



Management response to *Human Rights and Conservation: A review of WWF-Australia policies relating to human rights and their implementation* by Dr Jennifer Zerk

WWF-Australia is grateful to Dr Jennifer Zerk for undertaking a review of WWF-Australia policies relating to human rights and their implementation. WWF-Australia is very gratified at her finding that WWF-Australia has a high degree of alignment in the objectives and approaches of existing Australian Government, NGO development sector and WWF International and network human rights related standards and initiatives. WWF-Australia accepts that its human rights ‘regulatory ecosystem’ is complex and that there are opportunities to simplify and strengthen current WWF-Australia policies and practices further, to enable it to better improve its approach to the human rights-related issues and challenges presented by its conservation work. WWF-Australia’s management response to Dr Zerk’s recommendations is summarised below.

Recommendation	WWF-Australia management response
Recommendation 1: Code of Ethical Conduct. Amend the Code of Ethical Conduct to more explicitly locate human rights in WWF-Australia organisational values and decision-making structure in accordance with Box 9 on page 24-25	WWF-Australia adopts the Recommendation and will commence implementation forthwith. WWF-Australia will endeavour to complete the work within four months
2: Structure of policies. Restructure the present “human rights suite” of policies as suggested in Box 10 on page 25-26	WWF-Australia adopts the Recommendation and will commence implementation forthwith
Recommendation 3: Complaints processes. To the extent permitted by WWF network level guidance and approaches, and in consultation with representatives of prospective user groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • streamline and consolidate complaints and feedback processes; • continue to investigate and invest in options for improving accessibility of such mechanisms; • develop an easily understandable and easily translatable guide for users of mechanisms 	WWF-Australia adopts the Recommendation and will commence implementation forthwith
Recommendation 4: Engagement with WWF ESSF system.	WWF-Australia adopts the Recommendation and will commence implementation forthwith
Recommendation 5: WWF-Australia PPMS. Review and refresh the WWF-Australia PPMS with a view to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting and encouraging greater systematisation of human rights risk assessment of WWF-Australia projects; • Ensuring rigorous managerial supervision of higher risk projects; • Providing more guidance to WWF-Australia staff; • Ensuring that the insights gathered as a result of the above processes are a source of continuous learning for WWF-Australia. 	WWF-Australia has commenced a review and refresh of the WWF-Australia PPMS. WWF-Australia adopts the Recommendation and will incorporate it into the existing process underway