

Australian Quoll Conservancy

AUSTRALIAN QUOLL CONSERVANCY (AQC)

Introduction

The AQC is a not for profit community based organisation focused on the conservation of quolls across Australia. Quolls are the largest carnivorous marsupials found on the Australian mainland. There are 4 species of quolls in Australia, all of which have experienced drastic declines in population including many local extinctions. In many parts of Australia, this worrying trend continues and has hence resulted in all four species of quolls in Australia being classified by either state or federal governments as being endangered or becoming extinct.

Aim

The key aim of the AQC is to arrest the decline of quoll populations across Australia and attempt to reverse such declines to ensure the long term survival of all quoll species in Australia.

Objectives

The objectives of the AQC are as follows:

- To ensure the protection of remaining quoll populations and their habitat across Australia;
- To reverse the declining trend of quoll populations nationally and - where possible - increase populations by re-establishing populations which have become locally extinct and by expanding the range of existing populations;
- To raise awareness in the local, regional, national and international community of the plight of quolls and what efforts individuals, groups and companies can make to reverse the decline;
- To work collaboratively across the country with communities, conservationists, scientists, indigenous groups, researchers, government agencies and the private sector to forge collective efforts to protect quolls and their habitat;
- To use a range of technology to gather data on the population of quolls in Australia by obtaining sightings from the community, receiving information from researchers and undertaking camera surveys in habitats suitable for quolls;
- To educate the public about the importance of quolls within the ecosystem, the threats that they face and how they can assist in preserving quolls;
- To assist researchers requiring information or support during relevant studies relating to quolls;

- To share information with respect to quoll populations, threats, habitat requirements, etc amongst researchers, national parks, government agencies, the community and other conservation groups in an effort to forge collective conservation outcomes;
- To restore and protect key remaining habitat;
- To protect the flora and fauna that lives side by side with quolls and support the groups and researchers working towards the conservation of such flora and fauna;
- To monitor existing quoll populations; and
- To encourage, support and be active in pest eradication programs and support groups involved in such activities.

Action Plan

The AQC objectives will be achieved through the following actions:

- by protecting and purchasing suitable habitat for conservation purposes;
- by engaging and obtaining support (both physical and financial) from the public, conservation groups, government and the private industry with respect to quoll conservation;
- by supporting and/or leading captive breeding programs and subsequent release of animals into the wild;
- by supporting and/or establishing responsible pest management including potential biological control of pests;
- by supporting and/or leading revegetation of land and creation of wildlife corridors for connectivity;
- by supporting and/or leading relocation of animals where possible to suitable habitat;
- by supporting and/or leading a controlled domestic pet industry for quolls;
- by supporting and leading actions and efforts focused on ensuring the long term survival of quolls across Australia and the preservation of their habitat;
- by supporting and leading research into, and monitoring of, quoll populations;
- by supporting and assisting conservation groups and researchers dedicated to the protection of quolls and the flora and fauna that lives side by side with quolls, and
- by promoting awareness off quoll conservation issues to the public through media, presentations and other mechanisms.