

patient of the week



Betty Boo the Koala

Age: 18 months

Sex: Female **Weight:** 3.41kgs

Found: In the middle of a highway by a truck driver near Marlborough, QLD. It was suspected that she had been caught in a nearby bushfire.

Transported to: By the truck driver to a vet clinic. The clinic then had her transferred to AZWH by another amazing member of the public that made the seven hour trip down!

Veterinary Assessment: Betty Boo was seen by Dr Bec who found a very nervous little girl with singed fur and a burnt nose. After she was anaesthetised for examination, Dr Bec could also see that the pads of her feet were partly burnt and she was missing some claws.

Treatment: Dr Bec cleaned the burns thoroughly with saline solution and applied a sterile gauze bandage to the affected paws. Betty Boo was given strong pain relief, antibiotics to fight against infection and fluids.

Future: The little koala has since been recovering in the mammals ICU. She is presently having antibacterial ointment applied to her burns on a daily basis and needs some assistance with eating due to the injuries on her paws. When she has completely healed Betty Boo will be transferred back to the Marlborough region and placed in bushland, unaffected by fire and safely away from other risks.

AZWH Fact: Wildlife can become seriously injured or displaced during bushfires. If you come across a distressed animal call the wildlife emergency hotline on 1300369652.

Call the Australia Zoo Wildlife Hospital on 1300 369 652 for all wildlife emergencies.

