



Wilderness  
Australia

**BEQUESTS PACK**

# A WILD LEGACY







## LOOKING AHEAD

# The future is wild

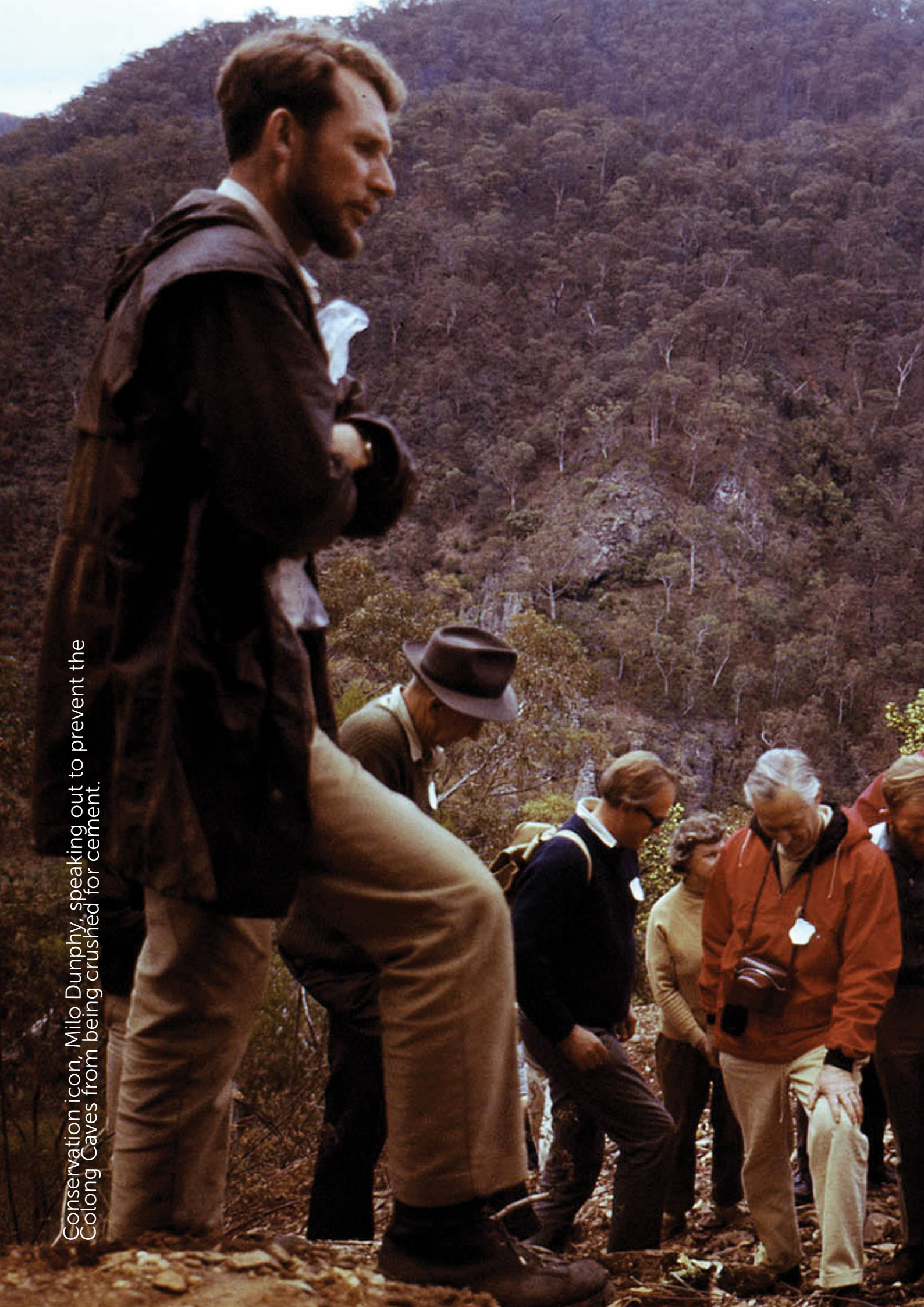
Imagine a future where the continent of Australia is treated as a nature reserve, with people across the country doing their part to keep nature safe, healthy and resilient.

Large or small, a gift in your Will brings us closer to this vision.

Support from people like you forms the backbone of Wilderness Australia's high-impact advocacy for long-term change.

Through a gift in your Will, together we have the power to keep Australia wild forever.





Conservation icon, Milo Dunphy, speaking out to prevent the Colong Caves from being crushed for cement.

## A LASTING LEGACY

# Our beginnings

Wilderness Australia was founded in 1968 by a fraternity of bushwalkers and cartographers who were concerned about plans to mine spectacular limestone caves in the Southern Blue Mountains.

Unwilling to allow a spectacular natural area be destroyed, a young environmentalist named Milo Dunphy organised a meeting of over 50 conservation societies at Sydney University Union Hall to rally opposition to the planned mine.

Wilderness Australia – then called the Colong Committee – was soon established and tasked with preventing these caves from being quarried and crushed for cement.

What followed was Australia's first major wilderness conservation campaign. We won.

Our campaign secured favourable media attention, convinced the state government to revoke the lease and seriously disrupted the operations of the mining company holding the lease by buying up a parcel of shares and distributing them singly to hundreds of our supporters who attended the company's annual meetings.

In 1972, the company withdrew its mining application. Two years later, the caves were added to Kanangra-Boyd National Park.



## A LASTING LEGACY

### Our expertise, our instruments

Since our conception, Wilderness Australia has worked to have Australia's wild places declared as protected areas.

World Heritage sites, national parks, and declared wilderness areas are different types of protected area categories in Australia.

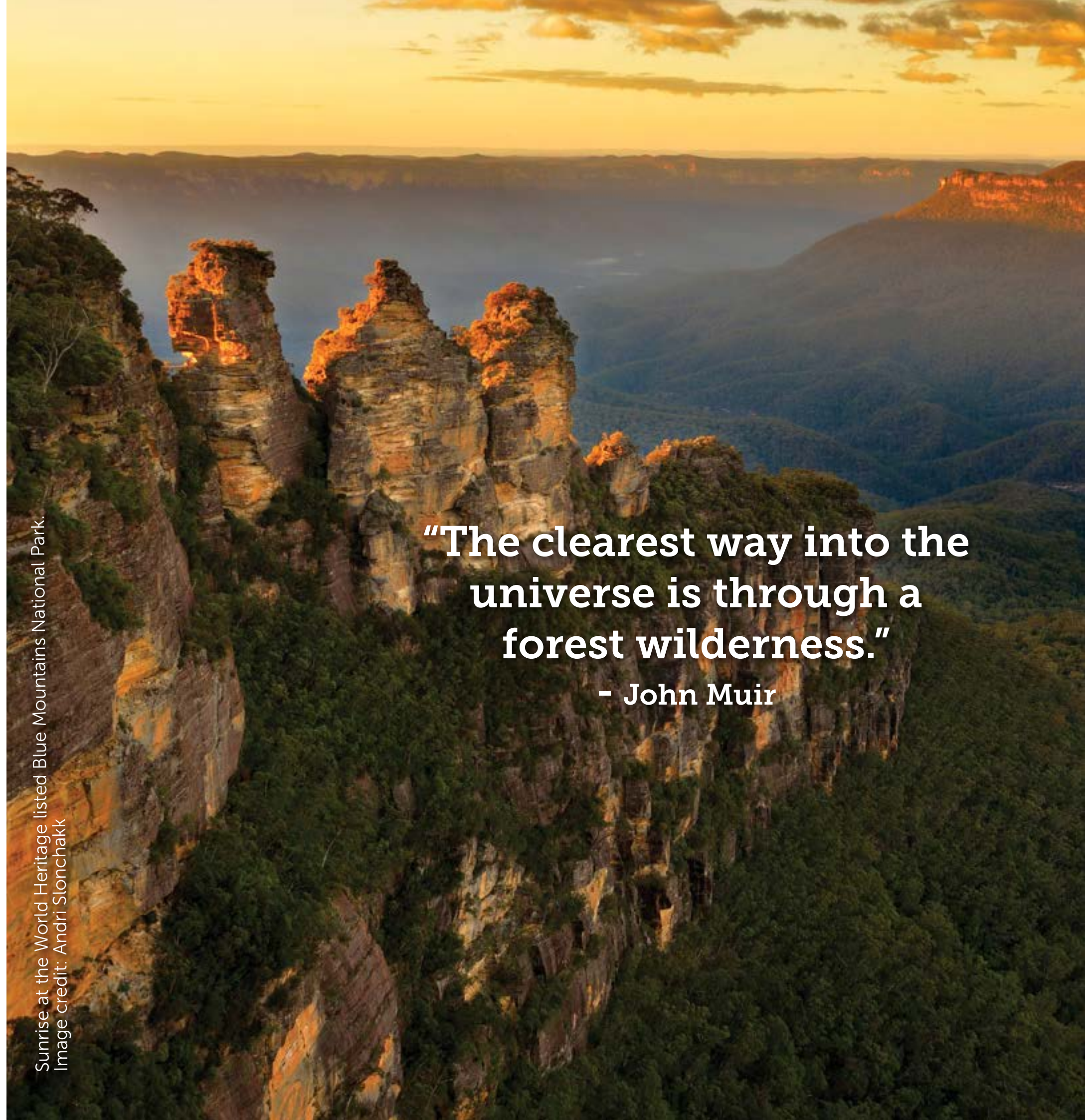
Our proposal for a Wilderness Act was accepted in 1987 and resulted in more than 2,100,000 hectares of protected wilderness in NSW. This included many of the intact, wild places bordering Sydney's urban sprawl, which people who share our love of nature can continue to experience today.

We also played a leading role in realising Myles Dunphy's plan for a Greater Blue Mountains National Park, as well as spearheaded the successful campaign for its World Heritage listing.


Sunrise at the World Heritage listed Blue Mountains National Park.  
Image credit: Andri Slonchakk

**"The clearest way into the universe is through a forest wilderness."**

**- John Muir**





A photograph of a forest with tall, slender trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. The trees have light-colored bark, some of which is peeling or damaged. The ground is covered in moss and fallen leaves. The lighting is soft and dappled, creating a serene atmosphere.

Light breaks through the canopy of an old-growth forest at Coolangubra Wilderness. Image credit: Henry Gold

## A LASTING LEGACY

### Our action, our impact

Throughout the years, we were also there when Australia's wild landscapes needed defence and restoration.

At a time when mining, logging and other forms of environmental ruin threatened our wild places, we successfully campaigned for the reservation of Lithgow's Gardens of Stone and the Border Ranges National Park.

We also sought wilderness management for South West Tasmania, Kakadu, Hinchinbrook Island, Daintree and national parks in Victoria.

By making a gift in your Will to Wilderness Australia, you can be confident that you're supporting an organisation achieving results when our native forests, wild rivers and precious wildlife need a powerful voice.





## TIME FOR CHANGE

### Your gift will nurture life

A gift in your Will ensures Wilderness Australia has the vital support it needs to protect our nation's native forests, wild rivers and precious wildlife.

You provide the financial security we need to tackle emerging threats; speak up for the restoration of wilderness in damaged but significant areas; and to nurture life by connecting wilderness areas to one another across this wide brown land.

Thank you for joining dedicated supporters showing their love of nature by leaving a gift in your Will.



A flock of Red-Tailed Black Cockatoos flies from tree to tree making a lot of noise. Image credit: Terry Dell



**"Let us develop respect for all  
living things."**

**- Jane Goodall**



A juvenile Diamond Python rests on a Warratah Flower. Image credit: Ken Griffiths



## HOW TO START

# Making a gift in your Will is easy

### 1. Decide what kind of gift to leave

There are many types of gifts that you can leave in your Will, yet many of our supporters prefer to leave a monetary gift like a residuary bequest.

You might prefer to include a specified amount of money or an asset, for example real estate, shares, bonds or an item of value.

### 2. Talk it over with your family and loved ones

Let them know your intentions to remember your favourite charities and ensure they support your wishes.

### 3. Seek legal assistance

Your Will is a legal document that must be properly prepared. Ask your solicitor about the best way to do this and the most appropriate gift for your circumstances.

### 4. Make a gift in your Will

Your chosen gift to Wilderness Australia can be included in your

Will by providing your solicitor with the following wording:

"I (insert name) bequeath to the Australian Foundation for Wilderness Ltd ABN 84 001 112 143 (insert the percentage or residue of your estate, the amount of money, or the details of your property, shares, bonds or item of value).

My bequest is to be used for the general purposes of the Australian Foundation for Wilderness Ltd.

I declare that the receipt of the Secretary or other proper officer shall be a complete discharge of my bequest."

If your Will is already written, you can make a gift in your Will to Wilderness Australia by adding a codicil – a short legal amendment. This can be organised with a phone call or email to your solicitor, followed by a visit to their office to sign the amendment and complete the codicil.

For more information, contact us using the details on the back cover of this booklet or by calling 02 9261 2400.





## SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU

### Keith Muir

I'd been bushwalking from a young age, but I only discovered the real joys of wilderness on the Kowmung River as a university student. While working as a volunteer, I was invited on the first of many bushwalks with Milo Dunphy.

The Bulga Dennis Canyon on the Kowmung was a revelation. I became a wilderness activist, as if I had just shed my skin.

In wilderness, you are humbled. You rediscover yourself, rejuvenate your soul and learn that humanity's health is intimately linked to the Earth's.

Wilderness Australia puts our wild places first.

A fighting force for wilderness, it has a vision of creating a national wilderness system to stop its rapid loss.

We must fight for wilderness in Antarctica, Cape York, Arnhem Land, and save the Barrier Reef, as well as inspire all efforts to remake our economy to prevent a climate disaster.


That is why I am leaving a gift in my Will to Wilderness Australia.



The Frilled-Neck Lizard loves dry forests and woodlands.  
Image credit: Ken Griffiths



Koalas are facing extinction in New South Wales and Queensland because of habitat loss and bushfires. Image credit: Andreas Deak



**"In wildness is the  
preservation of the world."**  
- Henry Thoreau





## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

### Bob Debus

Thank you for contemplating making a gift in your Will to show your love of nature.

Every day that passes, Australia's wild landscapes enrich our lives.

Our wild places supply fresh air, clean water and cradle intact soils. They must be protected if we hope to preserve vital ecosystems, our country's unique biodiversity and the integrity of ancient Aboriginal sites, such as Eagles Reach in the Wollemi.

Although many of us believe it is important to support organisations that effectively protect our natural heritage, the work we do toward wilderness protection grinds to a halt

without the active support of people like you.

By leaving a gift in your Will to Wilderness Australia, you're passing on your core values to future generations.

You're also making a vital contribution to keeping Australia's wilderness areas safe and healthy.

The commitment you show means the world to us.

Sincerely,  
Hon. Bob Debus, AM  
Chair, Wilderness Australia



## OUR HISTORY

# Wilderness timeline

Formerly the Colong Foundation for Wilderness, Wilderness Australia helped protect over 2 million hectares of wilderness in NSW and sought wilderness management for South West Tasmania, Kakadu, Hinchinbrook Island, Daintree and national parks in Victoria. Yet wilderness can only be kept secure through persistent voluntary effort to support it, as well illustrated by our timeline:

- |      |  |      |   |      |   |      |   |
|------|--|------|---|------|---|------|---|
| 1931 | Myles Dunphy establishes the National Parks and Primitive Areas Council, Australia's first community advocate for wilderness that later became the Colong Committee and the NSW National Parks Association.    | 1979 | Stage one Kakadu National Park is protected; stages two and three follow after persistent effort. The park now extends over two million hectares.                                       | 1987 | NSW Parliament passes a Wilderness Act and the Colong Foundation nominates the Nattai Wilderness for assessment.  | 1995 | From December 1991 to March 1995 NSW Coalition declares 650,000 hectares of wilderness; Following the March 1995 election, the new Labor Government imposes a logging moratorium over most wilderness areas in NSW.               |
| 1968 | May 29, Myles' son Milo Dunphy convenes a meeting of 50 conservation and allied organisations in the Sydney University Great Hall to form the Colong Committee to stop limestone mining in the Kowmung Valley. | 1981 | Stage one Kakadu National Park is placed on the World Heritage list (stages two and three follow in 1987 and 1992).   | 1988 | Bushwalking and community conservation groups, including the Colong Foundation, begin to nominate NSW wilderness areas for assessment under the Wilderness Act; the Wet Tropics area of Queensland (including Daintree) is placed on the World Heritage list. | 1996 | Over the next ten years, in conjunction with a major community-based fundraising campaign, the Dunphy Wilderness Fund established in memory of Milo Dunphy, enables the voluntarily acquisition of 77,000 hectares of wilderness. |
| 1972 | Colong Committee resolves to become a national wilderness organisation to campaign for the protection of Lake Pedder, Kakadu and the South East Forests of NSW.  | 1982 | Tasmanian Wilderness is added to the World Heritage list (and extended in 1989, 2010, 2012 and 2013).   | 1989 | The Colong Foundation publishes Blue Mountains for World Heritage by Dr Geoff Mosley.   | 2000 | A million hectares of the Greater Blue Mountains are inscribed on the World Heritage list.  |
| 1974 | Mining leases at Mt Colong are added to Kanangra-Boyd National Park.   | 1983 | Myles Dunphy becomes the first patron of the Colong Foundation and the Franklin River in Tasmania is saved.   | 1990 | The Colong Foundation publishes the Red Index of threatened NSW wilderness areas.   | 2011 | From 1995 successive NSW Labor administrations reserve over 1.4 million hectares of wilderness. Just before Labor is swept from office, the Mugii Murum-Ban State Conservation Area is reserved in the Gardens of Stone region.   |
| 1975 | The Colong Committee resolves to protect the Border Ranges rainforests and Kakadu.   | 1984 | After an eleven-year campaign, 118,000 hectares of the 264,000 hectare NSW rainforest estate are protected.   | 1991 | Nattai Wilderness becomes the first area reserved under the NSW Wilderness Act.   | 2014 | The Nattai wilderness is increased to 36,000 hectares.  |
| 1977 | Konangaroo State Forest is added to Kanangra-Boyd National Park, ending the threat of exotic pine tree plantations on Boyd Plateau.  | 1985 | Bob Carr agrees to a NSW Wilderness Act and establishes a Working Group to examine the issue.   | 1992 | The National Forest Policy Statement requires the assessment and protection of old growth forests and wilderness. Approximately 840,000 hectares of wilderness in Victoria are protected.   | 2021 | The Gardens of Stone is declared as a State Conservation Area, bringing an end to Australia's longest-running conservation campaign.  |
|      |  | 1986 | The Wilderness Working Group identifies 36 wilderness areas and 43 wild rivers in NSW as worthy of reservation; Central Eastern Rainforests are inscribed onto the World Heritage list. | 1994 | The Gardens of Stone National Park in the western Blue Mountains is reserved over pagoda areas unaffected by coal interests.  | 2021 | The Colong Foundation changes its name to Wilderness Australia.   |
|      |  |      |   | 1995 | From December 1991 to March 1995 NSW Coalition declares 650,000 hectares of wilderness; Following the March 1995 election, the new Labor Government imposes a logging moratorium over most wilderness areas in NSW.   |      |   |



A Pademelon searches for food near Cradle Mountain, Tasmania.  
Image credit: FiledIMAGE



## Wilderness Australia

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Advocating as Wilderness Australia

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