



BUSH HERITAGE AUSTRALIA

Record donor support for Bush Heritage sees health of the bush improved

Bush Heritage Australia is pleased to report its strongest financial support in the organisation's 27-year history, following their Annual General Meeting in Adelaide today.

A record \$21.3 million was donated in the reporting period of April 2017 to March 2018, with interest and other income taking total revenue to \$22.6 million.

Almost \$13 million was re-invested in the same period in on-ground conservation activities, education and events. A further surplus of \$3.2 million will be carried forward and invested in the following year.

Support of this magnitude has allowed Bush Heritage to record exemplary environmental outcomes across its 39 reserves and 24 Aboriginal partnerships. As a wholly independent not-for-profit, all funds raised are spent in Australia, for all Australians.

Some conservation highlights from April 2017-March 2018 include:

- We are protecting close to **6,000 native species** on our reserves
- We are providing habitat for **at least 239 threatened species**, and likely many more
- We now own or help manage over **8.86 million hectares of Australian bush**
- **71 science and research projects** with multiple university and research partners
- Using our data, we can see we've **eliminated or reduced threats on our reserves by 39%** (threats include feral

predators, inappropriate fire regimes, erosion, invasive weeds)

- **A further 51% of threats are stable** and unchanged
- **Red-tailed phascogales** have expanded their reach at Kojonup in Western Australia
- **Night Parrots** continue to breed at Pullen Pullen in Queensland
- **Rare orchids** have been sighted at Nardoo Hills and JC Griffin Reserves in Victoria

Outgoing Chief Executive Gerard O'Neill said the pleasing financial and conservation results were testament to Australians' inherent love and affinity for the bush.

"It's clear that an organisation such as ours cannot exist without the contributions of many, and this impressive fundraising result demonstrates how passionate Australians are about protecting the bush," said O'Neill.

"Thank you to our staff and volunteers around the country for helping to realise our vision, and to our wonderful supporters who have generously joined us in returning the bush to good health."

O'Neill announced his resignation in June 2018, after seven years in the top role. Executive search firm Omera Partners have started the recruitment process to find the organisation's next Chief Executive. The new appointment is expected to be announced in the coming months.

To download Bush Heritage's 2017/18 annual report, click [here](#)

