

For immediate release  
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## Join “The Eagle Team” in outback South Australia!

**There are few wildlife experiences that match looking deep into the eye of a wild eagle ...**

Nature Foundation SA is delighted to launch an appeal for donations to create a program to better understand the role of Wedge-tailed Eagles and other raptors in the recovering ecosystems of outback Australia.

At 421,900 hectares Witchelina Nature Reserve in the northern Flinders is the largest of Nature Foundation SA’s nature reserves, and a hidden gem showcasing an impressive variety of South Australia’s magnificent biodiversity. With its ecosystem recovering after more than 100 years of intensive grazing, it is suspected there are now hundreds of eagles and other raptors on the reserve.

Witchelina provides a unique opportunity to understand and examine the lives of our “Wedgies” and other iconic raptors such as Black-breasted Buzzards, Whistling Kites, Swamp Harriers and Nankeen Kestrels as they thrive. How big are their territories? What do they eat? What is their role as an apex predator, scavenger, and their interaction with other bird species?

Nature Foundation SA will partner with scientists, university students, leading ecologists and ornithologists and citizen scientists, to begin to unravel the mysteries of these majestic birds.

The not-for-profit environmental organisation is also offering six places on the “The Eagle Team” to the six highest donors to the appeal – a unique opportunity to work closely with leading ecologists and ornithologists, to track and observe eagles up close while learning about their behaviour and ecology.

Wedge-tailed Eagles are arguably our most famous bird. Loved, hated, admired, feared, majestic, terrifying, powerful and haughty, the eagle holds us spellbound. It is impossible to not be awe-struck by the bird, whether it is perched on a nest or soaring high in the sky.

Birds SA President John Gitsham states that “the Wedge-tailed Eagle is Australia’s most majestic raptor, bringing delight to all birders who see them soaring, often in pairs in the thermals, or being harassed by a trail of magpies or ravens. The “Wedgie” also plays an important ecological role in feral pest control of rabbits and cleaning up other dead animals in the landscape”.

**Nature Foundation SA is South Australia’s second largest non-government conservation land owner and the third largest in Australia.**

For further information, high-res images or to arrange an interview, contact:  
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Please visit <https://naturefoundation.org.au/support-us/our-appeals> for further information.

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