

Media Release
14 December 2020

Wildlife Victoria announces appointment of new CEO

The Board of Wildlife Victoria are pleased to announce the appointment of a new Chief Executive Officer



Incoming Wildlife Victoria CEO, Lisa Palma

Wildlife Victoria Chair, Catherine MacLeod, today announced the appointment of **Lisa Palma** as the organisation's new CEO. Ms Palma replaces retiring CEO Dr Megan Davidson.

Ms MacLeod said "After a comprehensive external search, the Wildlife Victoria Board is pleased to announce Lisa as our CEO, commencing today"

"Lisa is an impressive senior executive and a committed wildlife advocate and we are delighted to have secured Lisa to lead our organisation."

The not for profit organisation, which operates the State's wildlife emergency rescue service, has seen an increasing demand on its services year on year.

"With over 3 billion native animals lost in last summer's horrific bushfires, now more than ever there is a need to support and advocate for our wildlife and meet ever increasing community expectations on rescue and support for wildlife in trouble" said Ms MacLeod. "Lisa has both the executive skill set and deep experience in wildlife rescue and care to take Wildlife Victoria forward".

Ms Palma joins Wildlife Victoria after an extensive career as a corporate and not for profit senior executive. Lisa has an impressive track record of delivery and is proven as an engaging and inspirational leader. Ms Palma has been an active wildlife rescuer and rehabilitator for nearly 10 years and brings to the role both an on the ground operational perspective of wildlife rescue and care and a deep understanding of the issues facing our wildlife across the state. Ms Palma joins Wildlife Victoria after her most recent role as CEO of SisterWorks (a not for profit that helps women migrants, asylum seekers and refugees become financially independent). She has previously worked in senior executive roles in the banking sector for National Australia Bank and Macquarie Bank.

"I know Wildlife Victoria well, and it is an organisation that I am proud and privileged to be able to lead. I believe there are exciting opportunities to transform and grow the organisation to make an even greater difference to wildlife in this State. I look forward to engaging broadly across the community and into government and other agencies on key wildlife issues " Ms Palma said.

"Importantly, our volunteers are at the heart of what we do. With round the clock dedication and commitment they rescue and care for our sick, injured and orphaned wildlife and I look forward to recognising and supporting their efforts"

About Wildlife Victoria

- Wildlife Victoria is a not for profit wildlife Emergency Response Service that has been operating for more than 30 years focussed on the welfare of Australia's unique wildlife.
- Annually, Wildlife Victoria receives more than 88,000 requests for assistance and assists over 50,000 sick, injured or orphaned native animals.
- Wildlife Victoria educates the community about wildlife, and helps the community manage wildlife incidents. Wildlife Victoria advocates for wildlife whenever their welfare is under threat or compromised.
- More than 10,000 people and 153 organisations in the past four years have accessed outreach education activities run by Wildlife Victoria volunteers.

For media enquiries please contact Wildlife Victoria head office on 03 9445 0310 or email office@wildlifevictoria.org.au