

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

AUTHORITY	Board
APPROVAL DATE	08/05/2019
NEXT REVIEW DATE	Jun 2021
POLICY OWNER	Director Wildlife Conservation and Science
DOCUMENT NO.	

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set Zoos Victoria’s framework towards environmental sustainability and ensure alignment to the Sustainable Development Goal.

2 SCOPE

The Policy applies to all activities of Zoos Victoria.

3 DEFINITION

Environmental Management System (EMS) – a management tool for evaluating, improving and reporting on environmental performance.

ISO 14001:2015 – the international standard that specifies requirements for an effective environmental management system (EMS).

LEAN - a methodology that aims to organize human activities to deliver more value while eliminating waste.

4 POLICY STATEMENT

Zoos Victoria’s vision is to be the world’s leading zoo-based conservation organisation. This means we exist to protect and conserve wildlife and habitat both locally and internationally. As an environmentally sustainable organisation we will demonstrate best practice in sustainability and ensure alignment to the Sustainable Development Goals.

To achieve our vision, we are committed to being leaders in environmental sustainability across all of our business operations by working smarter and continuously improving through our LEAN program. This means we will strive to:

- prevent pollution;
- protect our European and Aboriginal Heritage values;
- reduce our environmental footprint by using our resources (such as energy, water and materials) more efficiently and reduce of waste to landfill;
- reduce our ecological footprint by considering material whole of life costs with consideration towards biodiversity and wildlife conservation; and
- build positive gains for the environment.

Our commitment will be met by understanding our operational environmental aspects and impacts and minimising those impacts through the implementation of an ISO 14001:2015 certified Environmental Management System (EMS). Through this EMS we will measure our performance against agreed objectives, ensure that all legislative requirements and other commitments are met or exceeded where possible, and that we continually strive to improve against our benchmarks.

The program to meet the Environmental Sustainability Policy is outlined in the **Environmental Sustainability – 3-Year Plan**.

These objectives are periodically reviewed through the Corporate Planning Process and endorsed by the Senior Executive Team. Our achievements will be monitored and audited yearly, and published in our annual report.

5 RELEVANT LEGISLATION

[Zoological Parks and Gardens Act 1995 \(Vic\)](#)

6 OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS

[Environmental Sustainability – 3-Year Plan](#)

[EMS Manual](#)