

# FA~~N~~E

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO SAVE SPECIES AND HABITATS



**2020/21  
Annual  
Report**



“Working with FAME during my PhD research examining *Eucalyptus yarraensis* and *Eucalyptus strzeleckii* populations across Victoria has been both an enjoyable and rewarding experience. I have felt so supported and encouraged throughout the whole process – from applying for funding, to working in the field and laboratories. Not only is FAME supporting my research, and in turn, supporting the conservation of these two tree species, but FAME is also enthused by the results being reported. It is so nice working with an organisation that genuinely cares for the species and how the research will be applied to the management of these vulnerable species.”

**Elle Fox**  
PhD Student

The Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Limited (FAME) was established in 1993.

FAME is an independent, registered charity and a deductible gift recipient (DGR). A national organisation incorporated as a public company limited by guarantee, FAME is registered with both the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) and the Register of Environmental Organisations.

**The FAME Board, management team and staff wish to extend a thank you to all our donors and stakeholders who have supported FAME in the work we undertake. Without your continual ongoing financial and philosophical support, FAME would not be able to achieve the successful outcomes that we do. For this we are grateful.**

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the 2020/21 Foundation of the Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd Annual Report.

We apologise if any omissions or errors have occurred. If you discover an error or omission, please notify the Chief Executive Officer, Tracy McNamara, on [tracy.mcnamara@fame.org.au](mailto:tracy.mcnamara@fame.org.au)

**FAME**

## Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Country

FAME acknowledges Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their spiritual and cultural connections to Australia's land, water, plants and animals.

We pay our respects to their elders past, present and future and seek to collaborate with traditional custodians in the conservation of Australian habitat, flora and fauna.

# Contents

<b>Chairman's Report</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CEO's Report</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Your Impact 2020/21</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>FAME projects</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Finance Director's Report</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Financial Report</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Reports</b>	<b>19</b>



# Chairman's Report

I wrote last year that there were probably many entities, like FAME, reporting in hard times. Our CEO in her report wrote of emerging into "a new normal". It is clear that the country is, at the time of writing, still a long way from that.

Nevertheless, I am very pleased to present to our donors, members and stakeholders what I believe is an excellent financial result in what was a difficult period.

In summary, in the period under review, our revenue was just over \$1.57 million. This is significantly up on the previous year's figure of \$799,456 and the large increase warrants an explanation. FAME received a large bequest of around \$600,000 very late in the financial year.

I am also delighted to report that FAME's investment in native wildlife conservation (NWC) projects was slightly up on the previous year at a little more than \$574,000 while our administration, employee and office expenses were reduced by more than \$35,000.

Our successful fundraising in a difficult year for many donors combined with our focus on reducing expenses sees your Company in a sound financial position at 30 June 2021. As a consequence, FAME is well placed to continue its support for the various NWC projects currently underway and I know this will delight all our stakeholders.

A more detailed audited account of FAME's financial position is published within this Annual Report and I commend it to you.

There remains a hard reality for FAME in that COVID-19 – and in particular the Delta variant – continues to impact normal life in Australia. Lives and livelihoods remain threatened and the "new normal" still seems some way off, particularly in the eastern states. That being the reality, I take this opportunity to thank all our supporters – whether donors, members or partners – for their continued resilience in the face of these difficulties.

FAME has successfully completed over 25 years of NWC projects, and your Board and the management team

remain sharply focused on NWC both today and the future. To that end, FAME will soon be releasing its recently developed 2021-2026 Strategic Plan, a document that sets out how the Company will conduct its operations over the foreseeable future.

Your Board believes this Plan – particularly in setting out the Company's values – will provide a sound base for the further critical development of what FAME aims to achieve in NWC.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I sincerely thank all those who have contributed to FAME's success over the past year. The Board and Management do not take your support for granted and I take this opportunity to assure you of our continued governance and care in how your funds are invested to save our unique flora and fauna from extinction.

**Christopher Chapman**  
Chairman



**"Without FAME's support for the current Numbat Monitoring Project, this important work would have struggled to continue; however because of their commitment to our endangered species, the future looks bright for numbats."**

**John and Rob**  
Numbat Task Force

## 2020/2021 Highlights

**113%**  
Increase in donations, bequests, campaigns & projects

**\$1.4m**  
Net assets

**28**  
Years of operation

Collared Numbat in Dryandra, WA. Photo Credit: John Lawson.



# Board of Directors

The FAME Board is responsible for the strategic direction of the Company as well as overall accountability for corporate governance in accordance with the Vision and Mission.

Board Member	Period on Board	Role on Board	Subcommittee Role in 2020/2021
<b>Chris Chapman</b> Dip Law, Dip CIS, Dip CM, FGIA, FAICD, MBA. Barrister and Solicitor NSW, and High Court of Australia	2005 - present	Chairman	Member of the Investment Committee
<b>Dr Diana Beal</b> B.Econ, B.Com, M Phil, PhD, Grad. Dip. Local & Applied History, Grad. Cert. Forest Science	2012 - present	Deputy Chairman, Finance Director	Chairman of the Investment Committee
<b>Dr Fred Ford</b> BSc (Hons), PhD (Evolutionary ecology)	2012 - present		Chairman of the Conservation Committee
<b>David Carleton</b> B.E (Civil – Honours), MBA (Financial Management)	2020-present		Member of the Investment Committee
<b>Bruce Jackson</b> B. Ed.	1993 - present		Member of the Conservation Committee
<b>Margaret Wilksch OAM</b>	2001 – 2020 (Retired at FAME AGM, 26 November 2020)		
<b>Michael Willson AM KSJ</b>	2002 - present	Company Secretary	Member of the Investment Committee

## Board Meetings

There were five Board Meetings held during 2020/2021 with most a combination of face-to-face and virtual.

At each Board meeting, FAME directors:

1. update their respective disclosures of any and all matters and interests, such as material personal interests [*Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)s 191*], which may conflict with the discharge of their duties as directors of FAME. (All directors are volunteers who donate to the Company, and most pay their own expenses when traveling to and from commitments for FAME),
2. consider financial reports from management, which detail the Company's financial position (balance sheet), income and expenses for the period and against the budget, and the progress of the Company's reserve investments, which are monies held by the Company pending investment in native wildlife conservation (NWC) projects. In addition, monthly financial reports are emailed to all directors,
3. consider written reports from the Company's CEO on the progress and outcomes of FAME's currently-funded NWC projects. These reports include the acquittal of funding and other matters of compliance with the contracts between FAME and the recipients of FAME investments in NWC, and
4. ask the CEO to report any potential risks: and ensure the Company's full compliance with ACNC, ASIC, ATO, state-based fundraising requirements as well as any other relevant laws and regulations.

Details of the Directors' meeting attendance are outlined in the next column.

Board Member	Board Meetings Attended
<b>Chris Chapman</b>	5
<b>Diana Beal</b>	5
<b>Fred Ford</b>	5
<b>David Carleton</b>	5
<b>Bruce Jackson</b>	5
<b>Margaret Wilksch OAM*</b>	1
<b>Michael Willson AM KSJ</b>	5

\* Retired at FAME AGM, 26 November 2020

## 2021 Annual General meeting

The 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd will commence at 6.00pm on Thursday 18 November 2021. The AGM will be held virtually via the online Zoom platform.

# CEO's Report

The 2020/2021 financial year has again been challenging for so many. Nearly 18 months after the pandemic began, we find ourselves restricted by the adverse effects of COVID-19. What has emerged, however, is the resilience and tenacity of so many as we navigate a path to a new normal. The Company is no exception and has learnt, as an organisation, to operate in this new space. Importantly, the critical work we undertake continued with as many as 12 projects either started, continued or completed this financial year.

In saying this I recognise and pay tribute to the important role our on-ground partners play. Their dedication to conservation, combined with their tenacity in the face of adversity, has shown time and again that FAME's philosophy **'together we can make a difference'** is a cohesive force. We are deeply grateful to these amazing people and the communities - many made up of volunteers - that give their time so freely.

Yet, realistically, our goal to prevent any further extinction of Australian flora and fauna has never been under more pressure. Stopping extinctions and ensuring that future generations, our children and grandchildren, will not be viewing Australian fauna only in natural history museums is urgent.

FAME undertakes many roles within native wildlife conservation including funding on-ground projects to protect our flora and fauna, feral management, habitat restoration, education, and research and development of techniques and mechanisms.

In the 2020/2021 financial year for the first time, we introduced trips for our donors to enable them to witness and experience first-hand the impact of their support. Due to COVID-19 we were able to undertake only one in March 2021 to the Ikara-Flinders Ranges but, by all accounts, it was an unforgettable experience for many.

For the year ended 30 June 2021, FAME's income was a record \$1,571,417. Of this a total of \$1,453,179 was raised from members' and supporters' contributions. This has been an extraordinary year for the Company

and it is evidence that it continues a trajectory of growth. Throughout the year we witnessed organic growth in the commitments to monthly donations and to bequests and a heartening 25% increase in the number of donors. Those new donors contributed eight percent of overall donations. We welcome them to the FAME community and thank them sincerely.

The Balance Sheet, and in particular our Investment Reserve Fund which grows through bequests only, is strong, providing confidence in the Company's ability to underpin its long-term commitments in conservation as well as continue to weather the pandemic and any future adversities.

In the year under review, the Company invested in 12 wide-ranging projects across Australia (depicted on pages 12 and 13). These included building robust populations behind fences, species habitat restoration, re-wilding, species research, education and, as part of most projects, the management of feral predators.

I believe, given our size, our not-for-profit status, and our dependence totally on donations that our conservation impact (illustrated on page 10 and 11) is extraordinary - and that is due to our supporters' belief in what we do.

Again this year, the staff and the wider network of suppliers worked effectively together - at times in trying conditions. I am proud of our staff members' ongoing concern and care for each other and that of the wider FAME community. I also acknowledge the contribution and support of the Foundation directors who met both through video conferencing and face-to-face.

A former Board Director, Margaret Wilksch OAM, once remarked "Life balance comes from what you eat. If our animals and vegetation are disrupted, your health suffers and the health of native animals suffers. It's nature's way when we interfere with it. We have a lot to answer for". This has never been more evident and if we, as a society, have learnt anything it is the importance of the vital relationship between nature and the human race.

**"We love the personal touch that FAME gives to grant recipients throughout the lifetime of the project. FAME staff are genuinely interested in our project and our team. Sourcing dollars and associated reporting are quite stressful for applicants. Questions are generic and often aren't relevant to your project. FAME has managed to remove that stress and it is an absolute pleasure to work with them."**

**Marilyn Connell**  
Tiara Landcare Group

Finally, and most importantly, I thank all our donors and stakeholders. As we move towards 30 years of existence, we can only hope that the current state of the nation and of all Australians 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 know that, together, we can make a difference.

*Tracy McNamara*

**Tracy McNamara**  
Chief Executive Officer



## 2020/2021 Highlights

**319**

Additional new members & supporters

**\$1,453,179**

Member and supporter contributions

**10%**

Increase in monthly donor giving



# Your Impact 2020/21

## 177,952km<sup>2</sup>

Total area of land covered by projects funded by FAME in 2020-21. Equal to 2½ times the size of Tasmania.

## 12

Projects funded to benefit and protect threatened species.

## 19

Partner organisations.

## 512 approx

Collateral species gained benefits.

## 6,051

Native trees planted as part of three projects.

## 4

Projects supported involving feral management.

## 13

Indigenous Rangers have been involved across three projects.

# FAME Projects



## Bulburin Macadamia Nut

*Macadamia janseni*

**Project Location:** Bulburin National Park and various locations near Gladstone, QLD.

**Current Population:** One stand of 90 trees in Bulburin National Park.

**Threat:** Wildfire, disease.

**Project Summary:** Recent effort has concentrated on genetic analysis and habitat modelling to design a reintroduction program to create new populations in its natural habitat.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Western Quoll

*Dasyurus geoffroi*

**Project Location:** Ikara-Flinders Ranges, SA.

**Current Population:** Regionally extinct (before reintroduction).

**Threat:** Predation by cats.

**Project Summary:** Building population. Control of feral cats.

**Project Status:** Completed.



## Numbat

*Myrmecobius fasciatus*

**Project Location:** Wheatbelt, WA.

**Current Population:** Est. 1,500 remaining in the wild.

**Threat:** Predation by cats.

**Project Summary:** Protection and monitoring of a wild population of numbats.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Kangaroo Island Dunnart

*Sminthopsis aitkeni*

**Project Location:** Kangaroo Island, SA.

**Current Population:** Est. less than 300.

**Threat:** Predation by cats, wildfire, habitat loss.

**Project Summary:** Habitat Restoration, Monitoring, Feral Management.

**Project Status:** Stage 2 commenced followed by Bushfire Recovery.



## Brush-tail Rock Wallaby

*Petrogale penicillata*

**Project Location:** Barrington Tops, NSW.

**Current Population:** Endangered.

**Threat:** Predation by foxes and wild dogs, competition for food and habitat degradation.

**Project Summary:** Building a secure and robust population of BTRW with the long-term goal of rewilding.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Teaching Kids about Aussie Critters

**Project Location:** National.

**Project Summary:** Building awareness of Australia's endangered species and the impact of climate change on our wildlife amongst primary-school students.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Mary River Turtle

*Elusor macruru*

**Project Location:** Mary River, South East QLD.

**Current Population:** Endangered, approx. 10,000 (ageing individuals estimated to remain in the wild).

**Threat:** Predation of hatchlings by red foxes, wild dogs, goannas and fish species.

**Project Summary:** Establishing a headstart program.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Tasmanian Devil

*Sarcophilus harrisi*

**Project Location:** Barrington Tops, NSW / Forestier Peninsula, TAS.

**Current Population:** Est. 10,000-25,500 in the wild.

**Threat:** Disease.

**Project Summary:** Safeguarding a disease-free breeding population in NSW and continual reintroduction in TAS.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Support of a PhD Research Study

*Strzelecki Gum and Yarra Gum*

**PhD Student:** Eleanor Fox.

**Project Location:** VIC.

**Study Summary:** This study will map the locations of populations of *Strzelecki Gum* and *Yarra Gum* across VIC and investigate their genetic diversity and connectivity.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Lord Howe Island – Guarding Paradise

**Project Location:** Lord Howe Island, NSW.

**Threat:** Introduced Ship Rat and House Mouse – now eradicated.

**Project Summary:** Ensuring the protection, monitoring and habitat restoration for seabirds, woodhens and endemic species to the Island.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## Cane Toad Eradication

**Project Location:** QLD.

**Project Summary:** Funding to create and develop cane toad tadpole traps using commercial technology.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.



## PPI Implant

**Project Location:** National.

**Project Summary:** A subcutaneous toxic implant (a 'population protection implant', or PPI), that remains inert in the tissue of an animal but will breakdown in the acidic stomach of a predator, has been developed for strategically poisoning large problem cats to protect small populations in open landscapes.

**Project Status:** Ongoing.

# Finance Director's Report

As for many organisations, especially not-for-profits, this has been a challenging year. Our grateful recognition and thanks must go to our CEO, Tracy McNamara, and our able staff who have steered the good ship, FAME, through the shoals of lockdowns and other impediments to travel to fulfill our mission. Some project investigations, project inspections and donor trips have gone ahead as planned, when possible, but others have had to be cancelled. Nevertheless, the work of FAME went on successfully during the year.

FAME remains a strongly viable company at the close of the 2020-21 financial year, even though we were able to increase our investment in conservation projects by about 6% to a total of more than \$570,000. This investment was made into 12 projects located across Australia from the east to the west coasts.

By the end of the year, net assets had increased by more than 120%. This increase was due mainly to the receipt of a large bequest, which was far greater than bequests received last year or indeed our budgeted expectations.

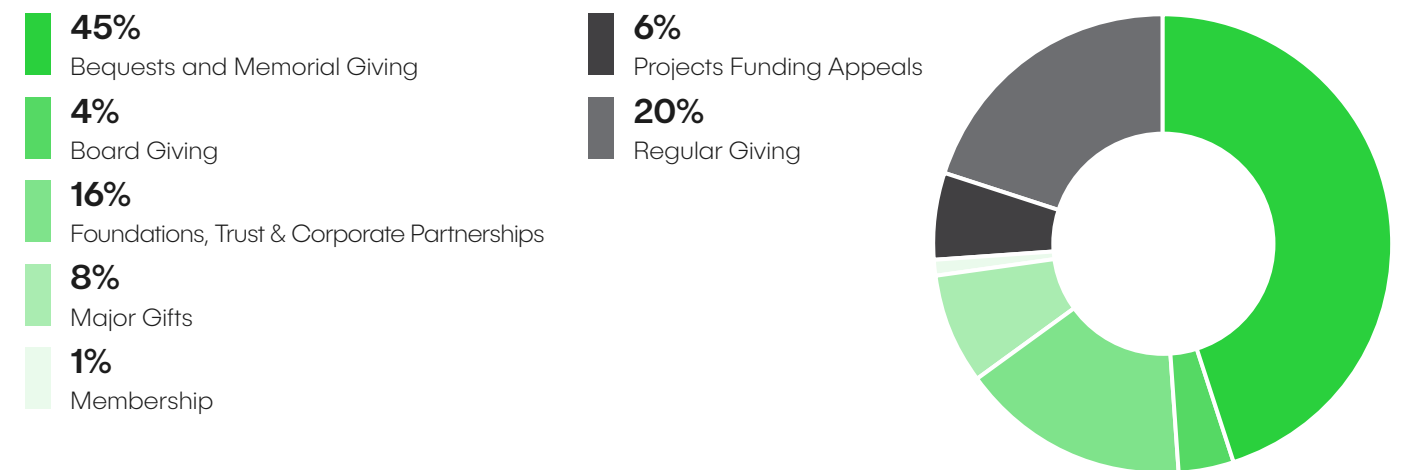
Control of costs is important to the Board and staff of FAME, so that more funding can go to worthy projects. Most classes of costs in our budget were driven down through sound management; total operating, labour, marketing and fundraising costs in aggregate were reduced by 11%. Thus, sound cost control together with increased revenue allowed us to increase conservation investment and at the same time add to our financial reserves, so that we have a financial cushion against any future financial adversity.

The building of a financial reserve is one of the aims of our Board. This is being done mainly through the investment of bequests when no other viable use of the funds is being considered by the Board.

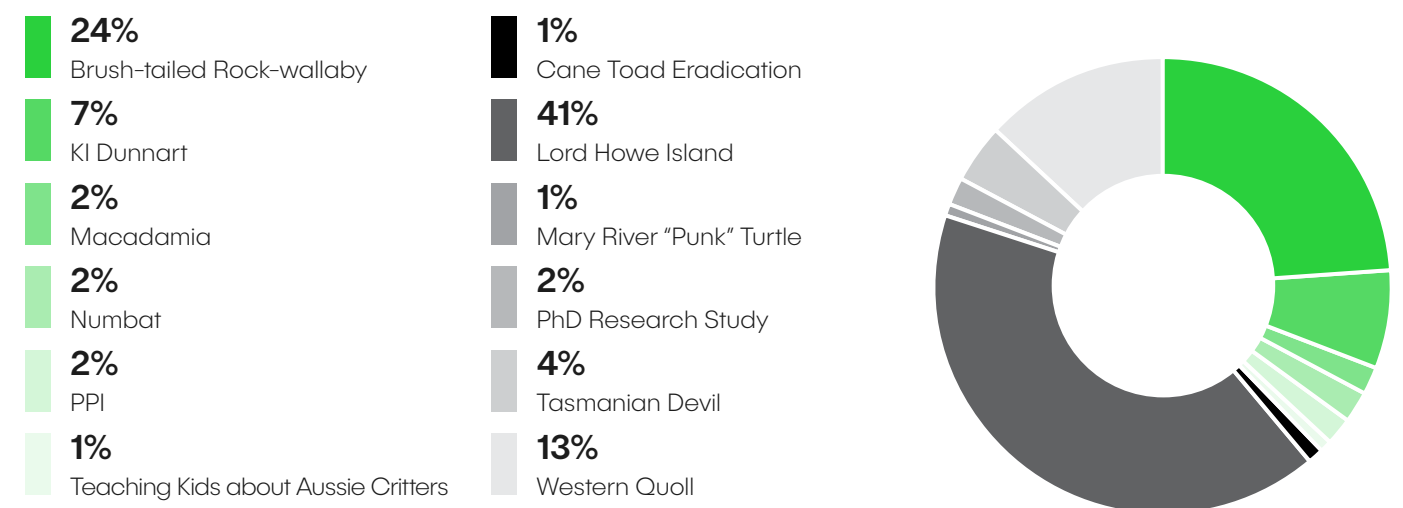
I and the other members of our Board wish to thank all donors for your past interest in the work of FAME and your donations, large and small, and we sincerely hope you remain involved in the vital projects that we fund.

**Diana Beal**  
Finance Director

## How you've helped us in 2020/21



## Who you've helped in 2020/21





# Financial Report

Summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021.

	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations, bequests, campaigns and projects	1,433,161	674,225
Memberships	20,018	19,441
Interest and dividends	43,991	51,045
Government COVID-19 stimulus grants	74,247	54,745
	<b>1,571,417</b>	<b>799,456</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration expense	(46,010)	(69,368)
Employee benefits expense	(176,869)	(193,855)
Insurance expense	(3,949)	(4,415)
Office expense	(16,725)	(38,356)
Program expense	(574,113)	(543,724)
Fundraising, marketing and communications expense	(46,427)	(50,388)
Right-of-use asset interest and depreciation expense	(26,392)	-
	<b>(890,485)</b>	<b>(900,106)</b>
<b>Profit before Capital Income Tax</b>	<b>680,932</b>	<b>(100,650)</b>
Income tax expense	-	-
<b>Profit for the year</b>	<b>680,932</b>	<b>(100,650)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		
Fair value gain/(loss) on financial assets	109,398	(73,450)
<b>Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>109,398</b>	<b>(73,450)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>790,330</b>	<b>(174,100)</b>

	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	862,353	196,324
Trade and other receivables	33,118	48,053
	<b>895,471</b>	<b>244,377</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Financial assets	690,909	559,870
Right-of-use assets	25,174	-
	<b>716,083</b>	<b>559,870</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,611,554</b>	<b>804,247</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	108,584	116,785
Amounts received in advance	10,529	10,545
Right-of-use lease liabilities	25,566	-
Provisions	27,497	27,869
	<b>172,176</b>	<b>155,199</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>172,176</b>	<b>155,199</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>1,439,378</b>	<b>649,048</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>		
<b>Retained earnings</b>	<b>1,387,356</b>	<b>746,270</b>
<b>Reserves</b>	<b>52,022</b>	<b>(97,222)</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>1,439,378</b>	<b>649,048</b>

## NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

**Note 1:** The summary financial report is derived from the audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2021. Readers of this report should note that it is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report. A copy of the audited financial report is available on request.





“Working with FAME has been essential in enabling Bounceback to successfully reintroduce Western Quolls to the wild in South Australia. This partnership and the generosity of FAME’s donors are enabling us to be more ambitious in our aims of recovering threatened animals in their former habitats.”

**Rob Brandle**  
Senior Conservation Ecologist  
Department of Environment, South Australia

# Independent Auditor’s Report

to the Directors of the Foundation for Australia’s Most Endangered Species Ltd

## Opinion

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprises the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021 and the summary statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of Foundation for Australia’s Most Endangered Species Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2021. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 13 August 2021.

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Foundation for Australia’s Most Endangered Species Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2021 are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, on the basis of preparation described in Note 1.

## Basis for Opinion

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Foundation for Australia’s Most Endangered Species Ltd.

## Director’s Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report on the basis described in Note 1.

## Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

**StewartBrown**  
Chartered Accountants

**S.J. Hutcheon**  
Partner

**13 August 2021**



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Welbourn O'Brien

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



## Vision

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

## Mission

FAME is one of the few organisations 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.

## 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.