



PURVES  
ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

2008 ANNUAL REVIEW





# Contents

<b>Chairman's Address</b>	04
<b>About the Purves Environmental Fund</b>	06
Vision	06
Mission	06
Objectives	06
Charitable purpose	06
<b>Activities and Organisations Supported During 2007/08</b>	08
<b>Overview</b>	08
<b>The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists</b>	09
Science Program	11
Tropical Forests Program	11
Professor Peter Cullen	12
<b>Environmental Education</b>	13
Australian Youth Climate Coalition	13
Thinking About Climate Change	15
On Borrowed Time	16
Weather or Not... it's a Climate for Change	16
Wakakirri	17
<b>Climate Change</b>	17
Total Environment Centre	18
The Climate Group Greenhouse Indicator	18
Emerald Awards	18
Australia 2020 Summit	19
<b>Capacity Building</b>	19
WWF New Zealand	19
Environment Business Australia	19
Environment Centre Northern Territory	19
<b>Other Environmental Projects</b>	20
Cents and Sustainability	20
State Library of New South Wales Fellowship in Environment and Conservation	20
On Our Watch	21
Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network	21
<b>The Year Ahead</b>	22
<b>Financial Summary</b>	23
2007/08 Expenditure Analysis	23
Applying for funding	23
Supporting the Purves Environmental Fund	24
<b>Governance</b>	25
Fund Structure	25
Board of Directors	26
Auditors	27
Environmental Policy	27

## Chairman's Address

I write this just post the release of the draft report of the government-commissioned Garnaut Climate Change Review. The report is clearly a landmark event and the reaction of the press intrigues me. The Sydney Morning Herald page one headline is "adapt or perish" whilst at the other end of the spectrum "Macka" on ABC weekend radio likens the climate change debate to McCarthyism. Despite the continuing minority of noisy naysayers, the speed with which this issue has moved up the agenda in every sphere - business, community, politics - gives me hope that we can indeed successfully address the biggest issue humanity faces.

Our focus again this year at the Purves Environmental Fund has been about getting better information into circulation on climate change. We have targeted projects that we judge to have leverage potential. We have looked for individuals and organisations that have a good record of delivery. Our core strategy on climate change, reflected in this year's projects, is to increase knowledge in our schools - through initiatives such as Thinking About Climate Change, an educational resource based on Tim Flannery's book *We are the Weather Makers*, and the Australian Youth Climate Coalition's Schools Climate Messenger project; and to increase knowledge in business through our continued support of Australia's peak environmental business association Environment Business Australia (EBA).

In 2007 we recognised the importance of capacity-building in environmental organisations. In addition to our support of EBA, the Purves Environmental Fund has funded a major project to help WWF-New Zealand build a membership base of 10,000 supporters. The project is on track to achieve its goals, which will immeasurably boost WWF-New Zealand's capacity to carry out its important conservation work.

The Purves Environmental Fund remains the primary funder of the influential Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists. The Wentworth Group has contributed enormously to promotion of solutions to Australia's critical environmental issues. The year sadly saw the passing of Professor Peter Cullen, one of the founding members of the Wentworth Group. Peter was an amazing man who greatly inspired me and no doubt many others. He was in his own league when it came to understanding water issues. More importantly, he was one of Australia's greatest communicators. His ability to clearly and simply articulate complex issues was unmatched. He will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him.

Looking forward to 2008/09 we have a number of projects under development that we hope will provide a useful contribution to getting action on climate change at a number of different levels. At the international level we have agreed to support the Copenhagen Climate Council, and we are considering several other exciting projects closer to home. We will also continue to help build the capacity of environmental organizations - to improve their ability to promote solutions on important domestic environmental issues such as land management and biodiversity conservation.

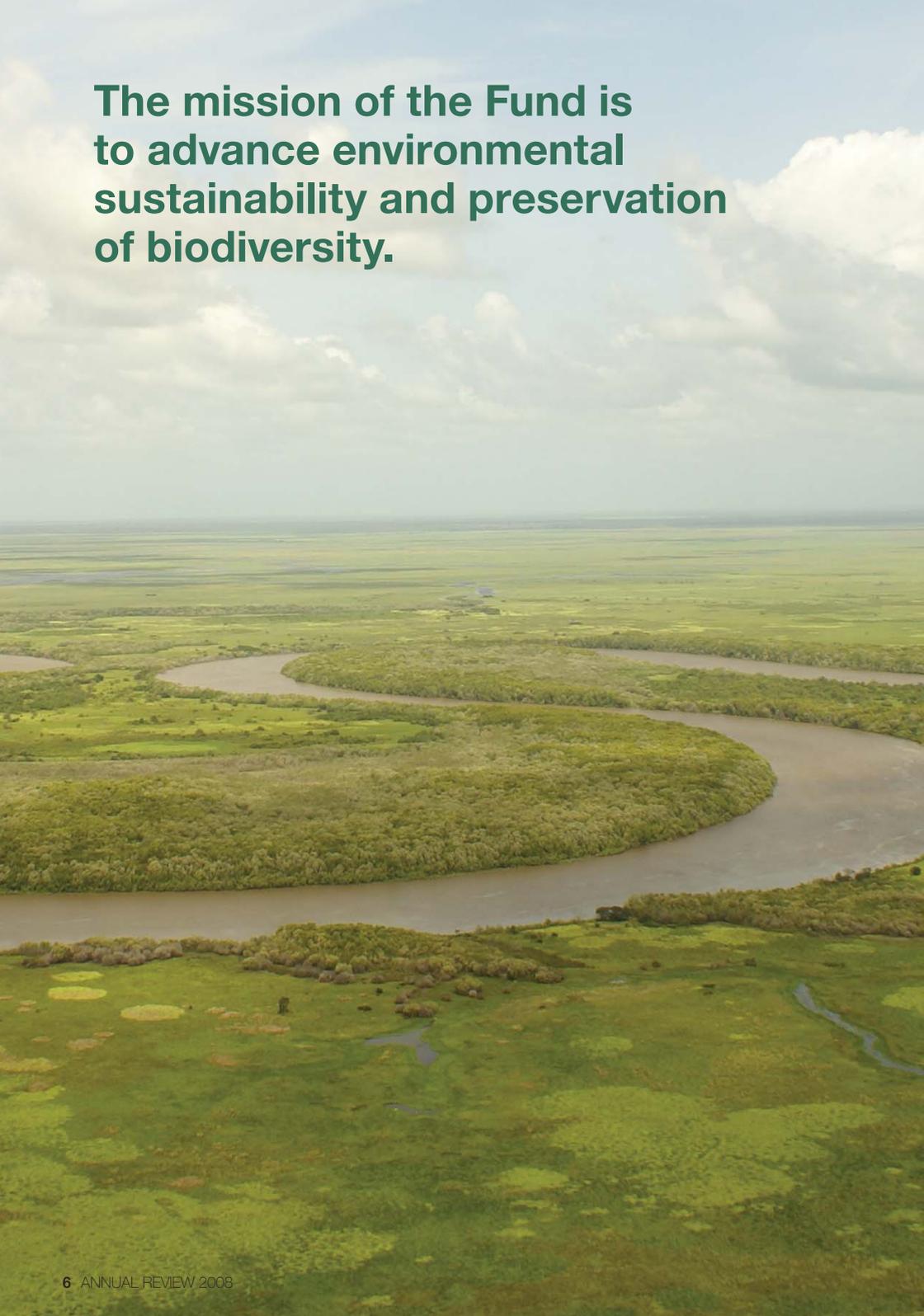
It only remains for me to say thanks again this year to Alison Atherton for her tremendous efforts in running the Fund. Also thanks to Andrea Hoole, Company Secretary, and Zoe Hamilton. I would like to acknowledge the wise council of my fellow Directors Richard Gelski and Geoff Brunson during the year. Finally, a warm welcome to Ian Pollard who joined the Board post year-end.



Robert E. Purves AM

September 2008





**The mission of the Fund is to advance environmental sustainability and preservation of biodiversity.**

## About the Purves Environmental Fund

---

### Vision

The Fund's vision is an environmentally sustainable world in which biodiversity is preserved.

### Mission

The mission of the Fund is to advance, primarily through education of individuals and organisations, environmental sustainability and preservation of biodiversity.

### Objectives

The Fund grants gifts (funds) to enable and empower others working towards environmental sustainability and preservation of biodiversity. We aim to:

- act as a catalyst to change;
- fill gaps in effecting change;
- break down barriers to action;
- support creation of new thinking and practice;
- provide bold leadership; and
- encourage participation of stakeholders

### Charitable purpose

The charitable purposes of the Fund are:

- (a) to protect and enhance the natural environment;
- (b) to enhance the protection of Australia's unique biodiversity for the benefit of future generations through the protection of native species and the ecological processes that support them, particularly in the primary production landscape;
- (c) to provide information and education about the natural environment and to improve the Australian community's understanding of the urgent need for greater sustainability; and
- (d) to support scientific research and field projects that are aimed at supporting catalytic work to find solutions for important environmental issues that are not currently supported by environmental groups or government.

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08

## Overview

2007/08 has been a huge year for the Purves Environmental Fund. We funded seventeen organisations and individuals across a diverse mix of projects and programs. The Directors continue to be delighted and encouraged by the innovation and creativity of the people we support. The Fund receives many high quality applications and regrettably we cannot support all of them. During the year we turned down a further twenty funding requests and at year-end several requests are still being considered.

The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, and its various program streams, continues to be the single largest recipient of support from the Purves Environmental Fund. We believe it is important that Australia has an independently funded scientific think-tank to work on the key environmental issues.

Environmental education and climate change remain core issues for the Fund. The Fund is supporting a number of projects that aim to provide learning opportunities for school students on the crucial environmental issues of climate change and biodiversity loss. The projects aim to equip students with the skills and knowledge they need to tackle these issues. We believe that education is essential to promoting sustainability in Australia.

In 2007/08 we have begun to invest in the long-term viability of the environmental NGO sector, by supporting capacity building programs. The Fund has also supported a variety of other projects including several books on critical environmental themes and a new Environment and Conservation Fellowship at the NSW State Library.



St Andrew's bay, South Georgia, Antarctica



Wentworth Group annual meeting

## The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists

[www.wentworthgroup.org](http://www.wentworthgroup.org)

The Purves Environmental Fund is the primary sponsor of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists and the Wentworth Science Program. The Wentworth Group is an independent group of leading Australian scientists. It was incorporated in December 2007.

Throughout 2007/08, members of the Wentworth Group continued to contribute to environmental management in Australia at the highest level. Members have particularly focused on engaging in environmental reform in the following areas:

### Water reform

The Group continued to make substantial contributions in the area of water reform.

Because of their long association with water reform, the Wentworth Group is seen as a truly independent voice for the Murray Darling Basin.

Since April, the issue of water reform has once again risen to the front of the broader political debate – with the ongoing decline in water availability in the southern Murray system, the risk of a catastrophic acidification of the Lower Lakes, and ongoing failure to accelerate reforms through COAG.

The crisis in the Coorong and Lower Lakes has become the potent physical symbol of the failure of not only water reform, but the sustainable management of the Murray Darling Basin more generally. With climate change, a climate shift, water extraction and the raft of other issues confronting this ecosystem, the long term solution to protecting this internationally significant wetland is to recognise it as the Murray River estuary and to manage it accordingly.

The Members of the Wentworth Group are Adjunct Professor Leith Bouly FAIC, Mr Peter Cosier, Professor Tim Flannery, Dr Ronnie Harding, Professor Hugh Possingham FAA, Mr Robert Purves AM, Dr Denis Saunders AM, Professor Bruce Thom FIAG FTSE, Dr John Williams, Professor Mike Young FASSA, Professor David Lindenmayer and Professor David Karoly. The late Professor Peter Cullen AO FTSE was a member of the Wentworth Group until his death in 2008.

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08

## Catchments of SEQ



Ecosystem Health  
MONITORING PROGRAMME PARTNERS

Image by Ecosystem Health  
Monitoring Programme Partners

## National Environmental Accounts

The Wentworth Group's Accounting for Nature: A Model for Building the National Environmental Accounts of Australia proposes that we confront the challenge of managing our natural capital with the same discipline with which we manage our economy. It sets out an environmental accounting system that will, in an economically effective way:

- Provide annual national, state/territory-wide and regional (catchment) scale reports which measure the health and change in condition of our major environmental assets;
- Underpin the long-term catchment management and land use planning decisions by Commonwealth, state/territory and local governments, and regional authorities; and
- Improve the cost effectiveness of public and private investments in environmental management and repair.

Positive engagement with Treasury, the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts and the Australian Bureau of Statistics has resulted in significant support for the Wentworth Group's model. At the 2020 Summit, through its introduction by members of the Wentworth Group, environmental accounts were recorded as a priority theme for the Climate Change and Sustainability stream.

## Managing Australia

The Wentworth Group has developed a framework for their next blueprint, *Managing Australia*, that sets out the fundamental institutional, economic and cultural reforms required to secure the long term health of Australian landscapes. To this end, it addresses three major challenges:

- Creating resilience in the landscape to allow it to adapt to climate change;
- Managing the growing impact of population growth and demand on natural resources, particularly along our coasts; and
- Correcting the legacy of history – the overclearing of native vegetation, the over-extraction of water, the introduction of pests and weeds and inappropriate agricultural practices.

## Coasts

At the current rate of development and human activity, Australian coastlines are suffering death by a thousand cuts. The Wentworth Group is seeking clearer links between land use planning, natural resource management and government investment in infrastructure.



## 'Impact' Exhibition

The Wentworth Group collaborated with the State Library of NSW in the production of its Impact exhibition which ran over the 2007/8 summer. The exhibition highlighted the impact of European settlement on the Australian landscape and featured Peter Cullen, Tim Flannery and Peter Cosier. Bruce Thom and Denis Saunders gave lectures and Peter Cosier showed and discussed his documentary "One Summer Dream" filmed during his recent trip to Antarctica.

## Science Program

The Wentworth Group launched its scholarship program in February 2007. The program aims to enable scholarship recipients to become active contributors at the interface of good decision-making and world class science. Recipients are given access to master classes and mentoring by Wentworth Group scientists.

The Group hosted two masterclasses for the first two scholar intakes, the first in October 2007 and the second in April 2008. At the most recent masterclass, twelve students and six young professionals were given the opportunity to interact face-to-face with Wentworth Group members for three consecutive days. Overwhelmingly, scholars have found the program to be beneficial and stimulating and many maintain contact with the Group.

## Tropical Forests Program

In 2007/08, the Wentworth Group employed Ralph Ashton, an experienced consultant, to explore the use of carbon markets to stop global deforestation and to restore overcleared tropical forests. The program has enlisted the support of key political and scientific players internationally, leading to the creation of the Terrestrial Carbon Group. The primary output from the program is a framework combining the policy, science, economics and institutions presented in the paper *How to include terrestrial carbon in developing nations in the overall climate change solution*, (available on the website [www.terrestrialcarbon.org](http://www.terrestrialcarbon.org)).

It became evident over the course of the year that taking the proposals to the international community will require significant financial resources, beyond the capacity of the Purves Environmental Fund. At year end, the Wentworth Group is seeking an international partner to fund the advocacy component in the lead up to the Climate Change Convention at Copenhagen in December 2009.

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08



Professor Peter Cullen AO

The Purves Environmental Fund received a \$15,000 donation from the Victorian Water Trust in memory of Professor Cullen, who was the inaugural Chair of the Trust. The donation will be used to develop a series of occasional lectures on water issues.

## Professor Peter Cullen (1943 – 2008) A Wentworth tribute

The death of Professor Peter Cullen AO on 13 March 2008 was an enormous loss for the Wentworth Group. Below he is remembered by his colleague and friend, Peter Cosier.

Professor Peter Cullen was a big man. A man of towering physical presence, big ideas and a wicked sense of humour. Most people knew Peter Cullen as the great professor, the expert debating water reform with Kerry O'Brien on The 7.30 Report, the National Water Commissioner, a Member of the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists.

He was comfortable with Prime Ministers and Premiers, scientists, journalists, irrigators, farmers – a man of great courage – who could never be bought or intimidated - always cool under pressure – always respectful. He had an enormous capacity for work, an enormous generosity to people and the capacity to cut through the noise and focus.

A man of gigantic intellect, a man who knew that the European practices we brought onto this continent simply do not work here, a man who understood that we need to radically change the way we manage Australia.

But the true mark of Peter Cullen was his humanity. He loved his life and he loved people. He was adored by his family and was adored by his friends. Because he loved people he also knew that change, particularly radical change, affects people.

What made Peter Cullen a household name in Australia was not his science – to him that was the easy bit – what made Peter Cullen great was his tireless efforts to work with people from all backgrounds, to carve out a way to get us from where we are to where we need to be. Peter's greatest legacy is his contribution to placing science front and centre in public debate.

With the power of his ideas and his great wit and humanity, he has led the transformation of water reform in Australia. He has transformed environmental debate from slogans to science to solutions. Today we feel the loss of a pillar of environmental leadership. Today we remember his humour and warmth, his foresight and wisdom. Tomorrow we will recognise that his contribution to water reform in Australia has been unparalleled.



Amanda McKenzie, AYCC, delivers a presentation to Balmain Public School



Anna Rose (photograph by Wilk)

## Environmental education

### Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC)

[www.youthclimatecoalition.org](http://www.youthclimatecoalition.org)

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting the AYCC's schools climate messenger program. Through a carefully targeted schools strategy AYCC has helped to communicate the facts on climate change, along with a sense of hope that solutions are available. The project reaches out to high school students specifically. The AYCC has created, collated and disseminated peer-educational materials that inform and inspire high school students about climate issues. The project has strengthened and helped to co-ordinate AYCC's member groups' existing schools talks programs. AYCC and its member groups recruited, trained and supported interested high school students to become 'youth climate messengers'. These students are educating their peers at their own schools and surrounding local schools.

The following article, which appeared in the July 08 edition of The Sydney Morning Herald, the (sydney) magazine, is reprinted with kind permission of The Sydney Morning Herald. Words by **Joel Meares**.

Looking for a source of renewable energy? Meet Anna Rose, founder of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC). In her efforts to save the planet, Rose wakes before the sun and is "never home before Lateline". Just ask the cab driver rushing her to her next meeting about her energy levels. Within moments of hopping in, she's talking carbon emissions and hybrid cars. It's part of a plan to get everyone she meets thinking about climate change, and it's working. "That scientist should go into politics," the driver suggests.

Rose, 25, is neither scientist nor politician. She is a "climate organiser", co-ordinating the nation's first coalition of disparate youth groups – from the UN Youth Association to Engineers Without Borders – to fight climate change. Since it was formed in November 2006, the AYCC has raised more than \$130,000. In April, Rose was chosen as one of the nation's 1002 "best and brightest" to present the AYCC's take on climate change at the Australia 2020 Summit.

For Rose, the road to 2020 began in 1990s Newcastle, where she surfed daily against a backdrop of dozens of coal ships. "It's hard not to think about coal when you're totally surrounded by it," she says. That view galvanised the then



14-year-old into forming an environment group at her school, Merewether High. After its first victory – saving an area called Stockton Bite from sandmining and prompting its designation as a national park – Rose was hooked.

She won a scholarship to study arts/law at the University of Sydney in 2002. A classic overachiever, she edited the student newspaper, served on the Students' Representative Council and was National Convenor of the Australian Student Environment Network.

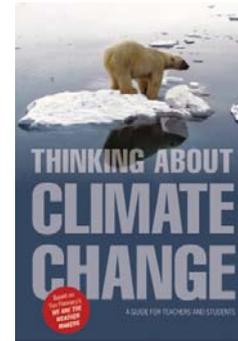
It was as National Environment Officer for the National Union of Students in 2005 that Rose had her greatest impact. "We had some huge campus victories from our nationwide Campus Clean Energy campaign," she says. "Sydney University said they'd put \$1 million into renewable energy research and development, and there were promises from Monash, Newcastle University and RMIT."

Beyond the campus, life was even busier. Rose flew to Montreal as Australia's youth representative at the 2005 Kyoto Protocol negotiations and, after observing many highly organised coalitions of youth groups, began working towards the AYCC's founding summit, held in Canberra in November 2006. Next was the 2007 UN Secretary General's Meeting on Climate Change in New York, and a talk at the Spirituality and Sustainability forum in Perth, where she spoke, along with the Dalai Lama.

In the wake of such successes, Rose had high hopes of the 2020 Summit but was disappointed by the weak outcomes on climate change. "I brought a lot of big ideas ... but I would put them out there and the coal lobby would start talking about clean coal again," she says. But she was up at 6am the next morning doing radio interviews and packing for the G8 Civil Society Forum in Japan.

Will she ever take the taxi driver's advice and go into politics? "I look at people who have achieved huge social changes and most, if not all, of them have been outside the political sphere," says Rose.

## Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08



### Thinking About Climate Change

[www.theweathermakers.org](http://www.theweathermakers.org)

In 2007/08, the Fund worked in partnership with Tim Flannery and Text Publishing to produce *Thinking About Climate Change*, an educational resource that makes teaching and learning about climate change easy and accessible. *Thinking About Climate Change* is adapted from Tim Flannery's book about climate change, *We Are the Weather Makers*. This is the third collaboration between the Fund and its project partners in the *Weather Makers* series of books and resources.

*Thinking About Climate Change* meets the pressing need for such a resource - one that will equip students with the knowledge and skills that will help them respond effectively to climate change. It offers lesson plans, research aids and discussion suggestions to allow teachers and students to explore the implications and complexities of climate change and to learn and practice relevant skills. *Thinking About Climate Change* is constructed for students between years 7 and 10 across the curriculum disciplines of Maths, Science, the Humanities and Information Technology. It focuses on developing 'Thinking Skills' to ensure its relevance to contemporary classroom practices.

With the Fund's support, in November 2007 multiple hard copies of *Thinking About Climate Change* were distributed to all secondary schools in Australia, Public and Private — a total of 2,947 schools. Schools were also offered a discount on classroom copies of *We Are the Weather Makers* and for each additional book sold, a small donation is made to the Fund. Early feedback from schools indicates that schools are highly appreciative of the initiative and identify *Thinking About Climate Change* as an essential classroom resource. It has been shortlisted for the Australian Awards for Excellence in Educational Publishing. *Thinking About Climate Change* can be downloaded free from the Weather Makers website.

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08



In the Eco farm game, as a farm manager, the user tries to balance biodiversity with farm productivity

## On Borrowed Time

[www.publish.csiro.au/onborrowedtime](http://www.publish.csiro.au/onborrowedtime)

With funding from the Purves Environmental Fund, CSIRO Publishing at year-end is close to completing production of teaching materials - website, teachers' booklet and CD-ROM - based on David Lindenmayer's book *On Borrowed Time*, which explains the crisis of global biodiversity loss. The teaching materials will encourage young Australian students to reflect on, consider and make decisions about Australia's biodiversity. The focus of the teaching units will draw on the issues raised by David Lindenmayer and encourage students to contextualise their understandings in the context of their local environment and the broader context of global sustainability. The resources extend the learning experience through two interactive games in which students learn to manage a variety of environments. The resources will be launched and distributed to all Australian secondary schools in August 2008.

## Weather or Not... it's a Climate for Change

In 2006/07 the Purves Environmental Fund supported the children's book author, Caren Trafford, to send a copy of her book *Weather or Not... it's a Climate for Change* to every primary school in NSW. In 2007/08 this initiative was extended to include schools in Queensland. In February 2008 2,000 copies of *Weather or Not... it's a Climate for Change* were mailed to Queensland primary schools. In addition, schools who ordered extra copies of the book after receiving the free copy, were able to do so for a specially discounted price. For each book sold, the author made a donation of \$0.50 to the Fund.



2007 Wakakirri National Winner -  
Altona North Primary School

## Wakakirri

[www.wakakirri.com](http://www.wakakirri.com)

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting the 2008 Wakakirri National Story Festival. Wakakirri is Australia's largest performing and visual arts festival for High School and Primary School students. Wakakirri assists in educating school communities about the far-reaching benefits of sustainable practices for young Australians through performing and visual arts storytelling activities, designed to encourage students to learn about their world, who they are, what surrounds them and how their actions impact the future. The stories are shared via public performance, the Wakakirri website, television and print media.

## Climate change

Many of the education initiatives supported by the Purves Environmental Fund in 2007/08 deal with the crucial issue of climate change. The Wentworth Group has also taken a strong stance on climate change and specific resources have been dedicated to the issue through the Tropical Forests Program. In addition to the projects described above, the Fund supported the following climate change initiatives during the year:

## Total Environment Centre (TEC)

[www.tec.org.au](http://www.tec.org.au)

Over a two-year period, the Purves Environmental Fund has supported TEC's work on emissions trading and the National Electricity Market (NEM). TEC produced three briefing notes on emissions trading, undertook two major Green capital events and is progressing a major demand management rule change through the NEM. The grant also helped TEC initiate joint meetings of peak groups to develop a common position and community communications strategy for the onset of the national emissions trading debate.

The Fund also supports TEC's Green Capital program. "Green Capital is Australia's leading corporate sustainability program. [It] provides a forum for dialogue between corporate, government & community sectors to engage on corporate social responsibility (CSR) issues through events, workshops and campaigns." Green Capital is growing, and is in an important stage of evolution to include longer term projects and greater effort in Melbourne. The support of the Fund is helping in this process so that Green Capital can make a sustained contribution to helping business reduce its environmental footprint.

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08

## The Climate Group Greenhouse Indicator

[www.theclimategroup.org/index.php/special\\_projects/the\\_greenhouse\\_indicator](http://www.theclimategroup.org/index.php/special_projects/the_greenhouse_indicator)

In 2006/07 the Purves Environmental Fund supported the Climate Group to develop a greenhouse indicator for Victoria, which is believed to be the world's first indicator of its type. In 2007/08 the Fund supported roll-out of the indicator to NSW. The indicator is helping to raise awareness on the causes of climate change by reporting weekly on the States' greenhouse emissions from energy use. In a methodology developed in conjunction with CSIRO scientists, it uses actual data to determine an accurate figure for the greenhouse gas emissions produced from the three main sources of emissions from energy: coal, natural gas and petroleum. The weekly indicator is available on the Climate Group's website and in Victorian and NSW media. It is a finalist in the 2008 Eureka Climate Change Award.

## Emerald Awards

The Purves Environmental Fund provided seed funding to Climate Leaders to support them in setting up the Emerald Awards - a climate change leadership program to recognise and reward outstanding action by companies, people and the community towards being carbon neutral. At year-end Climate Leaders is seeking a major corporate sponsor of the awards.

## Australia 2020 Summit

The Purves Environmental Fund supported Eric Knight, a selected Australia 2020 Summit participant, AYCC founding member and current Oxford University Rhodes scholar, to attend the summit. Eric participated in the climate change group at the summit and contributed ideas for mandatory disclosure of current and future environmental risks by all publicly listed corporations, as well as advocating for an Australian equivalent of the UK Carbon Trust, which leverages venture capital from public finance to pilot low emission demonstration projects on a large scale. Three members of the Wentworth Group also participated in the summit - Adjunct Professor Leith Bouilly, Professor Hugh Possingham and Professor David Karoly.



Eric Knight (seated second row, second from the right) in session in the 2020 Summit (2020 Summit [www.australia2020.gov.au/photos/day1/sustainability/medium/sustainability\\_03.jpg](http://www.australia2020.gov.au/photos/day1/sustainability/medium/sustainability_03.jpg))



WWF's Dr Barbara Breen inspires young kiwis to protect the amazing life in our oceans at New Zealand's first marine reserve, Goat Island (© Chris Gorman/WWF New Zealand)

## Capacity building

### WWF New Zealand

[www.wwf.org.nz](http://www.wwf.org.nz)

The Purves Environmental Fund is providing funds to WWF-New Zealand for a five year supporter acquisition program. This investment should result in a significant increase in WWF-New Zealand's regular supporters - the target is 10,000 supporters by 2012. The increased funding support will allow WWF-New Zealand to substantially grow the scale and effectiveness of its conservation programs. Early indications are that the recruitment program will be successful in achieving its objectives.

### Environment Business Australia (EBA)

[www.environmentbusiness.com.au](http://www.environmentbusiness.com.au)

EBA is the peak industry body for the environmental business sector in Australia. Robert Purves has been a Director of EBA since February 2005 and Chairman since November 2005.

The Purves Environmental Fund supports EBA through platinum benefactor membership. In 2007/08, the Fund also supported EBA to develop and implement strategies to increase EBA's profile through editorial comment and feature articles and interviews in the media. This helped to increase outreach to current and potential audiences and further develop EBA's position as the pre-eminent spokesgroup and think tank on environment business and environment economics issues. EBA's work has provided a highly valuable contribution to discussion of the issues.

### Environment Centre Northern Territory (ECNT)

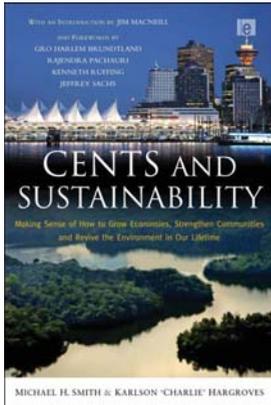
[www.ecnt.org](http://www.ecnt.org)

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting the ECNT to build its profile and effectiveness through a series of initiatives aimed at reaching out to new sections of the Northern Territory community. These include a new website, dynamic local cinema advertising, preparation of a fundraising strategy, an environmental song-writing competition, and an environmental segment as part of Darwin's Wordstorm Event. ECNT is celebrating 25 years of environmental activism in 2008 with special events and a report detailing its history, achievements and future activities. The aim of these activities is both to spread ECNT's messages and increase its supporter base, thereby improving its ability to effect lasting change.



Convenor, Di Koser at ECNT's World Environment Day Expo stall

# Activities & Organisations supported during 2007/08

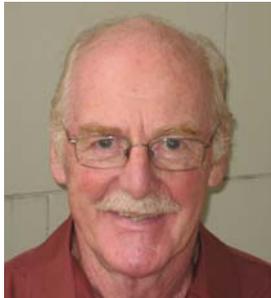


## Other environmental projects

### Cents and Sustainability

[www.naturaledgeproject.net](http://www.naturaledgeproject.net)

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting The Natural Edge Project, hosted in-kind by Griffith University and Australian National University, as they produce *Cents and Sustainability* - a book that deals with the vital issue of how we can decouple economic growth from negative environmental and social pressures. *Cents and Sustainability* is an initiative to mark the 20 year anniversary of the UN Brundtland Commission's landmark report, *Our Common Future* and carries a foreword from Dr Gro Brundtland, the former Chair of the World Commission on Environment and Development. The book explores, in a modern global context, the conditions under which society can achieve a form of economic growth that is both socially and environmentally sustainable.



**Emeritus Professor  
Derek Anderson**

### State Library of New South Wales Fellowship in Environment and Conservation

[www.sl.nsw.gov.au](http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting the State Library of New South Wales Foundation to develop a twelve-month fellowship to research and understand the Library's extensive collections pertaining to the environment and conservation. The fellowship will help to shape the development of the Library's future online resource, and stimulate fact-based discussion on our environmental past as it relates to current debate. The Library has one of the most comprehensive collections on the Australian environment including human appreciation of, and impact upon, the natural landscape. The Environment and Conservation Fellowship was awarded to Emeritus Professor Derek Anderson in April 2008.

## On Our Watch

The Purves Environmental Fund is supporting Nicola Markus to write *On Our Watch*, a book about the current state of Australia's environment from the perspective of someone who has worked in the research and conservation fields for many years and is passionate about the magnificent diversity of Australia's flora and fauna. The book draws on recent scientific reports, expert opinions and the author's personal experience. It provides an overview of the rise of environmental awareness in Australia in recent decades, of the legislation and conservation frameworks designed to protect Australian species and the barriers that are delaying delivery of significant outcomes. The book is due to be published in February 2009.

## Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN)

[www.aegn.org.au](http://www.aegn.org.au)

The Purves Environmental Fund is a sustaining member of the AEGN. The AEGN aims to improve the conservation, protection and functioning of Australia's natural environment and ecological processes through education and networking of grantmakers. The AEGN was incorporated in 2008. The secretariat now produces regular newsletters and organises events to keep grantmakers informed about environmental issues and philanthropy.



**AEGN Members on a field trip to the Coorong**



## The Year Ahead

At the beginning of 2008/09, the Fund is very fortunate to receive a pledge of further funding from its founder and Chair, Robert Purves. The donation will significantly increase the capacity of the Fund to support good environmental initiatives. The need for such initiatives has unfortunately never been greater. The news on almost every measure of environmental health is depressingly gloomy. The Purves Environmental Fund remains optimistic however that solutions to all the major environmental issues are already known and are simply waiting to be implemented. In the coming year we hope to play a small part in catalysing the change needed to make it happen.

In 2008/09 we will maintain our support for environmental education and climate change initiatives. We will continue to support environmental organisations needing to build longer-term operational capacity. We hope to identify new opportunities to prevent the ecological destruction caused by illegal land-clearing. We will also retain a proportion of funds for other outstanding environmental projects and organisations.

In addition to supporting new activities in 2008/09 and completing current projects, the Purves Fund will continue its commitment to a number of organisations and initiatives through the year.

- The Fund will provide ongoing support to the Wentworth Group and its various program streams
- The Fund will continue to support the TEC's Green Capital program
- The Fund will continue to support the development of EBA.

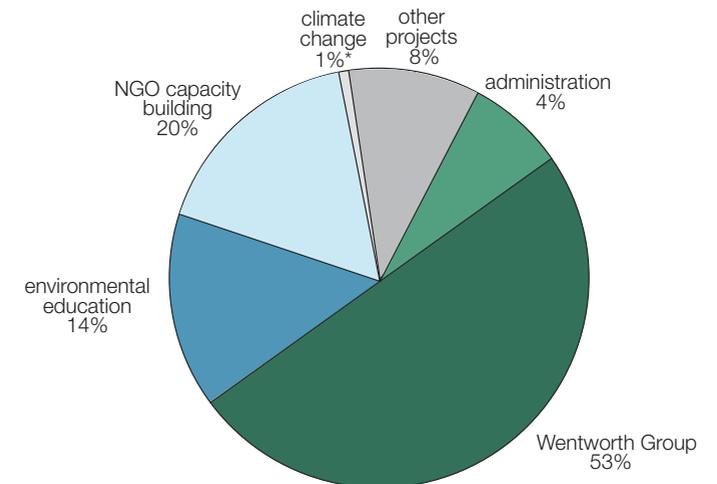
The Fund is also looking forward to supporting the activities of the Copenhagen Climate Council in 2008/09  
[www.copenhagenclimatecouncil.com](http://www.copenhagenclimatecouncil.com)

## Financial Summary

As a public fund, the Purves Environmental Fund receives donations from the public. The main source of funding is from the private Trust, the Purves Private Fund. The Purves Private Fund was founded in 2003 by Robert Purves, with an initial one-off contribution of \$10 million. The Purves Environmental Fund was delighted to receive donations from other donors during the year totalling \$17,000. We received donations during 2007/08 totalling over \$1.6m and made donations to other organisations totalling over \$1.6m.

The Purves Environmental Fund receives an in-kind donation of office space and administrative support from RPG Management Pty Ltd.

### 2007/08 Expenditure Analysis



\* Although climate change funding appears as only 1% of total expenditure in this analysis, projects categorised under other headings, such as environmental education and the Wentworth Group, directly address climate change. These projects together equate to 24%.

### Applying for funding

If you would like to apply for funding from the Purves Environmental Fund you can download an application form from our website: [www.purvesenvirofund.org.au](http://www.purvesenvirofund.org.au)

# Financial Summary

## Supporting the Purves Environmental Fund

The Fund welcomes donations, which are used to support the important work of advancing environmental sustainability and preservation of biodiversity. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Fund by making a tax deductible donation, please send a cheque payable to Purves Environmental Fund and your name and address details to:

Environmental Officer  
 Purves Environmental Fund  
 Suite 4, Bennelong Office Suites  
 3B Macquarie Street  
 Sydney NSW 2000

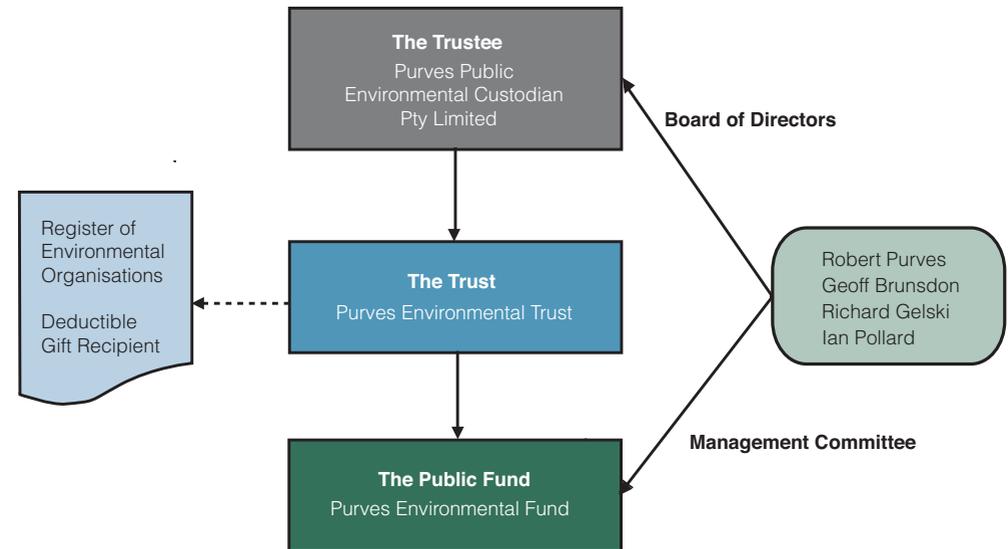


# Governance

## Fund structure

The Purves Environmental Fund (the Fund) is the Public Fund of the Purves Environmental Trust. The Trustee of the Trust is Purves Public Environmental Custodian Pty Limited (the Trustee company), which is a company limited by shares. The Purves Environmental Trust was founded in 2004 by Robert Purves.

The Fund operates on a not-for-profit basis. The Trust is registered on the Register of Environmental Organisations and is a Deductible Gift Recipient (ABN 78 930 366 807). The Fund employs one member of staff on a part-time basis.



# Governance

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of the Trustee company (Purves Public Environmental Custodian Pty Limited) governs Purves Environmental Trust. The Board members also form the Management Committee of Purves Environmental Fund. The Board sets the strategic direction and policy of the Fund, approves the annual budget and regularly reviews the operations and financial status of the organisation. In their capacity as members of the Fund's Management Committee, the Board also approves Fund support for individual projects. The Board ensures compliance with the Corporations Law and the requirements of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission.

## The Directors are:

**Geoff Brunson** is Managing Director and Head of Investment Banking at Merrill Lynch (International) Australia Limited. He is a Non-Executive Director of Sims Group Limited and Chairman of ING Private Equity Access Limited. He is a Chartered Accountant, a Fellow of FINSIA and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Geoff is also a Director of RedKite.

**Richard Gelski** heads the Tax Team at corporate law firm Johnson, Winter and Slattery. He has over 30 years experience as a University academic, barrister and solicitor. He sits on a number of private and public company boards as well as a number of Private Foundations. For more than a decade he has provided pro bono work to charitable funds and created a variety of private charitable foundations.

**Ian Pollard** is a company director and actuary. He is currently Chairman of Corporate Express Australia, Just Group and RGA Australia and a director of Milton Corporation. Ian was previously Managing Director of each of Development Finance Corporation Limited and Development Capital of Australia (later DCA Group), which he founded in 1984. Ian is also an executive coach with Global Coaching Partnership. A Rhodes Scholar, Ian has written a number of books and papers, principally in the area of corporate finance. He has also been active in a number of not-for-profit organisations, principally involved with youth.



**Robert Purves AM** is a businessman and environmentalist. He is strongly active in the environmental sector and is currently a Board member of WWF International, Chairman of Environment Business Australia, Patron of the Lizard Island Trust and a member of The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists. Robert is the immediate past President of WWF Australia and Former Chairman of DCA Group Limited. He owns grazing properties in southern NSW and NT.

## Environmental Officer

The Environmental Officer oversees the day-to-day management of PEF on behalf of the Management Committee. The Environmental Officer is responsible to the Board of the Trustee Company for strategic planning, and all performance and operational matters. The Environmental Officer provides financial information and analysis and monitors budgets and expenditure.

## Auditors

**Purves Environmental Fund is audited by:**  
WHK Horwath  
Level 15, 309 Kent St  
Sydney NSW 2000

# Environmental Policy

The Purves Environmental Fund has an environmental policy that aims to reduce the environmental footprint of the Fund's activities. The Fund purchases 100% accredited Green Power electricity for its office through Climate Friendly ([www.climatefriendly.com.au](http://www.climatefriendly.com.au)). The Fund also neutralises greenhouse gas emissions from staff air travel by purchasing offsets through Climate Friendly. The Fund recycles its office waste.

## Contact

### **Purves Environmental Fund**

Suite 4, Bennelong Office Suites

3B Macquarie Street

Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: 02 9241 2899

Website: [www.purvesenvirofund.org.au](http://www.purvesenvirofund.org.au)

This report is printed on Envirocare 100% Recycled paper, manufactured entirely from waste paper. No virgin fibre is used. Manufactured with 65% post-consumer and 35% pre-consumer waste.

Cover photograph and landscape photographs by Scott Purves.  
Antarctic photographs by Peter Cosier.