protect the species at this new site.	\$74,837	SA
Zoological Parks Authority	Expanding the ex-situ conservation program for Western ground parrots at Perth Zoo	The Critically Endangered Western ground parrot (WGP) is in a precarious situation in the wild, with only a single small population remaining. It is the focus of a formal recovery program in WA, and a conservation breeding program is seen as a priority conservation action. Perth Zoo currently holds four aging birds, hence the acquisition of new breeding birds is critical to the ability of the captive program to contribute to conservation efforts. The development of eight temporary settling aviaries (used for birds brought in from the wild) and four holding aviaries for existing aged birds will allow the acquisition of up to four new pairs of WGP. Members of Friends of the WGP community group will have the opportunity to help review CCTV footage of the captive birds, which is essential to the management of this cryptic species.	\$80,000	WA
Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions	Feral cat control in the Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area to protect threatened fauna species in partnership with traditional owners.	The project, led by Parks and Wildlife partnering with traditional owners, local community, and other land managers including the local Shire, Water Corporation and Department of Defence, will triple the area of land managed for the protection of EPBC listed threatened fauna against predation threats in the greater Ningaloo Coast World Heritage area. The project will reduce feral cat and fox numbers on the North West Cape peninsula to protect black-flanked rock wallaby, marine turtles and migratory shorebirds, and provide for future reintroduction of other EPBC listed threatened species, including central rock-rat, golden bandicoot, western quoll, and bilby by 2021. Rabbit control will also be undertaken to reduce prey availability for feral cats. Feral goat control will benefit rock wallabies by reducing grazing and trampling impacts to their habitat and food resources.	\$249,500	WA
Trust For Nature (Victoria)	Fighting for the survival of spiny rice-flower and turnip copperburr - specialist grassy ecosystem species.	Habitat protection, improvement, seed banking and population augmentation of the critically endangered spiny rice-flower and endangered turnip copperburr. Occurring principally in grassy ecosystems, including three EPBC-listed Communities, both these species are poorly represented within the NRS, relying heavily on appropriate roadside, railside, and private land management. This project will address key threats to these species, with a focus on populations within freehold land that are currently poorly documented, managed, and vulnerable to extinction. Fencing will protect from incompatible grazing regimes, contributions to a seedbank of genetically-diverse material, reintroductions and augmentations to bolster survival, and landholder education and planning. Identification of potential habitat for the continuation of reintroductions and permanent protection will be a critical focus.	\$131,530	VIC