



# Nature's Champions

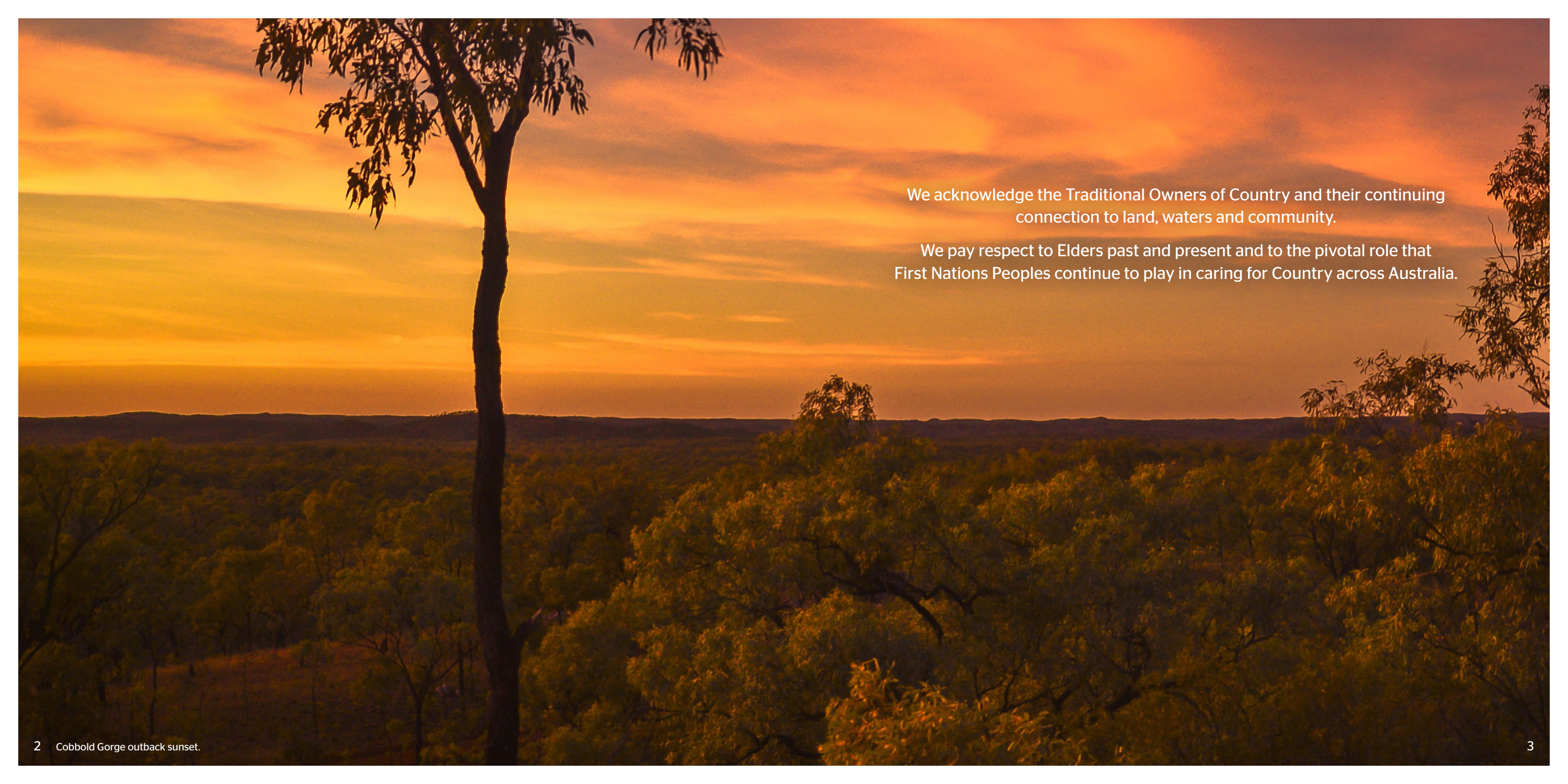
an incredible force  
for nature 🌿

**Nature needs us, now**

An opportunity for transformational giving



**AUSTRALIAN  
CONSERVATION  
FOUNDATION**



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country and their continuing connection to land, waters and community.

We pay respect to Elders past and present and to the pivotal role that First Nations Peoples continue to play in caring for Country across Australia.



We are the  
**Australian Conservation  
Foundation (ACF),**  
Australia's national  
environment organisation 

**Since 1965, we've protected the nature we all love - our unique wildlife and our beautiful beaches and bush.**

Driven by the power of people, we won World Heritage listing for the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu National Park, and returned precious water to the rivers of the Murray-Darling.

We influence governments and businesses to protect the animals, rivers and reefs close to our hearts and hold decision-makers to account without fear or favour.

Everything we do is evidence-based and helps nature and people thrive for generations to come.

**We won't give up until Australia's nature is protected and regenerated.**

# A message from the CEO



## Imagine an Australia where nature and people thrive together.

A future where our air and water are clean, our forests and oceans are teeming with wildlife, and everything is powered by the sun and wind. This is the future Australian Conservation Foundation is working towards - a future that isn't just possible but necessary for our kids and grandkids.

It's a true privilege to lead Australia's most respected voice for nature and climate at such a critical time. ACF has a proud history of over 60 years as Australia's national environment group. With our bold leadership and relentless advocacy, ACF mobilises communities, changes the narrative and applies sustained political and corporate pressure at decisive moments.

**And we win.** When nature lovers come together with a shared vision, real change happens. From protecting iconic places like the Great Barrier Reef to winning reforms to Australia's national nature laws, we have seen the power of collective action.

But the challenges ahead are immense and this decade will define our future. With the extinction and climate crises intensifying, we must grow a people-powered movement that stands up for nature, challenges corporate and government harm, and pushes for the bold change our planet needs. We believe that's the only way to deliver the scale and speed of transformation we need.

**ACF is leading this charge, but we cannot do it alone.** Only sustained advocacy, enabled by philanthropy, can meet this challenge. Nature's Champions are a small group of generous, committed, and passionate people who make it possible for ACF to campaign for a better world.

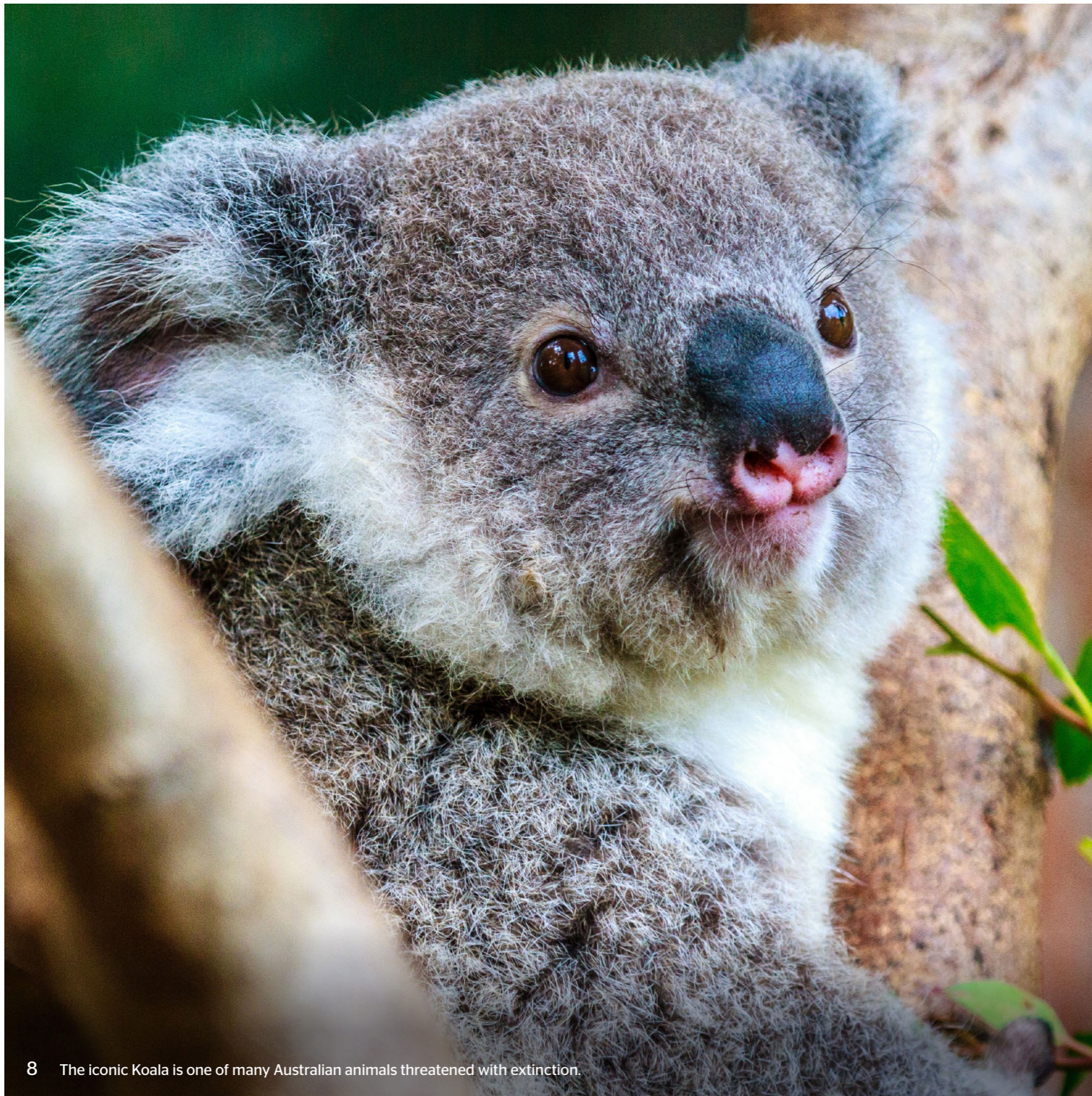
I invite you to join us in this exciting next chapter, steadfast in our mission to end extinction and stop habitat and forest destruction - for the nature we love, and for future generations. .

### Dr Adam Bandt

CEO, Australian Conservation Foundation



Sunlight glowing golden on a eucalyptus sapling.



# Our **change strategy**

**We champion big, bold solutions for big impact because nature is in crisis and needs us, now.**

We use evidence-based advocacy, courage, creativity and common sense to fight for nature's right to thrive. We work together with First Nations People who have cared for Country since time immemorial.

We advocate without fear; we expose corruption and destruction and create real solutions for a better future. We champion our trees, communities, reefs and wildlife.

**We show up, speak out and act.**

This decade, Nature's Champions will play a vital role in the fight to turn our climate and extinction crises around.

This is what your support enables us to achieve:



## **DISRUPT BUSINESS-AS-USUAL THAT HARMS NATURE**

We expose undemocratic and unlawful acts and shift public debate through investigations, litigation and the media.



## **CREATE SOLUTIONS FOR NATURE AND PEOPLE**

We inspire communities, businesses and governments to protect nature and our climate through policy, laws and investments.



## **ACTIVATE PEOPLE TO STAND UP FOR NATURE**

We have over half a million supporters and over 40 community groups.

We change the hearts and minds of people across Australia and empower them to stand up for nature by meeting with their MPs and business leaders, holding community forums and talking to their neighbours.

# 60 years of impact



Left ACF helped win World Heritage listing for the Great Barrier Reef  
Right Timeline of ACF wins by illustrator Jess Harwood

From a handful of people taking a stand to protect the Great Barrier Reef 60 years ago, to over half a million nature lovers today, the ACF community has been involved in nearly every significant environmental win in Australia.

60 years is barely a blip in a rich 60,000-year history, but in that time, we have led or contributed to campaigns that have protected:

**National Parks** - 6.1 million hectares (almost the size of Tasmania)

**Marine Parks** - 134.3 million hectares (about the size of the Northern Territory)

**World Heritage Sites** - 42.9 million hectares (twice the size of Victoria)

**Nature Reserves** - 385,359 hectares (Almost 90% of the size of Kangaroo Island)

**Land returned to Traditional Owner Management** - 1.2 million hectares (half the size of Greater Brisbane)

**International** - 1.4 billion hectares (that's 1.5x the size of Australia!)

Reforming Australia's national environment laws was our latest major win for nature, underpinned by ACF's bold, relentless leadership and strong support from our community. By shifting the political debate and mobilising widespread public and parliamentary pressure, ACF helped turn a once-in-a-generation opportunity into real, lasting reform, and delivered stronger national environment laws and meaningful protections for Australia's forests.



**OUR VISION**

We see an Australia where  
**nature and people thrive**

**OUR MISSION**

We empower people to  
**stand up for nature**

**Nature  
needs us,  
now**

# Right now, Australia is in the middle of an extinction crisis.

Climate-wrecking fossil fuels and habitat destruction are our biggest threats.

**To solve this, we need big, systemic change.**

Powered by **Nature's Champions**, we'll work together to tackle the climate crisis and **stand up for nature** with our two key campaigns:



## Save our big backyard

**PROTECTING AND REGENERATING NATURE TO END EXTINCTION  
AND CREATE A HEALTHY NATURAL WORLD.**

Australia is full of incredible places and home to wildlife found nowhere else on Earth with 80% of our species unique to Australia.

**But nature in Australia is in trouble, and so are we.**

Bush is being bulldozed and fires, floods and drought fuelled by climate-wrecking coal and gas are destroying nature and driving wildlife to the brink of extinction. Australia is already a world leader in extinction with over 2,000 Australian species on our national threatened species list.

**To turn this around, our Nature's Champions will enable ACF to:**

- Hold the government accountable to implementing Australia's new nature laws so we ensure they deliver for nature and push back against efforts to weaken the new laws.
- Raise Australians' awareness of the extinction crisis to build greater urgency and action.
- Drive a shift to deforestation-free food and ensure banks only fund deforestation-free agriculture.

# Renewable Powered Australia

**POWERING EVERYTHING WE CAN WITH RENEWABLES TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE FOR THE PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES AND NATURE WE LOVE.**

Our communities and wildlife are suffering the firsthand impacts of extreme weather events fuelled by the climate crisis.

Floods, heatwaves, droughts and bushfires are getting more frequent and more extreme. Climate damage is here, now.

Meanwhile, our governments are spending billions in public money on coal, gas and oil and Australia is the third largest exporter of carbon emissions through coal and gas. **We know the problem, but we also have smart solutions.**

The answer is powering everything we can – our homes, transport, cities, farms, industries and exports – with our abundant wind, solar and know-how.

**Powered by Nature's Champions, ACF will act to:**

- Raise the government's climate ambition and focus on nature positive renewables.
- Build public opposition to coal, gas and nuclear, while increasing support for renewables.
- Stop fossil fuel expansion and shift Australia from dirty to clean exports.



16 Aerial view of a wind farm on the stunning Australian coastline.



Sheep and solar panels coexist on Winton solar farm.

## With your help, by 2030 we will:

- End extinction
- Stop bulldozing the bush
- Halt and reverse native habitat loss
- Replace 80% of coal, gas and uranium exports with renewables
- Ensure investors and food companies are coal, gas and deforestation-free
- Continue to work alongside First Nations People to amplify their voices and prioritise care for Country.

**Our goal is an Australia where nature and people thrive.**

# Caring for Country

**ACF respects 65,000 years of First Nations custodianship and recognises that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have nurtured and cared for Country since time immemorial.**

Together with First Nations People, we work to shift power back to Traditional Custodians – ensuring that First Nations voices are platformed and help shape the laws, policies and campaigns that impact their lands and our collective future.

Through collaboration, advocacy and grassroots mobilisation, we are pushing for systemic change that upholds First Nations rights.

Right now, coal and gas projects are threatening sacred sites and national environmental laws continue to fail to protect Country. We cannot afford to stand by while destruction continues and are working to:

- **EMPOWER FIRST NATIONS LEADERS** to shape environmental policies.
- **PROTECT SACRED LANDS AND WATERS** from destructive development.
- **AMPLIFY FIRST NATIONS VOICES** in conservation campaigns.
- **SUPPORT SYSTEMIC CHANGE** that upholds First Nations rights.

This is where you come in as Nature's Champions.

Your support will help build a future where First Nations People have real power in decision-making, where cultural heritage is protected, and where conservation efforts are led by the wisdom of the world's oldest living culture.

**Together, we can protect Country.**



ACF First Nations Lead, Josie Alec, holding the trunk of a beautiful eucalyptus gumtree in the bush. *Photo Chris Grose*



ACF's First Nations Lead, Josie Alec, standing on a beach in Warrnambool. *Photo Chris Grose*



20 ACF Kooyong campaign launch. Photo Julian Meehan

# Our **community**

**ACF is built around a supporter base of over half a million passionate, dedicated nature and climate advocates.**

People from all walks of life power our campaigns and push for real, lasting change to protect Australian nature for generations to come.

Farmers who love the land, First Nations People who protect Country from uranium mining and toxic pollution, and families who want to see a thriving future for their kids.

ACF community groups and volunteers who lead town halls, demonstrations and events and build power deep in their communities, over decades. The letter writers, the petition signers, the conversation starters.

Our environmental movement partners who we join forces with to drive bold change.

The scientists and researchers who help make sure our advocacy is evidence-based and solutions-focused.

**Everything we do is thanks to the generous and committed donors and bequestors who fund our work.**

**We bring people together to have the biggest possible impact for nature and climate solutions.**



Top Walk for Toondah 2023. Photo Greg Sullivan  
 Bottom Traditional Custodians and ACF's First Nations Lead, Josie Alec, at Parliament House, Canberra. Photo ACF

# Nature needs us, now.

## Will you stand with us as a Nature's Champion?

### Thank you for considering a significant gift toward ACF as a Nature's Champion.

To turn the climate and extinction crisis around, we must scale up our impact at this critical moment in history.

We must push for big, bold solutions to change laws, policies, investments and decisions across government and business.

More than simply creating one national park, building one renewable energy project or closing one coal mine at a time; we fight for change at all levels, from the halls of power to the local communities we live in.

We can't do this without you. Your significant gifts are unlike any others, they create transformational change to help us fight to end extinction, stop habitat destruction and protect nature.

We will halt climate-wrecking coal and gas expansions and power Australia and the world with renewables.

Your donations are tax-deductible and can be directed towards supporting specific areas of ACF's vital work.

We invite you to join our community, embrace the opportunity for transformational giving and help create a fair future for all Australians.

### Now is the time to act.

## Join ACF in creating an Australia where nature and people thrive.

## Meet a Nature's Champion

For more than 50 years, Dr Michael Williams has been a steadfast force for nature - as a donor, campaigner, community leader and advocate for environmental justice.

A long-time member of ACF, Michael's deep commitment to protecting the planet earned him the 2025 Queensland Gives Environmental Philanthropy Award. But accolades have never been his motivation.

"I believe our environment underpins everything - our health, economy and wellbeing," says Michael, a paediatrician and grandfather of nine.

**"My concern has always been for the common good, especially for future generations. This is why I support the Australian Conservation Foundation, because it gives real force to the values I've spent my life backing: strong laws, fearless advocacy and a national voice that stands up to powerful interests when nature is under threat."**



"ACF turns concern into impact, and by supporting them, I'm helping protect a safer future for the generations that follow.

"It was an honour to receive the award and I gratefully accepted it on the premise that it encourages others to give and be active for nature.

**"We all have a role to play."**

# Working together.

# That's how we change the world

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  Australian Conservation Foundation

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