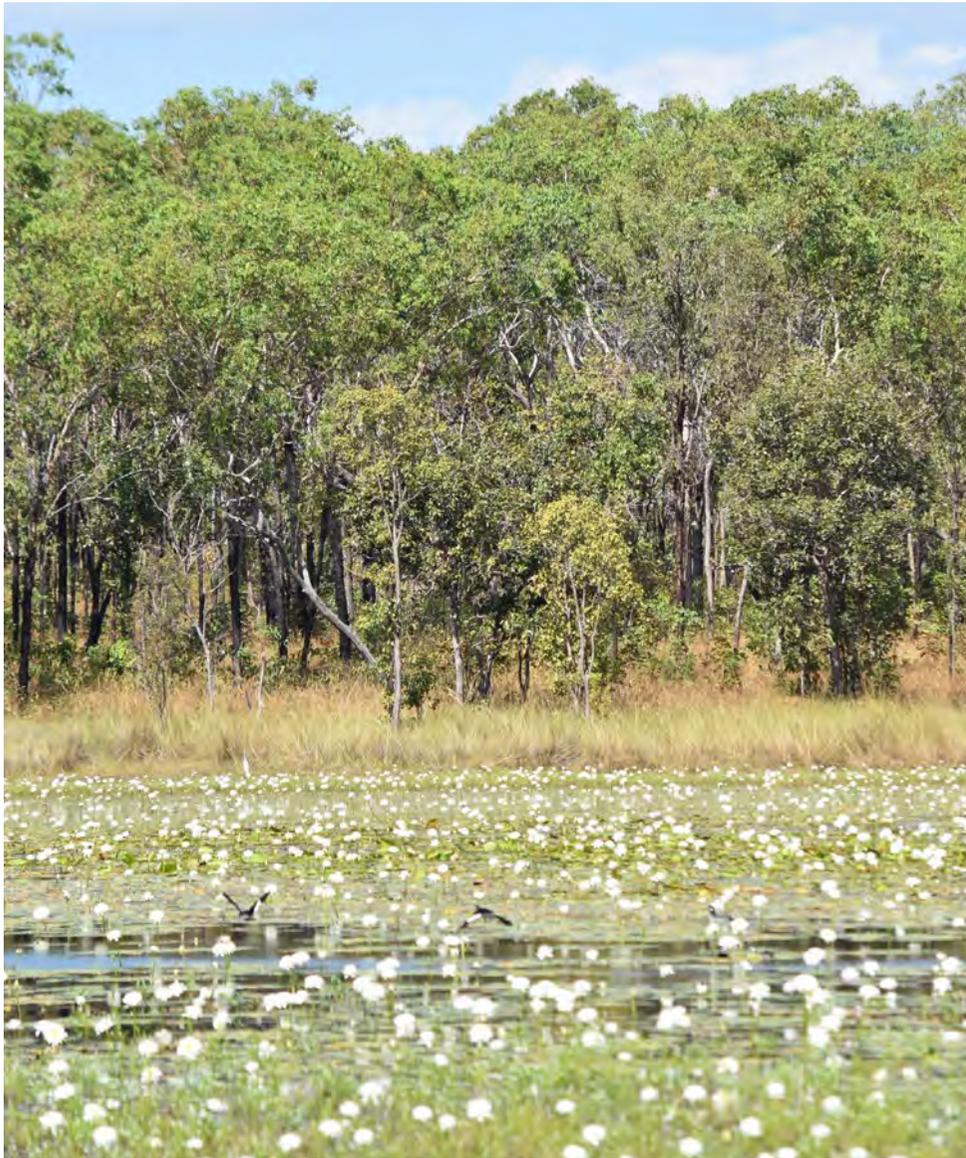


National Parks
Conservation
Trust



2021–22
Annual Report



Wetlands, jointly managed Kakadu National Park. Photo credit: Brad Desmond

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Country

The National Parks Conservation Trust acknowledges all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traditional Custodians of Country and recognises their continuing connection to land, sea, culture and community. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

In this document, where appropriate, we use the local Indigenous name for the land, place, animal or plant. We recognise that different Indigenous names may be used in other parts of the country.

© Copyright 2022 National Parks Conservation Trust

Contents

The National Parks Conservation Trust	4
Our Vision	4
Our Purpose	4
Where We Work	5
Our Focus Areas	6
Our Growing Impact	7
Report from the Chair	8
Report from the Ex-Officio	10
Our People	12
Our Partners	18
Activities and Outcomes 2021–22	20
Independent Audit Declaration	26
Financials for 2021–22	27
Independent Audit report	35
Appendix A: National Parks Conservation Trust Partners	38



Fructing palm, Norfolk Island National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

The National Parks Conservation Trust

The National Parks Conservation Trust (Parks Trust) is a registered charity with tax-deductible status. It is governed by an independent board of Trustees and operated by a small team.

The Parks Trust is the charity partner of Parks Australia. All our projects are underpinned by this unique and valuable partnership.

The Parks Trust collaborates with Parks Australia to bring unique on-ground knowledge and shared connections with Indigenous communities, as well as access to world-leading science and research, to enable projects that deliver meaningful impact.

We engage with philanthropic, government and corporate organisations as well as individual donors to raise funds for innovative conservation projects in iconic Commonwealth terrestrial and marine parks.



Eastern Water Dragon, Australian National Botanic Gardens. Photo credit: Parks Australia

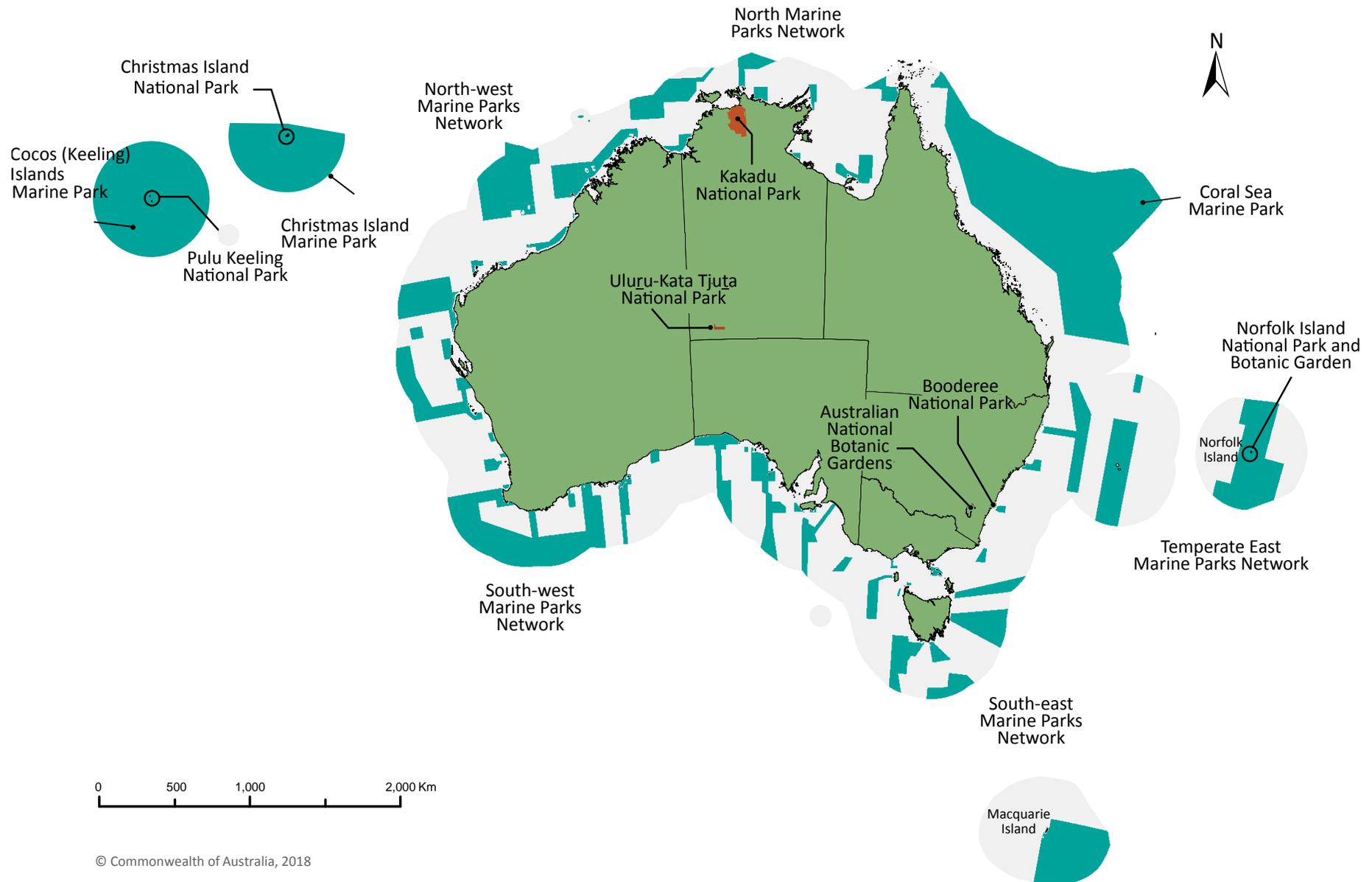
Our Vision

To conserve Australia's plants, animals and cultural heritage by bringing people together.

Our Purpose

To enable partnerships supporting the conservation of Australia's plants, animals and cultural heritage through transformational initiatives in and beyond Commonwealth national parks.

Where We Work



© Commonwealth of Australia, 2018

Our Focus Areas



Repair Locally: Conserve Nationally

Turn around the decline in Australian native species and their abundance through reintroduction of species in Commonwealth national parks.

Suppression of invasives threatening the survival of Australian species is a critical component to achieving the end goal.



Strong Indigenous Culture in the jointly managed parks

Indigenous led projects preserving language, culturally significant places and providing social and economic benefits to Indigenous communities at Kakadu, Uluru-Kata Tjuta and Booderee.



Ocean Discovery and Restoration

Sustainable management of our oceans through ambitious, impactful projects across the marine protected areas estate that address gaps in marine research knowledge and restore habitats.

Our Growing Impact



9
projects



8
target species



34
partner
organisations



5
First Nations People
collaborations



\$1.7M
cash raised for
conservation



\$650K+
in kind support
for conservation

Photo credit: Parks Australia

Report from the Chair

It has been very rewarding to see significant progress in a number of our projects during the past twelve months. This includes the completion of the first year of **Survive and Thrive** and **Keeping Anangu law and culture strong at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park**, commencement of lessons in the **Christmas Island Junior Ranger Program** and the start of the **eDNA and the Tjakura** project. Specialist scientific equipment funded through last year's **Seed the Future Online Auction** also continues to arrive and will be relocated to the new National Seed Bank on its completion in 2024.

Another major new conservation initiative for the Parks Trust in 2021–22 was the **Ocean Discovery and Restoration Program** – designed to amplify ocean discovery and marine habitat restoration.

The Parks Trust is working with the Director of National Parks and Marine Parks Australia to identify and steward new partners interested in joining the program and I look forward to the identification and approval of new projects under this program in 2022–23.

In early 2022, I was very pleased to accept the position of Chair of the National Parks Conservation Trust. I would like to thank the outgoing Chair, Philip Finley, who as one of the founding Trustees, undertook the role of Chair from the registration of the Parks Trust in 2018 until the end of 2021. Under his guiding hand, the Parks Trust established its foundations, created its initial network of partners and began delivering exciting conservation projects in the parks. I am delighted Philip has agreed to stay on as a Trustee.



Divers, Coral Sea Marine Park
Photo credit: Parks Australia

There have been other changes to the Committee of Trustees over the past twelve months. We welcomed Minda Murray, a proud Yorta Yorta Dunderoo woman from Victoria. Her expertise and experiences in Indigenous governance and environmental management will greatly strengthen the Parks Trust. We also welcomed Sarah Hardy. Sarah brings extensive experience and knowledge across philanthropy and the non-profit sectors as well as her shared vision for supporting the environment and communities in regional and rural Australia. Combined with the complementary skills and experience of our other Trustees, Guy Fitzhardinge and Peter Hofer, we are very well placed to guide the ongoing development of the work of the Trust and ensure it will make a significant contribution to the conservation of Australia's natural and cultural heritage.

This year, we farewelled Craig Connelly. As a foundational Trustee, Craig played a significant role in shaping the focus of the Parks Trust and emphasising the importance of our partnership with Parks Australia – enabling as it does, a strong science basis for Parks Trust projects and bringing scale and national impact to natural and cultural heritage projects. We will greatly miss Craig's contributions but know he will continue to share his commitment and passion for philanthropy and conservation in Australia through other forums.

The reach of the Parks Trust continues to grow. It was exciting to welcome Meredith Dellar, as our first Director of Philanthropy, knowing she brings a new depth of knowledge and experience to our network building and fundraising activities. Meredith has already strengthened the governance of our donor outreach and stewardship program and initiated the Parks Trust's first tax appeal raising support for threatened seabirds on Christmas Island.

I am pleased to present the 2021–22 Annual Report for the National Parks Conservation Trust, the third for our charity. Despite ongoing challenges from the global pandemic, the Parks Trust continues to support conservation in and around Australia's iconic Commonwealth parks.

This work could not take place without the support of private and public partners who share our commitment to the conservation of Australia's natural environment and cultural heritage. I would also like to acknowledge and thank Dr Judy West (Ex-Officio) and the Parks Trust team for their ongoing dedication and support for the Parks Trust.

Together we are making a positive difference to the future of some of Australia's unique and special places.



Dr Rhondda Dickson

Report from the Ex-Officio

The work of the Parks Trust relies on its unique partnership with Parks Australia, the government authority that manages the Commonwealth terrestrial and marine parks of Australia. This partnership ensures all Parks Trust projects are of high priority, informed by on-ground expertise, have unique access to on-country knowledge and connection with Indigenous communities, as well as access to world-class science and the latest research from the field.

The positive impact of the Parks Trust will be focussed over the next few years under three key areas – **Repair Locally; Conserve Nationally; Keeping Culture Strong in the Jointly Managed Parks**; and **Ocean Discovery and Restoration**. After much discussion with Trustees, Parks Australia staff and independent experts, these three focus areas have been identified as critical needs to be addressed if the Parks Trust is to achieve its purpose.

Repair Locally: Conserve Nationally, focuses on the need to find new and innovative ways to address the impact of invasive species and to improve the health of our parks' ecosystems so they can support the reintroduction of locally extinct native species.

Building long term partnerships with First Nations People and helping to keep their culture strong is at the centre of the Parks Trust's work. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Anangu Communities Foundation, the Central Land Council, the Australian

Alps First Peoples, the Tjakuṛa Rangers and the Traditional Owners of our jointly managed parks – Booderee, Kakadu and Uluru-Kata Tjuṛa National Parks – for sharing their knowledge, skills and experiences and working with us to build a healthier and more secure future for land and sea country.

Launched in late 2021, the creation of the Ocean Discovery and Restoration program has been a major development for both Parks Australia and the Parks Trust. Australian Marine Parks cover 2.8 million square kilometres and protect representative examples of our marine environments, from tropical waters in the north, to temperate and southern sub-antarctic waters. There is still much to discover about these vast and remote places, with around 75% of the marine park estate unexplored. The Australian Government has committed \$15 million to the program and the Parks Trust is working with the Director of National Parks to identify and secure partners to deliver ocean discovery and marine habitat restoration projects and to improve our understanding and sustainable management of the marine parks.

The work of the Parks Trust could not continue without the support of its funding partners and donors, and I would also like to acknowledge and thank you for your support. In particular, I note the success of the inaugural Parks Trust 2021–22 Tax Appeal, raising funds to support the ongoing work of the Christmas Island Seabird Rehabilitation Facility.



Wirrimbirra White waratah, Australian National Botanic Gardens. Photo credit: Murray Fagg

It has been a very successful year and I am excited by the growth in the Parks Trust's network of partners and progression to tangible on-ground conservation activities. Please consider the conservation outcomes the Parks Trust is delivering and how you could work with us to help ensure our iconic Commonwealth



Sky-blue crab, Christmas Island National Park. Photo credit: Brad Desmond

national parks and gardens continue to protect Australia's unique and spectacular natural and cultural heritage.

Dr Judy West, AO

Our People

The Parks Trust is governed by a Committee of Trustees meeting quarterly throughout the year. They bring a wealth of experience and dedication to our work.

Management Committee

Dr Rhondda Dickson (Trustee Chair; 2022)

Rhondda has retired from a thirty-year career in the Australian Public Service where she made substantial contributions to tackling many national environmental challenges. Starting in the mid-1980s she spent four years in CSIRO's Division of Wildlife and Ecology tasked with attracting external funds for the Division's research. In the 1990s she made a major contribution in developing and implementing national forest policy and negotiating regional forest agreements with five states. In the early 2000s she focused mainly on biodiversity and land management policy and implementing the Natural Heritage Trust and the National Action Plan on Salinity. Later in that decade she was responsible for cross-government policy co-ordination of industry, agriculture and environment policy in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. She became a Deputy Secretary in the agriculture department in 2010. In 2011 she was appointed Chief Executive of the Murray Darling Basin Authority and led the Authority in the development, negotiation and passage into law of the Basin Plan. Her last role before retiring in 2016 was as Deputy Secretary

in the Department of the Environment and Energy responsible for climate change policy.

Craig Connelly (Trustee – ending June 2022)

Craig is the Chief Executive Officer of The Ian Potter Foundation. He was appointed in 2015. Craig previously spent twenty-five years working in a variety of roles in the Australian financial services sector, initially with respected chartered accounting firm, Price Waterhouse, followed by eleven years as a leading Australian equities analyst and partner with JB Were. In 2004 Craig successfully established his own Australian Equities long/short fund before selling his interest in the fund in late 2011. Craig is a founding Board member of Watertrust Australia Ltd, a charity whose mission is to improve how water and catchment policy decisions are made in Australia. In early 2021, Craig also joined the Board of Sane Australia, a national mental health charity supporting people affected by complex mental health issues.

Philip Finley (Trustee)

Philip has a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from the ANU. He is admitted as a Barrister to the Supreme Court of NSW and solicitor to the High Court and ACT Supreme Court. Philip's legal background involved an extensive administrative law career in senior legal positions in several Commonwealth departments and agencies. This was followed by serving as a legal member of

the Social Security Appeals Tribunal. He currently provides legal assistance to the Canberra Community Law Centre in Canberra. Philip provided legal advice and assistance to the Australian Seed Bank Partnership from April 2013 to early 2021. This involved assisting the National Coordinator in relation to a range of legal issues arising from agreements and funding arrangements with partner organisations as well as agreements with the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and other donor organisations.

Dr Guy Fitzhardinge AM (Trustee)

Guy has extensive experience in land management, in supporting aspirations of Indigenous people, in business and philanthropic activities. He holds many qualifications including a Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics, a Master's Degree in Applied Science and a Doctorate of Philosophy looking at the relationship between people and landscape. He is also a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. In 2013, he was recognised for his significant service to conservation and the agricultural industry as a Member of the Order of Australia. In addition to managing his own pastoral enterprise in central NSW, Guy is currently a Governor of WWF Australia (World Wildlife Fund) and the Chair of the Northern Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance. He was the founding Chair of Karrkad Kanjdji Trust which was established to support the aspirations of the Traditional Owners of the Djelk Indigenous Protected Area

and the Warddeken Indigenous Protected Area (in west Arnhem Land) in land management and cultural preservation. He has previously been a director of Bush Heritage Australia, Meat and Livestock Australia, the Meat Research Corporation and Chairman of the Beef Genetics Cooperative Research Centre. As a member of the Threatened Species Scientific Committee for twelve years, Guy provided advice and guidance from a community perspective on the listing of threatened species and communities under the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.



Bowali Visitor Centre, Kakadu National Park Photo credit: Parks Australia

Sarah Hardy (Trustee)

Sarah Hardy has extensive experience and knowledge across philanthropy and the non-profit sectors as well as her shared vision for supporting the environment and communities in regional and rural Australia. Currently the CEO of The Ross Trust, Sarah is an experienced chief executive officer, senior executive and board member with a demonstrated history of working in philanthropy and the non-profit sectors for over thirty years. Strong business acumen includes established skills in governance, finance, strategy and risk, grant making, cultural change, communication and reputation management, fundraising and executive leadership. With a particular interest in rural and regional Australia, mental health and education, Sarah co-founded the national not-for profit, Youth Live4Life in 2010. Her experience is underpinned by national and international academic study, including post graduate study at Melbourne University, Harvard University, John F Kennedy School of Government and Stanford University's Graduate School of Business. Sarah is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Executive Colloquium at Cranlana Centre for Ethical Leadership.

Peter Hoefer (Trustee)

Peter is the Managing Director of Resolution Consulting Services, which is a niche public sector management specialist based in Canberra and Sydney. Prior to forming his own management consulting business,



Leichhardt's grasshopper, Kakadu National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

Peter was employed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with the former Federal Department of Social Security, responsible for \$50 billion in annual appropriations. This role provided extensive experience in executive level corporate governance with a direct report to the CEO, member of the Board of Management and Audit Committees, and Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee. As CFO, Peter managed the transition to the new Family and Community Services (FaCS) portfolio, including the introduction of an outcome/output-based management framework.

Minda Murray (Trustee)

Minda is a proud Yorta Yorta Durooa woman. She has spent the most part of her life so far on country along the Murray River, enjoying learning about culture and the environment. She has a Bachelor of Environmental Science and twelve years in the environmental management sector in the Victorian public service, catchment management authorities and Aboriginal organisations. She studied a Master of Applied Anthropology and Participatory Development at Australian National University whilst working in Victoria in Aboriginal Policy and Strategy for the Victorian government. She also participated in the Indigenous Governance Program at Native Nations Institute, University of Arizona in 2020, before moving to Canberra to embark on a PhD in Aboriginal Self-determination and agreement making in her home state of Victoria.

Dr Judy West AO (Ex-Officio member)

Judy is the Assistant Secretary, Strategic Partnerships and Australian National Botanic Gardens Branch, with Parks Australia. She oversees Parks Australia's science, natural resources and knowledge-management activities; is the Executive Director of the Australian National Botanic Gardens; and manages Parks Partnerships. Judy has more than thirty years experience in scientific research and policy as a research scientist in CSIRO Plant Industry and Director of the Centre for Australian National Biodiversity Research and the Australian National Herbarium. She holds an adjunct professorial position at the Australian National University. For her contributions to Australian plant systematics and Australia's Virtual Herbarium, she was awarded the Nancy Burbidge Memorial Medal in 2001 and an Order of Australia in 2003. Judy's scientific expertise is in plant systematics and phylogenetics, biodiversity informatics and conservation biology. Using her skills developing partnerships that link science and policy, Judy is building an active science and knowledge-management network in Parks Australia.

The Team

Karen Moloney (Executive Officer)

Karen has over fifteen years' experience in government policy and program roles in climate change, energy and the environment. She has a Bachelor of Environmental Science, Graduate Certificate in Accounting and is an accredited Partnership Broker with the Partnership Brokers Association. Prior to taking on the Trust role, Karen led the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment Partnerships Team, working with government, the not-for-profit sector and philanthropy to grow cross-sector partnerships.

Meredith Dellar (Director of Philanthropy)

The National Parks Conservation Trust welcomed Meredith Dellar as the incoming Director of Philanthropy in October 2021. Prior to joining the Parks Trust, Meredith was the Development and Communications Manager at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory. She has also worked for the Northern Territory Government and state organisations Victorian Opera, Orchestra Victoria and Regional Arts Victoria delivering funding, marketing and education outcomes. Meredith is on the board of Darwin Symphony Orchestra and PhotoAccess and is a current member of the Institute of Community Directors Australia.



Pink anemone fish. Photo credit: Parks Australia



Red-tailed black cockatoo, Kakadu National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

Marina Walkington (Communications Officer)

Marina has over twenty-five years' experience delivering environmental policy and programs with the Commonwealth Government's Department of the Environment leading the development of the National Reserve System and the protection and recovery of Threatened Species and Ecological Communities. In between sharing stories about the work of the Parks Trust, she is working to restore a 150-year-old stone cottage and regenerate a 283-hectare degraded dairy property in the Bega Valley.

2021–22 Meetings of the Management Committee

Trustee	23/09/21	01/12/21	17/03/22	16/06/22
Craig Connelly	1	1	–	1
Rhondda Dickson	1	1	1	1
Philip Finley	1	1	1	1
Guy Fitzhardinge	1	–	1	1
Sarah Hardy*	–	–	–	–
Peter Hoefler	1	–	1	–
Minda Murray**	–	–	–	1

*commenced June 2022

**commenced March 2022



Painted Fingers orchid, Booderee National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

Our Partners

“The partnership between National Parks Conservation Trust and Christmas Island School is the best kind of collaboration to get things done. This WA Education accredited program will benefit both the students taking part and WA Parks Christmas Island Tourism into the future.

I believe the best way to protect the environment is to encourage the participation of younger generations in programs just like this. Once they are in it, it belongs to them, and they will fight hard to protect it. Legislation alone does not deliver this benefit.”

John T Reid Charitable Trusts – Funding partner for the Christmas Island Junior Ranger Program

Collaborative and mutually beneficial partnerships enable successful project design and implementation across Australia. We gratefully acknowledge the organisations and individuals who were vital to our successes in 2021–22.

In addition to our existing partners, we were pleased to establish new partnerships with the Anangu Communities Foundation, the Tjakuṛa Rangers, the Australian National University (ANU), the Australian Government Indigenous Languages and Arts program, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and Wettenhall Environment Trust. A full list of our partners can be found at Appendix A.

The work of the Parks Trust is also supported by generous donations from individuals that share our vision, many of whom choose to remain anonymous. We would like to thank these special people who share our commitment and passion for ensuring the future of Australia’s natural environment and cultural heritage.

“Thrilled with the outcome of the project, please pass on our best to your team. Brilliant to see the wider coverage that the project gained!”

ActewAGL – Funding partner for Survive and Thrive



Ashmore Reef Marine Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

Activities and Outcomes 2021–22

Two new Parks Trust projects commenced this financial year.

Keeping Anangu law and culture strong at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park was initiated with Fionn Griffin appointed as project co-ordinator and discussions on the framework for the management plan digital storybook started. This project will create the first traditional language Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park Management Plan (2020–30) in Pitjantjara/Yankunytjatjara as well as providing employment and learning about film making for Anangu people. This project will mean the Management Plan becomes more accessible to the Anangu population, addressing inequity in language, and enabling the Anangu people to better engage with the plan, make more informed contributions to its implementation and be part of informed decision making.

Another ground-breaking project started this year is a collaboration between the

Anangu people, CSIRO, Parks Australia, ANU, Wettenhall Environment Trust and the Parks Trust to help conserve the **Tjakuṛa (Great Desert Skink)** at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.

This project is using innovative techniques to extract environmental DNA (eDNA) from in and around the Tjakuṛa burrows. The eDNA information collected will be integrated with data from burrow surveys conducted by Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park staff with the Anangu and Traditional Owners and provides a unique opportunity to combine cutting edge science with traditional knowledge to improve long-term management of this culturally important and threatened species.

A critical component of this project is the employment of an Anangu team leader. The Anangu team leader will coordinate involvement of Traditional Owners at Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and the Tjakuṛa Rangers (who assist in managing



Field work, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.
Photo credit: Parks Australia

the environment and cultural values in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and the surrounding Indigenous Protected Areas (Katiti Petermann)). The Anangu team leader will also share information gathered with the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands, who are similarly working to protect the Tjakuṛa.

The **Ocean Discovery and Restoration Program** was launched in late 2021.

The Australian Government has committed \$15 million to co-invest with partners to amplify ocean discovery and marine habitat restoration. Collaborative partnerships will enable larger scale impact and project results including cutting edge science discoveries, protection of iconic threatened species populations, research and restoration of unique, fragile ecosystems. The Parks Trust is working with

the Director of National Parks to identify and secure partners for the program and provide co-investment support as a registered charity. Projects approved as part of the Program will commence in 2022–23.

In April 2022, the Parks Trust launched its first end of financial year **Tax Appeal**. The successful tax appeal encouraged donations in support of the ongoing work of the Christmas Island Seabird Rehabilitation Facility – ensuring injured and orphaned birds on Christmas Island,

including many threatened species, can be rehabilitated and released to the wild. In particular, the tax appeal targeted the conservation of three iconic threatened seabirds that occur on the island, the Abbott’s Booby, Christmas Island Frigatebird and the Golden Bosun. Funds raised through the appeal will be used for ongoing habitat conservation, veterinary care for bird rehabilitation, and specialist research to help these threatened birds.



Marine debris collection, Coral Sea Marine Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia



Juvenile bosun bird, Christmas Island National Park. Photo credit: Brad Desmond

Projects that commenced in the previous financial year are also progressing well.

The **Christmas Island Crab Cadets and Student Ranger Program** is being delivered by Lin Gaff, the lead teacher for the program. Both primary and secondary school curriculums, complemented by an after-school program, are now underway. There has been a very high level of engagement in the program



Junior ranger classes, Christmas Island National Park.
Photo credit: Samantha Wright

from students of all ages as well as strong ongoing community interest and support.

The first year of **Survive and Thrive: Fire recovery and climate change resilience for threatened sub-alpine plant species** has also been very successful with location and collection of plant material from all five highest priority plant species. The aim of the multi-partner project is to collect seeds and vegetative material



Viola improcera, Australian National Botanic Gardens.
Photo credit: Parks Australia Bec Hyland

and undertake scientific research to understand the germination cues to grow these poorly known species. This knowledge, combined with scientific propagation research, will help create ex situ conservation collections and the foundations for future rewilding if required. Earlier in the year, we were delighted to facilitate a volunteering field trip to Kosciuszko National Park for a group of the energetic and environmentally conscious staff from Atlassian. Under the expert guidance of National Seed Bank Curator, Tom North, the group helped with ethical seed collecting for the sub alpine region including species targeted by the Survive and Thrive project.

The National Seed Bank, located within the Australian National Botanic Gardens, collects and stores native seeds of Australian flora as an insurance policy for our environment in case of impacts to their survival such as flood, fire, predation and climate change.



Seed scientist, Australian National Botanic Gardens.
Photo credit: NPCT Meredith Dellar



Collection of popwood seeds, Norfolk Island National Park.
Photo credit: Parks Australia Tom North



Rainfall at Uluru, Winner of OzParksPics.
Photo credit: Emma Blythman

New equipment for the National Seed Bank, funded through the Parks Trust facilitated **Seed the Future Online Auction** in 2021, continues to arrive. This included incubator monitoring systems, a Climatron, seed moisture detector and two seed temperature gradient plates. All the new equipment will be relocated to their permanent home

in the new National Seed Bank building scheduled to be completed in 2024.

The **OzParksPics 'Moved by Nature'** photo competition concluded this year. The winner was Emma Blythman for her beautiful image of fog wrapping Uluru after a rare rainstorm. Emma received a cash prize and an opportunity to enjoy

a unique visitor experience at one of our iconic Commonwealth National Parks. Thank you to all participants who submitted their wonderful images and to everyone who voted for their favourite. It was a competitive field with each image reminding us of just how beautiful and special our parks are.

The Parks Trust also continues to promote the Australian National Botanic Gardens' **Everlasting Circle Bequest Program** and we would like to thank our Ambassador for the program, Lesley Jackman, for her ongoing support.

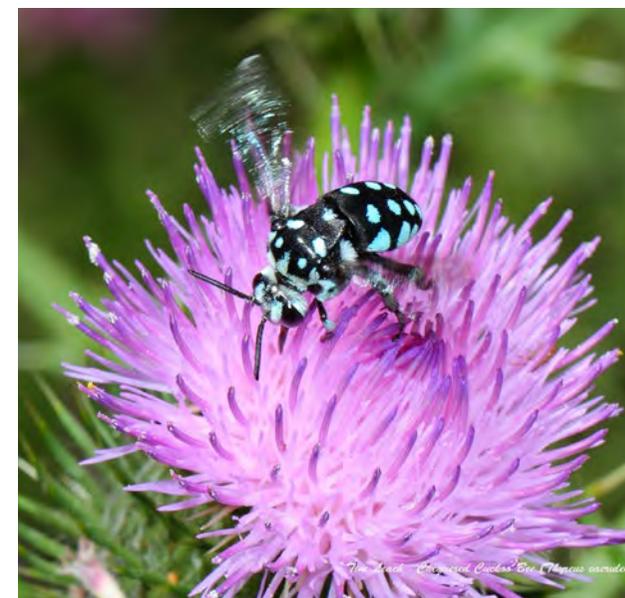
In 2020–21, the Parks Trust continued to foster support for long term conservation projects in each of the Commonwealth terrestrial parks. These projects are designed to support the critical ongoing conservation needed to keep our globally significant national parks healthy and include:

- **A safe shelter for baby birds** – Supporting injured and orphaned birds at the Christmas Island National Park seabird rehabilitation facility.
- **Conserve ancient art and culture** – Supporting Indigenous rangers to maintain and conserve ancient rock art at Kakadu National Park.

- **Diversity is key** – Contribute to restoring biodiverse habitats through the replanting of native forests at Norfolk Island National Park.
- **Protect one of the last unspoilt islands** – Supporting ongoing conservation to protect the pristine Pulu Keeling National Park in the Indian Ocean.
- **Safe for babies** – A sanctuary (Ashmore Reef Marine Park) for over 100,000 migratory birds and turtles is under threat. Help make it safe again.
- **Safeguard the future of threatened Australian plants** – Supporting the Australian National Botanic Gardens to look after our threatened (and most at risk) native plant species.
- **Support native mammals to establish new homes** – Supporting the reintroduced populations of previously locally extinct species including Eastern quolls at Booderee National Park.

- **Understanding and protecting the great desert skink** – Supporting ongoing tracking and monitoring activities to protect the great desert skink (Tjakuṛa) in Uluru-Kata Tjuṛa National Park.

More information on all these projects can be found on our Parks Trust website: <https://parkstrust.org.au>



Native Domino bee, Australian National Botanic Gardens. Photo credit: Parks Australia



Wildflowers, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia

Independent Audit Declaration



AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER S60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 TO MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION TRUST

As lead auditor of National Parks Conservation Trust, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2022 there have been no contraventions of:

- i. the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Barrett'.

James Barrett, FCA
Canberra, ACT
Registered Company Auditor
BellchambersBarrett

Dated this 12th day of October 2022

Financials for 2021–22



NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION TRUST
A.B.N. 56 192 820 884

FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS

For the period ended 30 June 2022

ABN 56 192 820 884

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Trading Income		
Bushfire Recovery	237,272	37,273
Change for Change	8,117	2,519
Christmas Island Junior Ranger Program	-	57,500
Ongoing AMP Ashmore	10	12
Ongoing ANBG	11,302	150
Ongoing CINP	3,879	1,115
Ongoing KNP	790	805
Ongoing NINP	1,100	475
Ongoing PKNP	21	25
Ongoing UKTNP	7,670	75
Ongoing BNP	5	-
Seed the Future	37,895	68,327
Uluru Storybook	220,454	-
Protect Seabirds Coral Sea	10,000	-
Total Trading Income	538,515	168,276
Other Income		
Bank Interest	2,200	853
Total Other Income	2,200	853
Operating Expenses		
Bank Fees	106	84
General Expenses	1,659	313
Gifts and Donations	750	-
Grant: Seed the Future	31,500	75,000
Grant: Ongoing ANBG	10,000	-
Grant: Christmas Island Junior Ranger	33,562	-
Grant: Bushfire Recovery	48,761	-
Platform Fee	309	329
Total Operating Expenses	126,647	75,726
Net Profit	414,068	93,403

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2022

ABN 56 192 820 884

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Assets			
Online Payments	3	-	2,560
NP Conservation Trust	3	309,314	184
NPCT Public Fund	3	305,354	629,271
NPCT Term Deposit	3	460,000	-
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable		50	-
Prepayments		300	-
Accrued Income		1,917	-
Total Assets		1,076,935	632,015
Liabilities			
Accrued Expenses		9	39
GST		32,545	1,663
Total Liabilities		32,554	1,702
Net Assets		1,044,381	630,313
Equity			
Current Year Earnings	4	414,068	93,403
Retained Earnings	4	630,313	536,910
Total Equity		1,044,381	630,313

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 June 2022

ABN 56 192 820 884

The financial statements of the National Parks Conservation Trust have been prepared in accordance with the Trust Deed to meet the needs of stakeholders and to assist in the preparation of the tax return.

1 Basis of Preparation

The Trust is non-reporting since there are unlikely to be any users who would rely on the special purpose financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies described below and do not comply with any Australian Accounting Standards unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises of cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

The Trust has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Companies in the current year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 June 2022

ABN 56 192 820 884

Operating grants, donations and bequests

When the Trust receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant - recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement;
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Trust:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (e.g. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138);
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Trust recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 June 2022

ABN 56 192 820 884

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

No Income tax is payable by National Parks Conservation Trust as the entity is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

3 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Cash at Bank	614,668	632,015
Term Deposit	460,000	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,074,668	632,015

4 Retained Earnings (Accumulated Losses)

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Retained earnings (Accumulated losses) at the beginning of the financial year	630,313	536,906
Net profit attributable to beneficiaries	414,068	93,403
Adjustment of prior year amounts	-	4
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	1,044,381	630,313

The Chair of the Management Committee declares that the Trust is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The Chair of the Management Committee declares that:

- 1 The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 2 to 7, present fairly the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements;
- 2 In the Chair's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Trust will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Chair:  Rhondda Dickson

Dated this day of 8 October 2022

Independent Audit report



p (+61 2) 6239 5011
e admin@bellchambersbarrett.com.au
Level 3, 44 Sydney Avenue,
Forrest ACT 2603
PO Box 4390 Kingston ACT 2604
ABN 14 942 509 138
bellchambersbarrett.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES OF NATIONAL PARKS CONSERVATION TRUST

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of National Parks conservation trust (the trust), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Trustees declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of National Parks Conservation Trust has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (the ACNC Act), including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – AASB 1060: *General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ACNC Act and ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the ACNC Act, which has been given to the Management Committee of Trustees (the Trustees) of National Parks Conservation Trust, would be in the same terms if given to the Trustees as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The trustees' are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Trustees of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the ability of the registered entity to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the registered entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.



p (+61 2) 6239 5011
e admin@bellchambersbarrett.com.au
Level 3, 44 Sydney Avenue,
Forrest ACT 2603
PO Box 4390 Kingston ACT 2604
ABN 14 942 509 138
bellchambersbarrett.com.au

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Barrett'.

James Barrett, FCA
Canberra, ACT
Registered Company Auditor
BellchambersBarrett

Dated this 12th day of October 2022

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



Appendix A: National Parks Conservation Trust Partners

Existing partners

Australian Alps First Peoples
Australian Alps National Parks
Cooperative Program
ACT Government Environment and
Sustainable Development
ACT National Parks Association
BellchambersBarrett
Botanical Bookshop
Christmas Island District High School
Christmas Island Phosphate Resources Ltd
Commonwealth Department of
Agriculture, Water and the Environment
Foundation for Rural Regional Renewal
Friends of the Australian National
Botanic Gardens
Grants Instruments
Jindi Eco Spa
J.T.Reid Charitable Trusts
NSW Planning and Environment
Parks Australia
Pollen
Thermoline Scientific
Tim Fairfax AC
Resolution Consulting Services
Underground Spirits
World Wide Fund for Nature-Australia

New partners in 2021–22

ActewAGL
Australian Government; Indigenous
Languages and Arts
Australian National University
Anangu Communities Foundation
Central Land Council
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial
Research Organisation
Harris Estate Charitable Foundation
IQnexus
NatureMap Canberra
Tjakuṛa Rangers, Uluru
Traditional Owners of Uluru-Kata Tjuṛa
National Park
Wettenhall Environment Trust



Anemone, Christmas Island National Park. Photo credit: Parks Australia



Propagating rare fern, Booderee National Park. Photo credit: NPCT Meredith Dellar

Contact us

National Parks Conservation Trust

ABN 56 192 820 884

parkstrust.org.au

hello@parkstrust.org.au | +61 2 6250 9426

GPO Box 1777 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Environmental credentials

EcoStar+ 100% recycled uncoated is an environmentally responsible paper made Carbon Neutral and the fibre source is FSC (CoC) Recycled certified. ecoStar+ is manufactured from 100% post consumer recycled paper in a process chlorine free environment under the ISO 14001 environmental management system.