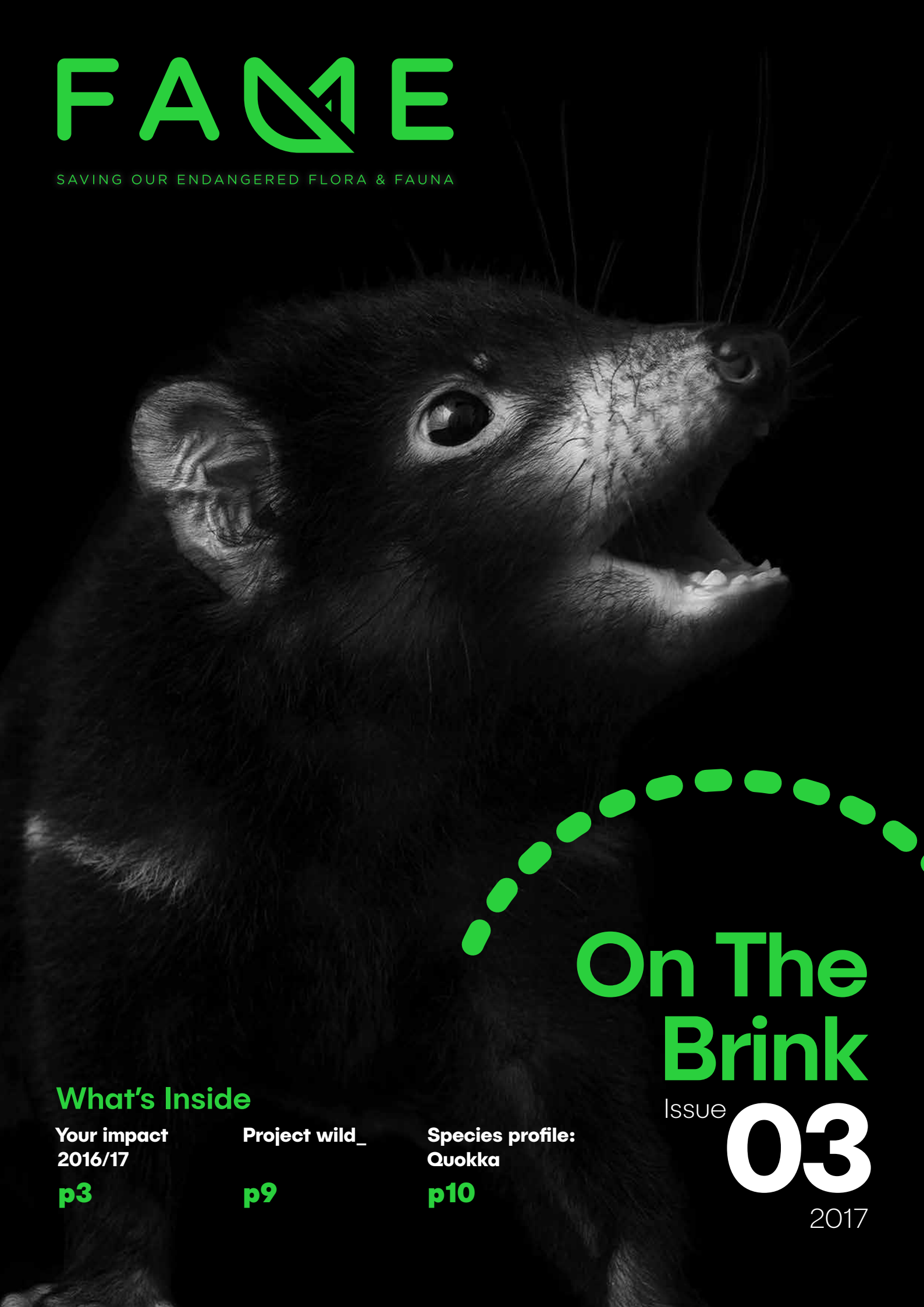


FAUNE

SAVING OUR ENDANGERED FLORA & FAUNA



On The Brink

Issue

03

2017

What's Inside

Your impact
2016/17

p3

Project wild_

p9

Species profile:
Quokka

p10



From the CEO

25 years. It is an amazing milestone for any organisation and in 2018 the Foundation will celebrate 25 years of commitment to saving Australia's precious flora and fauna. Working with Government, Corporates and a variety of stakeholders across numerous fields, during this tenure we have supported 28 on ground projects across Australia. This is no mean feat, particularly considering the impact these projects have had on wildlife conservation.

In 2018 we commemorate these milestones by bringing you updates of where some of the projects are now, many years on. Additionally we will, with you, our community, celebrate the successes of the Foundation in many different forms.

Throughout the years, we have come to believe that sadly, there is no point to it if, shortly after release, the Quoll, Possum or any endangered species simply becomes prey for a feral cat. That's why successful conservation of threatened native wildlife requires a comprehensive program that addresses every element of a complex challenge, including addressing the issue

of feral predator, fox and cat, abatement. As part of our ongoing commitment to Australian wildlife conservation, FAME continues to support research into methods that in essence, become important assets of a toolbox designed to address this dilemma.

Our core business of supporting conservation of endangered species continues as we remain committed to providing support for a range of important and inspiring projects. This will continue to increase in 2017/18 with funding to be provided into a research project to ascertain the effective use of detector dogs in WA to save the last remaining population of wild Numbats; building a robust insurance population of three species at Aussie Ark, with the eventual outcome of rewilding; and the supporting of a visual project to build awareness of our precious Australian fauna, to name but a few.

Our strong track record of success is in essence a result of our articulate and well-researched analyses, good governance and extensive knowledge of conservation applied to every project presented to the Foundation. We are prepared to take risks with projects particularly when the outcomes could change the landscape for our endangered flora and fauna for the better.

Since FAME's establishment in 1993 the majority of funding has been generously provided by individual donors. The 2017/18 fiscal year was no different. The sum of the impact of this, for the Foundation, is depicted in the impact statement on the opposite page. These results would not have been achieved without the financial support of each and every single one of you.

For that we say thank you. I offer my heartfelt thanks to every one of you, regardless of the size of your gift.

Philanthropy – the generosity of people like you and me – makes all FAME's projects possible.

In saying this, and in alignment with our Strategic Plan, in early 2018 we will be distributing a community survey to find out more about you, our donors. This information will help form the basis of the future of the Foundation as we look to build capacity to ensure a greater impact on wildlife conservation. Please consider taking the time to complete the survey to help us by playing a vital role in our future.

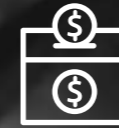
After all at the core of our mission, we are driven to save Australia's precious flora and fauna. As we continue over the next 25 years to create awareness by bringing the fate of these species to the forefront, we can only hope that the current state of play improves. By achieving conservation success, as a community, we can work towards halting the rate of extinction of Australian flora and fauna.

At FAME, we believe, together, it can be done.

On behalf of the Management and Board of FAME we extend a warm appreciation of our association and wish you and your family the very best for a joyous festive season and 2018.

Tracy McNamara
Chief Executive Officer
FAME

Your Impact 2016/17



In 2016/2017 you gave
\$672,778



An increase of
21.5%
on the previous year



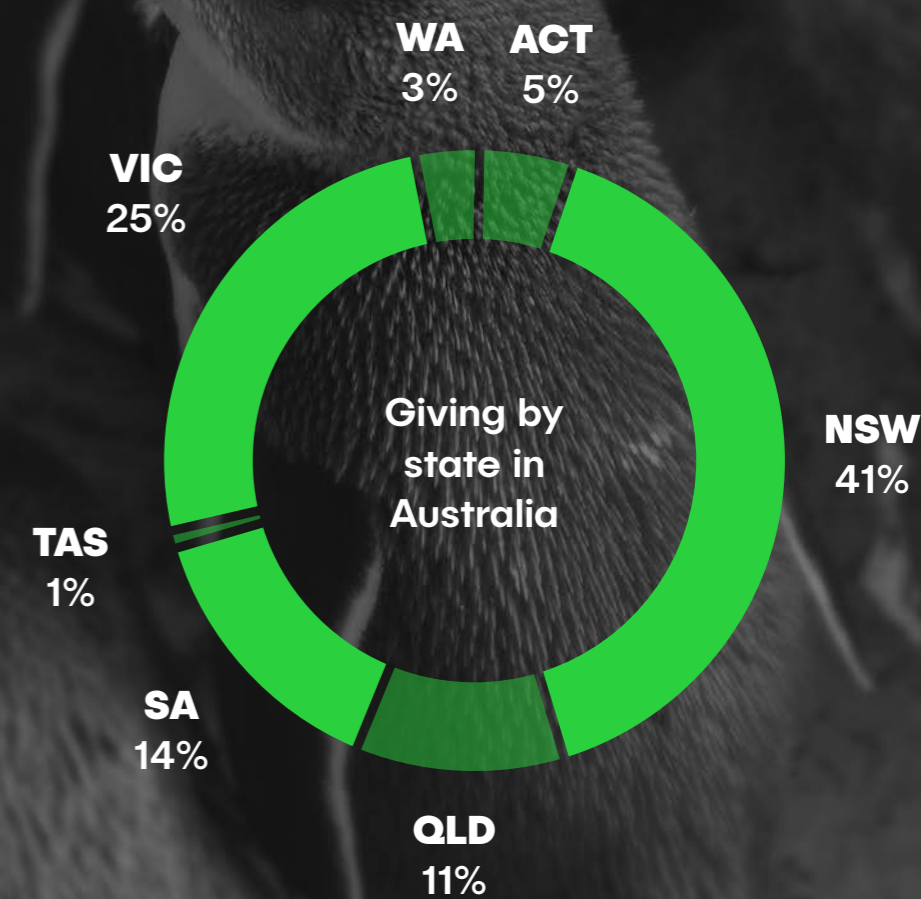
Individual donations
2873



Projects we have funded
5



Donations received from
5 Countries



Since 1993, with your help we have successfully completed
23 Projects

The FAME Newsletter is published by the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd.

ABN 79 154 823 579

Level 1, 47 Tynte Street
North Adelaide 5006, SA
08 8374 1744

fame@fame.org.au
www.fame.org.au

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content within this newsletter. We apologise for any omissions or errors that may have occurred.



Welbourn O'Brien

Welbourn O'Brien is proudly associated with FAME as we work together toward sustainable biological diversity.

Follow us on social media



A year in review - Chairman's update & thanks

It is humbling to again be elected to the Board of Directors of FAME by the members and then again elected to the role of Chair of the FAME Board by way of fellow Directors.

I've been on the Board of FAME for many years as Chair. Thank you all for your support.

However FAME's success at native wildlife conservation (NWC) is the product of a lot of hard work and generous support by many.

It is imperative to recognise all, but there are a few that should not be forgotten. I'd like to acknowledge the very significant contribution made by Cheryl Hill, FAME's founding CEO who invested 20 years into assisting FAME deliver on its missions. Cheryl's legacy is conspicuous. Thank you Cheryl.

Michael Willson as Chair/President has had a profound impact on the success of FAME's native wildlife projects. Over the years he has been on the FAME Board. Thank you Michael.

Others have made very significant contributions; in particular I'd like to thank Tim Rogers who has been a loyal and

helpful Deputy Chair/Vice President for many years. Tim retired from the Board at the last AGM, November 2017.

I'd also like to acknowledge and thank Director Diana Beal for her many hours keeping a close eye on the FAME finances and the personally significant financial contribution she has made to the Company.

FAME would not be successful at its mission of saving native wildlife from extinction but for the critical, eye cast over all applications for funding made to FAME by Directors Fred Ford and Bruce Jackson. The review of applications for funding is a time consuming and often-tedious process. The Company is most grateful to Bruce and Fred for their respective commitments to reviewing and advising the Board on which NWC projects should be considered for investment.

FAME's mission to fund NWC on-ground projects targeting the prevention of the further extinction of Australian flora and fauna, is particularly challenging at this time. Limited community, corporate or public philanthropy being attracted to a plethora of worthwhile, needy causes results in NWC and environmental causes being underfunded.

Accordingly, the most important folk to enable FAME to deliver its mission are those that donate to FAME. Irrespective of the size of the donations and their frequency, they are all very helpful and critical to FAME's success.

A big thank you to ALL DONORS, big and small, regular or one-off, particularly those that have remembered FAME in their wills with a bequest.

The biggest threat facing our Aussie native wildlife in my opinion is not urbanisation, farming or mining but feral cats, foxes and dogs. The most important of these is feral cats. FAME has three projects underway targeting the management of feral cats. Please see the FAME website for details of these projects.

Anyone reading this is welcome to email the CEO, Tracy McNamara at tracy.mcnamara@fame.org.au to suggest any idea to effectively manage feral cats. FAME welcomes all suggestions to address this urgent problem threatening many native species with extinction.

Yours in conservation

Christopher Chapman
Chair, FAME Board

The Tassie Devil

Devil Ark will support a healthy population of up to 500 endangered Tasmanian Devils, safe from the fatal Devil Facial Tumour Disease that has almost wiped out the species on the island. Currently, Devil Ark has over 50% of the entire mainland population.

Experts have predicted that the Tasmanian population may be extinct within the next decade. To prevent total extinction, healthy Tasmanian Devils must be bred on the mainland, away from the disease.

44 healthy devils were established at Devil Ark in January 2011. There are now more than 150 healthy Devils now roaming across 13 free-range enclosures at Devil Ark. The total number of Devils at Devil Ark frequently changes as breeding Devils are swapped with the 35 other zoos participating in the Save the Tasmanian Devil Program. This ensures that a healthy genetically diverse population of Devils is maintained at Devil Ark. Unlike zoos with their small enclosures, the Devils at Devil Ark are kept in a natural environment to maintain their wild behaviour. This is critical to ensure that they can be eventually released into Tasmania.

Tasmanian Devils from Devil Ark have been released in a disease free, fenced area at Forestier Peninsula, Tasmania.

With a vision of returning various marsupial species to the Eastern Highlands of Australia, Aussie Ark will provide on-the-ground conservation on a scale never before attempted. By focussing on the protection of key species in feral-proof fenced reserves, additional future release to large protected areas is feasible.

- Tim Faulkner

Building a future for three threatened species

This initial two-year project will provide funding for Aussie Ark to build a further three insurance populations of endangered mammals - the Southern Brown Bandicoot, the Long-nosed Potoroo and the Eastern Bettong.

The project will reintroduce species in semi-wild, predator proof fenced release sites in the Barrington Tops where they once used to roam and thrive with the goal of eventual reintroduction back into the wild.

What are the benefits of the project?

By FAME supporting a project and a vision like Aussie Ark, we work in partnership to have immediate social and environmental benefits. Through the initiative of Aussie Ark and the concept of rewilding - developing insurance populations of key focal species and reintroducing them to their original habitats to restore ecosystems, we aim to mitigate extinction risk, but also build a future where our endemic species can thrive for future generations.

Update:

Optimising Felixer

Felixer: it's an intriguing name for a device squarely linked to cats. Mind you, not any cat - just the indiscriminating killer that causes such devastation to Australia's wildlife.

The Felixer, in a nutshell, kills feral cats and foxes by spraying them with a dose of 1080, a poison absorbed as the animal grooms its fur. And, all the evidence is that death is painless and with little, if any, distress.

Felixer is quite smart and, thanks to a \$290,000 optimisation grant from FAME and the Ian Potter Foundation, has become a whole lot smarter.

The new, updated Version 3 can differentiate more accurately between a predator and the threatened species we are seeking to protect. Thus, while it will deliver a dose to a fox or cat, a brush-tailed Possum, Bettong or Quoll will safely pass by a Felixer device.

The new version is more accurate, uses less power and uses improved software. An exciting development is the establishment of an independent, not-for-profit company, Thylation, will which commercialise and further develop Felixer.

Watch this space for further information as we seek approvals for extended trials.



Current Projects



Feral Cats

Safeguarding our fauna from feral cats.

(Australia)



PhD

Supporting a PhD research study for the conservation of Australian wildlife.

(Australia)



Numbat

Protecting the last remaining wild populations of Numbats.

(Dryandra, WA)



Western Quoll

The re-introduction of the Western Quoll into the Inkara-Flinders Ranges National Park.

(Flinders Ranges, SA)



Brush-tailed Possum

The re-introduction of the Brush-tailed Possum into the Inkara-Flinders Ranges National Park.

(Flinders Ranges, SA)



Project Wild_

Creating awareness of the plight of Australia's Most Endangered.

(Queensland)



Long-nosed Potoroo

Build a robust insurance population of the Long-nosed Potoroo.

(Barrington Tops, NSW)



Eastern Bettong

Build a robust insurance population of the Eastern Bettong.

(Barrington Tops, NSW)



Southern Brown Bandicoot

Build a robust insurance population of the Southern Brown Bandicoot.

(Barrington Tops, NSW)



Tasmanian Devil

Saving the Tasmanian Devil from extinction.

(Barrington Tops, NSW)



*Projects are a general indication of geographical locations only.

Protecting the last remaining wild populations of Numbats.

FAME has partnered with the Australian Government, together with the WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) and Numbat Taskforce to begin a new project in the Wheatbelt woodlands of Western Australia.

Detector dogs are now being used more widely in a number of threatened species conservation projects around Australia. We want to test if dogs that are trained to detect feral cats can help further reduce numbers of these introduced predators to protect threatened mammals, including Numbats, Woylies (Brush-tailed Bettongs), and Chuditch (Western Quolls), not to mention the many birds and reptiles that call the woodlands home.

A number of other feral cat control techniques, including the use of 1080 baits under WA's Western Shield native animal recovery program, and trapping, are already helping to lower feral cat numbers in the woodland. If detector dogs are successful in finding and controlling feral cats, we will have another technique in our toolbox to tackle these introduced predators.

The project is now underway, with experienced dog trainers/handlers anticipated to begin on-ground work in the woodlands in early 2018.

Quick Facts

- The numbat is an iconic small mammal severely affected by invasive predators (foxes and feral cats).
- Officially listed as vulnerable on the EPBC endangered species list, numbat numbers in the wild have been experiencing long-term decline.
- The Numbat is the faunal emblem of Western Australia
- Numbats can survive in very dry habitats, they obtain all the water they need to survive through the termites they eat.
- Numbats' tongues are 20cm long, that's half the length of their body. They exclusively eat termites - they can eat up to 20,000 each day.

Creating awareness of the plight of our most endangered species... Project wild_

To date wild_ has completed three photo sessions. The first session was west of Brisbane at 'Geckoes Wildlife'. We captured imagery of Northern Bettong, Plains Mouse, Mary River Turtle (pictured) and Spotted-tailed Quoll. Working with animals always makes for a day full of surprises and excitement! We came across obstacles that we hadn't planned for, like the Northern Bettong taking a toilet break (on the backdrop) mid photo session. I am learning more and more every session we complete. The second session was locally with a Woma Python and our third was at The Australian Reptile Park in NSW. We had an amazing day and were lucky enough to meet many amazing animals!! We captured imagery of Tasmanian Devils, Green and Golden Bell Frog, Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby, and although not listed as Endangered, a Rough Scaled Python - one of the rarest snakes in Australia!!

We need to be extremely patient when working with these precious species with their welfare our first priority. We work closely with handlers and keepers to ensure, should they notice the animal is at all in any type of stress, it is taken back to its enclosure straight away.

All the species we have worked with so far have been captive animals, which makes the interaction much easier as they are used to being handled and being around people. I would love to expand into making short documentaries about threatened species in the wild, full of information and the adventure behind it. As well as short documentaries on conservation projects going on around this incredible country of ours!

I feel so incredibly lucky to be able to be working on this exciting project and can't thank FAME and all their donors enough for all the support!

wild_ has been really well received so far with an article in an upcoming issue of Wildlife Australia magazine as well as a local magazine on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland. The latest Facebook post of the gorgeous Mountain Pygmy Possum (pictured) has currently been liked by 265 people and shared by 34 people. I'm so excited for the next wild_ adventure and am currently in talks with a few more zoos and am planning on returning to The Australian Reptile Park soon to meet the adorable Eastern Quoll babies!!

Work on the website is coming along nicely with a few items in the works to be put up for sale with all proceeds going back into conservation projects. We are thinking of choosing a different conservation project each 6 months and any money made being donated directly to them. We are planning on making a kids card game of 'Memory', a colouring book, wild_ t-shirts and hats.

I feel so incredibly lucky to be able to be working on this exciting project and can't thank FAME and all their donors enough for all the support!

Still in the early stages, I believe in this project whole-heartedly and have big dreams for wild_ and I can't wait to see what the next 6 months brings!!

Sarah Ash
Grant Recipient
Project wild_



Mountain Pygmy Possum



Mary River Turtle



Cover: Tasmanian Devil,
Sarah Ash, Project wild_

T 08 8374 1744
E fame@fame.org.au

Level 1, 47 Tynte Street
North Adelaide 5006, SA
ABN 79 154 823 579

fame.org.au

Monthly Giving

Unfortunately, FAME's work is never done and never will be. Indeed, despite our successes to date, the list of endangered species in Australia continues to lengthen.

FAME's projects are carefully chosen so that our precious funds are put to work in the most effective way possible. We do not gamble with the financial support of our members and donors because we know when we choose wisely we can have the greatest impact on endangered Australian flora and fauna.

When you give monthly, you become an important part of FAME's ongoing commitment to stop any further extinction and allow the Foundation to allocate foreseeable income to support worthwhile projects that will save endangered wildlife from extinction.

Most of all, you have the satisfaction of knowing that your support will help increase FAME's ability to seek out and support projects that will save endangered flora and fauna from extinction.

For this, we say thank you.

Automatic Monthly Donation Request Form

\$25_{p/m} \$50_{p/m} \$100_{p/m} or \$ _____ p/m

Please deduct the above amount from my credit card account every month, commencing: _____ / _____ / _____

Title Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms / Dr / Other _____

First Name _____ Surname _____

Street Address _____

Suburb _____ State _____ Postcode _____

Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Credit Card Authority

Please debit monthly my Mastercard Visa

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ / _____ CCV _____

Name _____ Signature _____

Please complete and return to FAME in the envelope provided.

*Please note that we will contact you prior to the expiry date on your card in order to update this information.

*All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

*A summary of your donations will be sent at the end of each financial year for your records.

SAVING OUR ENDANGERED FLORA & FAUNA

Thank you
for your
support!

Vision

Our vision is to prevent any further extinction of Australian flora and fauna.

Mission

FAME is the only organisation dedicated to helping Australian species most at risk of extinction. FAME seeks to fund on-ground conservation outcomes with a focus on seed-funding and innovation.

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Country

The Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species (FAME) acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to their elders both past and present.

Core Values

- Commit to conservation and environmental issues.
- Embrace open transparency at all times.
- Display strong, clear corporate governance.
- Maintain inclusiveness with all stakeholders and donors.
- Respect the culture of Indigenous Australians.