

Ferox australis
Strategic Plan &
Annual Review
2022-23



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Executive Summary

Ferox australis, Latin for Wild of the South, is an Australian based not-for-profit organisation aimed at engaging citizens in science globally.

The ethos of our organisation is to increase public environmental education through the use of citizen science-related tools and initiatives.

The objectives of our organisation are to:

- Host, promote, and collaborate in ecologically focused events to engage local, national and international communities in citizen science activities.
- Work collaboratively with governments, council, and other environmentally focused groups in engaging the public in citizen science.
- Deliver environmentally-focused citizen science educational programs and workshops to the public.
- Connect individuals and communities in citizen science-related discussions and initiatives.
- Facilitate the collection, research, analysis and dissemination of scientific data with the public for environmentally focused projects.
- Promote discussion, awareness, and participation in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals related to biodiversity.

In the 2021-22 financial year *Ferox australis* commenced as an entity. The organisation was established to act as an entity to administer the Great Southern Bioblitz and explore opportunities to conduct community engagement activities within South Australia and beyond. In recognition of this as an organisation *Ferox australis* strives to work across language and cultural contexts across the southern hemisphere. *Ferox australis* recognises different cultural contexts that our events support and strive to provide equal opportunity of participation regardless of background. *Ferox australis* respects the significant role indigenous communities play as custodians of the world's biodiversity, and respect leaders past and present.

In the first year of operation the organisation was successful in obtaining several community grants and in running moth night community engagement activities.

Originally was formed to provide a legal structure to assist running the global initiative Great Southern BioBlitz since 2019, engaging 19 countries and recording almost 200k observations in the citizen science platform iNaturalist, in the last edition. We also promote local events in South Australia, such as the Moth Nights, Biodiversity Treasure Hunts, local engagement in the City



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Nature Challenge and guest participation in the Hiking Expo, SA Rogaining, and Belair Bush Buddies monthly activities. We have also attracted local grants, such as the National Science Week Community Grant, Nature Festival and the Rotary Club Community Grant.

Looking forward the organisation has several opportunities to build on previous success, however, there is a risk that the organisation lacks depth. As such additional local members need to be recruited and new partnerships with other groups need to be strengthened.

Review of activities

Community Engagement activities

Great Southern Bioblitz

In 2021 Ferox australis co-ordinated the second *Great Southern BioBlitz* with almost 200,000 observations recorded throughout the southern hemisphere. We were also approached by Seaslug Census to partner with them to run a side project, Seaslug Sunday. There is further opportunity to expand this event however, increasing the network of organisers and increasing communication is required.



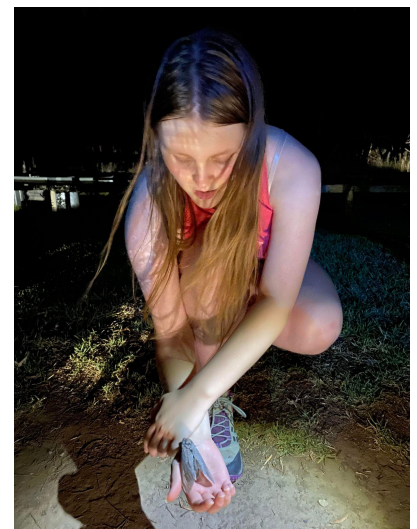
Moth night events

In 2021-22 Ferox australis initiated 'Moth nights' at brownhill creek in collaboration with The Bee hub at Brownhill Creek. The model was refined to include

- Ticketed event with a charge of around \$30
- A meal served typically cold, with a bar service available
- Two talks on some aspect of citizen science
- Several Moth sheets erected and participants introduced to iNaturalist

In 2021-22 we had 4 events.

[March Summary](#)



[January Summary](#)

Mylor Moth night

Ferox australis was invited to run an event for the Adelaide Hills Science hub at the Mylor oval. This was a fee based service (\$600), based on the Brownhill Creek events, without the meal component. The event was well attended and Ferox australis was invited to conduct further events for the Adelaide Hills Science hub. For a summary of the event please read the blog post [here](#)



Biodiversity Treasure hunt

Ferox australis was awarded a grant from the Nature festival in 2021 and held a Biodiversity Treasure Hunt at Belair raising \$168 in tickets in addition to the grant money.



Wildlife Treasure Hunt

SA Rogaining

Two trial events were run in partnership with SA Rogaining over the previous year while participation was low the enthusiasm of the organisation suggests that there is further potential and opportunity to explore different models of engagement. The first event was at the State

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championships while the second engagement activity was at Kuitpo Forest in the Adelaide Hills





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Situational Review

Grant applications submitted

Towards the end of the 2021-22 financial year *Ferox australis* submitted several grant applications being awarded a “Science week” Grant for a Biodiversity Treasure hunt, and a ‘St Peters Rotary Environmental Grant’ to undertake a project at St Peters Billabong.

Green Adelaide Grassroots Grant 2022- Butterfly gardens, aim to establish a citizen science monitoring program at various schools across the green Adelaide region.

2022 Canon Oceania Grants Program

Charity Status - Variations to the constitution have been made to allow for registration of charity.

Gap analysis

Grant applications, the organisation could improve its ability to effectively apply for grants by widening the pool of grant writers and reducing the burden on each individual. The group also needs to identify opportunities to apply for grants.

The organisation also needs to explore funding opportunities, separate from community grants.

Ferox australis needs to build capacity, increasing the size of the organisation particularly in South Australia where it has been undertaking in person activities.

Finances

Cost	Amount	Payee	Comment	Date
Loan payment	100	Stephen Fricker		13 March 2022
Account interest	0.01	Bendigo Bank		1 December 2021
Event payout	93.09	Eventbrite	Moth night & wildlife hike event	29 October 2021
Donation	500	Stephen Fricker	Nature Festival 2021 event	15 October 2021
Donation	66.47	Stephen Fricker		15 October 2021
Event payout	9.78	Eventbrite	How to use iNaturalist eventbrite workshop	13 April 2022
Grant payment	600	Sustainable Communities	Mylor moth night event	27 April 2022
Account interest	0.01	Bendigo Bank		1 July 2022
Grant payment	1,017.90	Inspiring SA, SA Museum, North Tce, Adelaide, 5000	National Science Week 2022 grant	21 June 2022
TOTAL	2387.26			
Grant income	2,117.90			
Event income	102.87	*Note that event income does not include any income made for all moth night events. It also does not include money made from our most recent national science week event.		
Miscellaneous	166.49			
OTHER NOTES: This financial statement only includes costs from 30/06/2021 to 30/06/2022.				



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Strategic initiatives and outlook

In the near future Ferox australis needs to investigate widening the membership and building capacity so the organisation can grow and remain sustainable.

Teacher personal development course for teachers

Ferox australis is developing a series of personal development courses for teachers in primary and secondary education. This is being headed up by Nicole Miller, Larissa Braz Sousa and Peter

Community Engagement activities

Moth night events

Building on the successful 2021-22 events a schedule of Moth nights at brownhill creek are to be scheduled and span the period from late September 2022 through to May 2023. This will be conducted in collaboration with The Bee hub at Brownhill Creek.

The format will be refined and a line-up of speakers established for the year.

Resources need to be expanded such as pinned collections, digital resources and equipment.

Great Southern Bioblitz 2022

Several partnerships over the GSB2022 weekend have been suggested, These will be pursued and relationships strengthened.

Adelaide hills Science hub

We have been invited to provide Citizen science engagement services for the Adelaide Hills Science Hub. The number and frequency of these services in the 2022-23 will be investigated.

Rotary Club of St Peters Environmental Grant

Successful \$1000 - to engage the public in environmental monitoring of St. Peters billabong. Specifically, the purpose of this monitoring activity would be to increase public environmental awareness using the citizen science platform, 'iNaturalist'. This would include a short formal introduction to the platform itself, introducing participants to the concept of citizen science and



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how to use the platform for the monitoring of local fauna and flora, followed by a two hour guided walk through St. Peters billabong. During this walk, participants will learn about the local fauna and flora found in the St. Peters area, whilst also getting the opportunity to use the 'iNaturalist' platform to submit observations of wildlife they have found with the help of our team. The long term outcomes of this event will be to increase overall participation in citizen science environmental monitoring of the St. Peters area.