

# **Board Member Role Description**

### **About Wildcare**

Wildcare Tasmania cares for Tasmania's wild places, wildlife and cultural heritage, through supporting volunteer groups and managing donations from the public. Wildcare is a not-for-profit charity punching above its weight, powered by passionate volunteers and donors and a small number of paid staff. It has around 6,500 members and 60 active branches all around Tasmania. Donors are from all corners of the earth and walks of life.

Wildcare membership is just \$25 per annum, which unlocks a world of opportunities for people are interested in joining a volunteering group or just to read about the exploits. Wildcare has a <u>tax-deductible donation fund</u>, the Tasmanian Nature Conservation Fund, supporting nature conservation in wild places. Donation categories allow donors to target their gift to specific purposes such as the conservation of coastal areas, wild walking tracks and the World Heritage wilderness. Wildcare volunteer groups attract additional funding through fundraising and external grants. Wildcare passes 100% of donations through to the cause.

### PRIMARY FOCUS AND ROLE

Primary focus	The primary focus of the Wildcare Board is ensuring the ongoing achievement of Wildcare's mission to 'care for wild places, wildlife and cultural heritage'. Wildcare's <a href="Strategic Plan 2021-2024">Strategic Plan 2021-2024</a> sets out the strategies for success.
Role	<ul> <li>The Wildcare Board:</li> <li>ensures that the objectives of Wildcare, as set out in the Wildcare Constitution, are pursued</li> <li>provides contemporary governance, leadership and risk management of Wildcare</li> <li>ensures compliance with relevant industry bodies including, but not limited to, the following;         <ul> <li>Australian Charities and not-for-profits Commission,</li> <li>Australian Tax Office,</li> <li>Register of Environmental Organisations,</li> <li>Consumer Affairs and Fair-Trading Tasmania and</li> <li>Workplace Health and Safety Act.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ensures that Wildcare operates honestly and transparently and in accordance with all relevant laws</li> </ul>

- sets Wildcare's strategic goals, performance measures and annual budget
- monitors the performance of the Wildcare CEO and organisational performance reporting
- oversees Wildcare's financial position and ensures that both operational funds and the Wildcare Tasmanian Nature Conservation Fund are invested appropriately
- represents Wildcare's ethos in the community, being known by actions rather than lobbying
- leads a positive, respectful and productive culture in accordance with Wildcare's Code of Conduct expectations
- is responsible for appointment of Grants Assessment Committee membership. The Grants Assessment Committee makes decisions about allocation of funds from Wildcare's Tasmanian Nature Conservation Fund.

## **SKILLS AND CONDUCT**

# Board skills and qualifications

People who have any of the following skills are encouraged to apply:

- Corporate governance
- Growing revenue and fundraising
- Strategic partnership development
- Community engagement
- Environmental volunteer management/experience

Current Board members are eligible to apply for reappointment.

Past Board experience is considered valuable but suitably skilled and qualified people without Board experience are still encouraged to apply.

Company Directors qualifications are desirable.

Wildcare Board members are generally passionate people with diverse skills who are committed to the not-for-profit ethos and natural environment sector. Applicants are expected to have a similar interest.

Recommended reading: AICD Role of the Board

#### Conduct

Members of the Wildcare Board have legal and common law duties including the following:

- to act in good faith in the best interests of the objectives of Wildcare
- to not exercise powers provided by their position on the Wildcare Board for any purpose other than for the objectives of Wildcare
- to act and make decisions with care and diligence:

 not to use their position or information gained for a personal advantage or for the advantage of someone else, or in a way which causes detriment to Wildcare.

Wildcare supports the ACNC <u>Governance for Good</u> Guidelines.

Wildcare has a <u>Code of Conduct</u> which Board members are expected to comply with.

#### WHAT LEVEL OF COMMITMENT IS NEEDED?

# Meetings and communications

The Wildcare Board generally meets 5 times per year, through a combination of online conferencing and face to face meetings. Meetings are held on a weekday and generally take around 4 hours.

There will be communications between meetings through email and monthly CEO and financial reporting.

# What to expect

Wildcare Board members and volunteers report a very high degree of satisfaction from being involved in a meaningful cause and contributing to visible results for Tasmania.

#### Remuneration

This is a voluntary role. Reasonable travel expenses will be considered in accordance with Wildcare's policy.

#### Further information:

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