



CURRUMBIN
WILDLIFE
SANCTUARY 

ANIMAL WELFARE CHARTER

 NATIONAL TRUST

ZOO
AQUARIUM
ASSOCIATION

ANIMAL
WELFARE
ACCREDITED

**ANIMAL WELFARE
COMMITTEE ROLE:**

To serve as an internal advisory committee to key department stakeholders and make recommendations pertaining to all animal welfare matters at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary.

VISION:

Positive welfare for every animal in our care through a deep understanding of individual needs.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is committed to promoting positive welfare by providing an environment that meets the physical, psychological and social needs of all animals in our care.



ANIMAL WELFARE

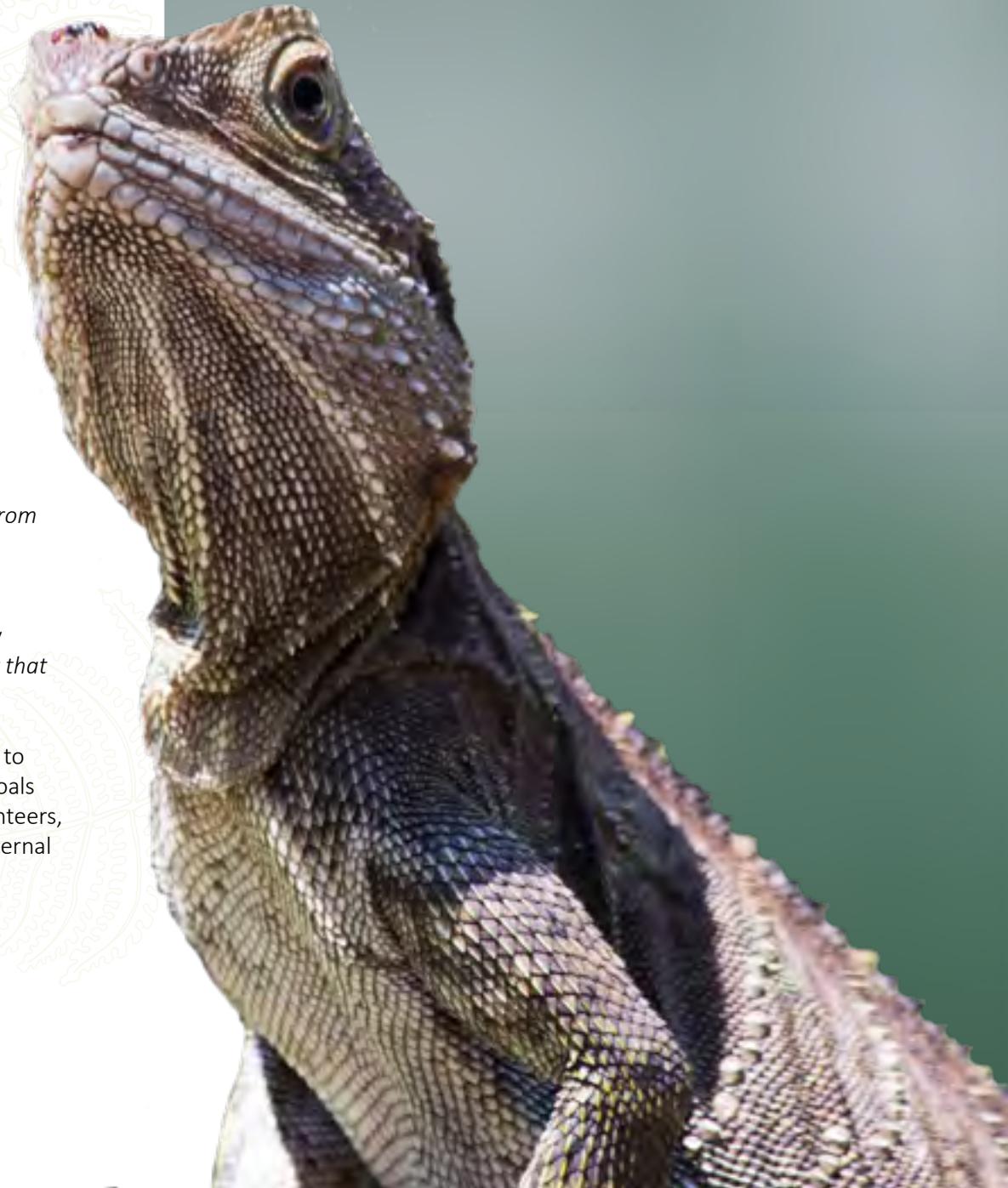
Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary accepts the following definition of animal welfare by the Zoo and Aquarium Association (ZAA) of Australasia.

“Animal welfare means how an animal is coping with the conditions in which it lives. It refers to what an animal itself experiences. The treatment that an animal receives is covered by other terms such as animal care, animal husbandry, and humane treatment.”

An animal is in an acceptable state of welfare if (as indicated by scientific evidence) it is well nourished, comfortable, healthy, and able to express innate behaviour, and if it is safe and not suffering from unpleasant experiences such as pain, fear, and distress.

Acceptable welfare requires species-appropriate nutrition and physical environments, as well as disease prevention and veterinary treatment, supported by a knowledgeable and skilled management that incorporates humane handling.”

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary’s Animal Welfare Charter is intended to provide a framework that outlines our approach, application and goals pertaining to the welfare of all animals in our care for all staff, volunteers, National Trust of Australia (Queensland) members, internal and external stakeholders.



OVERVIEW

The vision of the National Trust of Australia (Queensland) is 'Lives enriched through a deep understanding of identity and place'. This vision also compliments the commitment of Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary towards the animals in our care; a desire to enrich the lives of each animal under our care through our understanding of each individual's identity and place.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is committed to the highest standards of animal welfare and husbandry for each animal in our care. We strive for positive welfare states in each animal by providing conditions for animals to thrive - not just physically, but also psychologically and socially. Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is committed to ensuring that high standards of animal welfare are achieved in conjunction with our commitment to conservation, education, recreation and research within our organisation.

In 2018 Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary saw over half a million visitors within the park and our Wildlife Hospital treated over 11,000 native Australian animals. With increasing pressure on

the environment, Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is committed to using our platform to support and promote local, state, national and international conservation initiatives. As conservation ambassadors and educators we recognise that we have a responsibility to ensure the highest welfare standards. As a reflection of our commitment, we will also ensure that animal welfare underpins all aspects of our strategic plans and daily operations.

In conjunction with our Conservation Management Plan and our Responsible Business Statement, the Animal Welfare Charter will encompass our commitment to promoting positive welfare to all animals within our care as well as our commitment and support for the ZAA Welfare standards and Welfare Accreditation Program. We aim to create a culture that promotes knowledge and understanding of animal welfare, not only among Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary staff but also extends to the wider community, ultimately affecting people's attitudes and values towards animals.

HISTORY

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary was founded by Alex Griffiths who was an Australian beekeeper, flower grower and conservationist.

Alex commenced feeding the local wild lorikeets at his 27-hectare family property located at Currumbin, Queensland in 1947, to distract them from damaging his prize-winning flowers.

Each day crowds of people would visit the Sanctuary to hold plates of bread and honey for the birds to gather around. The lorikeet feeding then featured in the October 1956 edition of National Geographic magazine article titled “The Honey Eaters of Currumbin” and this attracted international awareness of the Sanctuary which in turn saw an increase in visitor numbers.

In 1976, Alex Griffiths donated his family property to the people of Queensland, to be managed by the National Trust of Australia (Queensland). Originally called the Currumbin Bird Sanctuary, it was renamed Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in 1995 and in 2009 the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary was added to the Queensland State Heritage Register.

In 1989, the original Currumbin Wildlife Hospital was founded, and specialist veterinarians have been caring for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife ever since.

Today Alex’s legacy continues with Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary being home to over 800 animals. The Wildlife Hospital provides veterinary treatment to over 11,000 sick, injured and orphaned wildlife patients each year.

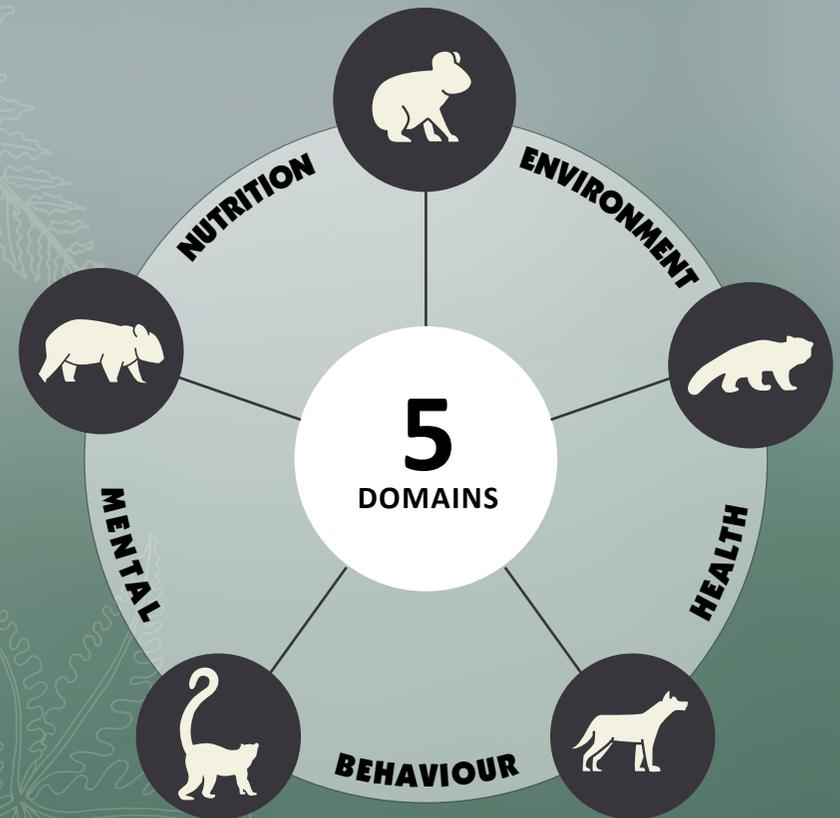


CHARTER

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary is a proud member of the Zoo and Aquarium Association (ZAA) of Australasia. We support the ZAA adoption of the Five Domains model as a contemporary framework to comprehensively assess different animal welfare states across taxonomic groups.

The application of the Five Domains (Nutrition, Environment, Health, Behaviour and Mental) framework supports a holistic care approach which strives for positive welfare states. Through improved understanding and knowledge, we aim to develop a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach using science-based evidence to make animal welfare decisions.

Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary maintains a diverse collection of native and exotic species, and we are committed to complying with all relevant industry policies and standards to meet and where possible exceed animal welfare expectations and minimum standards. We will engage in responsible species management planning including consideration of our facilities, knowledge and ability to provide care to our animals.



THE FIVE DOMAINS.

OUR COMMITMENTS TO THE ANIMALS IN OUR CARE ARE BASED ON FIVE DOMAINS.

NUTRITION

To ensure we provide species-appropriate nutrition and drinking water we will:

- Provide quality, hygienic food and water
- Provide a diet that meets the nutritional requirements of the species and offers appropriate choice and variation
- Evaluate and modify an animal's diet as required in conjunction with veterinary consultation
- Encourage natural species-specific feeding behaviours



ENVIRONMENT

To ensure we provide species-specific environmental conditions we will:

- Ensure safe and secure environments that comply with, or exceed, legislative requirements for all animals
- Provide enclosures that allow protection from the elements, intruders, pests, predators, physical injury and disease
- Provide enclosures that enable choice and opportunity for individuals and social groupings to express species-appropriate behaviours
- Provide suitably hygienic environments that can be readily serviced and refurbished
- Present animals with dignity in thoughtfully designed enclosures that allow for meaningful and educational guest experiences





HEALTH

To ensure a high standard of health care for all animals we will:

- Provide a prompt veterinary response to any injured or ill animal in our care
- Implement a pain management plan for each animal suffering from acute and/or chronic pain
- Deliver a comprehensive veterinary care program in administering effective medicines, surgery, diagnostics and pathology that will meet the highest industry standard for zoo and wildlife health care
- Provide preventative health care programs tailored to the individual animal or species including but not limited to, vaccinations, parasite control, quarantine, routine health appointments and aged health care plans
- Provide outcome-based animal training and conditioning that includes husbandry-based training programs
- Acknowledge that humane euthanasia is at times necessary to bring about the best welfare outcome for an animal
- Ensure regular observations and record keeping of each individual is maintained

BEHAVIOURS

To ensure all animals are able to express species-specific behaviours we will:

- Provide species-appropriate social groupings
- Provide the opportunity for behaviours that promote physical fitness and encourage natural social skills
- Provide the opportunity for species-specific behaviours through enrichment
- Develop breeding plans in conjunction with studbook coordinators to allow animals the opportunity to breed and display natural breeding behaviours
- Ensure that all animal-related staff are trained in behavioural observations and that they maintain accurate and detailed records of animal behaviours





MENTAL STATE

To ensure all animals are in a positive mental or effective state we will:

- Encompass all four Welfare Domains listed and evaluate through observation, experience, knowledge and understanding of the species and individual

CurrumbinSanctuary.com.au

28 Tomewin Street, Currumbin
Gold Coast, Queensland 4223, Australia