

INVASIVE SPECIES SOLUTIONS TRUST

PREDATOR PROOFING PARTNERSHIP

Invasive species are the number one issue facing Australia's environment. We have the highest rate of vertebrate mammal extinctions in the world. Invasive species have contributed to the extinction of 64 Australian native species.



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The Invasive Species Solutions Trust is the philanthropic arm of the Centre



CENTRE FOR
INVASIVE SPECIES SOLUTIONS



Defining the problem

Seventy-three species of introduced vertebrates roam our continent, including 25 mammals, 20 birds, four reptiles, one amphibian and at least 23 freshwater fish, but just, three (rabbits, pigs, cats) and an endemic plant pathogen known as Phytophthora cinnamomi, threaten more than 800 threatened species. Feral cats and foxes are the major drivers of native mammal extinctions. They are responsible for at least 25 native mammal species across central and southern Australia. The survival of 124 more species are threatened by feral cats alone.

The challenge is for all Australians to work together and produce new ways to stop the harm caused by invasive species. More than 1,250 (eight in 10) of Australia’s land-based threatened species are imperiled by invasive species.

The New Zealand Approach

The origin of Predator Free NZ can be attributed to two champions – Les Kelly and Sir Paul Callaghan. They raised the idea of a predator free New Zealand as a moonshot goal. With support from a large NZ NGO – Forest and Bird , the Predator Free NZ Trust was established. In response to increasing momentum and public appetite for more action to protect native biodiversity, the NZ Government announced the creation of Predator Free 2050 Ltd in 2015. Predator Free 2050 is a charity which directs Crown investment into an overarching goal, forests rid of the devastating impacts of stoats, rats and possums by 2050.

Predator Free 2050 brought together central and local government agencies, New Zealand philanthropists, non-government organisations, businesses, science and research organisations, communities, landowners and individuals. Achieving this ambitious goal continues to be a team effort.

A critical initial step of the Predator Free 2050 Ltd was the establishment of Zero Invasive Predators Ltd (ZIP Ltd) to develop the new tools, techniques and strategies needed to completely remove possums, stoats and rats from large areas. The Centre for Invasive Species Solutions, like ZIP Ltd, is a leader in the development of tools, techniques and strategies to control invasive species.



Australia’s opportunity

Australia is a world leader in developing pest and weed solutions, such as biocontrol agents and baits. We now need to take advantage of new genetic and digital technologies to create solutions for the 21st century that can find and manage invasive species more cheaply, easily, and quickly. These new technologies have the potential to be game changers in how we tackle pests and weeds in the future.

Launched in 2017 as the successor to

the 12-year Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions is now a fully developed and operating national collaborative invasive species RD&E institution. The collaboration consists of 17 members and partners with support from another 60 research organisations.

The Centre has created the systems and tools necessary to achieve reductions in invasive predators and through this the protection of Australia’s threatened species, it’s environment and primary production livestock. Those three critical systems and tools are:

- Scientifically developed tools
- Support for community based networks from our National Co-ordinators and FeralScan community groups
- A true commitment to achieving goals through active collaboration



Australia is making headway, but the impact of invasive predators is growing rapidly. We need to attack this problem with greater urgency. If like us you have been inspired by the Predator Free NZ movement and would like to be a leading partner in supporting the creation of a major Australian funding partnership facilitated by the Centre and consisting of Government, Corporate and Philanthropic members, we would welcome an opportunity to talk with you.

Project Title	Summary	Funding Request	Investment Sought
Predator Proofing Partnerships	Form a coalition of committed contributors to emulate the New Zealand example by contributing towards a fighting fund that develops transformational and large scale solutions to control predatory invasive animals and protect threatened species from extinction. The New Zealand model features a multi-million investment from a coalition of philanthropists. Their investment then attracted further investment from the New Zealand Government.	The Centre is seeking to facilitate a coalition including business, philanthropic trusts and public entities to make an urgent and significant contribution to strengthening predator solutions to better protect the Australian Environment (especially threatened species) and to support primary producers.	To discuss your interest in joining us in this partnership please contact us.
Actioning and sharing best practice invasive species control through demonstration sites	The Centre is seeking to work with private landholders, and those landholdings held by charitable trusts. The aim is to create an onsite program where people are trained to apply the Centre’s knowledge and technologies to detect invasive animals (especially predatory ones) and remove them from the site. Once the site is free of predators, there will be the opportunity to introduce selected threatened species and begin a rewilding process.	With extra funding, the Centre will be able to urgently work more closely with land trusts and local Landcare groups using our current resources and obtain surveillance equipment to monitor and remove invasive predators from fenced parcels of land.	The cost will vary dependant on the size of the land parcel to be cleared of predators. Interested supporters are invited to make contact so that we can co-design a more detailed proposal for you.



Are you ready to be a Predator Proofing Partner?

The groundwork has been laid through collaboration, but current resources cannot address the problem fast enough to save the threatened species which will become extinct within the decade without urgent action. Your support will help us leverage our existing partnerships.

Whatever assistance you can offer, we would like to hear from you.

Please email us at trust@invasives.com.au
or phone +61 2 62012887

Our Current Partners

Collaboration is the foundation for our success of creating and distributing our invasive species solutions.

The team is expanding to make a difference to the Australian environment. The problem is larger and more urgent than our existing team has the ability to solve.

Members



Associate Members



Partners



Contact us

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