

Support wildlife translocations across Australia

Thank you for supporting Australian Wildlife Conservancy's (AWC) wildlife translocation program. AWC is a leader in threatened mammal translocations, employing the most extensive program in Australia. A robust, science-based approach underpins reintroduction of threatened or regionally extinct mammals into large, feral-free safe havens, and the exclusion of feral predators to ensure the longevity of threatened species and prevent extinction. Managing ten feral predator-free sanctuaries across Australia, AWC has the largest establishment of safe havens, in which 16 mammal species have been reintroduced to date. This complex and successful translocation program is essential in preserving and boosting populations of our most threatened species such as the Bilby, Numbat and Mala.

Landmark Translocations

In August 2023, students from Nyirripi School joined Warlpiri Rangers and AWC ecologists at Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary on Ngalia-Warlpiri and Luritja Country to add a little gold to Australia's Red Centre. A gathering of students, rangers and ecologists worked together to perform a historic reintroduction of 40 locally-extinct Golden Bandicoots. As a special surprise, the students were asked to give five of the new residents names to welcome them to Country. The names given to the lucky five were Ruby, Jess, Max, Looky, and Goldie, who along with the remaining group, will be monitored for movement and health in the coming months.

November marked another exciting translocation, as 11 vulnerable marsupials (Western Quoll) were carefully flown from Taronga Zoo in NSW, to Mt Gibson, WA. Prior to reintroduction, the Western Quoll had been locally extinct at Mt Gibson Wildlife Sanctuary, but Senior Wildlife Ecologist Georgina Anderson is thrilled to see the species settled in, and breeding successfully.

"Through regular monitoring, we can see the quolls are doing well at the sanctuary and encountering the first pouch young is a positive sign that they have adjusted to the new environment."





Western Quoll release. Brad Leue/AWC.

International Conservation Translocation Conference

The third International Conservation Translocation Conference was held across 13-15 November in Fremantle WA. As a leader in translocations across Australia AWC's work featured prominently at the event.

Several AWC scientists spoke at the conference, including ecologists from the south-west region and senior members of the national science team. Senior Ecologist Dr Jenny Pierson presented about AWC's work to manage the genetics of reintroduced mammal populations across multiple. Wildlife Ecologist Dr Bryony Palmer also chaired two sessions at the conference, one on assisted colonisation to increase species' resilience to climate change and another on the effect of translocation on ecological communities.

Senior Field Ecologist Georgie Anderson, who leads AWC's science program at Mt Gibson Wildlife Sanctuary, spoke about habitat suitability analyses for reintroductions. And Dr Jennifer Anson, who heads up AWC's national program of wildlife reintroductions, provided an overview of how the organisation's translocation program has evolved over three decades, with improving outcomes for conservation.

Thank you for supporting this project – your contribution to translocations across Australia is essential in ensuring the continued success of Australia's most extensive wildlife translocation program.

