

IUCN SSC Australasian Marsupial and Monotreme Specialist Group

2019 Report



Diana Fisher



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Co-Chairs

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Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
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⁽³⁾ School of Zoology, University of Tasmania,
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Number of members

37

Social networks

Twitter:
@OzMMSSG

Mission statement

To enhance the long-term conservation outlook for the marsupials and monotremes of Australia, Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Major focal areas in the 2017–20 period will be on increasing conservation efforts for marsupials and monotremes in Papua New Guinea and Indonesia; increasing the representation of stakeholders in those countries; completing conservation status assessments for the minority of species not covered by recent assessments; and seeking to catalyse research on Data Deficient species. Following the devastating wildfires in eastern and southern Australia in 2019–20, the group will also help progress recovery of fire-affected species and contribute to any consequent re-assessment of conservation status.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Red List: (1) complete conservation status assessment for all taxa not assessed within last 10 years; (2) contribute to conservation status re-assessment for species significantly affected by the 2019–20 Australian wildfires.

Network

Membership: (1) rebuild membership, especially to include more experts and other stakeholders for species from Papua New Guinea and Indonesia; (2) hold first face-to-face meeting with members and other interested individuals.

Synergy: review and re-establish internal structure.

Communicate

Communication: enhance communication within and beyond SSC.

Activities and results 2019

Assess

Red List

i. Substantial progress has been achieved completing conservation status assessments; accounts still to do are mostly complex or data poor. Nineteen species had Red List accounts published in 2019, bringing to more than 90% the number of species in the group (ca. 270) with accounts published in the last 5 years. The species without recent accounts are mostly recently described, have taxonomic challenges, or are data poor. (KSR #1)

Network

Membership

i. Membership increased substantially from 2019 to 2020. There are now 37 active members, six are from Papua New Guinea/Indonesia.

Synergy

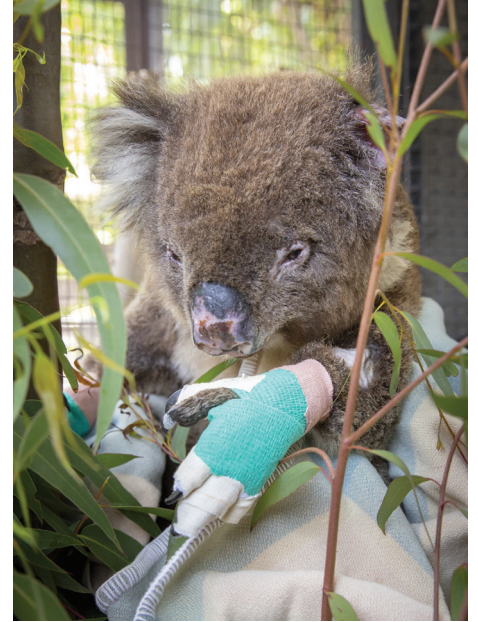
i. The first ever meeting of the AMMSG was held at the Australian Mammal Society meeting in July 2019, with 50+ attendees.

Communicate

Communication

i. A volunteer has been recruited and is committed to building the website. Our Twitter account is established. (KSR #28)

Much of the response to the 2019-20 Australian wildfires focused on rescue of injured koalas and their heightened imperilment, and heroic effort saved many koalas as here. But the fires also caused even more substantial losses for many less charismatic species
 Photos: Melbourne Zoo, Zoos Victoria



Acknowledgements

Many experts contributed to Red List assessments in 2019.

Summary of activities 2019

Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 3/5

Assess 1 |

Network 2 ||

Communicate 1 |

Main KSRs addressed: 1, 28

Resolutions addressed: WCC-2016-Res-016

KSR: Key Species Result



A singed *Antechinus agilis* captured in a burnt landscape near Canberra, Australia
 Photo: Diana Fisher