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Announcing the launch of TasNetworks and Tasmania Wildlife Hospital Partnership

TasNetworks is excited to announce a collaboration with the Tasmania Wildlife Hospital in Forth, marking the commencement of a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to the care of Tasmania's endangered raptor species.

This strategic partnership is a pivotal component of TasNetworks' Threatened Bird Strategy, an initiative aimed at bolstering statewide raptor care and rehabilitation capabilities. The primary goal is to ensure that injured Tasmanian wildlife receives enhanced rehabilitation opportunities, ultimately contributing to the conservation of the region's unique fauna.

With a committed investment totalling \$165,000 over the next three years, TasNetworks is actively supporting the Tasmania Wildlife Hospital in expanding its scope and delivering critical wildlife treatment, rehabilitation, and conservation efforts.

This funding will specifically support the Tasmania Wildlife Hospital in advancing its Raptor Recovery Program. This includes the construction of several essential aviaries, helping the organisation to uphold best practices in wildlife treatment and care for the region.

Dr. Joh Robertson, Chairperson of Tasmania Wildlife Hospital, expressed enthusiasm about the partnership, stating,

"We are deeply appreciative of TasNetworks' investment in our mission. The importance of this partnership goes beyond just funding aviary facilities. It enables the Tasmania Wildlife Hospital to establish a unified program to support sick or injured raptor species within one centralised facility – from veterinary treatment and critical care to rehabilitation and research, with the ultimate aim of supporting the region's wildlife rehabilitation network and providing best practice care for Tasmania's raptor species".

In alignment with TasNetworks' Threatened Bird Strategy, TasNetworks has also committed to spending approximately \$4 million over the next five years to mitigate the distribution network. This mitigation includes proactively installing new bird safe designs as assets are upgraded or replaced.

The 3 year commitment exemplifies TasNetworks' dedication to the expansion of Tasmania Wildlife Hospital's critical wildlife conservation efforts, reinforcing their joint commitment to the preservation of Tasmania's unique and vulnerable wildlife.

TasNetworks encourages people to report any incidents where a threatened bird is found injured or deceased near power lines, 132 004.

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