



WWF

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA AS A LEADER ON BIODIVERSITY GAIN BY 2030

WWF-Australia's primary calls to action from the Australian Government at the 15th UN Biodiversity Conference to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.

October 2021



WWF-Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work and their continuing connection to their lands, waters, and culture. We pay our respects to Elders – past and present, and their emerging leaders.

WWF is Australia’s most reputable environmental organisation* and part of the world’s largest conservation network. WWF-Australia has been working to create a world where people live in harmony with nature since 1978.

WWF’s mission is to stop the degradation of the earth’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.

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*Charity Reprtrak 2019

Cover photography: Kalbarri National Park, Western Australia © Adobe / Christian B

This page: Annie the koala at Phillip Island Nature Parks Koala Conservation Centre. Annie was found, close to death, following the Mallecoota bushfires on New Year’s Eve. She underwent rehabilitation at Phillip Island Nature Parks to learn how to survive in the wild again before being released back to her Mallecoota habitat. © WWF-Australia

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INTRODUCTION

As the world's attention turns to the most important UN Biodiversity Conference this decade, the Australian Government has a significant opportunity to lead a global response toward a nature-positive world by 2030.

Australia's wildlife and wild places are on a precarious trajectory – devastating wildfires, record-breaking temperatures, and the highest rate of mammal extinction anywhere in the world. Each year, more species join our threatened species list than come off it, and Australia is one of 11 global deforestation hotspots – the only one in the developed world.

It's time to work together to restore what we have lost and strive for a nature-positive future.

It's not too late for us to secure a brighter future for Australia's biodiversity – specifically, to reverse the loss by 2030 – but strong and ambitious leadership has never been more critical. WWF-Australia has launched Regenerate Australia, our vision and program of action to ensure our environment, people and wildlife thrive. In the lead up to the substantive UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in early 2022, we need our Australian Government to take a stand for people and nature. It will take us all working together over the coming decades to recover what has been lost.

The UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) in Kunming, China, will be a significant moment as countries secure a Post-2020 Global Framework for Biodiversity and new targets for protecting biodiversity. Business is also expected to play a new and expanded role in implementing key outcomes from the negotiations.

WWF-Australia welcomes the Australian Government signing on to the Kunming Declaration in October 2021 as a symbol of commitment to reversing biodiversity loss. We now ask Australia to pursue negotiations for an ambitious and comprehensive Global Biodiversity Framework that, once adopted, will have impact.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In the lead up to phase two of COP15 in early 2022, WWF-Australia is specifically asking the Australian Government to:



Commit to protecting 30% of Australia's land and 30% of Australia's oceans by 2030.



Increase investment for effective management of Australia's Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs).



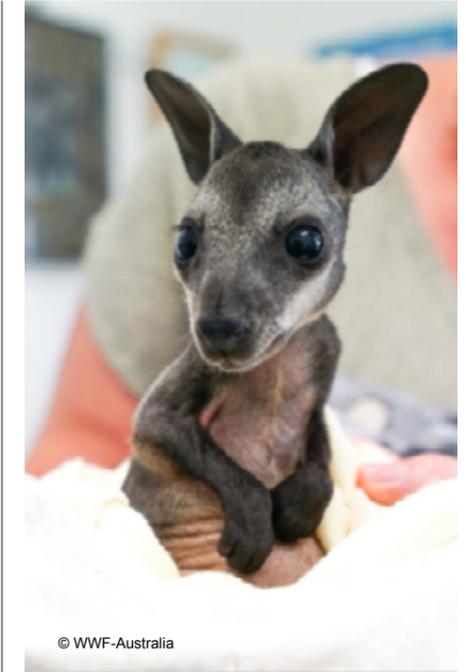
Increase investment for Indigenous ranger programs to provide effective management of Australia's protected areas.



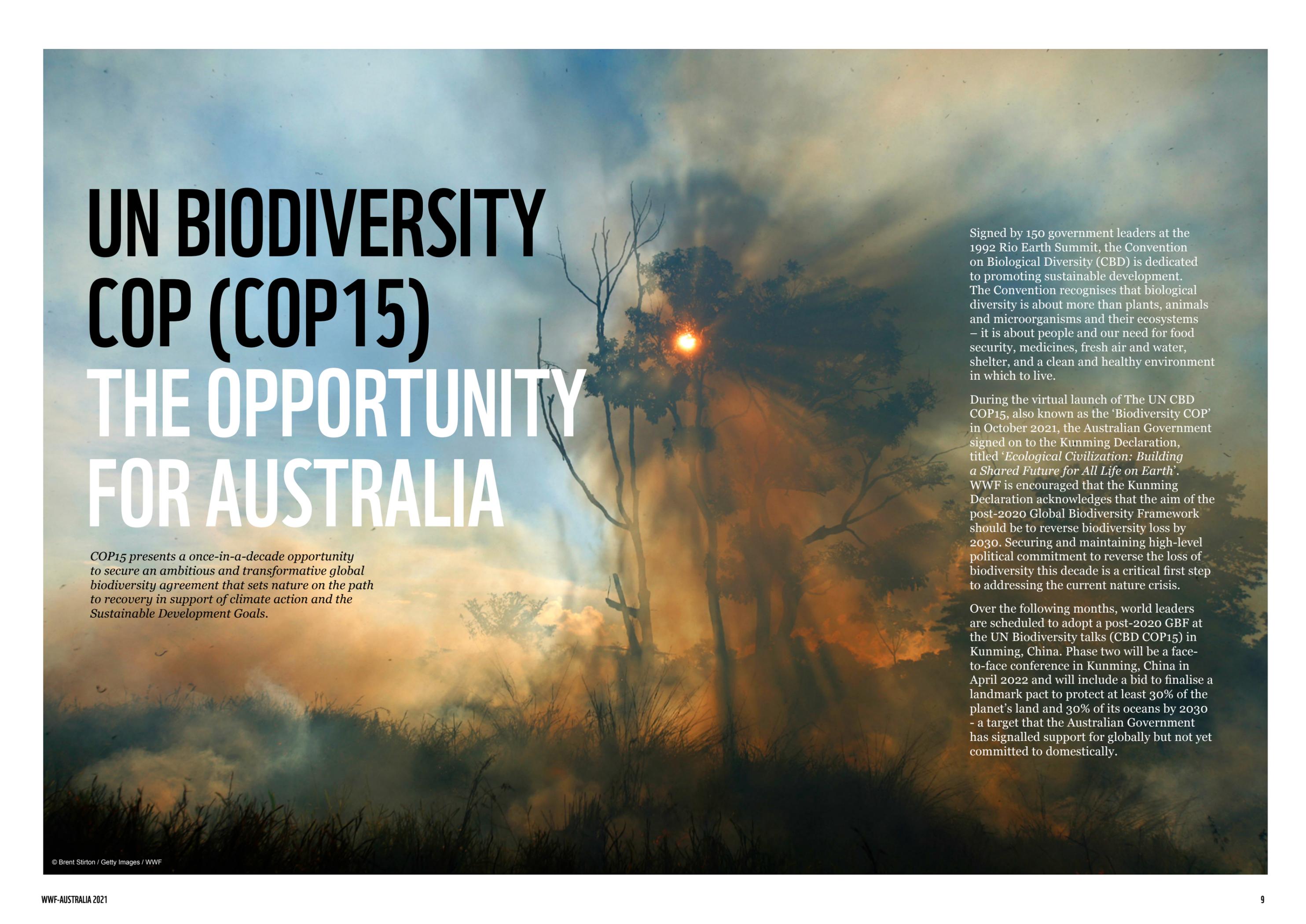
Commit to a national target to halt human-induced extinctions and increase the population abundance of native species.



Advocate for the establishment of a binding global treaty to eliminate plastic pollution.



Advocate for ambitious and measurable goals, targets and milestones within the Global Biodiversity Framework.



UN BIODIVERSITY COP (COP15) THE OPPORTUNITY FOR AUSTRALIA

COP15 presents a once-in-a-decade opportunity to secure an ambitious and transformative global biodiversity agreement that sets nature on the path to recovery in support of climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Signed by 150 government leaders at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is dedicated to promoting sustainable development. The Convention recognises that biological diversity is about more than plants, animals and microorganisms and their ecosystems – it is about people and our need for food security, medicines, fresh air and water, shelter, and a clean and healthy environment in which to live.

During the virtual launch of The UN CBD COP15, also known as the 'Biodiversity COP' in October 2021, the Australian Government signed on to the Kunming Declaration, titled '*Ecological Civilization: Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth*'. WWF is encouraged that the Kunming Declaration acknowledges that the aim of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework should be to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. Securing and maintaining high-level political commitment to reverse the loss of biodiversity this decade is a critical first step to addressing the current nature crisis.

Over the following months, world leaders are scheduled to adopt a post-2020 GBF at the UN Biodiversity talks (CBD COP15) in Kunming, China. Phase two will be a face-to-face conference in Kunming, China in April 2022 and will include a bid to finalise a landmark pact to protect at least 30% of the planet's land and 30% of its oceans by 2030 - a target that the Australian Government has signalled support for globally but not yet committed to domestically.

POLICY PRIORITY 1: COMMIT TO PROTECTING 30% OF AUSTRALIA'S LAND AND 30% OF AUSTRALIA'S OCEANS BY 2030.

These protected areas should be ecologically representative, well-connected, and effectively and equitably managed.



WWF-Australia supports the commitment to:

- Prioritise places of particular importance for biodiversity, ecosystem function, climate resilience, and nature's contributions to people, such as key biodiversity areas, critical habitats, and areas important for the provision of ecosystem services.
- Improve the level of protection within Australia's marine park network by increasing areas prohibiting extractive industries such as industrial-scale fishing, mining, and exploration by 2030.
- Areas traditionally and collectively governed by Indigenous Peoples are appropriately recognised, funded, and secured, and their right to Free Prior and Informed Consent is respected.
- Increase investment for effective management of Australia's Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) in line with Policy Priority 2.



Target 3 of the first draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework asks that “30% globally of land areas and of sea areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and its contributions to people, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.”

The Australian Government has signalled strong support for the goal to protect 30% of land and 30% of the oceans on a global scale. Federal Environment Minister Sussan Ley has stated “Australia is well placed to make a substantial contribution to a global target and will work with other nations to see it adopted as part of a Global Biodiversity Framework in 2022.”¹ However, Australia itself has only committed to protecting a combined 30% of Australia's land and ocean by 2030.

¹ Statement by The Hon Sussan Ley, MP, Minister for the Environment. Australia signs international biodiversity declaration, Australian Government, Canberra. Available for viewing at <https://minister.ave.gov.au/ley/media-releases/australia-signs-international-biodiversity-declaration>

This combined domestic target is not in line with international standards, including those set by the High Ambition Coalition, of which Australia is a signatory, and falls short of what the science is clearly stating what is needed.

Australia is a prosperous nation with the means to meet the full 30% target on land. Supporting an international target yet failing to commit to it domestically is unjust. It risks putting pressure on less wealthy nations while declining to do what is right at home.

WWF-Australia calls on the Australian Government to earn a place as a global leader on protected and conserved areas by committing to a disaggregated domestic 30x30 target in the lead up to COP15.

POLICY PRIORITY 1: COMMIT TO PROTECTING 30% OF AUSTRALIA'S LAND AND 30% OF AUSTRALIA'S OCEANS BY 2030.



AUSTRALIA CAN PROTECT 30% OF LAND BY 2030

Just over 19% of Australia's land is in the protected areas network currently (CAPAD 2020). Australia is well placed to expand its terrestrial protected area network to 30% of the country's land mass by 2030, in line with these international targets. This could be achieved through strategic and ecologically representative expansion of Australia's protected area system, including continuing to support the aspirations of traditional owners to establish new Indigenous Protected Areas.

AUSTRALIA SHOULD STRENGTHEN EXISTING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Additionally, 36.7% of Australia's oceans are Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) (CAPAD 2020) however, only 25% of MPAs are protected from commercial fishing. WWF-Australia also encourages the Australian Government to significantly increase the percentage of highly protected zones (those that exclude

commercial fishing) within its existing MPA network².

WWF appreciates that Australia exceeded the Aichi Target's goal of protecting 17% of land by 2020, however significant progress is required to address the other elements of the target, namely effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative, and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.

AUSTRALIA IS LAGGING BEHIND

The G7 2030 Nature Compact³ commits to new global targets to conserve or protect at least 30% of global land and at least 30% of the global ocean by 2030. In 2020, Prime Minister Johnson committed "to protect 30% of the UK's land by 2030", building on the UK's leadership of the Global Oceans Alliance, an international effort to protect 30% of the world's oceans. In October 2020, environment ministers of the 27 European Union member countries formally endorsed the EU Biodiversity Strategy, that at least 30% of the land and 30% of the sea should be protected in the EU. In January 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 14008, which included a commitment to conserve at least 30% of lands and 30% of oceans by 2030.



36.7%

OF AUSTRALIA'S
OCEANS ARE
MARINE PROTECTED
AREAS (MPAs)

BUT

25%

OF AUSTRALIA'S
MPAs ARE PROTECTED
FROM COMMERCIAL
FISHING

² In 2020 the World Conservation Congress provided guidance to identify industrial fishing incompatible with protected areas <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49194>

³ G7 2030 Nature Compact 13 June 2021, Available for download at <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/50363/g7-2030-nature-compact-pdf-120kb-4-pages-1.pdf>

POLICY PRIORITY 2: INCREASE INVESTMENT FOR INDIGENOUS RANGER PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF AUSTRALIA'S PROTECTED AREAS.



WWF-Australia positions that support this commitment:

- Increase the Indigenous Ranger Program to fund 2,000 full-time equivalent Indigenous ranger positions by 2022-23 with a long-term goal of 5,000 rangers by 2030.
- Commit AU\$5 million over three years to support the expansion and operation of a women rangers support network that provides leadership, mentoring programs, and training opportunities for women rangers across Australia.
- Commit funding of AU\$30 million over three years to support the implementation of a Healing Country program to assist urban Indigenous communities to deliver cultural and conservation outcomes in large population centres.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR IPAS AND OTHER PROTECTED AREAS

To protect 30% of land by 2030 as per the requirement of the first draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework (Target 3), the Australian Government will need to expand Indigenous Protected Areas (IPAs) that are effectively and equitably managed. The Australian Government Indigenous Ranger Program currently funds around 895 Indigenous ranger positions and provides significant social and community benefits in remote and isolated communities. However, government funding doesn't meet the demand from Traditional Owner groups, nor the level needed to protect our continent's vast land and sea country. There is an excellent opportunity for the Australian Government to significantly expand protected areas and the highly successful Indigenous Ranger Program, with a particular focus on women rangers. Each of these proposals is an extension of the existing programs and would be implemented through the National Agency for Indigenous Australians in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

WWF-Australia recommends broadening the distribution of the Indigenous Ranger Program with rangers located in protected areas facing the greatest environmental challenges such as the Great Barrier Reef, southwest Australia, the Murray-Darling Basin and areas of biodiversity significance still recovering from the 2019-20 bushfires. The expansion would also assist in increasing the representativeness of the

Indigenous Ranger Program and allow the program to target large urban and regional centres with the highest populations of Indigenous people, including Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane.

In many Indigenous communities, women have distinct roles and responsibilities in caring for Country, with some of the most important areas of biodiversity and particular Indigenous land management techniques being considered women's business. Despite this important role, it is estimated that women represent only 26% of Indigenous rangers in Australia and face numerous obstacles to participation and professional advancement. Increased investments should, therefore, include targeted measures to promote and support the participation and leadership of Indigenous women in caring for Country.

For over a decade, WWF-Australia has partnered with Indigenous ranger groups to co-design and deliver conservation and sustainable land and sea management outcomes. We have seen first-hand the significant environmental, social and economic benefits of properly resourced, Indigenous-led traditional management approaches and have been encouraged by the increased interest in traditional land management practices, particularly during and in the immediate aftermath of the 2019-20 bushfires. While there is significant conservation need, and a desire from Indigenous communities to participate, there are not currently enough ranger positions available to meet this demand.

POLICY PRIORITY 3: COMMIT TO A NATIONAL TARGET TO HALT HUMAN-INDUCED EXTINCTIONS FROM 2021 ONWARDS.



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WWF-Australia positions that support this commitment:

- Human-induced species extinctions are halted from 2021 onwards, the overall risk of species extinctions is reduced by 2030 and is zero by 2050, and the population abundance of native species is increased on average by 2030.⁴
- Strengthen Australia's national nature laws and commit to a genuinely independent and appropriately resourced federal Environmental Protection Authority in line with the findings of the 2020 Independent Review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) 1999.
- Uplist the east coast koala population to Endangered under the EPBC Act and elevate the conservation of koalas and their habitat to a national policy priority.

⁴ Williams, et al. 2020. A robust goal is needed for species in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Conservation Letters, DOI: 10.1111/conl.12778



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HALT HUMAN-INDUCED EXTINCTIONS FROM 2021 ONWARDS

Goal A of the first draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework suggests that by 2030 the rate of extinctions should have been “reduced at least tenfold, and the risk of species extinctions across all taxonomic and functional groups is halved”. This is problematic because it is accepting some human-induced extinctions. WWF-Australia believes that the Australian Government has no excuse for lack of ambition in this space – as a wealthy nation with science-based solutions at hand and a sordid species extinction history to take a lesson from, the government should settle for nothing less than to halt human-induced extinctions from 2020.

STRENGTHEN AUSTRALIA'S NATURE LAWS TO PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK THAT PROTECTS SPECIES

Right now, Australia's nature laws are failing to protect species from human-induced extinction. As the world's attention turns to ways we can protect biodiversity at COP15, the Australian Government has an opportunity to fix our nature laws and set us on the right path to halt human-induced extinction by 2021.

Right now, the future of Australia's nature laws is uncertain. The EPBC Act has undergone

a once-in-10-year independent review by Professor Graeme Samuel, who found that “Australia's natural environment and iconic places are in an overall state of decline and are under increasing threat. The environment is not sufficiently resilient to withstand current, emerging or future threats, including climate change. The environmental trajectory is currently unsustainable.” and that “The EPBC Act is outdated and requires fundamental reform. It does not enable the Commonwealth to effectively fulfil its environmental management responsibilities to protect nationally important matters.” Professor Samuel made 38 independent recommendations to fix loopholes and failures that have allowed the destruction of threatened species habitat.

However, the federal government's response to the Independent Review remains contentious. Many, including WWF-Australia, are critical of the government's proposed reforms focused on devolving the Commonwealth's responsibilities for Australia's environment to the states and territories without the safeguards of robust National Environmental Standards and an independent regulator recommended by the Samuel Review. We face a further decade of watered-down laws that will not sufficiently protect our fragile and unique wildlife and wild places.

POLICY PRIORITY 3: COMMIT TO A NATIONAL TARGET TO HALT HUMAN-INDUCED EXTINCTIONS FROM 2021 ONWARDS.



WWF-Australia calls on the Australian Government to not proceed with its proposed reforms until it has:

- Publicly responded to all 38 recommendations
- Adopted the National Environmental Standards recommended by Professor Samuel as the starting point
- Established an independent statutory National Environmental Commissioner that is structurally independent of the department that reports to Parliament; and
- Created a truly independent Office of Compliance and Enforcement to address the loopholes and failures that have allowed the destruction of threatened species habitat.

Only with an independent compliance and enforcement body can the government provide the structural independence needed to build the community confidence and trust in the Act and the associated regulatory system.

SHOWCASE COMMITMENT TO ONGOING SPECIES PROTECTION

The koala is a global icon that says ‘Australia’ to billions of people. They are a major tourism drawcard and a flagship for hundreds of species of flora and fauna. They are the ‘face’ of deforestation of Australia’s east coast eucalypt forests, much the same as orang-utans are the face of rainforest and logging impacts in Borneo and Sumatra.

WWF-Australia urges the Australian Government to adopt a target to double the population of koalas by 2050 in Queensland, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and eastern Victoria.

The fate of koalas depends upon ending large-scale deforestation and industrial native timber harvesting and creating a safe climate consistent with maintaining Earth’s temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C under the Paris Agreement. It also involves supporting local communities, wildlife carers and vets to reduce the impacts of dog attacks, vehicle collisions and the Chlamydia infection.

The koala population in Queensland and New South Wales is projected to become extinct before 2050.^{5,6} As part of Australia’s COP15 commitments, the Australian Government should demonstrate its commitment to halting the extinction of species by uplisting the east coast koala population to Endangered under the EPBC Act. Koala consultancy Biolink modelled an average 50% decline in koala abundance between 2000 and 2020 in Queensland and NSW.⁷ This estimate underpinned the WWF/IFAW/HSI Endangered nomination submitted in March 2020. In July 2021, the federal Threatened Species Scientific Committee recommended the Federal Environment Minister uplist east coast koalas to Endangered under the EPBC Act.⁸ The Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) modelling projected a decline of 50% over three generations and concluded that the koala population was “Eligible under Criterion 1 A2c, A4c for listing as Endangered”.

⁵ WWF-Australia Briefing, *Koalas face extinction in eastern Australia, a deforestation hotspot*, November 2019. Available for download at <https://www.wwf.org.au/ArticleDocuments/351/Briefing%20-%20koala%20extinction%20risk%20in%20Eastern%20Australia%20WWF-Aus%20Nov%202019.pdf.aspx#:~:text=Page%201-1.,deforestation%20and%20other%20threats%20continue.&text=Projections%20based%20on%20this%20data,will%20be%20extinct%20by%202050>

⁶ NSW Legislative Council, June 2020. *Koala populations and habitat in New South Wales*, Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment, Sydney, N.S.W., available for viewing at <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2536>

⁷ See Biolink ecological consultants, 2019, *Reviewing the Conservation Status of Koalas across NSW & Qld*, available at <https://www.biolink.com.au/projects/reviewing-conservation-status-koalas-across-nsw-qld>. Koala conservation assessments for NSW and Qld are available under ‘Publications’.

⁸ DAWE, 2021. Consultation on Species Listing Eligibility and Conservation Actions *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala). Report by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee.

On its own, listing koalas as Endangered will not save the species from becoming extinct by 2050. More koala habitat was bulldozed in the years after koalas were listed as Vulnerable under the EPBC Act than in the preceding years.⁹ Uplisting to Endangered must be accompanied by stronger legal protections for koala habitat, rigorous environmental assessment, stronger compliance enforcement and highly accurate vegetation mapping and detection of deforestation.

The conservation of koalas and their habitat should be elevated to be a national policy priority for federal governments. This would involve seeking bipartisan political support and new ambitious policy commitments similar to initiatives led by federal governments over the past half-century to save the Great Barrier Reef, restore the Murray-Darling Basin, and cessation of rainforest logging.

The Australian Environment Minister should commence the process for upgrading the status of koalas in NSW, Qld and the ACT from Vulnerable to Endangered to increase the national government’s capacity to protect koala habitat.

⁹ WWF, 2019. *Destruction of Koala habitat increased after listing as Vulnerable in 2012*. Report prepared by WWF-Australia, Sydney. Available at [Destruction of koala habitat increased after Vulnerable listing - WWF-Australia](https://www.wwf.org.au/ArticleDocuments/351/Briefing%20-%20koala%20extinction%20risk%20in%20Eastern%20Australia%20WWF-Aus%20Nov%202019.pdf.aspx#:~:text=Page%201-1.,deforestation%20and%20other%20threats%20continue.&text=Projections%20based%20on%20this%20data,will%20be%20extinct%20by%202050)

POLICY PRIORITY 4: ADVOCATE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BINDING GLOBAL TREATY TO ELIMINATE PLASTIC POLLUTION.



WWF-Australia positions that support this commitment:

- Co-sponsor the *Draft resolution on an internationally legally binding instrument on plastic pollution*, proposed by Peru and Rwanda that will be considered for adoption at UNEA-5.2 (United Nations Environment Assembly) in Nairobi in February 2022.
- Set ambitious and mandatory recycling targets for plastic packaging and beverage containers, with levels of ambition similar to EU recycling targets.
- Broaden the list of single-use plastics agreed by environment ministers for industry to phase out nationally by 2025, consistent with the list of unnecessary and problematic single-use plastics being phased out across the EU.

Target 7 of the first draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework asks for a commitment to “Reduce pollution from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health, including by reducing nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, and pesticides by at least two-thirds and eliminating the discharge of plastic waste”.



AUSTRALIA'S LEADERSHIP TO DATE

Earlier in 2021, Australia's first ever National Plastics Plan signalled support for a global agreement to address marine plastic pollution. The government has furthered this work by endorsing the global ministerial statement and the Pacific Regional Declaration on the Prevention of Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution and its Impacts. It is also consulting with domestic stakeholders on the scope and content of the proposed treaty.

Australia explicitly supports a binding global agreement and the long-term aim of eliminating plastic waste discharge into the environment, consistent with previous UNEA resolutions, Target 7 of the draft GBF, and Australia's domestic waste reduction and plastic pollution policy. Australia is one of around 140 countries that support a global agreement on plastic pollution, which constitutes a significant majority of UN member states (nearly 75%).

WWF-Australia welcomes the government's progress to date, including domestic and regional leadership on this matter. Australia should now take the next logical step towards a treaty by joining more than 40 UN member states that have already co-sponsored the draft resolution proposed by Peru and Rwanda, which would formally start the process of developing a treaty and represent a significant step forward concerning Target 7 of the GBF. The government should continue to work with like-minded countries to build support for a comprehensive and ambitious treaty, leading up to UNEA-5.2 and throughout any subsequent negotiations.

POLICY PRIORITY 5: ADVOCATE FOR AMBITIOUS AND MEASURABLE GOALS, TARGETS AND MILESTONES WITHIN THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK.



WWF has welcomed the publication of the first draft of the framework as a major step towards securing a crucial global biodiversity agreement. The draft text contains many elements necessary to a successful agreement that will reverse nature loss by 2030.

WWF specifically welcomes the inclusion of:

- o Area based conservation and restoration targets.
- o Recognition that ecosystem-based approaches can contribute to climate change mitigation.
- o Language in some targets reflecting a rights-based approach. And attention for customary sustainable use and Indigenous Traditional Knowledge.
- o Commitments to reduce pesticides use and nutrients run-off.

However, the current draft framework falls short of what is necessary to secure a nature-positive world this decade.

There is concern that insufficient ambition on one element may drag down or stall the ambition of the entire package. In the lead up to the second phase of COP15, the Australian

Government should be working with the CBD to advocate for an increase in ambition and urgency contained in the framework.

Specifically, the Australian Government should be calling for the following key proposals to improve the text:

- **A clear and measurable global goal or mission for nature (similar to the one we have for climate), committing governments to be nature-positive by 2030.** The current mission is insufficiently ambitious and not measurable.
- **Include a milestone to halve the footprint of production and consumption by 2030 and targets covering all drivers, including food systems, diets and infrastructure.** These drivers are absent from the current draft and need to be addressed to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.
- **Stronger actions to address nature's contribution to societal challenges:**
 1. Inclusion of the One Health approach and actions to lower the risk of future pandemics. Drivers of zoonotic spillovers are also significant drivers of biodiversity loss.
 2. Inclusion of equitable and rights-based Nature-based Solutions (NbS) to complement the significant contribution of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change mitigation.

- **The inclusion of an effective implementation mechanism.** This should be fully integrated within the framework and in the text on responsibility and transparency to hold countries to account, and that allows for a ratcheting of actions over time.
- **More clarity and transparency needed on estimates of figures for harmful subsidies.** The numbers presented for a decrease in harmful subsidies are likely underestimated and do not represent all harmful subsidies. The estimates do not include private financial flows in the finance sector that are harmful to biodiversity and based on data that is still fragmentary.
- **A rights-based approach (RBA) more consistently integrated across the document.** Including how this will be implemented, monitored and reported needs to be more consistently integrated across the document. For example, a target of 30% of land and sea protection must be conditional to an approach that secures and protects the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to their lands and waters.
- **Increased ambition and comprehensiveness of the Global Biodiversity Framework.** Reflected in the inadequate level of ambition in Target 4 on species extinction (reduced at least tenfold) and in insufficient coverage of marine and coastal biodiversity, including fisheries, which is a key driver of biodiversity loss.

CONTACT

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ACRONYMS

COP – Conference of the Parties

GBF – Global Biodiversity Framework

CAPAD 2020 – Collaborative Australian Protected Areas Database

MPAs – Marine Protected Areas

IPAs - Indigenous Protected Areas

EPBC – Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act

WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature

IFAW – International Fund for Animal Welfare

HSI – Humane Society International

UNEA – United Nations Environment Assembly

RBA - Rights-based Approach

NbS – Nature-based Solutions

UN – United Nations

EU – European Union

G7 – The Group of Seven

TSSC – Threatened Species Scientific Committee



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THE CRITICAL DECISIONS
WE MAKE TODAY WILL
SHAPE AUSTRALIA'S
TOMORROW.



Working to sustain the natural world for the benefit of people and wildlife.

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