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Bushfire Recovery Efforts Make Steady Progress

Recovery efforts at North Head Sanctuary, following the hazard reduction burn breach in late 2020, are well underway with more than 100 shelters and refuge zones now in place to protect local wildlife thanks to the work of Australian Wildlife Conservancy (AWC).

Under their partnership with the Harbour Trust, the AWC has provided scientific service at North Head Sanctuary since 2009 working to protect and restore habitats and wildlife, and has included the reintroduction of locally-extinct species the Bush Rat, Eastern-pygmy Possum and Brown Antechinus.

The AWC, who played a critical role in the site's immediate recovery, have now placed a further 38 nest boxes across the headland in addition to the 62 that were already scattered throughout the site, 30 water stations throughout key areas of burnt and unburnt foliage, and 18 refuge tunnels. These refuges are up to 50m long and provide shelter for injured and endangered wildlife, protection against the threat of predators and access to unburnt areas.

Working closely with NSW National Parks and Wildlife, the AWC also assisted in the deployment of 12 Long-nosed Bandicoot shelters for bandicoots that are too large to fit in the refuge tunnels.

These measures have provided essential shelter for local wildlife including the reintroduced species and the endangered Long-nosed Bandicoots, and will help in the recolonisation of burnt areas and the long-term recovery of local wildlife as the bushland regenerates.

"It is heartening to see the collaboration of organisations across the site resulting in re-emergence of impacted native flora and fauna," said Wildlife Ecologist, Dr Viyanna Leo from the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

"This included immediate support from Taronga Zoo and the Sydney Wildlife Rescue Service to provide assistance for injured wildlife, Dr Viyanna Leo said.

The recovery of North Head Sanctuary is being further guided by the North Head Bushfire Recovery Advisory Group, which is co-chaired by the NPWS and the Harbour Trust.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Please contact Rebecca Hage at the Harbour Trust on (02) 8969 2143 or 0438 852 465

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