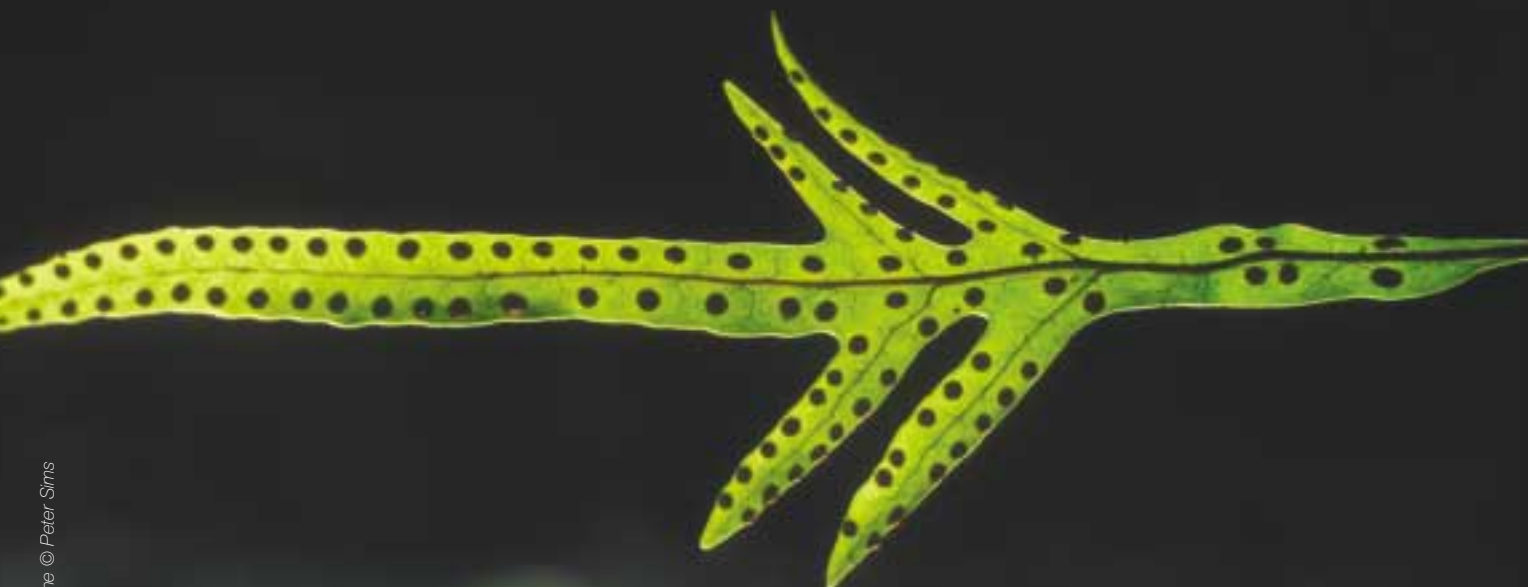




WWF AUSTRALIA ANNUAL REPORT 2003



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Epiphyte in the Tarkine © Peter Sims

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PRESIDENT AND CEO'S MESSAGE

25 years of conservation achievement

This last year has been a truly remarkable one for WWF Australia, which is particularly appropriate as it marks our 25th anniversary. It is extraordinary to reflect on what we have achieved, but also how much remains to be done.

Resolution of current environmental issues continues to be extremely urgent. It is likely that the next five years will be the most critical period in recent times for the long-term conservation of Australia's biodiversity.

WWF Australia is a critical leader in the conservation of Australia's unique natural environment, but to meet the increasing challenges we need to continue our rapid development. The support of individual Australians is crucial, firstly to give WWF Australia the power to influence decisions about Australia's environment and secondly to provide the resource base necessary to understand the issues, propose the solutions and test the results.

This year 14,000 committed supporters joined the organisation, bringing our total to 40,000. In the coming year we will continue this effort with a target of 60,000. The investment in new supporters will repay itself many times over in the medium to long term, and give WWF Australia the resources needed to address the full span of critical conservation issues that will be part of Australia's future.

The major campaign launched this year to stop land clearing has been remarkably successful with an entirely new approach

adopted in NSW and a moratorium on new clearing permits coming into force in Queensland. Our efforts over the last three years to protect the Great Barrier Reef have seen a proposal from the Federal Government to increase the level of protection from the current 4.6% to more than 30% of the Reef area. We will continue to work to ensure the proposal is implemented.

We celebrated the culmination of many years of work with the Government's declaration of Heard and McDonald Islands as a marine reserve, and the awarding of WWF International's highest conservation honour (Gift to the Earth).

This year saw the foundation of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, and the production of the highly regarded *Blueprint for a Living Continent* and *A New Model for Landscape Conservation in NSW*.

The Wentworth Group exemplifies the way WWF Australia achieves its mission. We support and apply the very best science to create practical solutions, and collaborate with government and industry. In the year ahead, we will take this same approach to saving Australian icons such as Tasmanian forests and resolving the allocation, use and management of fresh water in Australia.

In all our endeavours, we strive not only to meet but exceed the expectations of our supporters, with ambitious plans to far more effectively communicate the results of their support. We are also working hard at improving on the current high



David Butcher,
CEO WWF Australia

Robert Purves,
President WWF Australia

standards of human resource management, governance, risk management, financial transparency, professionalism and performance of our organisation.

We feel that WWF Australia through its dedicated staff and supporters has demonstrated the ability to accept enormously difficult tasks and produce outcomes that are critical for Australia and the region. To continue on this course we must redouble our efforts, promote the core values of WWF Australia, nurture the professionalism and dedication of our staff, maintain a focus on priority conservation issues, encourage greater support and produce results that are of true value for the future of our community. These are the things to which we are both completely committed.



Robert Purves
President



David Butcher
Chief Executive Officer



ABOUT WWF AUSTRALIA

Devils Marbles Northern Territory
© WWF-Canon / Martin Harvey



WWF Australia is part of the WWF International Network, the world's largest independent conservation organisation, working in over 100 countries and supported by more than 5 million people.

We are a not-for-profit, supporter-based organisation committed to conserving the unique biodiversity of Australia and the Oceania region, and finding solutions to the key environmental challenges facing the region today.

Our mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- ✓ conserving the world's biological diversity;
- ✓ ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable; and
- ✓ promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

We focus our work on five priority conservation areas: oceans and coasts; forests, woodlands and grasslands; fresh water; threatened species; and natural resources.

With the help of more than 40,000 supporters across Australia, we are currently working on 180 projects across the region, directly employing more than 80 people, and raising and investing more than \$11 million annually in conservation programs.

We are guided by the following principles. We will:

- ✓ be global, independent, multicultural and non-party political;
- ✓ use the best available scientific information to address issues and critically evaluate all our endeavours;
- ✓ seek dialogue and avoid unnecessary confrontation;
- ✓ build concrete conservation solutions through a combination of field-based projects, policy initiatives, capacity-building and education work;
- ✓ involve local communities and indigenous peoples in the planning and execution of our field programs – respecting their cultural as well as economic needs;
- ✓ strive to build partnerships with other organisations, governments, business and local communities to enhance WWF's effectiveness; and
- ✓ run our operations in a cost effective manner and apply donors' funds according to the highest standards of accountability.




Common buttercup © WWF Australia/David Eddy



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS, PROJECTS & CAMPAIGNS 2002-03

The past financial year has seen WWF Australia achieve significant results in each of our priority conservation areas. The key achievements relate to planned objectives outlined in WWF Australia's Annual Report 2002.



One of WWF Australia's most outstanding achievements was the establishment of the world's largest no-take (no fishing) marine protected area around Heard and McDonald Islands in October 2002.



Work to create and improve the management of Marine Protected Areas

One of WWF Australia's most outstanding achievements was the establishment of the world's largest no-take (no fishing) marine protected area around Heard and McDonald Islands in October 2002. WWF International has awarded the Commonwealth Government a Gift to the Earth for the protection of this 6.5 million hectare area in Australia's Southern Ocean.

WWF Australia also continued to push for high seas Marine Protected Areas this year through its innovative marine policy program. These areas will prevent the over-exploitation of marine resources and further collapse of commercial fisheries.

Work with local communities and regional groups to conserve coastal and marine ecosystems

Great Barrier Reef

Following extensive campaigning by WWF Australia's Great Barrier Reef team, the Australian Government has proposed increasing the proportion of marine sanctuaries (places where commercial and recreational fishing are prohibited) from 4.6 to 32.5% of the marine park. The team has also played a key role in pushing for state and federal solutions for the long-term management of water pollution on the Reef.

WWF Australia, as part of a consortium of non-government organisations, has convinced the West Australian Government to reject a major resort development in the heart of Ningaloo Reef. The Coral Bay development would have threatened one of the longest fringing reefs in the world, home to 200 species of coral and 500 species of fish and other marine life.

Arafura Ecoregion

WWF Australia continues to address the major threat posed to turtles, dugongs and other wildlife by marine debris through working with indigenous communities and industry to complete major debris tracking surveys across the Arafura region. We have developed a groundbreaking debris database, which establishes WWF Australia as the national coordinating body for marine debris data in the area.

North-western Australia

WWF Australia, as part of a consortium of non-government organisations, has convinced the West Australian Government to reject a major resort development in the heart of Ningaloo Reef. The Coral Bay development would have threatened one of the longest fringing reefs in the world, home to 200 species of coral and 500 species of fish and other marine life.



25th Anniversary Snapshot

2000 Marine Stewardship Council Certification – WWF Australia led the way in proving the case for certification of commercial fisheries across the world. The world's first certification, Western Australia's Rock Lobster fishery, proved that this approach can provide a sustainable future for marine ecosystems as well as a commercial benefit for the industry.





FORESTS, WOODLANDS AND GRASSLANDS

Blue mushrooms in the Tarkine © Eddie Safarik



Launch a major national campaign to reduce land clearing

WWF Australia's Save the Bush campaign was established in October 2002, following a \$1.5 million pledge from our President Robert Purves, with the aim of providing solutions to the country's great landscape environmental problems. Key to the success of this campaign was the formation of the Wentworth Group, which included eleven of Australia's leading scientists. The Group went on to develop an historic national approach to land clearing issues. The NSW Government adopted this blueprint for landscape conservation, halting broad scale clearing in the state and saving 1.2 million hectares of remnant bush.

Sustained WWF Australia campaign work during 2002-03 helped produce an unprecedented moratorium on land clearing in Queensland. We also initiated a summit on de-forestation in Tasmania and commenced planning for a major campaign to prevent the devastating effects of logging in the Tarkine Wilderness.

Conserve native vegetation in key areas

WWF Australia's work to conserve threatened native grasses and woodlands in the past year continued to focus on critically endangered ecosystems – including temperate grasslands in south-east Australia and central Queensland, woodlands in south-west Australia, rainforests in south-east Queensland and Melanesia, and old growth eucalypt forests in Tasmania.

The continued success of our Woodland Watch program in the wheatbelt of Western Australia demonstrates the effectiveness of working with communities and landowners. The project, which provides support for landowners to conserve eucalypt woodlands on their properties, has had a 30% increase in participants in the past 12 months.

2002 was the final year of the Grassy Ecosystems Grants program, which encouraged and supported conservation of important remnants. Since 1999, 75 individual grants have been issued, involving more than 1000 people and protecting close to 7000 hectares of natural grasslands.

Develop new and improved measures for conservation on private land

WWF Australia has continued to test and develop innovative approaches to conservation, including private conservation agreements, working with local community groups, land acquisition, and habitat rehabilitation.

Examples of our innovative partnership programs include the Western Australia Bush Brokers project and the Liverpool Plains conservation auction in NSW. Both offer incentives to landowners to conserve native bushland on their property and can be seen as Australian conservation firsts.

Bush Brokers has worked with the real estate industry in WA to complete the production of a website and manual for buyers, sellers and managers of bush, and developed a partnership to increase the amount of bush purchased for conservation in WA. The first phase of the project is now complete and efforts to mainstream the partnership have commenced.

The Liverpool Plains 'conservation auction' in NSW, developed in partnership with the Liverpool Plains Land Management Committee (a consortium of 47 Landcare groups), enabled landholders to bid for funds to conserve native vegetation on their property. The auction was designed to ensure the best conservation outcomes are funded using the money available. The second auction round funded conservation activities on 4153 hectares of land.

Funding has been awarded to further develop the auction concept in the Avon catchment in the WA wheatbelt as part of the Australian Government's National Market-based Instruments Pilot Program.



Wedge-leafed fan palm Daintree © WWF-Canon / Klein & Hubert



The NSW Government adopted the WWF Australia-convened Wentworth Group blueprint for landscape conservation, halting broad scale clearing in the state and saving 1.2 million hectares of remnant bush.



WWF Australia began developing a major new program for the management of fresh water this year. The goal of the program is healthy and productive rivers, wetlands, estuaries and groundwater resources.



Improve the level of protection and management of inland and tropical wetlands

Our main strategies for the conservation of fresh water ecosystems over the past 12 months have been facilitating voluntary conservation agreements for protected areas, listing under the Ramsar Convention (an international treaty for the protection of important wetlands), and influencing the development of regional management plans.

Our ongoing Ramsar nomination program continues to expand, with 10 sites pursued during 2002-03. Major progress has been made towards the Ramsar listing of a 75,000 hectare property in the southern Gulf of Carpentaria.

In addition, WWF Australia began developing a major new program for the management of fresh water. The Water for Life program draws on our many years of experience in the protection of Australian wetlands and fresh water species. The goal of the program is healthy and productive rivers, wetlands, estuaries and groundwater resources.

Work to remove or lessen the negative impacts on our fresh water ecosystems

In recent years, WWF Australia has focused on identifying key threats – such as redundant dams and weirs, invasive weeds, and cold water pollution – to our rivers and streams, and the species that live in them. We have continued to identify and develop solutions to address these threats as part of our overall commitment to improving the health of our waterways.

In October 2002, WWF Australia hosted our third two-day conference as part of a partnership to address major threats to fish in the Murray Darling Basin. The subsequent report outlined the need for improved policy to regulate aquaculture, and the release of fish into rivers and streams.

Restore the natural flow of our river systems for important wetland areas

WWF Australia has concentrated on influencing water plans in the northern Murray Darling Basin, working cooperatively to identify viable alternatives to water extraction in the Paroo (in the Murray Darling Basin), and working directly with stakeholders to secure sustainable management for the Ord River (Kimberley region).



SPECIES



Green & golden bell frog © Viewfinder Photo Library

Develop new and improved measures to conserve our native plants and animals

Over the past 12 months, WWF Australia has assessed new ways to preserve and protect endangered plants and animals. Traditional 'recovery' plans, focussing on conservation strategies for single species, are being replaced by a more comprehensive approach that addresses the decline of related species in a particular area.

WWF Australia commissioned a review during 2002-03 to evaluate these new recovery plans, 12 of which have already been implemented.


Help local communities to conserve native plants and animals by providing information, raising awareness, and taking action

In the past 12 months, WWF Australia has continued its three major community-based species programs.

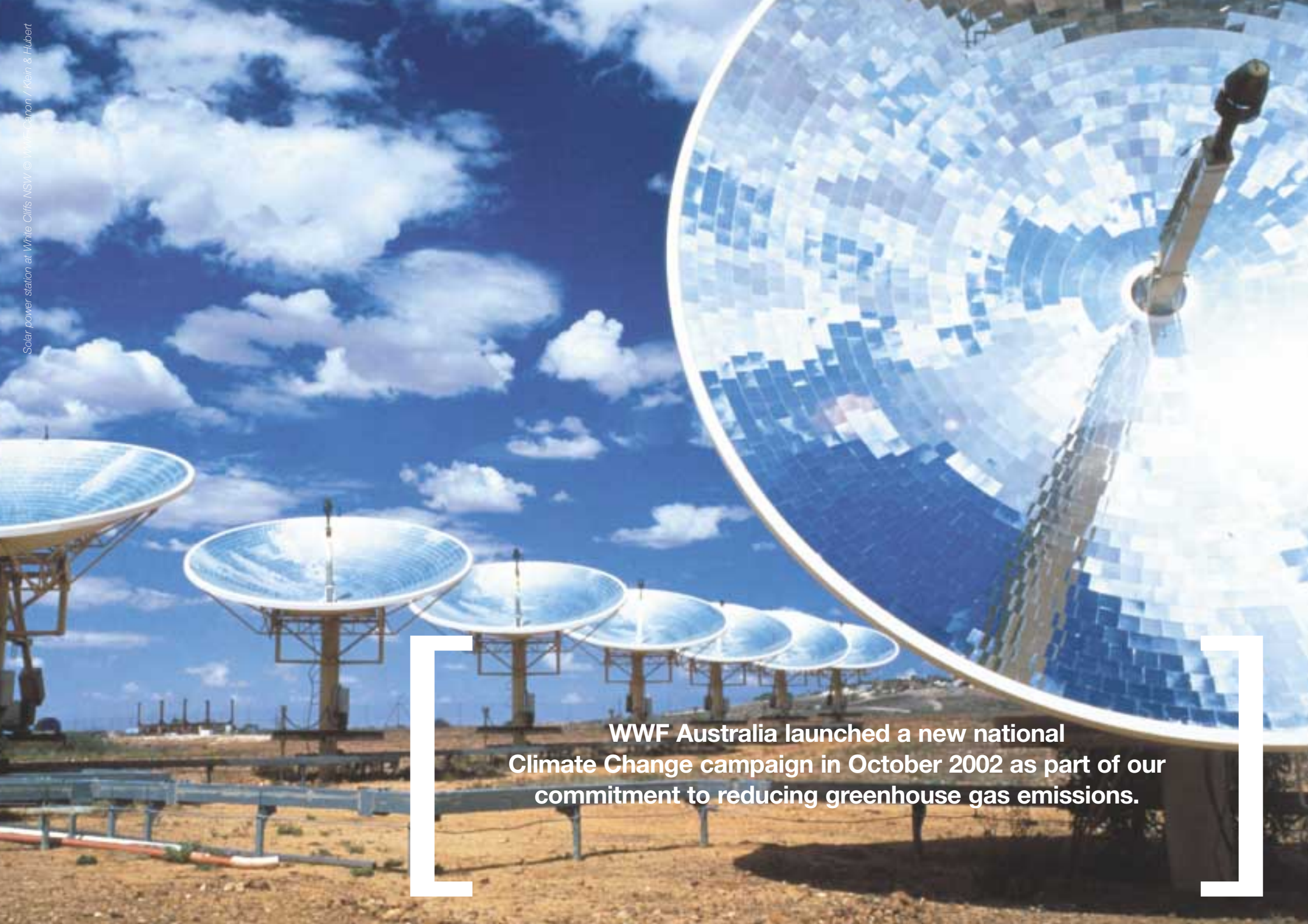
The ongoing and highly successful Frogs! Program now has eight key projects running nationally as part of its drive to save Australian frogs and their habitats. The Shorebird Conservation Project, which aims to protect significant shorebird habitat sites in Australia, continues to work directly with communities to conserve threatened waterbirds.

The Threatened Species Network (TSN), a partnership between the Federal Government's Natural Heritage Trust and WWF Australia, has also continued to foster vital community partnerships for the protection and preservation of threatened species across the country.

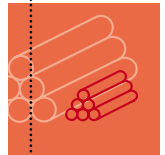
The Threatened Species Network is now in its thirteenth year of operation. In the past 12 months, TSN has distributed grants for community projects totalling more than \$500,000 and participated in more than 70 key advisory forums.

A photograph of a yellow-footed rock wallaby standing on a large, light-colored rock. The wallaby is facing left, with its body angled towards the viewer. It has brown fur with a lighter patch on its chest. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The image is framed by a white border.

**The Threatened Species Network,
a partnership between the Federal Government's
Natural Heritage Trust and WWF Australia,
has continued to foster vital community partnerships
for the protection and preservation
of threatened species across the country.**



WWF Australia launched a new national Climate Change campaign in October 2002 as part of our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



In the same way WWF Australia supports certification for the fishing and forestry industries, we are also exploring certification for the mining and agricultural sectors.

Among its other activities internationally, WWF Australia supports efforts to conserve the forests of Papua New Guinea (PNG). The island of New Guinea stands with the Amazon, the Serengeti Plains and the Great Barrier Reef as one of the great natural jewels of this planet. And while globally remarkable, New Guinea's forests and rivers are even more important to the six million people who depend on them daily for their food, shelter and medicine.

One project in PNG is the Kikori Integrated Conservation and Development Project, where WWF is working with the support of the oil and gas industry to research, conserve and deliver environment education programs to a biologically important region of the country.

Elsewhere in the Oceania region, WWF is involved in supporting marine conservation and development activities in the Solomon Islands.



Work to lessen the impact of climate change on Australia and its neighbours

WWF Australia launched a new national Climate Change campaign in October 2002 as part of our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We have already published groundbreaking reports highlighting the main issues and implications of climate change in Australia – *Australia's Polluting Power: Coal fired electricity and its impact on global warming*, and a report linking global warming to Australia's worst ever drought. Both reports and ensuing media coverage helped to establish WWF Australia as one of the country's leading conservation agencies concerned with global warming.

Our climate change work is an integral part of WWF International's PowerSwitch! campaign to halt carbon dioxide emissions from the power sector by the middle of this century.

Work to ensure our fishing industry is well managed for future generations

WWF Australia continues to play a leading role in pushing for more responsible fisheries management to address overfishing, habitat destruction and other factors in the decline of fish populations.

Our fisheries work in 2002-03 concentrated on major industry reform through Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification of well-managed fisheries. The \$US740,000 project, funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, has seen 14 MSC products introduced onto the Australian market, enabling consumers to choose seafood that has been caught from environmentally responsible fisheries.

Develop new ways to ensure our mining, agriculture, and timber industries are managed for future generations

WWF Australia continues to work towards the establishment of FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certification in Australia, which recognises well-managed forestry businesses. Over the past 12 months, we have facilitated a series of pre-assessments and one full assessment for the certification of responsible forestry operations. The combined area owned or managed by the companies concerned is more than 500,000 hectares, which represents a significant proportion of the private plantation estate in Australia.

25th Anniversary – Snapshot

1991 A 50-year moratorium was placed on mining in Antarctica – The Australian Government, WWF Australia and other international non-government organisations achieved the most significant conservation outcome for the preservation of Antarctica's pristine environment.



THE YEAR AHEAD



The past year has seen WWF Australia achieve outstanding conservation outcomes. 2004 promises to be equally successful as we continue to build our campaign activity in the areas of fresh water, land clearing, climate change and the Great Barrier Reef.

In the year ahead, WWF Australia will:

Oceans and Coasts

- ✓ Secure the increased protection of the Great Barrier Reef and reduce impacts of pollution, poor water quality and over-fishing
- ✓ Establish new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Australia's tropical north and north-west
- ✓ Promote high seas MPAs in the Southern Ocean

Forests, Woodlands and Grasslands

- ✓ Campaign to end land clearing in Queensland and Tasmania
- ✓ Continue to support better landscape management in NSW
- ✓ Launch a new conservation strategy for south-west Australia, a global biodiversity hotspot
- ✓ Finalise our grassy ecosystem conservation program in south-east Australia

Fresh Water

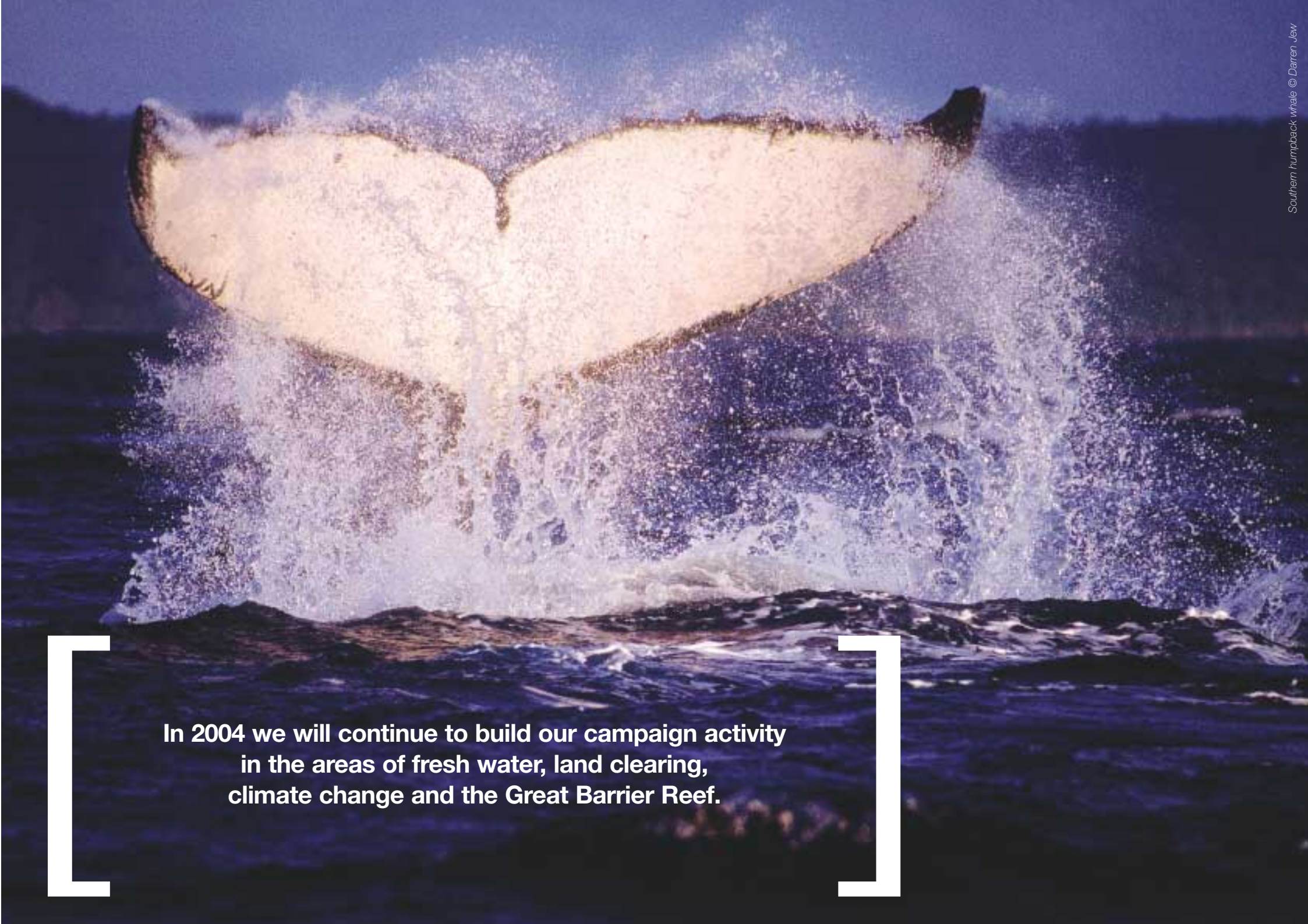
- ✓ Launch a national program to help restore and protect healthy and productive rivers, wetlands, estuaries and ground water resources
- ✓ Continue to work through international agreements to protect major wetland areas

Threatened Species

- ✓ Establish a new Arafura regional focus for the conservation of marine turtles
- ✓ Continue the expansion of our threatened species program
- ✓ Develop a new national biodiversity agenda

Natural Resources

- ✓ Continue to pursue certification for the fishing, forestry and mining industries
- ✓ Establish the PowerSwitch! campaign to promote major reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- ✓ Develop partnerships with business to ensure better management of natural resources
- ✓ Directly influence the environmental impact of Australia's overseas aid and development funding



**In 2004 we will continue to build our campaign activity
in the areas of fresh water, land clearing,
climate change and the Great Barrier Reef.**

SUPPORTING WWF AUSTRALIA

WWF Australia's work to develop solutions to Australia's big environmental problems continues to benefit from the loyalty of our generous supporters.

2002-03 was a record year for WWF Australia, with significant numbers of new supporters contributing to our work across the country. This support took a variety of forms, including donations, giving in-kind, fundraising events, bequests, and letters and petitions to government.

Individual supporters

In the past year, our total number of financial supporters increased to more than 40,000 individuals, providing more than \$3.6 million for our conservation program. Increasing numbers of supporters have decided to support us through regular monthly donations, creating a regular income stream that offers us flexibility and allows us to plan ahead for priority projects. During the year ahead we will continue our work to attract more supporters, as they provide a critical voice for change and are key to our ability to influence government and business decisions.

We are extremely grateful to the many thousands of Australians who care deeply about our environment and choose to pledge their regular support.

Key supporters

WWF Australia is grateful for the continued loyalty of our key supporters, whose significant cash or in-kind donations are critical to WWF Australia's future. Our key supporters include, among others, Mr Robert Purves, Mr Anthony Nicholas, Mrs Ann Macintosh, Mr James Fairfax, and the US-based David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

This year, several key supporters have contributed generously to set up our Water for Life initiative including Mr Stuart Foley, Mr and Mrs Geoff Handbury, Mr Ron Clarke (CEPA Trust), and Mr David Gibbs.

As in previous years, WWF Australia remains extremely grateful for the unstinting support we receive in terms of legal services from Allens Arthur Robinson, and auditing services from PricewaterhouseCoopers.



Red-tailed black-cockatoo © WWF-Canon / Martin Harvey



Flinders Blow © Darren Jew

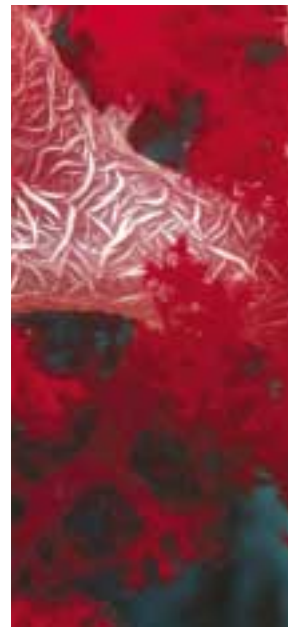
Corporate supporters

WWF Australia believes that working with corporations is key to achieving sustainable change. We work with companies to help change the way they do business, and bring influence to bear on industry as a whole.

WWF Australia seeks to work with companies whose core business has a high impact on our conservation priorities – for example, industries which are high-end users of water. The companies we work with are not necessarily market leaders in terms of sustainability, but they must demonstrate commitment to positive environmental change and be strategically relevant to WWF Australia’s mission.

There are also companies we will not work with. Our choice of relationship must at all times meet the need to protect our brand and our integrity.

We have a rigorous risk assessment process that we follow prior to engagement, and partnership principles that we employ. These include involvement from different levels of both organisations, adequate resourcing for relationship management, transparency, and ongoing monitoring and evaluation. At all times, we reserve the right to criticise company actions that do not benefit conservation.



Bequests

WWF Australia extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to the families and individuals who have chosen to support our conservation work with a generous bequest in 2002-03. These include Gerald Bicknell, Helen Jewell, Peter Lussick, Graeme McDonnell, Margaret Oldfield, Emmy Roos and Margaret Watson.

The lasting legacies of these supporters will help us continue our work to protect Australia’s species and landscapes for generations to come.

25th Anniversary Snapshot

2002 Wentworth Group – WWF Australia brought together Australia’s most influential environmental thinkers and focused their combined powers on some of the greatest issues facing Australia today – land clearing and water. The WWF Australia-convened Wentworth Group provided the blueprints that have transformed deadlocked debate into constructive outcomes including water reforms and the NSW Government’s commitment to end land clearing.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Operating statement for the year ended 30 June 2003

REVENUE	2003 \$	2002 \$
Donations and gifts	6,218,521	5,060,024
Legacies and bequests	692,280	149,509
Grants		
AusAID	197,506	357,338
Other Australian	2,629,546	3,295,287
Other overseas	1,057,911	1,720,018
Investment income	259,834	263,365
Total revenue	11,055,598	10,845,541

DISBURSEMENTS

Overseas projects		
Funds to overseas projects	1,541,964	1,918,383
Other project costs	40,600	44,080
Domestic projects	6,649,011	5,551,139
Community education	491,157	323,315
Fundraising costs		
Public	2,538,071	1,362,394
Government and multilaterals	7,683	5,769
Administration	1,099,186	1,060,453
Total disbursements	12,367,672	10,265,533
Excess of revenue over disbursements/ (disbursements over revenue)	(1,312,074)	580,008
Funds available for future use at the beginning of the financial year	1,051,894	1,015,360
Amounts transferred to/(from) reserves	(1,227,544)	543,474
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE USE AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	967,364	1,051,894

Statement of financial position at 30 June 2003

ASSETS	2003 \$	2002 \$
Cash	5,086,172	6,559,450
Investments	–	–
Property, plant and equipment	124,347	92,849
Other	557,491	586,864
Total assets	5,768,010	7,239,163

LIABILITIES

Creditors and borrowings	222,912	453,686
Provisions	355,366	283,672
Total liabilities	578,278	737,358
Net assets	5,189,732	6,501,805

EQUITY

Reserves	4,222,367	5,449,911*
Funds available for future use	967,364	1,051,894
Total equity	5,189,731	6,501,805

No single appeal or other form of fundraising for a designated purpose generated 10% or more of total income for the period under review.

Extract from Financial Statements – 30 June 2003. Full financial statements are available on request.



25th Anniversary – Snapshot

2001 National Oceans Policy – WWF Australia was a key player in convincing the Australian Government to adopt what was an international first – a plan for the sustainable management of Australia's vast marine environment. This year as a result of this plan, the 6.5 million hectare Heard and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve became the largest marine protected area in the world after a sustained campaign by WWF Australia.



Independent audit report to the Executive Councillors
of the Board of WWF Australia

Scope

We have audited the summarised financial report of WWF Australia ("the Company") for the year ended 30 June 2003 in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and to provide a reasonable assurance as to whether the Company has complied, in all material respects, with the relevant requirements of the Australian Council for Overseas Aid Code of Conduct.

The audit opinion in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit opinion

In our opinion, WWF Australia has complied, in all material respects, with the requirements of the Australian Council for Overseas Aid Code of Conduct.

The information reported in the summarised financial report is consistent with the annual statutory financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed a qualified audit opinion in our report to the Executive Councillors dated 8 October 2003. As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for the Company to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fundraising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to fundraising and the accounting for and the application of money received as a result of fundraising appeals was limited to amounts recorded.

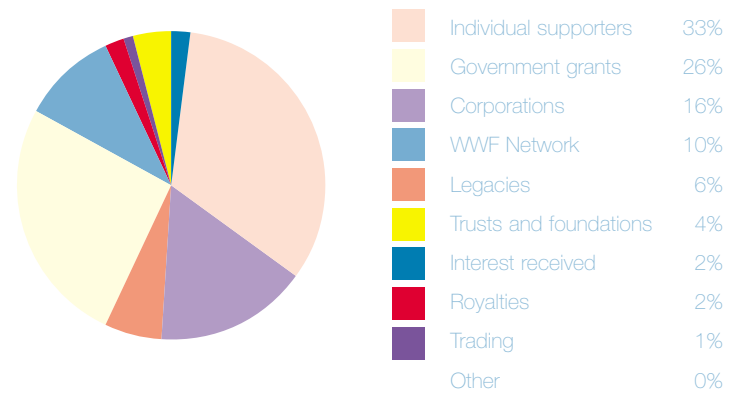
For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report in the annual statutory financial report.

8 October 2003

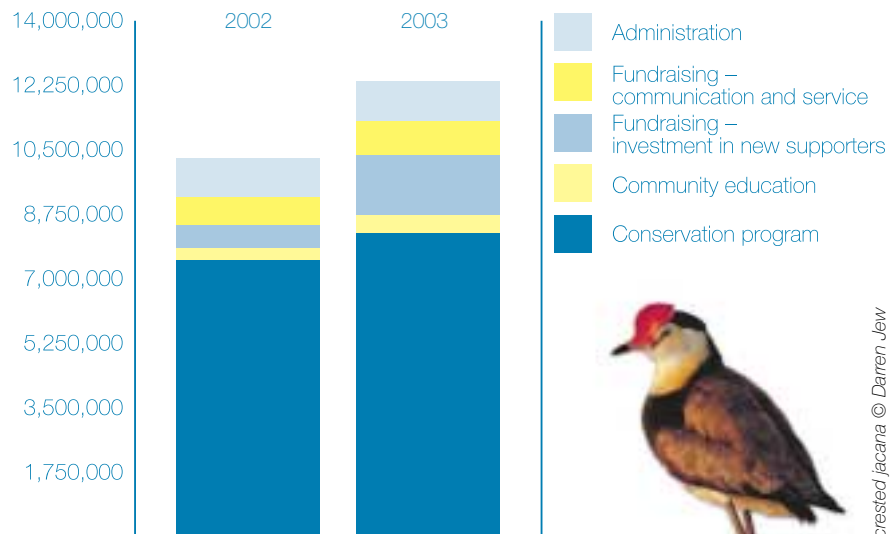
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants

John Gordon
Partner – Sydney

Income 2003



Expenditure 2003



Comb-crested jacana © Darren Jew

25th Anniversary – Snapshot

1990 WWF Australia drafted a proposal for the first ever national endangered species program. The proposal was adopted by the Australian Government, and legislation was passed which included the formation of the Threatened Species Network.



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

25th Anniversary – Snapshot

1998 Tropical Wetlands of Oceania Program (TWO) – The governments, non-government organisations and indigenous peoples of Australia, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea joined for the first time to conserve some of the world's most biologically diverse and spectacular wetlands. TWO led to the Arafura program which focuses on the broadscale conservation initiatives in Australia's top end and southern New Guinea.



Executive Council

WWF Australia is governed by an Executive Council, elected at the Annual General Meeting from the Board of Trustees. It meets six times per year to set strategic direction and policy, approve the annual budget and conservation program and regularly review the operations of the organisation.

The Executive Council is assisted by two committees – the Finance Committee which keeps close oversight of all financial matters – and the Scientific Advisory Committee (see next page).

Robert Purves, President and Member, Finance Committee

Member of the Council since 1993. Company director and investor. Chairman, DCA Group Ltd. Trustee, Lizard Island Reef Research Foundation. Council Member, State Library of NSW.

Anthony Nicholas, Vice President

Member of the Council since 1989. Financial and investment services and senior executive expertise. Chairman, Carnbrea & Co Ltd, Member, Finance and Audit Committee, Epworth Hospital (Victoria).

Keith Walkerden, Vice President and Member, Finance Committee

Member of the Council since 1993. Managing Director, Riverbush Pty Ltd, Board Member, Alan Walker College. Previously Managing Director, British Olivetti.

David Maloney, Honorary Secretary

Member of the Council since 1994. Partner, Allens Arthur Robinson, specialising in energy and natural resources law. Deputy Chairman, Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Trustees

WWF Australia is a company limited by guarantee. Trustees are the members of the organisation and are appointed for a maximum of two five-year terms. They are selected because of their standing in the community and their commitment to the mission of WWF. New Trustees can be nominated by current Trustees, and are confirmed at the Annual General Meeting.

In 2002-03, WWF Australia's group of Trustees has grown to 62, bringing a diverse range of skills, influence and expertise to the governance of the organisation. We are grateful for their continued support for WWF Australia's work across the region.

Peter Thomas, Honorary Treasurer and Chair, Finance Committee

Member of the Council since 1995. Chartered Accountant, specialising in taxation. Previously Partner, KPMG. Board Member, Museum of Contemporary Art, The Kokoda Track Foundation, Pathways Foundation, Bluearth Foundation and Object Gallery.

Associate Professor Ronnie Harding, Executive Councillor

Member of the Council since 1996. Director, Institute of Environmental Studies, UNSW. Chair, NSW Council on Environmental Education. Member of the NSW State of the Environment Advisory Council. Trustee, the Australian Museum.

Dr Denis Saunders, Executive Councillor and Chair, Scientific Advisory Committee

Member of the Council since 2002. Previously Assistant Chief and Chief Research Scientist, CSIRO Division of Wildlife and Ecology.

At 30 June 2003, our Trustees* included:

Dr Alan Bartholomai
Dr Michael Brown
Mrs Kate Dowling
Mr J Stuart Foley
Dr Hugh Ford
Mr David Gibbs, AM
Mr Michael Hamson
Mrs Alison Hanson
Mrs Barbara Hardy, AO

Mrs Hazel Hawke
Dr Stephen Hopper
Mr John Kerin AM
Mr John McIntosh
Mr Patrick Medley
Dr David Mitchell
Mr Richard Morecroft
Mrs Marguerite Nanut
Mrs Christina Nicholas
Mrs Margareta Nicholas
Mrs Margery Pierce

Susan Young, Executive Councillor and Member, Finance Committee

Member of the Council since 2002. Director, Spencer Stuart Australia and Head of Financial Officers Practice. Previously President SITEL Asia Pacific.



WWF Australia Executive Council (L to R): Prof Ronnie Harding, Mr David Maloney, Mr Robert Purves, Mr Peter Thomas, Ms Susan Young, Dr Denis Saunders, Mr Brian Wills-Johnson Absent: Mr Anthony Nicholas and Mr Keith Walkerden

Mr John Porter
 Mr Ian Prince
 Dr Denis Saunders
 Prof Frank Talbot
 Dr Barry Wilson
 Prof Alistair Gilmour
 Dr Stephen Morton
 Mr David Maloney
 Mr Anthony Nicholas
 Mr Robert Purves
 Mr Peter Thomas

Mr Keith Walkerden
 Mr John Mooney
 Mr Brian Wills-Johnson
 Dr Jackie Venning
 Dr Brian Morley
 Assoc Prof Richard Pearson
 Mr David Free
 Assoc Prof Ronnie Harding
 Mr Bruce Lugton
 Dr Richard Hobbs
 Dr Christopher Dickman

Mr Fred Chaney
 Mr Martijn Wilder
 Ms Suzie Rogers
 Dr Simon Stone
 Dr Margaret Brock
 Mrs Marion Harper
 Dr Jim Davie
 Mr Brent Wallace
 Dr Warren Musgrave
 Ms Margaret Gibson
 Mr Ken Hickson

Mr Michael Berwick
 Dr Sandra Purves
 Mr Paul Harris
 Ms Susan Young
 The Hon Ros Kelly
 Mr Peter Joy
 Mr Edward Rowley
 Mr Michael McFarlane
 *WWF Australia respects the wishes of some Trustees not to be named in this report.



Teadstool in the Tarkine © Eddie Safarik

Scientific Advisory Committee

WWF Australia is privileged to have the support of its Scientific Advisory Committee, whose role is to assist in strategic planning, monitoring and evaluation of our conservation program.

Dr Denis Saunders, Chair (see previous page)

Dr Graeme Pearman

Chief Scientist, CSIRO. Elected to Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Science in 1988 and to Fellowship of the Royal Society of Victoria in 1997. Member and Chair of many Australian and international meteorological/global climate change committees, including President of the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society and Chairman of the National Committee for Sustainability (AAS).

Dr Gordon Friend

Manager, Terrestrial Biodiversity, Biodiversity and Natural Resources Division, Department of Sustainability and

Environment, Victoria. Degree from University of Melbourne in Zoology and Botany. Previously with the CSIRO in the Northern Territory and the Department of Conservation and Land Management in Western Australia.

Dr Ken Grange

Regional Manager of NIWA, New Zealand’s largest scientific organisation. Chairs the WWF NZ Scientific Advisory Council and is a member of the Executive of WWF NZ.

Dr Warren Musgrave

Previously Professor of Agricultural Economics, University of New England and Catchment Assessment Commissioner for NSW Government. Appointed to the Premier’s Department as Special Advisor Natural Resources. Now a private consultant and the Associate Commissioner of the Productivity Commission for its inquiry into the impacts of native vegetation and biodiversity regulations.

Mr Paul Sattler

Previously Acting Director of Conservation Strategy with the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage and Coordinator of the National Land and Water Resources Audit’s Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment. Currently Manager (Terrestrial Biodiversity) with the Murray Darling Basin Commission and private consultant.

Dr Colin Filer

Convenor of the Resource Management in Asia-Pacific Program at ANU’s Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies. Formerly Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of Papua New Guinea; and Head, Social and Environmental Studies Division, National Research Institute, PNG.