

Threatened Wildlife Photographic Competition

Winners Announced

The Australian Wildlife Society Threatened Wildlife Photographic Competition is a national competition that awards and promotes threatened Australian wildlife through photography. The Australian Wildlife Society invited photographers to raise the plight of Australia's threatened wildlife. The Society was delighted to receive a record number of entries, making it an extremely tough competition. Thank you to all our entrants.

We look forward to continuing the successful Threatened Wildlife Photographic Competition again next year to raise the plight of threatened wildlife across Australia.

Judges' Choice: Diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) **Greg Dawson**



Greg Dawson won the annual Judges' Choice prize of \$1,000 for their photograph of a diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*). The diamond firetail is a member of the grass finch family. They are listed as vulnerable. This image was photographed at Monarto Woodlands in South Australia. It is gated woodlands managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia. Two birds bathed in a puddle. Greg finds them strikingly beautiful and enjoys photographing them, learning about them, and seeing their numbers slowly increase in Monarto's protected area over the past few years.

People's Choice: Grey-headed flying-foxes (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) **Judy Leitch**



Judy Leitch won the annual People's Choice prize of \$500 for their photograph of two grey-headed flying-foxes (*Pteropus poliocephalus*). The grey-headed flying-fox is listed as vulnerable due to droughts, flooding rains, tornadoes, cyclones, and heat stress events, significantly impacting pollen eaters like the grey-headed flying-fox. This species may perish in their thousands due to these weather events. Grey-headed flying-foxes are Australia's only endemic flying-fox. They are a keynote species concerning pollination and seed dispersal for many native trees. Many local councils have pages of information regarding grey-headed flying-foxes. Judy often offers her photographs to help promote the species to ratepayers. She would like her photography to alter public sentiment. Judy is a fully vaccinated member of Bats Qld. She searches vast areas, such as this camp at Maclean, New South Wales, to photograph this beautiful but misunderstood species.