

Marsupial Society of Victoria

The loss of apex species is a indicator of habitat degradation with unforeseen ramifications to other organisms. Their maintenance should remain a top priority. The loss of any species therefore must be avoided at all costs.

The Marsupial Society of Victoria propose a nation wide data base supporting captive held animals in all collections, zoos, sanctuaries parks and importantly private ownerships. The coordination of this live gene bank must be supported with codes of practice governing the keeping of these apex species.

The Government must look at ways to support the public and specialist groups as to maintain viable captive breeding programs. There are many in the community that would like to assist in the breeding and maintenance of vulnerable species, but find government bureaucracy standing in the way.

The Marsupial Society of Victoria wishes to see a greater involvement by individuals. This could be facilitated by state departments with licences ensuring the highest standards are maintained by those assisting. Greater individual participation would result in cost savings for government environment departments. Appendix 10 building ecosystem Ex situ conservation should not be ignored From the Committee Marsupial Society of Victoria.