



IMAGE: GEORGINA STEYTLER



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**
AUSTRALIA

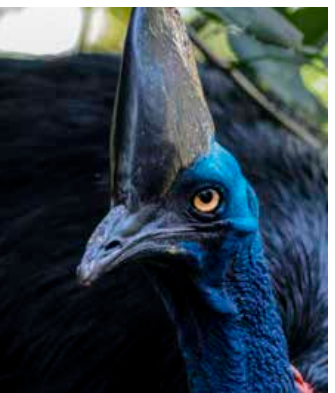
ANNUAL REPORT

2023-24

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**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**
AUSTRALIA



This publication uses 100% Recycled post consumer waste, FSC Mix certified and an Elemental Chlorine Free manufacturing process.



IMAGE: COURTESY OF ROBERT AND SARAH CASS

Acknowledgement of country

Humane Society International (HSI) Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waters of Australia and gives recognition and respect to them as the oldest living culture in the world. We recognise and respect the languages, cultural beliefs and customs that define their continuing relationships and responsibilities to land and waters. We pay our respects and honour Elders past and present.

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IMAGE: HSI/L.DECICCA

“Our supporters helping to ensure the rescue of tigers from a hell-hole tiger farm to the beautiful Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand was one of the highlights of my life.”

CEO Erica Martin

Message from Chair of the Board and CEO

Each year we bring you this report on our work delivering positive impacts for animals and nature, which is only possible thanks to the generosity of our donors.

Every one of you who has continued to give generously, despite continuing challenging economic times, both humbles and inspires us.

This year we were proud to contribute to two exceptional victories for animals: legislation to end live sheep export by sea in Australia; and a ban on the dog meat trade in South Korea.

Our efforts also helped to secure an increase in international protection for the grey nurse shark through the Convention on Migratory Species and the abolishment of the archaic bounty paid for dingo scalps in Victoria.

These long and hard campaigns are only possible with the steadfast backing of HSI Australia supporters—thank you.

You also helped us support a massive tiger rescue in Thailand, giving animals who had only ever known a concrete cell the chance to feel grass under their feet and the joy of swimming in a water hole.

Whether it is securing safe habitat for koalas here in Australia or providing sanctuary for working elephants in India and Thailand, you always have our backs.

This year we have also been taking steps to solidify our relationship with the global office of Humane Society International.

As the organisation looks towards refreshing its global brand next year, we needed to determine how best to continue our journey together.

The core of all our decision-making on this issue is how we best ensure that we increase the impact we can have for animals here at home and around the world.

We look forward to bringing you good news on the benefits to our campaigns and programs resulting from this change.

Julianne Petersen
Chair of the Board

Erica Martin
Chief Executive Officer

Thank you once again for standing with us for animals this year. In these pages you will read about some of the animals you have saved and the battles we continue to fight in the halls of parliament to ensure that animals and nature have the protection they deserve.

OUR STRATEGY

Our strategic plan recognises that animals are the very heart of all we do and that maximising our impact for animals must always be the bedrock of our work. We review our campaign and program strategies annually and measure progress in achieving our goals. This helps to ensure we are on track and that we can adjust our strategy and/or our activity plans as needed to suit changing circumstances. We continuously assess our fundraising strategy and work to ensure that our donors are appreciated and understand they are the driving force behind our impact for animals. We pay close attention to our expenses to maximise the impact of every dollar raised. This report documents some of the advancements we achieved in FY24.

1 Impact
To grow our influence and maximise our impact for conservation and animal welfare.

2 Internal Process
To ensure compliance and improve our process efficiency and effectiveness.

3 Learning and Growth
To cultivate understanding and knowledge sharing with supporters and staff.

4 Financial
To build financial momentum and reserves to have impact today and into the future.



FY24 IMPACT SNAPSHOTS

We rely on our supporters to raise their voices and ensure that policy makers know the public wants to see action on animal welfare and conservation issues. We are constantly staying on top of the latest developments in our campaigns, so that we can call on our audience to take action in a timely, effective way.

Taking Action

14,968 INDIVIDUAL **SUPPORTERS** spoke out for animals and the environment by **TAKING ACTION 27,790** TIMES



4,066 Donors

financially supported **ANIMAL WELFARE** and conservation programs.

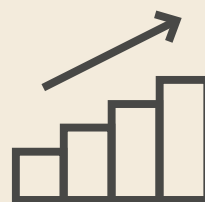
New Supporters

3,098 NEW **SUPPORTERS** chose to protect and speak out for animals.

Growing Followers

FY24 has seen a substantial increase of our **FOLLOWERS** on **FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM**

35.8% GROWTH



OUR OUTREACH

HSI Australia continues to build our strong reputation as thought leaders in our campaign areas. This has led to many interview and comment requests by journalists and seen significant coverage across Australia and internationally. Throughout 2023–24, HSI Australia spoke out on a wide range of topics covering Australian wildlife to animals in industry, and from marine wildlife to nature.

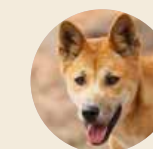
Most successful topic areas



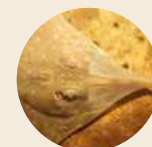
Shark nets



Commercial whaling



Dingoes



Maugean skate



Nature laws



Live sheep exports



Dog meat trade



Critically Endangered Species



Biodiversity

Media coverage

HSI Australia received extensive coverage across online, radio, television and print, including with the following media outlets:

- ABC
- Guardian
- Yahoo
- Fairfax Media
- News.com
- SBS
- Numerous rural press outlets

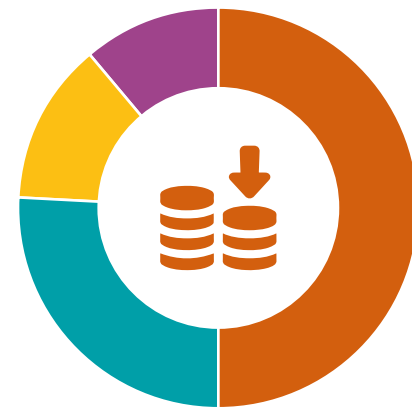


INVESTING IN POSITIVE CHANGE FOR ANIMALS

REVENUE

| | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------------------|
| \$1,691,553 | 50% | Donations |
| \$888,057 | 26% | Bequests |
| \$452,238 | 13% | Grants |
| \$358,905 | 11% | Interest and other Income |

Total revenue: \$3,390,753



EXPENDITURE

| | | |
|-------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| \$1,563,946 | 54% | Australian Campaigns and Projects |
| \$395,881 | 14% | International Projects |
| \$543,960 | 19% | Fundraising |
| \$390,201 | 13% | Management and Administration |

Total expenditure: \$2,893,988



GEOGRAPHICAL SPENDING

\$1,563,946
spent to protect
animals in **AUSTRALIA**

\$395,881
spent to protect animals
INTERNATIONALLY



THANK YOU!

Because of the wonderful generosity of our donors, HSI Australia's **FY24 surplus was \$497,000**. This will allow us to invest in even **greater impact for animals in campaigns and program expenditure in future years**.

We extend our sincere thanks to all our supporters who have donated this past financial year, and to those who have taken action, shared our messages, and stood up for animals everywhere.





Campaigns and Programs



AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE

HSI Australia is a leader in protecting wildlife and the places they call home. We are tireless advocates for the protection of iconic species as well as lesser known and sometimes maligned species.



Guardian animals like donkeys help farmers protect their animals without killing dingoes.

Dingoes not dogs

Dingoes are a native animal of high conservation priority due to their ecological, cultural and evolutionary identity. Yet dingoes are highly persecuted across the Australian mainland. Dingoes are persecuted due to conflicts with livestock graziers. One way to justify the extermination of dingoes is that they are termed 'wild dogs' and 'pest'.

Awareness is now growing that 'wild dogs' are a myth with genetic evidence showing that the animals so widely persecuted are in fact dingoes. Stable family groups of dingoes do not breed with domesticated dogs. This year our advocacy efforts to highlight this new scientific evidence, coupled with predator smart farming techniques, helped persuade the Victorian government to abolish their antiquated bounty program as well as stop the killing of dingoes in the North-West of the state to protect an especially threatened dingo population.

We will continue to work to demonstrate the benefits of *Predator Smart Farming*, especially the use of guardian animals to protect cattle and sheep, to show landholders and governments that there is a viable alternative to killing.

Nature in waiting

The Albanese Government was elected with a promise of wholesale reform to our national nature laws. They have since wound back their ambitions and in May tabled legislation to set up new environment agencies without any new standards for better decision making. The scaled back legislation has serious shortcomings so HSI Australia and colleagues from the *Places You Love Alliance* are supporting the Senate to seek amendments. We will continue to pressure the Albanese Government to deliver the full reforms that Australia so badly needs.





Keeping flying-foxes cool

In response to the increasing risk of heat stress events in flying-fox colonies in South East Queensland, HSI Australia provided funding for the installation of modular sprinkler systems at key colony sites around Ipswich.

These sprinklers, developed by grant recipient Sue Morris, are portable five-meter-high modular units that attach to standard garden hoses and are able to be dismantled for easy transport around flying-fox camps.

The sprinklers are strategically placed in trees occupied by vulnerable cohorts, such as mothers with babies, helping to cool and rehydrate the bats, especially during extreme heat events.

First tested five years ago at the Queens Park Nature Centre, they have proven effective at reducing flying-fox mortality. Recent deployments in local camps have provided urgent heat relief for animals also facing food shortages.

This initiative, made possible through the partnership between HSI Australia and Sue Morris, demonstrates an innovative and cost-effective method to safeguard the welfare of flying-fox populations in a changing climate.

Protecting geckoes from smuggling

HSI Australia has been helping to protect our incredible reptile fauna from cruel and illegal wildlife smuggling.

Working with the University of Queensland, HSI Australia's scientific nominations have

secured increased legal protections for four gecko species: Mcllwraith leaf-tailed gecko, Arcadia velvet gecko, Cape Melville leaf-tailed gecko, and Pinnacles leaf-tailed gecko (see images below, clockwise from top left).

This means hefty penalties can be given out for anyone caught poaching or trafficking the animals.



IMAGES: CONRAD HOSKIN (TOP LEFT, BOTTOM RIGHT), STEPHEN ZOZAYA (TOP RIGHT, BOTTOM LEFT)



WILDLIFE LAND TRUST

Our Wildlife Land Trust (WLT) network continues to expand into more regions of the country each year. Together, participating landholders support native species and protect their habitats. Each sanctuary provides a haven for native species such as mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and invertebrates.

Australia is home to a remarkable array of wildlife and incredible biodiversity, yet only a small portion of the country's land is designated as protected.

With an unfortunate title as the global leader in mammal extinctions, Australia needs more private land dedicated for conservation to ensure the future survival of our magnificent biodiversity.

Since 2007 our private land network *The Wildlife Land Trust* has provided landholders with the opportunity to protect wildlife by nominating their land as a wildlife sanctuary.

With more than 60 per cent of Australia being privately-owned, landholders can play a significant role in maintaining the biodiversity of this country. The WLT supports a vast range of landholders, from wildlife carers, eco-accommodation providers, to regular landholders, who each

share a desire to take conservation action through preserving their land. Through on-the-ground restoration, regeneration and conservation, landholders can help maintain their local biodiversity and contribute to broader ecosystems. Our network of private sanctuaries provides a refuge for wildlife across vast ecosystems such as woodlands, rainforests, grasslands, heathland and alpine regions.

Visit www.wildlifelandtrust.org.au to learn more.

This year we welcomed 53 new members to the Wildlife Land Trust, spanning 1,587 hectares. Our network now spans 927 wildlife-friendly sanctuaries across over 86,700 hectares.



| State/Territory | Sanctuaries | Area (ha) |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| QLD | 268 | 39,689 |
| NSW | 411 | 31,463 |
| VIC | 170 | 2,724 |
| WA | 55 | 5,384 |
| TAS | 47 | 3,432 |
| SA | 52 | 3,428 |
| NT | 5 | 631 |
| TOTAL | 927 | 86,750 |



Urliup Wildlife Sanctuary, near Mt Warning, NSW.

IMAGE: COURTESY OF RON AND SANDRA CLARK



Clockwise from left: feathertail glider, southern cassowary, double-eyed fig parrot, agile wallaby.

Wallaby Wetlands

The revegetation of *Wallaby Wetlands*, our 75-hectare former cane farm in Far North Queensland, was unfortunately delayed this year due to issues faced by another property that was part of the collective *Land Restoration Fund* resources that *Wallaby Wetlands* was due to receive.

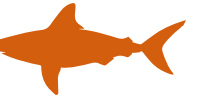
Maintenance of the property has been ongoing and seedling preparation is full steam ahead while our restoration partners, CO2 Australia, await a decision from the Fund on a fresh application submitted that is solely focused on *Wallaby Wetlands*.

We anticipate imminent good news and that plantings will commence early in the new year, with rapid Wet Tropics growth to deliver much-needed habitat in this incredibly biodiverse area that is home to feathertail gliders, southern cassowaries, striped possums, pythons, frogs, and so much more.

The acquisition of *Wallaby Wetlands* was made possible by a generous philanthropic gift. The property is packed with restoration potential, bordered by national park on three sides and by a nature refuge owned by WLT members—who oversee its day-to-day management—on the fourth.



Aerial view of *Wallaby Wetlands*, a former cane farm in Queensland.



MARINE WILDLIFE

HSI Australia has been campaigning for our marine life since our inception. We have won protections for whales, sharks, and sea lions, and continue to champion at-risk marine species and advocate for their protection.

Closing in on an end to shark culling

HSI Australia is hopeful that the New South Wales Minns Labor Government will soon end the use of shark nets on the ocean beaches of Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong. In May, HSI Australia assembled a cross-party battalion of MP opposition to shark nets at a standing-room-only campaign event at New South Wales Parliament. Later that night, the Government supported a motion put forward by Animal Justice Party MP Emma Hurst that called for an end to the nets.

Our messages are getting through, which became evident when the Premier himself explained the inherent problems with shark nets to a listener on ABC Sydney's talk back radio. HSI Australia is confident that the decision to retire the culling nets and rely solely on the modern and significantly more effective shark

surveillance technology—that is already in place at our beaches—will be made soon. No more sharks, turtles, rays, seals, penguins and other innocent marine life should die due to indecision.

Albatross on a collision course

HSI Australia has been steadfast in its advocacy against threats to albatross. We have now alerted the world to a potential new threat with offshore wind infrastructure coming to the Southern 'Albatross' hemisphere. While HSI Australia is a firm supporter of the renewable energy transformation, it is essential that any transition does not present additional problems for embattled wildlife.

We have tabled a paper at the global Agreement for the Conservation of Albatross and Petrel asking governments to urgently

establish a global working group to ensure offshore wind infrastructure avoids collisions with our imperilled seabirds.

Skating to extinction

HSI Australia is gravely concerned for the survival of the Maugean skate in Tasmania. Macquarie Harbour has become the last bastion for the remaining 40–120 individuals of this ancient lineage of ray, however they compete for oxygen with industrial scale salmon farming operations in this harbour.

HSI Australia has joined with our Shark Champion partners at the Australian Marine Conservation Society to nominate the Maugean skate for increased protection as a Critically Endangered species. And, through the Environmental Defenders Office, we have asked the federal Environment Minister to reconsider the approvals for salmon farming in the skate's last remaining critical habitat.

IMAGE: N. MCLACHLAN HSI/AMCS



IMAGE: NEVILLE BARRETT



Clockwise from left: A scalloped hammerhead pup caught in a shark net; a maugean skate; albatross, a species that mate for life.



TRADED WILDLIFE

Sadly, wildlife trade is big business worth billions of dollars, and it is driving some species to extinction. HSI Australia is a powerful advocate for wildlife, seeking to end the cruel and unsustainable trade in wild animals and their body parts.

Trophy hunting

This year HSI Australia supporters have been pushing the Albanese Government to ban the import of trophy hunted animals such as zebras and giraffes and to ban the trade in ivory that continues within our borders. In May we provided Minister Plibersek with an update on numbers of polar bears, black bears, giraffes and mountain zebras her department has approved for import to Australia as trophies. This is out of step with public opinion and the law needs to change.

Conservation of migratory species

Following our successful work to protect sharks from unsustainable international trade, our shark campaigner, Lawrence Chlebeck, travelled to Uzbekistan in February to ensure governments voted

to protect the grey nurse shark (known globally as the sand tiger) at the Conference of the Parties of the Convention for the Conservation of Migratory Species.

Below: HSI Australia's Lawrence Chlebeck at the Conservation of Migratory Species conference in Uzbekistan, with colleagues from HSI Global and HSI Europe.





ANIMALS IN INDUSTRY

HSI Australia is committed to improving conditions for all farmed animals to ensure they have lives worth living. We also want to see an end to animals being exploited for our entertainment.

Campaign to Can the Cage

One year has passed since all Australian state and territory governments signed up to the new *Standards and Guidelines for Poultry*, agreeing to phase out battery cages by 2032–2036. HSI Australia continues to remind them of this critical commitment for



IMAGE: THE FARM TRANSPARENCY PROJECT

hen welfare—noting that the deadlines for the phase out were a generous concession to industry. We have requested an update from all jurisdictions to ensure that the phase outs are locked in legislation.

An end to live sheep export cruelty

Legislation to phase out live sheep exports by sea passed the Australian Senate at the very end of the financial year. The extent of the suffering in the live sheep export trade is inexcusable and HSI Australia has campaigned for it to end for decades. Industry was given a generous phase out period to May 2028 and an assistance package to assist with the transition. Although we would have liked to see an end to the trade immediately, we understand the need for a transition period and have strongly congratulated the Albanese

Government for standing firm on their election commitment to legislate a date for the suffering to end.

Live Lamb Cutting

Supporters will know of HSI Australia’s ongoing campaign to end the brutal practice of ‘mulesing’ which is inflicted upon 10 million lambs in Australia every year. This year, along with our friends at FOUR PAWS, we rebranded the term to ‘Live Lamb Cutting’ so it is more indicative of what the practice entails.

We hope the new term—which already has a Wikipedia entry—adds clarity to the issue, stops the wool industry from hiding behind obscure terminology, and helps propel our campaign to get governments and retailers opting for a humane alternative to mulesing: breeding sheep that are naturally flystrike resistant.





IMAGES CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: HSI/R COWAN, LYN GYNTHIER, ALINE SHEEHAN, FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND WILDLIFE RESCUE

ANIMALS IN CRISIS

As our climate changes, we are seeing a dramatic increase in the number and scale of disasters and the need for HSI Australia to respond. We continue to support volunteer rescue and rehabilitation efforts while increasing our internal disaster-response capacity.

Disaster response and preparedness

As pressures on Australia's biodiversity mount, we have continued to support the vital work of volunteer wildlife rescuers and rehabilitators in preparing for natural disasters. HSI Australia has invested approximately \$2 million for urgent supplies as well as preparing facilities and triage centres for future events while also increasing their regular capacity.

These funds continue to support the care and recovery of more than 10,000 animals.

The 19 grants provided in FY24 totalled \$89,341 and included the construction of a koala rehabilitation facility in South Australia, a grey-headed flying-fox pre-release flight aviary with capabilities for other species in Victoria, and several ICUs / humidicribs to provide life-saving support for orphaned microbats, wombats, and baby birds.

Funding was also provided for the establishment of cooling sprinklers in at-risk flying-fox colonies to protect against devastating heat stress deaths over coming summers.

The main beneficiaries of the grants program include grey-headed flying foxes, possums, koalas, kangaroos, and wallabies; bird life including glossy black cockatoos, galahs, and corellas; eight species of microbat, and even snakes and goannas.



In FY24, HSI Australia provided 19 grants, to assist 19 wildlife carers in Australia. These grants help with the rescue, rehabilitation and release of wildlife after disaster events.

19 grants issued
\$89,341



19 Number of **wildlife carers** assisted

More than 10,000 animals supported in their **care and recovery.**



Increasing internal capacity

The creation of a new role focused on disaster response and preparedness has significantly increased HSI Australia's internal capacity for assisting the sector with natural disasters and supporting wildlife rehabilitators generally.

Several HSI Australia staff are now trained in wildlife rescue and care through Sydney Wildlife, Basic Wildfire Awareness, First Aid (including Mental Health First Aid), and the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System.

We also now have two trained drone pilots capable of deploying our infra-red search and rescue drone in disaster situations engagement with the review of the NSW Wildlife Rehabilitation Sector.

HSI Australia is committed to supporting the wildlife rehabilitation sector and building our capacity to be a local and regional leader in the space.

With the likelihood of difficult natural disaster conditions mounting each year, we continue to prepare for whatever lies ahead.

South Korea brings dog meat trade to an end

After a decade long campaign by HSI, in January this year, the South Korean parliament passed legislation to end the dog meat trade. JungAh Chae, the Director of HSI Korea, said, 'This is history in the making I never thought I would see in my lifetime. While my heart breaks for all the millions of dogs for whom this change has come too late, I am overjoyed that South Korea can now close this miserable chapter in our history and embrace a dog-friendly future.'

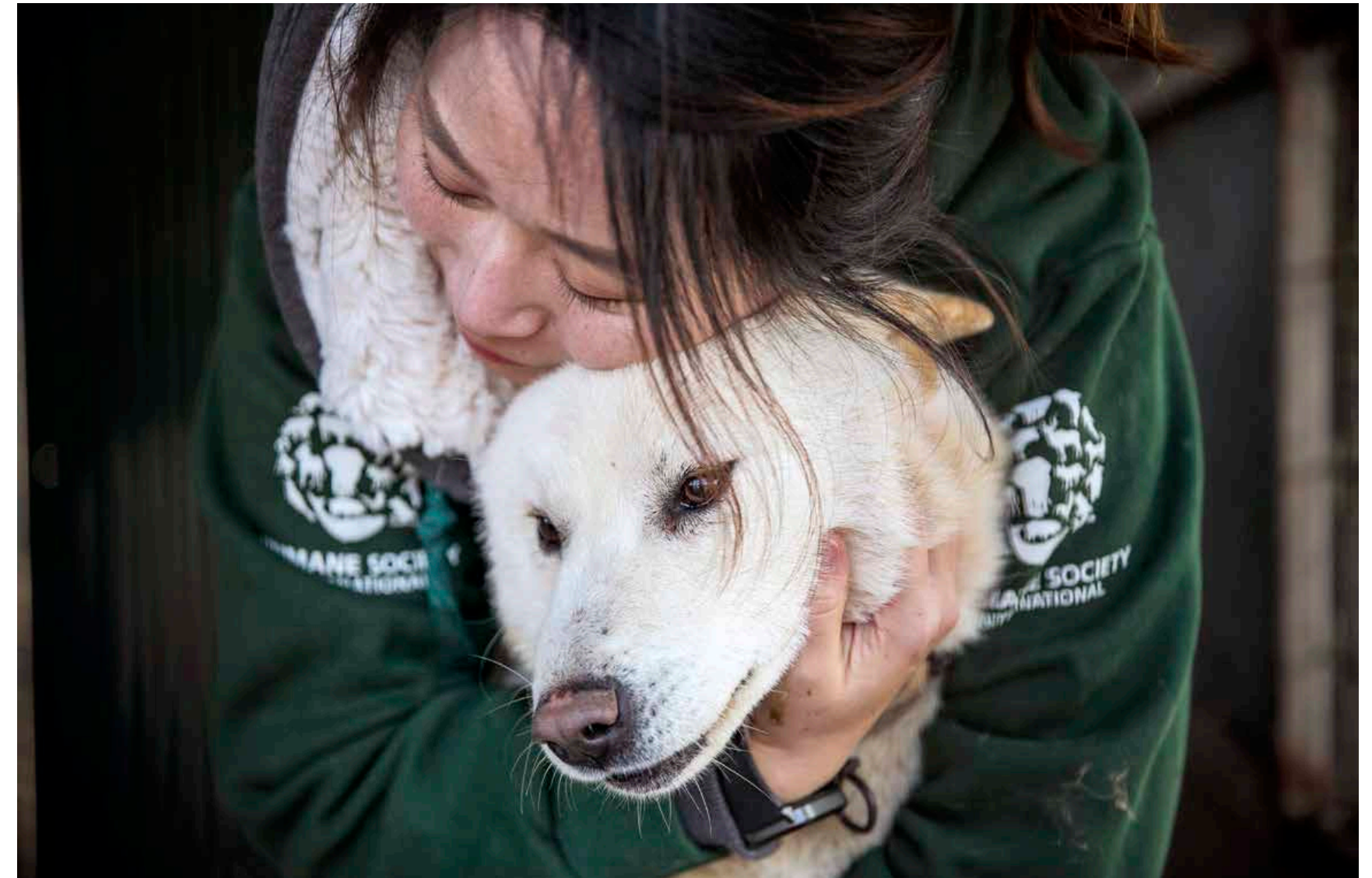
Up to one million dogs are factory farmed and killed for human consumption in South Korea each year. The ban will make the breeding, slaughter and sale of dogs and dog meat for human consumption illegal from 2027, with penalties of up to three years' imprisonment or a fine of up to 30 million KRW.

Since 2015, HSI has helped 18 dog farmers across South Korea switch to growing crops such as chilli plants and parsley, or to transition their businesses to water delivery and other livelihoods.

South Korea now joins a growing list of governments across Asia that have banned the dog meat trade (with varying degrees of enforcement), including Hong Kong, Taiwan, the Philippines, India, Thailand and Singapore, as well as the cities of Shenzhen and Zhuhai in mainland China, Siem Reap province in Cambodia, and more than 60 cities, regencies and provinces in Indonesia.



South Korea has now banned the dog meat trade.



IMAGES LEFT AND OPPOSITE: JEAN CHUNG



International Projects

OUR PARTNERS

We are proud to work with a range of highly qualified international partners who are all committed to improving the lives of animals. Through our partners, we support anti-poaching patrols, vital research, and the rehabilitation and release of injured animals back to the wild.

| Partner | Country | Since |
|---|-----------|--------------|
| Conservation South Luangwa (CSL) | Zambia | 2012 |
| Zambia Primate Project (ZPP) | Zambia | 2010 |
| Painted Dog Conservation (PDC) | Zimbabwe | 2003 |
| Bali Sea Turtle Society (BSTS) | Indonesia | 2011 |
| Friends of the National Parks Foundation (FNPF) | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bali Wildlife Rescue Centre (BWRC) Tanjung Puting Conservation Project | Indonesia | 2011 2000 |
| The Orangutan Project (TOP) | Indonesia | 2008 |
| Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT) | Thailand | 2016 |
| Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV) | Vietnam | 2006 |
| Wildlife SOS | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elephant sanctuary ForestWatch program | India | 2010 2005 |

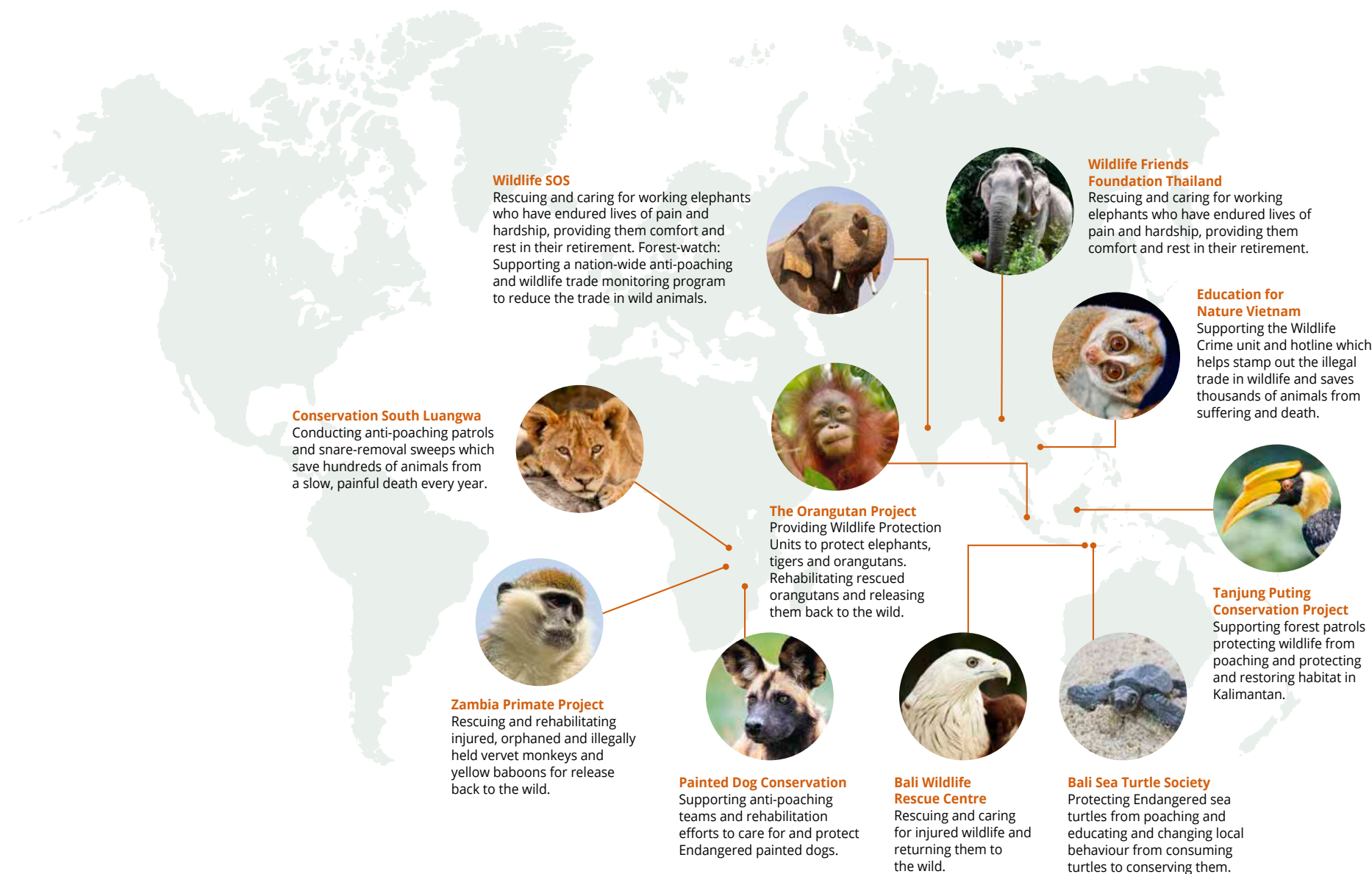




IMAGE: EDWARD SELFE / EDWARD SELFE PHOTO SAFARIS

CSL scouts regularly encounter wildlife on patrol in South Luangwa

ZAMBIA

Conservation South Luangwa (CSL)

Snaring continues to be the single largest threat faced by Zambia’s wildlife. The *Conservation South Luangwa* (CSL) law enforcement and veterinary teams, in partnership with Zambia’s Department for National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW), have seen a steady increase in poaching across South Luangwa since the end of the Covid-19 pandemic. This, coupled with the most extreme drought conditions Zambia has faced since the early 1990s, has put significant pressure on wildlife and natural resources across the country.

As people’s food security, water and energy supplies become increasingly threatened, the likelihood of people resorting to unsustainable and illegal use of natural resources increases significantly. There will likely be an increase in incidences of poaching due to the current conditions, and specifically for subsistence and the small-scale commercial bushmeat trade.

These conditions also bring additional instances of human-wildlife conflict, as wildlife seek sufficient food and water sources.

Over the past 12 months, 323 anti-snaring day patrols were deployed into known snaring hotspots, as well as 155 Community Clean Sweeps. A total of 675 snares were successfully removed from the bush—an alarming 65 per cent increase in snares recovered despite

similar levels of anti-snaring patrol efforts. In addition to anti-snaring patrols, the CSL veterinary team de-snared a total of nine animals over the past 12 months: four elephants, one giraffe, two wild dogs, one baboon, and one leopard.

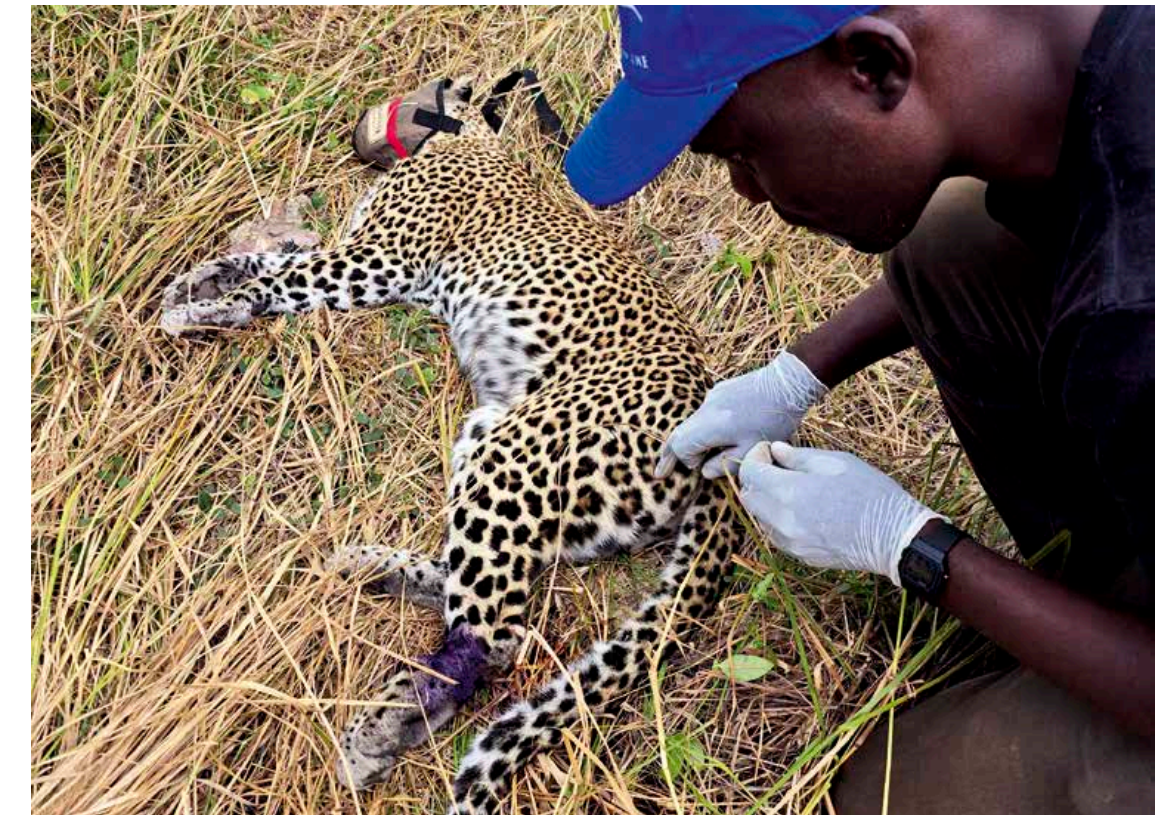


IMAGE: NICK RIDDIN / REMOTE SAFARIS AFRICA

CSL’s Dr Mwamba Sichande de-snares a female leopard in South Luangwa.

ZAMBIA

Zambia Primate Project (ZPP)

The primary aim of the *Zambia Primate Project (ZPP)* is the rescue, rehabilitation, release and in-situ protection of primates in Zambia that are victims of the illegal wildlife trade or injured due to human-wildlife conflict.

Over the past year, ZPP has successfully saved the lives of 13 primates who were subject to mistreatment in captivity or injured or at risk due to human-wildlife conflict.

Upon rescue all primates are taken to the University of Zambia Veterinary Clinic for health review and treatment. This year 31 per cent of rescued primates sustained injury that required intervention or were extremely malnourished, reflecting the lack of animal welfare knowledge or care on the part of the owner, in addition to their lack of understanding that keeping a primate is illegal.

There has also been an increase in the number of very young primates being rescued this year, with 54 per cent being less than one month old. This increase may be due to a persistent bush meat demand

(orphaned young following poached mothers) and increasing human-wildlife conflict due to population expansion and drought conditions leading to people and wildlife competing for dwindling resources.



Valentine, a young vervet monkey with her carer Oliver, and another orphaned vervet monkey.

Throughout this reporting period 100 per cent of the rescued primates have survived treatment into the rehabilitation phase, and the centre currently has a total of 55 animals in care.

IMAGES: COURTESY OF ZAMBIA PRIMATE PROJECT

ZIMBABWE

Painted Dog Conservation (PDC)

The generous support from HSI Australia directly supports Painted Dog Conservation (PDC) anti-poaching activities. This year PDC celebrated the presence of five painted dog packs in the buffer zone on the edge of Hwange National Park for the first time in 25 years, however, it also brought more responsibility to keep the packs as safe as possible.

Poaching seemed more relentless than ever in 2023 and carried over into 2024, due largely to very poor rainfall. To cope, an additional eight scouts were added to anti-poaching units and the first all-female unit was created, headed by Belinda Ncube, who was first introduced to PDC as an eleven-year-old participating in their Children's Bush Camp.

PDC continued their partnership with the Mabale Community Anti-Poaching Unit to protect the painted dogs and worked closely with the Forestry Commission. PDC anti-poaching scouts, in collaboration with the Mabale Community Anti-Poaching Unit, and the PDC research team, patrolled the Gwayi area.

The efforts of PDC scouts working with the Mabale Community Anti-Poaching Unit has led to the arrest of eight poachers who received either fines or community service sentences.



Clockwise from top: Belinda Ncube, head of the first all-female unit; a painted dog; the team at work.

IMAGES: PDC (TOP LEFT AND BOTTOM), PDC/NICK DYER (TOP RIGHT)

INDONESIA

Bali Sea Turtle Society (BSTS)

During the reporting period, Bali Sea Turtle Society (BSTS) successfully rescued 440 nests of Olive Ridley turtle, releasing 29,191 hatchlings.

Tragically, 21 sea turtles were found dead after being stranded on Kuta beach and its surrounding areas. Twelve were Olive

Ridley turtles along with eight hawksbill turtles, and one green turtle.

But there is good news too. Bali Sea Turtle Society helped release eight confiscated green turtles on Kuta Beach in November 2023 and delivered five education programs with students attending from elementary, high school, homeschooling, and university level. Members of BSTS attended the 42nd

International Sea Turtle Symposium in Pattaya, Thailand in March 2024.

The number of saved nests increased by 33 per cent and released hatchlings increased by seven per cent. This is due to the normalisation of the beach usage following the pandemic, where the BSTS team could work normally and an increased number of people reported turtles laying eggs.



IMAGES: COURTESY OF BSTS

Released turtle hatchlings increased by seven per cent. Education remains a crucial activity.

Friends of the National Parks Foundation (FNPF)

Bali Wildlife Rescue Centre (BWRC)

HSI Australia is the major supporter of the BWRC which provides vital care to a wide range of animals—most of which are confiscated from markets, private homes or businesses where they are kept as pets or for entertainment.

Some of the animals admitted into care this year include a pangolin, five Sunda porcupines, a baby oriental pied hornbill, a civet and two baby Sunda scops owls.

The team also released several successfully rehabilitated animals including a black kite, two pangolins, a python, a civet and a Javan eagle hawk.

Getting the animals back into the wild is always a cause for celebration involving the staff, volunteers, government representatives as well as the local community.

Tanjung Puting Conservation Project

This year 15,000 fruit tree seedlings were prepared for future planting in the forest, and 120 trees were planted by students to introduce them to the importance



IMAGE: FNPF / KEI MIYAMOTO

A spotted kestrel released by FNPF.

of preserving and appreciating the surrounding environment. Other activities included a journalism and legal workshop, first aid training, firefighting (as part of a swift response fire prevention capability to prevent forest fires from spreading),

conservation education, organic farming and composting. This year the team also rescued a stranded green turtle that has been taken to the Tanjung Keluang Turtle Conservation Centre for further treatment and release back to the wild.

INDONESIA

The Orangutan Project (TOP)

The Wildlife Protection Unit (WPU) has patrolled Sumatra’s Bukit Tigapuluh Ecosystem for more than a decade. The area provides important habitat for various rare wildlife species including Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants, tigers, and a re-introduced population of Sumatran orangutans.

Bukit Tigapuluh is also home to the Talang Mamak, Orang Rimba, and Malayu Tua indigenous peoples that, like the wildlife, depend on an intact forest ecosystem. The main goal of the WPU is to protect the forest and its wildlife populations from all threats, and to work towards a harmonious coexistence between wildlife and local communities.

Patrols throughout 2023–2024 resulted in the detection of 211 cases of illegal activity: 52 cases of poaching, 100 cases of encroachment, and 79 cases of illegal logging. All cases were documented and reported to local authorities, and all snares, weapons and other equipment encountered were destroyed on location and/or handed over to the relevant authorities.

The patrols also contributed to the protection of an estimated 150 Critically Endangered Sumatran elephants, a life-boat population of over 200 reintroduced Critically Endangered Sumatran orangutans, 30 remaining Critically Endangered Sumatran tigers and various other populations of threatened and rare wildlife including sun bears, tapirs, clouded

leopards, marbled cats, otter civets, gibbons, and several hornbill species.

The WPU also responded to 184 human–elephant conflict incidents, undertook 509 socialisations with local villagers, and supervised 195 community mitigation activities.



A patrol member documents the coordinates of a nylon snare.

IMAGE: COURTESY OF TOP



IMAGE: MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY AND FRANKFURT ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THAILAND

Wildlife Friends Foundation Thailand (WFFT)

WFFT was one of the first chain-free elephant sanctuaries in Thailand and is among the largest multi-species sanctuaries in Asia. WFFT currently cares for more than 750 wild animals from 60 different species, and approximately 100 domestic animals. More than 40 primates, one elephant, 20 tigers and leopards, about 100 birds and reptiles, as well as 20 domestic animals were rescued

during the reporting period. Most come from the illegal pet trade, the tourism/logging industry, being used as photo props and from 'zoos', or orphaned because of human-wildlife conflict.

In 2023 and 2024, HSI Australia supporters were crucial in enabling WFFT to rescue 20 tigers and leopards from an illegal breeding farm in North-East Thailand. These big cats lived in small, empty cages for more than 20 years. The rescue required enormous resources, both for the moving

of so many animals, and to build enough suitable enclosures to provide them with enriching and natural lives at the sanctuary.

HSI Australia has continued to support the welfare of the rescued elephants and tigers, contributing towards their food as well as ongoing medical care for rescued elephants at WFFT's specialist elephant hospital. HSI Australia's amazing supporters also helped to rescue Nam Chok, an elderly elephant who worked in the tourist industry for more than 50 years.



IMAGE: WFFT / AMY JONES (LEFT), WFFT (RIGHT)

HSI Australia supports the welfare of rescued tigers and elephants at WFFT.

Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV)

Since 2007, Education for Nature Vietnam (ENV) has implemented a strategic and integrated approach to combatting illegal wildlife trafficking in Vietnam.

In early 2023, ENV devised a new strategy to address bird crime. During the reporting period, ENV recorded 886 bird crimes, a majority of these being advertisement and sale of birds online and involving 130,175 birds. During the same period, there were 174 confiscations involving 762 birds seized.

ENV's successes included the seizure or voluntary transfer of 1,547 live animals during the project period. Notable species include six bears, nine otters, 11 pangolins, 27 gibbons, lorises, and langurs, in addition to 575 tortoises and freshwater turtles, 748 raptors, hornbills, and other birds.

Online violations represented the largest portion of cases logged by ENV with 1,510 cases comprised of 7,784 violations. ENV's success rate in dealing with internet crime is 70 per cent with 1,050 cases successfully addressed during the reporting period.

During the project period, ENV carried out four inspections of commercial wildlife farms.



IMAGES: COURTESY OF ENV

Clockwise from left: releasing turtles; a brahminy kite, and lorises ready for transfer.

These included inspections of spot-billed duck farms for ENV to better understand the commercial farming industry of the species, commonly advertised and sold in restaurants throughout the country. The inspection examined the economic and ecological viability of commercial farming to assess the degree to which laundering of wild animals through licensed farms might be a factor.

Every day, a case officer at the ENV Wildlife Crime Unit may carry as many as 200-300 open cases. Their work is challenging, and successes are not always able to be achieved. Thus, with support from HSI Australia, ENV developed an incentive program that recognises the work of case officers and field operators and finds ways to improve work obstacles.



Maya, Phoorkali, and Emma—three elephants cared for by Wildlife SOS.

INDIA

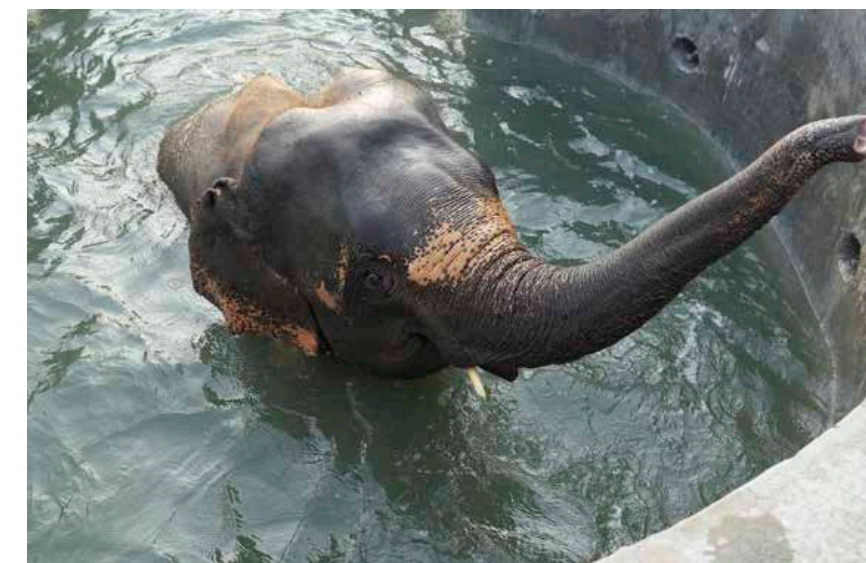
Wildlife SOS

Over the past year there has been an increase in elephant owners and forest departments proactively reaching out to Wildlife SOS, seeking to entrust their elephants to them for better care. Besides caring for the elephants currently in the sanctuary, the Wildlife SOS team has also treated more than 100 elephants off-site through various health camps and conflict mitigation operations.

This year, Taj, a 19-year-old male, and Tara, a 26-year-old female elephant, were rescued from street begging in Uttar Pradesh and brought to Wildlife SOS for specialised care. Severely malnourished and suffering from swollen limbs and joint disorders, they were rescued from a life of misery, brutality and severe abuse. Both elephants had a host of injuries, chronic ailments, and scars, indicating a history of beating and cruelty. Taj and Tara received extensive treatments and over the past year, their health is slowly improving.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building played a crucial role throughout this year.

Wildlife SOS conducted or participated in elephant health care and treatment camps, capacity-building workshops in collaboration with enforcement agencies, a Wildlife Crime Enforcement and Prosecution workshop (which included the participation of several High Court judges) and the first international wildlife conference, which was held at the Manas Tiger Reserve.



Taj in the hydrotherapy pool and Tara undergoing laser therapy at India's first elephant hospital in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh.

IMAGES: WILDLIFE SOS



IMAGE: RHYS SHARRY

Get to
Know Us

OUR VISION

A world where people treat animals and nature with respect and compassion.

OUR MISSION

To build an ecologically sustainable and humane world for all animals by being leaders in saving animal species and their habitats; aiding animals in crisis; and reducing cruelty in farming, trade and other industries.

OUR VALUES

TRUSTWORTHY: We can be trusted to advocate for the best possible outcomes for animals. We are accountable and transparent in the use of donor funds.

OPTIMISTIC: Building a better world for animals can be challenging. We create a supportive, positive and inspiring culture for our staff and our supporters.

COLLABORATIVE: We form collaborative relationships to influence change.

COURAGEOUS: We don't shy away from the tough issues, we have the courage to stand up and create change.

KNOWLEDGEABLE: We seek first to understand all perspectives and then share knowledge and our expertise.



OUR BOARD

Our Board freely contributes their skills and expertise to help us achieve our mission. They guide the development of our strategy, ensure our good governance and empower our staff to achieve their goals and make a real difference for animals and the environment.



Julianne Petersen
Chair

Julianne has been Chair since December 2020, when founding Director Michael Kennedy retired. She has almost 40 years of executive management experience running major retail operations in a number of settings and brings a wealth of business expertise to HSI Australia. She has also served on a number of non-profit boards gaining significant governance experience that she brings to her role as Chair.



Matthew Hilton
Deputy Chair

Matthew is a media and communications specialist, passionate about social and environmental change and animal welfare. He has worked in overseas aid and then in New South Wales and Federal politics as an adviser and Chief of Staff. He currently provides strategic media and communications support to clients working on climate related issues and lends his considerable communications expertise to HSI Australia.



Gregory Tolhurst
Secretary

Greg has a long established career in the legal profession having both practised and taught law at senior levels. He is PhD qualified, a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and currently the CEO of the Australian Bar Association and a Professor of Commercial Law at the University of Sydney in the School of Law. He brings this stellar legal and governance background to HSI Australia.



Wendy Williams
Chair, Finance and
Investment Committee

Wendy has managed complex budgets and financial reporting for more than 25 years. She successfully managed financial controls both at store and national level for some of Australia's largest retailers including Coles Myer, David Jones and Woolworths Holdings. She is now involved in supporting the growth of a small business, assisting the owners in establishing financial accounting systems and business processes.



Leslie Barcus
Director

Leslie is the Executive Director for VegFund and has extensive governance and senior management experience in not-for-profit and private enterprises around the world. With a Masters Degree in International Economic Development, her work includes animal rights and welfare, biodiversity conservation, education, micro-finance, behaviour change and organisational capacity building.



Kitty Block
Director

Kitty is the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Humane Society of the United States with more than 10 million members and CEO of HSI Global. With her legal background she has investigated cruelties and achieved major policy reforms including European Union and US bans on imports of dog and cat fur and bans on slaughtering horses for human consumption. She continues to expand HSI Australia in both impact and scope.



Beverley Lange
Director

Beverley has held executive and director positions in the non-profit and education sectors including CEO of the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation. She has key capabilities in coaching, organisational review, tender and funding writing, project and change management and business and systems design. Beverley has added great value to HSI Australia's strategic plan and continues to guide the organisation's growth and development.



Clive Phillips
Director

Clive was Australia's first professor of animal welfare at the University of Queensland veterinary school from 2003–2017. Prior to that he lectured in animal production at the Universities of Cambridge and Wales. His main research interest is the welfare of livestock, particularly during ship transport. As one of Australia's leading experts in animal welfare, Clive brings an invaluable perspective to HSI Australia.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

HSI Australia's Leadership Team works collaboratively to achieve the outcomes identified through the strategic planning process. The team responds to any issues that arise throughout the year, making strategic adjustments as needed.



Erica Martin
Chief Executive Officer

Erica was recruited by founders Michael Kennedy and Verna Simpson to join HSI Australia as CEO in 2017. She has more than 20 years' experience as a senior executive in animal welfare and conservation not-for-profits. Before that, she was a Corporate Communications Director in the Australian public service. She is focused on maximising impact for animals across HSI Australia's campaigns and ensuring the organisation uses its resources wisely and effectively. She is passionate about building a culture where supporters are treated with care and respect and staff feel valued and appreciated.



Nicola Beynon
Head of Campaigns

With a MSc in Conservation, Nicola has more than 25 years' experience campaigning in the Australian and international animal protection movements and in total has spent 20 years with HSI Australia. Career highlights with the HSI Australia team have been negotiating Australia's national environment laws in 1999, securing protection for a 'million acres' of threatened wildlife habitat, taking the Japanese whalers to court and winning, working on international agreements for albatross, protecting sharks from unregulated trade in their fins, and stopping the shooting of sharks in the Great Barrier Reef.



Gill Lawrence
Finance and Governance Manager

Gill joined HSI Australia in early 2020 and is responsible for financial management and governance. Gill has worked in the for-purpose sector as an executive finance and governance professional for over 30 years and brings with her significant experience in the housing, disability, youth and family law sectors. She is a Chartered Accountant and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Directors. Gill loves being outdoors in nature and is delighted to have the opportunity to use her skills to further the mission at HSI Australia.



Lisa Matthews
Fundraising Manager

Having worked extensively in the not-for-profit sector, Lisa was thrilled to join the HSI Australia team in 2024. As an animal lover and advocate, bringing her professional and personal passions together fuels her enthusiasm and commitment to contribute to the mission of building a humane world for all animals, a cause deeply close to her heart. Central to this is ensuring the connection of supporters' aspirations and wishes, recognising their generosity and foresight as pivotal in realising the vision of a world where animals are treated with kindness and respect.



Evan Quartermain
Head of Programs

Evan has been with HSI Australia since 2010. A member of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, Evan is responsible for HSI Australia's terrestrial habitat protection and restoration programs including Threatened Ecological Community nominations and private land conservation through the Wildlife Land Trust. He leads our wildlife rescue and rehabilitation support programs and disaster preparedness and response efforts, and advises on wildlife-conflict campaigns for species such as flying-foxes and dingoes.



Matthew Smeal
Head of Communications

Matthew joined HSI Australia as Head of Communications in 2024 after many years working for international NGOs. His background is in television production and journalism but an opportunity to work as a photojournalist in Uganda, Kenya, and Cambodia in 2006 led him to the humanitarian sector. His work has since taken him around the world documenting numerous humanitarian contexts. As a photographer, journalist and cinematographer, Matthew has always loved using images and words to convey stories that matter.

At HSI Australia, we recognise that our staff are critical to our success in working towards our vision. Our employee value proposition is: We offer a fun, friendly and supportive environment for highly motivated people who want to create positive change for animals and nature. To learn more about every member of our dedicated team, visit: www.hsi.org.au/our-staff

OUR WORK

We base our positions on sound science and **compassion for all animals.**

We work to **educate and advocate** for strong laws that recognise the needs of animals and **long-term ecological sustainability.**

We seek to **change human behaviour** to move from exploitation to respect for animals.

We directly intervene in cases where we can **prevent suffering** of individual animals and **protect** threatened populations and species.

We believe that you need to **understand the causes** of animal cruelty and extinction to effect change.

We believe in **identifying the motivations behind human actions** that cause animal suffering and extinction and finding alternative cruelty-free and sustainable solutions.

We believe that **working collaboratively** with other groups makes all our efforts more effective.

We believe in **using existing laws and the courts** to push for positive change for animals and the environment.

Humane Society International (HSI) is the only international group working across the spectrum of saving endangered species and increasing habitat devoted to their conservation; improving legislation that impacts animals and the environment; reducing cruelty in farming and industry; reducing wildlife trade; and improving the welfare of domestic animals.





OUR OBJECTIVES



To promote the protection of all living things from cruelty and neglect.



To promote the enhancement and conservation of all wild plants and animals.



To promote the protection and conservation of, or research into, native species and ecological communities listed in federal, state and territory legislation.



To promote the welfare and conservation of all animals and wildlife in domestic and international trade.



To use all means to further humane and environmental education.



To participate in, and cooperate with, all other international organisations and with societies and organisations in Australia and other nations, in all efforts to prevent or ameliorate the suffering of animals and the preservation and conservation of the environment.



To assist and persuade and, if necessary, to compel through legal means, government bodies and agencies to further the protection of animals and the environment through appropriate regulations and enforcement.



To pursue all lawful means in furthering the purposes of this body.

OUR GOVERNANCE

We are committed to the accountability and transparency provided through our corporate governance framework.

Our aim is to faithfully fulfil our organisation's charitable purpose while adhering to laws, industry codes of practice and ethics. Our Board oversees the development and implementation of policies and processes that reflect good corporate governance and continuous improvement.

Our Board receives a Workplace Health and Safety report at every board meeting and reviews our Delegations, Risk Framework and Complaints reports annually. Our strategic plan was led by our Board and included input from every member of staff.

We are regulated by the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission as a registered charity under the *Australian*

Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act). We are registered as a public company limited by guarantee under the *Corporations Act 2001*, which means that the Corporations Act applies but in a manner modified by the ACNC Act. We also hold tax exemptions and concessions under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*. We are audited every year and publish the report on our website.

We have MOUs with all our international project partners which includes a commitment to adhere to the External Conduct Standards as outlined by the ACNC.

We are authorised to fundraise in all states and territories in Australia. Our supporter relations team has completed the Fundraising Institute of Australia's Code and Vulnerable Persons training.

Our promise to donors

- We will always keep personal details safe and secure.
- We will keep our donors updated and share the achievements made possible by them.
- We will give our donors a choice on how and when we communicate with them.
- We will always respond to donor feedback and answer questions promptly.
- We won't take our donors' support for granted.
- We will always use our donors' money to have the maximum impact in protecting animals.





Financial Information

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

HSI Australia closed out FY24 in a strong financial position delivering a surplus of \$497,000.

This brings overall reserves to \$8.9 million. Of the \$8.9 million, \$3.5 million relates to conservation land owned by HSI Australia plus its office building in Avalon, NSW. A further \$1.575 million relates to properties and securities that have been bequeathed to the organisation by its generous supporters and \$1.78 million to specific donations and grants towards programs and campaigns that will be completed in future years.

Total revenue from donations, bequests and grants fell from \$5.5 million last year to just over \$3 million this year. The main reason for the difference was the extraordinary level of bequests received in FY23 (\$2.7 million), \$1.8 million more

than this financial year. Additionally, reserves increased by \$211,000 due to the revaluation of a property bequeathed to HSI Australia in FY24.

Our total campaign expenditure for FY24 was \$1.96 million compared to \$2.45 million last year. Last year included the \$518,000 support to NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service to develop and implement an ecological health monitoring program to track the health of major national parks. The reduction in fundraising expenditure year on year of \$179,000 is in part due to the investment made in a new donor database in FY23.

HSI Australia is grateful for the generosity of its donors and supporters that means the organisation is well positioned to continue its mission to create a humane world for all animals.



Clockwise from top: hawksbill turtle, smooth knob-tailed gecko, echidna.



Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the financial year ended 30 June 2024

| | 2024 \$ | 2023 \$ |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Revenue from contracts with customers | 3,037,670 | 5,494,066 |
| Other income | 353,083 | 156,647 |
| Total revenue | 3,390,753 | 5,650,713 |
| Expenses | | |
| Campaign costs | | |
| • <i>Australian campaigns and projects</i> | 1,563,946 | 2,077,369 |
| • <i>International projects</i> | 395,881 | 373,773 |
| Cost of fundraising | 543,960 | 723,351 |
| Management and administration | 390,201 | 360,099 |
| Total expenses | 2,893,988 | 3,534,592 |
| Surplus before income tax | 496,765 | 2,116,121 |
| Income tax expense | — | — |
| Surplus for the year | 496,765 | 2,116,121 |
| Other comprehensive income | | |
| Revaluation of land and buildings | 210,750 | 175,750 |
| Total comprehensive income | 707,515 | 2,291,871 |

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2024

| | 2024 \$ | 2023 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 5,877,019 | 5,793,921 |
| Trade and other receivables | 48,909 | 30,219 |
| Total current assets | 5,925,928 | 5,824,140 |
| Non-current | | |
| Other financial assets | 78,576 | 77,592 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 2,823,432 | 2,633,602 |
| Conservation land | 2,207,607 | 2,207,607 |
| Total non-current assets | 5,109,615 | 4,918,801 |
| Total assets | 11,035,543 | 10,742,941 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current | | |
| Trade and other payables | 117,672 | 89,984 |
| Provisions | 151,737 | 117,393 |
| Contract liabilities | 1,779,641 | 2,278,541 |
| Total current liabilities | 2,049,050 | 2,485,918 |
| Non-current | | |
| Provisions | 68,198 | 46,243 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 68,198 | 46,243 |
| Total liabilities | 2,117,248 | 2,532,161 |
| Net assets | 8,918,295 | 8,210,780 |
| Equity | | |
| Reserve | 462,850 | 252,100 |
| Accumulated funds | 8,455,445 | 7,958,680 |
| Total equity | 8,918,295 | 8,210,780 |

GIVING THANKS

We want to thank every one of our incredible donors for their support during the year. None of this would be possible without you. From those who give individual gifts, to our Animal Defenders who donate monthly—we are so grateful for your trust in us to build a world where animals and nature are respected and protected.

So many of you also took the time to send letters to our politicians calling for better protections for everything from chickens to sharks; koalas to whales. These actions help to drive policy change. You have helped to ensure that policy makers understand that animal welfare and conservation matters to their constituents and you will hold them accountable.

We also want to thank those who confirmed they want to leave a lasting legacy for animals by confirming a gift in their Will. We are very grateful for the trust you place in us to make certain that animals will be protected, not just today but far into the future.

Last, we are very grateful for the generous pro bono support from the team at DMC Direct Mail Corporation (directmail.com.au), who work on our fundraising campaign production. As a corporate supporter for many years they have helped significantly in raising funds to maximise HSI Australia's impact.

