



Cryptic mimicry of the Tawny Frogmouth 2024 watercolour, frottage and relief printing from bark on Arches and Gampi paper 100 x 70 cm

Australian Wildlife Conservancy

Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC) is on a mission to restore Central Australia's extinct animals to the desert. At Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary, on Ngalia Warlpiri and Luritja Country, AWC has constructed one of the world's largest conservation fences, creating a safe haven where unique and threatened species are making a comeback. Newhaven is a world-class rewilding project in the heart of Australia.

AWC manages a network of sanctuaries and protected areas around Australia with a practical approach informed by science. AWC field teams and ecologists work in iconic landscapes like the Kimberley, the Top End, Cape York, and Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre; tackling weeds and feral animals, reinstating ecologically friendly fire regimes, and monitoring ecosystems as they recover.

About 300 kilometres west of Alice Springs, AWC's Newhaven Wildlife Sanctuary covers an area larger than the ACT, including ancient quartzite ranges, a sprawling chain of salt lakes, spinifex plains and patches of mulga woodland. Since 2006, AWC has worked closely with local communities to control feral animals and improve fire patterns to protect the biodiversity of the desert.

Newhaven's wildlife reintroduction project is about re-establishing healthy populations of threatened mammal species which have been extinct in Central Australia for decades. A 40-kilometre cat-proof fence – two metres tall and electrified – protects 9,450 hectares of habitat from the ravages of feral predators. Since 2017, AWC has returned 8 different species of mammals to the sanctuary, including Mala, Red-tailed Phascogale, Golden Bandicoot, Greater Bilby, Brushtail Possum, Burrowing Bettong, Brush-tailed Bettong, and the critically endangered Central Rock Rat. The project is a lifeline for these species, several of which are on the brink of extinction.

Today, Newhaven's red sand is busy with the tracks of thriving native mammals; burrowing, feeding, breeding and playing their part to restore a healthy desert ecosystem.

For more information visit: www.australianwildlife.org

