



Facts about Australian Wildlife

- Australia has the worst rate of mammal extinction in the world. Since European settlement in 1788, more than 10 percent of mammal species have disappeared from Australia's outback.
- In addition to this, more than 1,700 species are currently facing extinction. If we don't act promptly, then there will be more extinctions.
- It is incredibly important to care for Australian wildlife because a lot of these animals cannot be found *anywhere* else in the world. Once they are lost in Australia, they are lost globally forever.
- Ecosystems are delicate structures between the climate, environment, and wildlife. In Australia there are high dependencies between native plants and animal species. It is important to maintain wildlife populations, as each species plays an important role in helping others survive.
- Australian wildlife is under huge threat from introduced species such as feral cats and foxes, and habitat degradation.

Habitat degradation

- The clearing of forests is called deforestation and is a significant issue for Australian wildlife. It means that animals lose their homes, making it difficult to reproduce and find food.
- In addition to land clearing, bad fire management practices and the impact of feral herbivores and weeds are also impacting our natural environment.

Feral predators

- In Australia, the most significant driver of mammal extinctions has been predation by feral cats and foxes.
- There are approximately three million feral cats in Australia, and they are the biggest threat to Australian wildlife. They kill millions of native animals every day.

What is Australian Wildlife Conservancy doing?

- Purchasing and acquiring land through partnerships with Indigenous groups, governments and private landholders. This allows us to implement practical land management (feral animal control and fire management) which is informed by world-class science.
- AWC manages the biggest network of feral cat and fox-free land on mainland Australia where we have successfully reintroduced endangered species to their former habitats.

What can you do to help?

- Spread the word for wildlife! Tell your family and friends all about Australian wildlife, the challenges they face, and why we need to protect them!
- Check out our Kids' Corner on our website, to find 10 creative ways to help wildlife!