

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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FUNDING BOOST FOR MORE WILDLIFE RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

The Allan Labor Government is boosting support for Victoria’s wildlife rescue organisation – ensuring our sick, injured and orphaned wildlife get the support they need, when and where they need it.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos today announced the recipients of the latest round of the Labor Government’s Wildlife Rehabilitator Grants program – which supports wildlife shelter operators and foster carers with up to \$3,000 in funding.

The Government’s \$230,000 investment will support 102 wildlife organisations – including 34 wildlife shelter operators – to continue to care for thousands of native animals across Victoria every year including kangaroos, koalas, possums, wombats, birds and reptiles.

Some of the recipients include, Moonshadow Flying Fox Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre which received funds to build a predator proof aviary for microbats and a pond for water birds and South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter will be able buy new possum and bat nest boxes.

Red Box Wildlife Shelter will receive funding to build a shelter for kangaroo rehabilitation while Outlook Rd Shelter can now build two flight enclosures, a wombat enclosure and essential feed and milk formula.

Last year, more than 100 wildlife carers and shelters across Victoria received grants, helping to fund wildlife enclosures, medication, feed, rescue equipment and veterinary fees.

To further support and guide the work of wildlife rescue volunteers, the Government has also released the Victorian Wildlife Rehabilitation Guidelines – a comprehensive resource to enhance the welfare of Victoria’s sick, injured and orphaned wildlife.

Victoria’s Wildlife Rehabilitator program runs yearly, recognising the important role of wildlife rehabilitators in dedicating themselves to the health and rehabilitation of injured or displaced wildlife so Victoria’s native animals can safely return to the wild.

Since 2015, the Labor Government has invested \$5.4 million to support the work of wildlife foster carers, authorised wildlife shelter operators and key wildlife organisations. This is part of the state’s biggest investment into protecting biodiversity and environment in history – investing \$582 million, since 2014.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

“Victoria’s wildlife shelters and foster carers do such important work to help rehabilitate injured and orphaned native animals so that they can be released back into the wild.”

“These grants are about supporting and recognising our dedicated volunteers who selflessly give their time and expertise to help sick, injured and orphaned wildlife.”

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Full list of recipients:

- Moonshadow Flying Fox Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, East Gippsland, \$3,000
- Terra Mater Wildlife Shelter, Campaspe Shire, \$2,983
- Bunurong Wildlife Care, Bass Coast Shire, \$2,996
- Kurrara Wildlife Shelter, Yarra Ranges Shire, \$2,781
- Southern Ash Wildlife Shelter Inc, Latrobe City, \$2,143
- Wallabia Wildlife Shelter Inc., East Gippsland Shire, \$2,837
- Upwey Wildlife Shelter, Yarra Ranges Shire, \$2,988
- Back to Nature Wildlife Shelter, Cardinia Shire, \$3,000
- Wild Sanctum, Colac Otway Shire, \$3,000
- Red Box Wildlife Shelter, Mount Alexander Shire, \$635
- Gerang Gerung Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre, Hindmarsh Shire, \$2,369
- Whispering Gums Wildlife Shelter, Greater Geelong City, \$2,332
- Sleepy Hollow Wildlife Shelter, Bass Coast Shire, \$2,899
- Maru Koala and Fauna, Bass Coast Shire, \$2,878
- Staghorn Wildlife Shelter, Indigo Shire, \$3,000
- McIntyre Wildlife Shelter, Loddon Shire, \$2,625
- Koalas of Raymond Island Incorporated, East Gippsland Shire, \$2,500
- East Trentham Wildlife Shelter, Macedon Ranges Shire, \$2,506
- Chiltern Wildlife Shelter, Indigo Shire, \$500
- South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter, Monash City, \$2,964
- Outlook Rd Shelter, Monash City, \$1,948
- Bush Beings, South Gippsland Shire, \$1,500
- Bungawittia Wildlife Shelter, South Gippsland Shire, \$2,130
- Bungalook Creek Wildlife Shelter Inc., Yarra Ranges Shire, \$3,000
- St Andrews Wildlife Shelter, Nillumbik Shire, \$2,706
- Lockys Legacy Wildlife Shelter Inc, Cardinia Shire, \$2,830
- Fly by Night Bat Clinic, Yarra Ranges Shire, \$3,000
- Ringtail Possum Retreat, Wyndham City, \$2,456
- REACH OUT WILDLIFE LTD, Alpine Shire, \$2,882
- Nutfield Wildlife Shelter, Nillumbik Shire, \$3,000
- Joey and Bat Sanctuary, Mitchell Shire, \$1,563
- Mallacoota Wildlife Shelter, East Gippsland Shire, \$2,000
- Weelam Wildlife Shelter, Mornington Peninsula Shire, \$1,500
- Jillyara, Cardinia Shire, \$1,000