



30
YEARS OF
FAME

2023/2024
Annual Report

PROVIDING SUPPORT TO SAVE SPECIES AND HABITATS

Contents

4

Strategic Pillars

12

CEO’s Report

5

Your Impact 2023/2024

14

Finance Director’s Report

6

2023/24 FAME Projects

16

Financial Report

8

Board of Directors

18

Independent Auditor’s Report

10

Chairman’s Report

Please Note:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the 2023/24 Foundation for 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

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 Elders past, present and future and seek to collaborate with traditional custodians in the conservation of Australian habitat, flora and fauna.

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 the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC), the Register of Environmental Organisations (REO) and is registered and complies with all State and Territory fundraising regulations.

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.



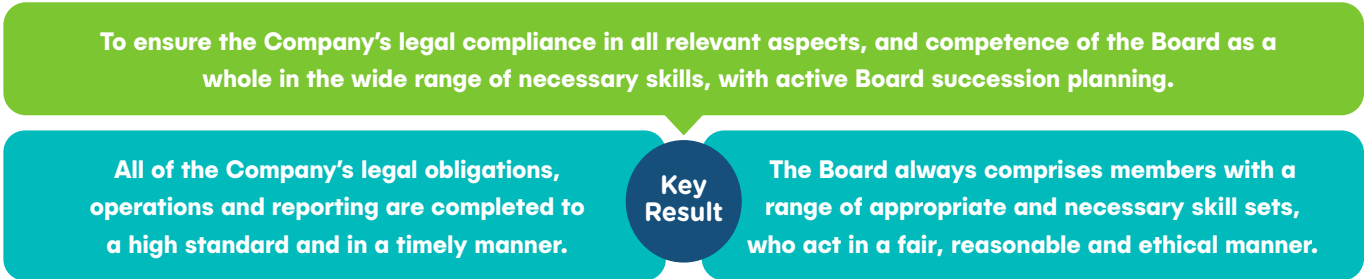
Project: Enrichment Program, Rebuilding Rainforests in the Northern Rivers
Location: Northern Rivers, NSW

Enrichment Program

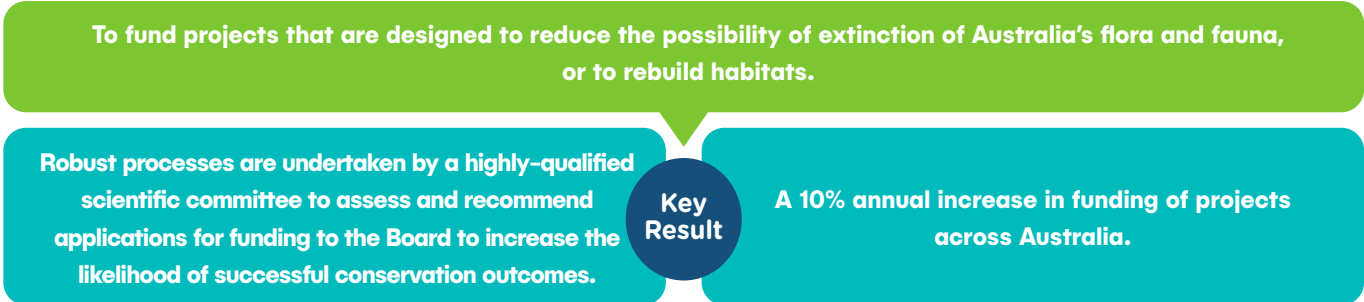
The Enrichment Program is a long-term focussed effort to continue converting new plantations into rainforests by manually adding species to the understory and forest floor to strengthen their ecosystems. The program will improve structure and diversity, as well as providing habitat for wildlife, many of which are endangered or threatened with extinction.

Strategic Pillars

Governance



Projects



Philanthropy



Financial Growth



Commercial Diversification



Your Impact 2023/24

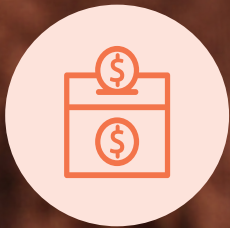


Photo Credit: WWF Australia



650,734^{ha}

Total area of land covered by projects funded by FAME in 2023-24, equal to over twice the size of Cape York Peninsula in Far North Queensland.



12

Projects funded to benefit and protect native threatened species.



13

Indigenous Rangers involved across three projects.



124

Young born over the last year.



4

Projects supported involving feral species management.



143+

Collateral species benefited from project support.



64

Partner organisations.

West Kimberley Rock-wallaby – Wiliji

The Wiliji is a culturally important endangered species, found exclusively on Nyikina Mangala Country. In partnership with WWF Australia, the project will focus on threat management and in turn, enhancing habitat, to increase population numbers and distribution in order to prevent its extinction.



Species: *Petrogale lateralis kimberleyensis*

EPBC: Vulnerable , Endangered (WA)

IUCN: Near Threatened

Project: Protecting the Wiliji in the West Kimberley

Location: West Kimberley, Western Australia

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 Australian law and our Vision and Mission.

Board Member	Period on Board	Role on Board	Subcommittee Role in 2023/2024
Chris Chapman Dip Law, Dip CIS, Dip CM, FGIA, FAICD, MBA. Barrister and Solicitor NSW, VIC and ACT and High Court of Australia	2005 – present	Chairman	Member of the Investment Committee
Dr Diana Beal 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
David Carleton B.E (Civil – Honours), MBA (Financial Management)	2020 – present		Member of the Investment Committee
Dr Fred Ford BSc (Hons), PhD (Evolutionary Ecology)	2012 – present		Chairman of the Conservation Committee
Bruce Jackson B. Ed.	1993 – present		Member of the Conservation Committee
Andrew Macfarlane * B. Sc. GAICD	2024 – present		
Tracy McNamara Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director MBA BA FFIA FedPlus GIA (Affiliated)	2024 – present	Chief Executive Officer	Member of the Investment Committee Member of the Conservation Committee
Dr Manda Page B.App.Sc (Hons), PhD	2023 – present		Member of the Conservation Committee
Anita Wassermann BCom, BMgt (Mktg), CA.	2023 – present	Company Secretary (from Nov 2023)	Member of the Investment Committee
Michael Willson AM KSJ	2002 – Nov 2023	Company Secretary (until Nov 2023)	Member of the Investment Committee

* Director of the Company but must stand for election at the 2024 AGM

Board Meetings

There were four Board Meetings held during 2023/2024. Three were via Zoom and one at the FAME office.

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 and state-based fundraising requirements as well as any other relevant laws and regulations.

Board Member	Board Meetings Attended
Chris Chapman	4
Diana Beal	4
David Carleton	2
Fred Ford	2
Bruce Jackson	4
Andrew McFarlane	2
Manda Page	3
Anita Wassermann	4
Michael Willson AM KSJ	2

2024 Annual General meeting

The 2024 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd will commence at 6.00 (ACDST) on Monday 13 November 2024. The AGM will be held virtually via the platform Zoom.

Membership

FAME has two levels of membership – Founding and Ordinary. From either category members of the Foundation may become Voting Members of the Company. For further information please contact the CEO, Tracy McNamara.

Nangur Spiny Skink

The Nangur Spiny Skink is only known from two locations in southeast Queensland. One population has fewer than 50 skinks remaining. Using a captive-breeding program, the extinction risk to this species of skink will be greatly reduced by increasing the current numbers and ensuring another population can be established.



Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Board and staff I am very proud once again to be able to present all our stakeholders – members, donors, partners and other supporters – with a report on another excellent year of achievement for FAME. It is especially pleasing to do so in what was a difficult year financially as interest rates rose relentlessly and hit hard the disposable incomes of many people.

In summary:

- the amount of donations and bequests was up \$485,000 over the previous corresponding period;
- investment income rose while operating expenses and wages salaries were down; and, most importantly
- 12 conservation projects were supported with an investment of over \$1.17 million, leaving

This surplus will be invested into Board approved conservation projects early in the new financial year.

FAME is now well into its fourth decade. Any objective view of its work reflects an organisation that is tightly managed and that has captured the imagination of many people for whom the extinction of any Australian native species of flora or fauna is an athema.

Today, across Australia, rainforest is being restored; endangered Queensland Armoured Mistfrogs are being provided with a new lease on life; Numbats, endangered flora in Victoria, West Kimberley Rock-wallabies, the Queensland Nangur Skink and the Red Handfish off the Tasmanian coast may all ultimately prosper as a result of the foresight and generosity of FAME supporters. It is a proud record reinforced strongly by the support we gave to 12 projects in the 23-24 financial year.

I hold a strong view that the success of any organisation – particularly a not-for-profit – depends on exceptional governance. Demonstrated governance, transparency and accountability underpin the confidence that donors need to make decisions. Board renewal and successes are also critical and stakeholders will note the advent of four new directors over the past 18 months.

Again in the year under review, stakeholders will note that bequests remain an important source of funds. Any bequest creates a long-term legacy that ensures FAME's investment in conservation for many years. Inviting and generating bequests will continue to be a major focus of our fundraising. Should you wish to leave a long-term legacy by considering a bequest to FAME, please contact our CEO who will confidentially discuss your wishes.

I said in last year's report that funding for organisations like FAME is always uncertain. Given the rises in interest rates over the period under review, the general lack of confidence in business and the economy, electricity, insurance and fuel price rises, I believe we all should be very happy with what FAME has achieved in 23-24.

These achievements would not have been possible without the dedicated commitment of our directors, our CEO and our staff. I thank them sincerely and commend this year's annual report to our many stakeholders.



Christopher Chapman
Chairman



Species: Red Handfish (*Thymichthys politus*)
EPBC: Critically Endangered
IUCN: Critically Endangered
Project: Saving the Red Handfish
Location: Tasmania

Red Handfish

The Red Handfish is tiny – at an average of 6cm – about the size of a man's thumb. It walks rather than swims and, alarmingly, just 100 of these beautiful fish now survive in a small area of ocean off Tasmania. In partnership with the Institute for Marine & Antarctic Studies (IMAS) and the University of Tasmania (UTAS), the project involves captive breeding, ecosystem restoration and pest species management. In a world-first, captive bred Handfish will be put through 'fish school' in order to teach the fish how to survive in their relocated habitat.



CEO's Report

At FAME, we often emphasise the importance of making a difference together. Central to this is the partnerships we've built, which are essential to achieving our shared goals and are a key part of FAME's business model. Represented by two interwoven circles, funding partners and on-ground partners create the synergy that defines FAME as an organisation. These effective partnerships allow us to leverage complementary strengths, mitigate risks, and navigate complex challenges more efficiently, leading to impactful outcomes. In alignment with the UNDP Sustainable Development Goal 17, "Partnerships for the Goals," FAME excels at building and maintaining meaningful collaborations.

At the core of this is FAME's relationship with our funding partners. This trust-based philanthropy is crucial for driving significant diversified conservation investment across Australia. Our funding partners—including international, national, and local organisations, philanthropic foundations and trusts, and the broader community—provide the financial resources necessary to support, oversee, and implement projects that prevent the extinction of Australia's endangered flora and fauna.

On-ground partnerships are equally vital for the successful implementation of conservation projects with tangible outcomes for species. These collaborations involve working with organisations and community groups who bring the knowledge, expertise, and experience essential for effective execution. On-ground partners are particularly important in understanding, executing, and integrating efforts into local ecosystems, which is critical for success.

By combining FAME's strategic vision, underpinned by our core values, with the financial support of our funding partners and the practical expertise of our on-ground partners, we maximize our impact. This integrated approach ensures the efficient use of resources and the development of tailored programs that achieve positive conservation outcomes. Ultimately, it contributes to the UNDP's* Sustainable Development Goals and fosters long-term, sustainable success for endangered species.

Performance

For the year ended 30 June 2024, FAME raised a total of \$1,642,422. Additionally, the Company's investment income amounted to \$167,635, which was reinvested into operations. The Company has maintained its underlying financial strength, enabling us to expand the scope of our native wildlife conservation efforts.

The balance sheet remains strong, positioning us well to support our long-term commitments to on-ground conservation. We plan to grow our Investment Reserve Fund in the coming years through bequests, ensuring that during challenging times, when donations may be less forthcoming, we can continue to support the projects to which we've committed.

I am proud of and recommend that members approve the unqualified, audited financial reports on page 17.

Conservation Commitment

In the year under review, the Company invested in twelve wide-ranging projects across Australia (depicted on pages 6 and 7). These initiatives included building robust populations behind fences, habitat restoration, rewilding and translocations, species research, and, in most cases, managing feral predators. The projects varied in size; some were completed within the year, while others remain in different phases of implementation. I'd like to acknowledge and thank our on-ground partners for their incredible work in conservation. Their unwavering commitment and passion are invaluable, and the Company is proud to work alongside them.

Many of our projects focus on species that are 'on the brink.' Without the funding provided by FAME and our partners, these species might not have had a chance of survival and could have faced extinction, much like the Thylacine before them; they would be lost forever.

Given our size, not-for-profit status, registration as a charity, and complete reliance on donations, I believe our conservation impact (illustrated opposite) is extraordinary.

Organisational matters

Operationally, the Company has continued to deliver an exceptional offering while staying committed to our community. The team remains dedicated to the Company's mission, consistently going above and beyond to ensure its success. I also want to acknowledge the valuable contributions and support of the Foundation's directors, who participated in meetings throughout the year, both virtually and in person.

Internationally, FAME entered into a new partnership. After careful consideration at the Board level, we have decided to collaborate with an overseas Foundation to accept donations on our behalf. This partnership allows us to reduce the costs associated with operating our own dedicated entity, while offering overseas donors and funding partners the opportunity to support FAME with tax-deductible contributions.

Philanthropy is vital to the work FAME supports, allowing us to make meaningful progress in our mission. Without it, the impact and reach of our environmental efforts would be significantly reduced. FAME has built a strong community of partners, donors, and on-ground collaborators—both nationally and internationally—who are integral to our success.

Finally, and most importantly, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our donors and stakeholders. Reaching over 30 years of existence is truly a remarkable achievement—considering where the Company started and where it stands today. Together, as a community committed to conservation, we can work towards reversing the ever-increasing rate of extinction of Australian flora and fauna.


Tracy McNamara

Chief Executive Officer



*UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

Species: Red-tailed Phascogale
(*Phascogale calura*)
EPBC: Vulnerable **IUCN:** Near Threatened
Project: Red-tailed Phascogale Research
Location: Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges
National Park and Gawler Ranges, South Australia

Red-tailed Phascogale

The Red-tailed Phascogale is a small carnivorous marsupial, measuring around 10cm long and weighing only 60g. It is one of the three members of the Phascogale genus. It has sadly disappeared from much of its historic range across Australia.

Finance Director's Report

Did FAME have a good year this year, making a beneficial difference for some of the other species that share our continent? Yes, we did, and you know those stories. Did we have a good year financially? Yes, we did, and here it is.

The finance group at FAME spend a good deal of time each year analysing our current and expected future situations, including projected expansion projects, in order to produce as accurate a cash-flow budget as possible. This financial year, our bequests, board-giving and major gifts were all up significantly, and contributed to a 27% increase in donations over our total budgeted donations. One of our strategies for growth, as you know, is to participate where possible in the commercialisation of inventions which assist native-species conservation. This strategy this year resulted in a small, but significant, \$6000 royalty from the sale of cane-toad tadpole traps.

Expenses, as usual, were tightly controlled such that we recorded a net surplus of \$219 000 instead of a budgeted slight deficit. Overheads as a percentage of expenses decreased by 9 percentage points, and conservation investments increased naturally by the same proportion.

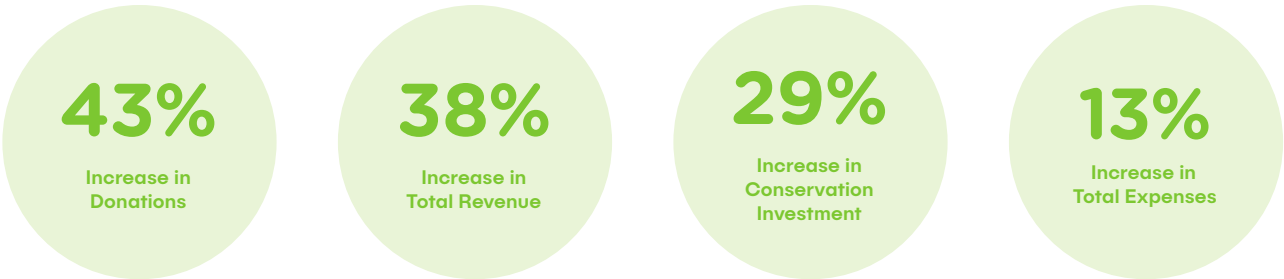
How does all this compare with last year's results? Donations increased by 43%, and total revenue by 38%. Total expenses rose by 13%, but larger conservation projects accounted for all of that and more. Conservation investment rose by 15% and overheads dropped significantly.

With regard to our balance sheet or statement of financial position, liabilities are relatively trivial, with cash debts being merely short-term business costs which are accrued and paid on a monthly basis, employee leave provisions, and other provisions made in accordance with current accounting standards. FAME is in an excellent financial position with the \$219 000 surplus for the year increasing net assets to more than \$3.1 m.

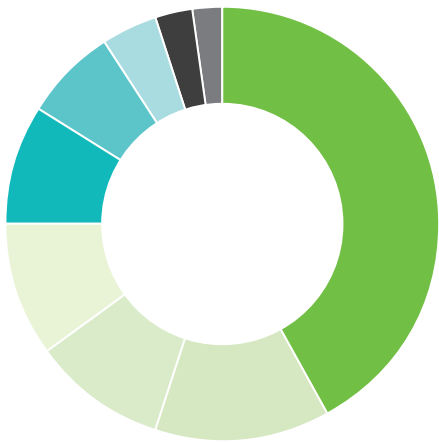
The Board gives thanks to all those in our community – donors, members and staff – who value the natural environment and all (native-species) that reside in it and, incidentally, provide us with benefits for free. Particular thanks go to our CEO and recently-appointed Director, Tracy McNamara, and our dedicated staff for their hard work and dedication to the cause this year.

Diana Beal
Finance Director

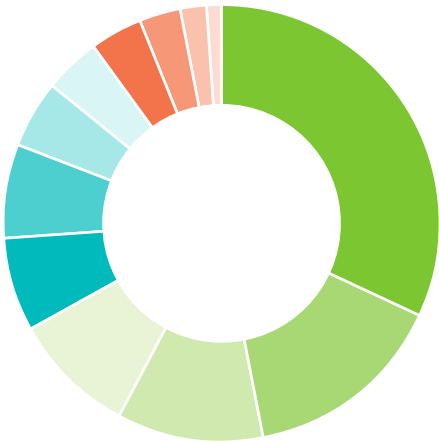
Highlights



How you've helped us in 2023/24



Who you've helped in 2023/24



Financial Report

Summary statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2024.

	2023/24 \$	2022/23 \$
Revenue		
Donations, bequests, campaigns and projects	1,623,270	1,135,023
Memberships	19,152	21,698
Interest and dividends	167,634	152,991
Government grants	–	–
	1,810,056	1,309,712
Expenses		
Administration expense	(53,316)	(62,659)
Employee benefits expense	(253,862)	(291,921)
Insurance expense	(12,984)	(11,308)
Office expense	(10,778)	(14,296)
Program expense	(1,178,013)	(911,749)
Fundraising, marketing and communications expense	(50,633)	(82,554)
Right-of-use asset interest and depreciation expense	(31,060)	(28,877)
	(1,590,646)	(1,403,364)
Profit before Capital Income Tax	219,410	(93,652)
Income tax expense	–	–
Profit for the year	219,410	(93,652)
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		
Fair value gain/(loss) on financial assets	144,801	30,022
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	144,801	30,022
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	364,211	(63,630)

NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024
Note 1: The summary financial report is derived from the audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024. 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.

Summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024.

	2023/24 \$	2021/22 \$
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,216,060	955,735
Trade and other receivables	120,105	72,471
	1,336,165	1,028,206
Non-current assets		
Financial assets	2,099,106	1,954,305
Right-of-use assets	52,283	74,807
	2,151,389	2,029,112
TOTAL ASSETS	3,487,554	3,057,318
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	160,065	86,495
Amounts received in advance	12,018	10,030
Right-of-use lease liabilities	28,134	23,939
Provisions	20,773	24,384
	220,990	144,848
Non-Current liabilities		
Right-of-use lease liabilities	29,389	53,759
Provisions	50,902	36,647
Total Non-Current Liabilities	80,291	90,406
TOTAL LIABILITIES	301,281	235,254
NET ASSETS	3,186,273	2,822,064
FUNDS		
Retained earnings	3,208,581	2,989,173
Reserves	(22,308)	(167,109)
TOTAL FUNDS	3,186,273	2,822,064

Independent Auditor's Report

to the Members of the Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd.
REPORT ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT.

Opinion

We have audited the Summary Financial Report of Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd which comprises the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024 and the summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, which was derived from the financial report of Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2024. We expressed an unmodified auditor's opinion on that financial report in our independent auditor's report dated 17 September 2024.

In our opinion the information reported in the Summary Financial Report is consistent, in all material respects with the financial report from which it was derived. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this auditor's report should be read in conjunction with our auditor's report on the financial report of Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd..

Responsibilities of Management and Directors for the Summary Financial Report

Management and the Directors are responsible for the preparation and the fair presentation of the Summary Financial Report in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as management and Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Summary Financial Report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Summary Financial Report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

HLB Mann Judd Audit (SA) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Travis Rickard
Director
Adelaide, South Australia

17 September 2024



Species: *Myrmecobius fasciatus*
EPBC: Endangered **IUCN:** Endangered
Project: Expanding Knowledge – Understanding Numbat Behaviour
Location: Dryandra Woodland National Park, Western Australia

Numbat

Numbats measure around 40cm in length – and that's including their very long bushy tail. They're equipped with a sticky tongue that rolls out to be roughly half the length of their bodies and consume around 20,000 termites in a day. The Numbat is the state faunal emblem of WA and even has its own 'day', World Numbat Day, celebrated in November each year, promoting the plight of this iconic native mammal.



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Vision

Preventing any further extinctions of Australian flora and fauna.

FAME has a clear and simple vision of a future that we strive to foster.

Mission

Providing support to save Australian species and habitats.

FAME's focus is to provide funds and expertise to support projects and programs aimed at protecting or re-establishing threatened Australian native species and habitats.

Core Values

Conservation

To protect ecosystems and native species to safeguard their longevity.

Transparency

To be open and unambiguous in all our actions, and show strong leadership among our peers.

Integrity

To meet the highest ethical standards.

Respect

To recognise and value all people and cultures.

Collaboration

To build strong relationships with stakeholders to achieve enduring results.



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