



Warbla Cave Photo: VSA Expedition Collection

The Karst Conservation Fund (KCF) supports projects which further the aims of the Australian Speleological Federation Inc. in protecting the cave and karst environment of Australia.

The KCF is currently supporting several projects:

- The **Nullarbor Campaign** is directed at preventing the Western Green Energy Hub proposals to develop wind and solar infrastructure on vast areas of the Nullarbor Plain. Currently, it also funds the National Heritage Listing nomination contract and supports cave conservation projects such as Goat Cave protection and collection of cave biota. Further expenditure could include expenditure on travel for political lobbying, publicity and production of campaign publications. This is the current major ASF conservation campaign.
- **Cave Invertebrate Conservation Project** supports Dr Jessica Marsh in an Early Career Industry Fellowship through an ARC Linkage Program at Adelaide University. Initial studies have found a large number of new troglobitic invertebrates from Goat Cave on the Nullarbor Plain.
- **Ghost Bat Project** *"The Macroderma Initiative: conserving ghost bats and informing development"*. Dr Nicola Hanrahan is undertaking this Linkage Project with Charles Darwin University. It is focussed on the Pine Creek ghost bat colony which is threatened by renewed gold mining but is aiming to establish the current status of ghost bats across Northern Australia.
- **Karstcare** is an ASF supported group led by David Wools-Cobb which conducts protection works in Northern Tasmanian caves. The KCF recently received a donation towards expenses associated with the activities.
- **Cave Cricket Biodiversity** This project has been extended subject to approval of the Australian Biological Resources Study. Dr Perry Beasley-Hall of Adelaide University is conducting the research.



Electronic donations will receive an initial receipt to the donor's email address, and every donor will receive a receipt in their name once donations are processed by the ASF treasurer. Donations of \$2 and more, made before 30 June, are tax-deductible for this financial year. Please mark your donation as being for the ASF Nullarbor Campaign or Other Projects.

We are asking all Australian Speleological Federation members and friends to donate towards the KCF projects. Tax-deductible donations can be made to the ASF's Nullarbor Campaign via the Karst Conservation Fund.

Donate at Australian Speleological Federation website: caves.org.au

PLEASE DONATE to further the Nullarbor Campaign or the Other Projects outlined above. These all contribute to the ASFs aims of protecting the cave and karst environments of Australia.