

# *Inquiry into Wildlife Roadstrike in Victoria*

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# Wildlife impacts

## **Estimated annual wildlife roadstrike in Australia:**

**4 million marsupials & 6 million birds**

Over **40,000 frogs** killed along a 4km stretch of road in NSW during an average summer.

## **Wildlife Victoria (2023–24):**

**>15,000** animals reported as hit by vehicles

## **Veterinary clinics:**

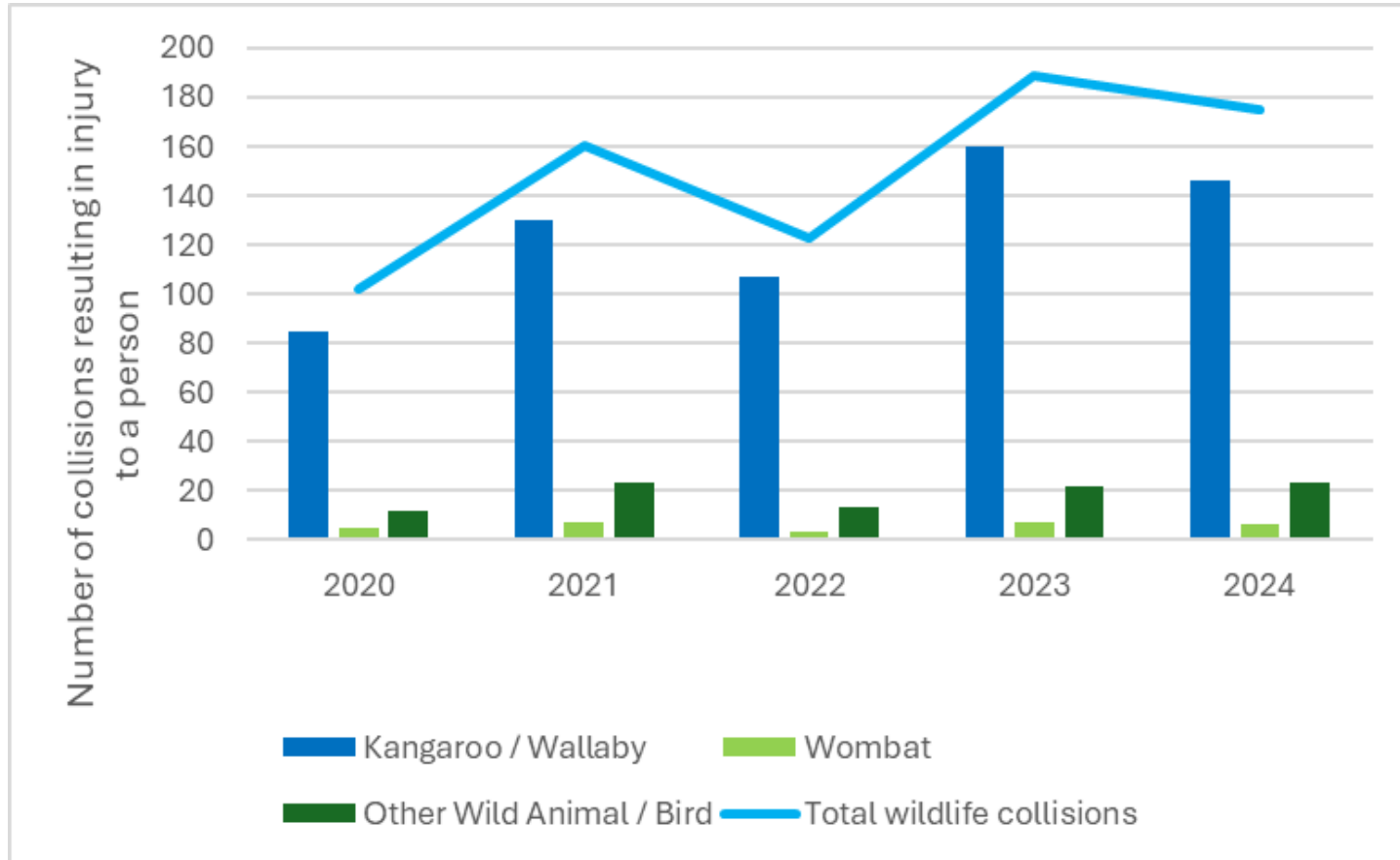
**90%** never recoup costs for treating wildlife

## **Estimated causes of wildlife admissions across Australia:**

**82%** due to vehicular trauma, other trauma, or predation



# Public safety



Victoria Police Traffic Incident System:  
**749 incidents** from 2020 to 2024.

Victorian road crash database (Jan 2012 – Aug 2024):

**92.3%** of fatalities occurred in **100 km/h zones**

**86.9%** of serious injuries occurred in **80 km/h+ zones**

Wildlife collisions claims cost an average of **\$5,500 - \$6,400**, with **1 in 7 collisions causing damage so severe** the car is written off (AAMI)

# Recommendation roadmap

1. **Establish cross-sectoral reference group** to develop and implement urgent priority actions regarding a centralised database, fauna-sensitive development, and mitigation strategies
2. **Update critical legislation** to protect the welfare of wildlife
3. **Bolster the response to roadstrike** through immediate funding support, streamlining systems, and implementing statewide standardised training

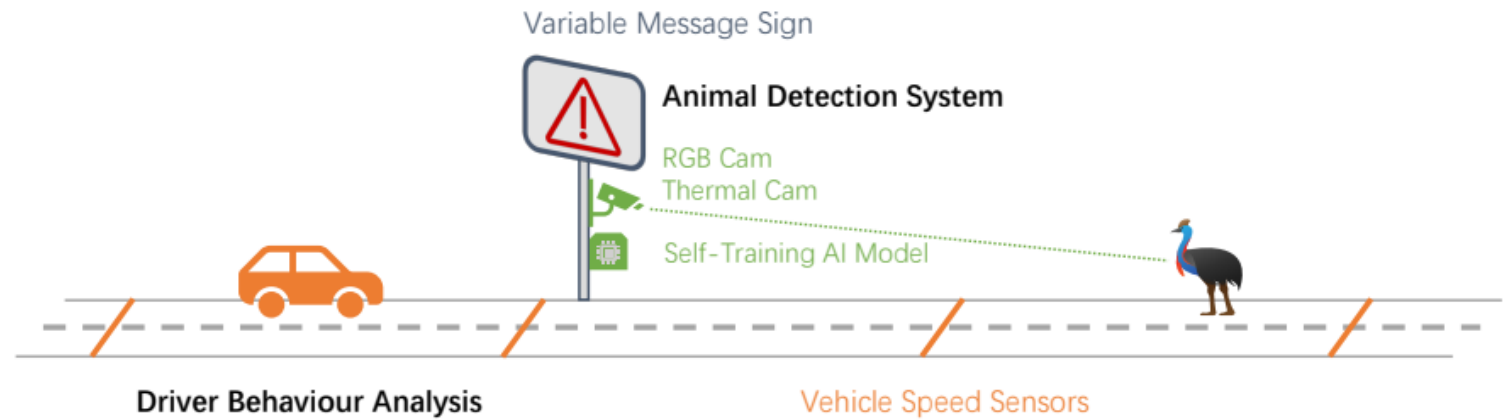
# Prevention – cross-sectoral priorities

- Centralised database
- Fauna-sensitive development and road design
- Mitigation strategies

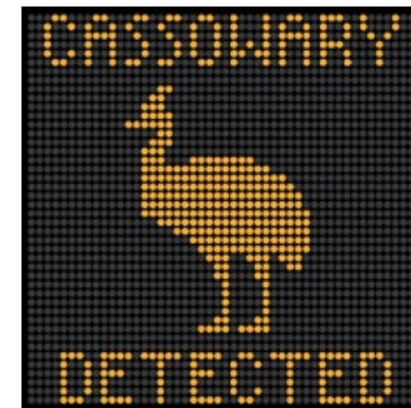




# Mitigation strategies

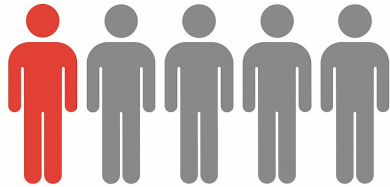


**Figure 1.:** An overview of the developed LAARMA system.



# Public knowledge

- **Only 19% 'definitely'** knows what to do or who to call if they hit wildlife with their car



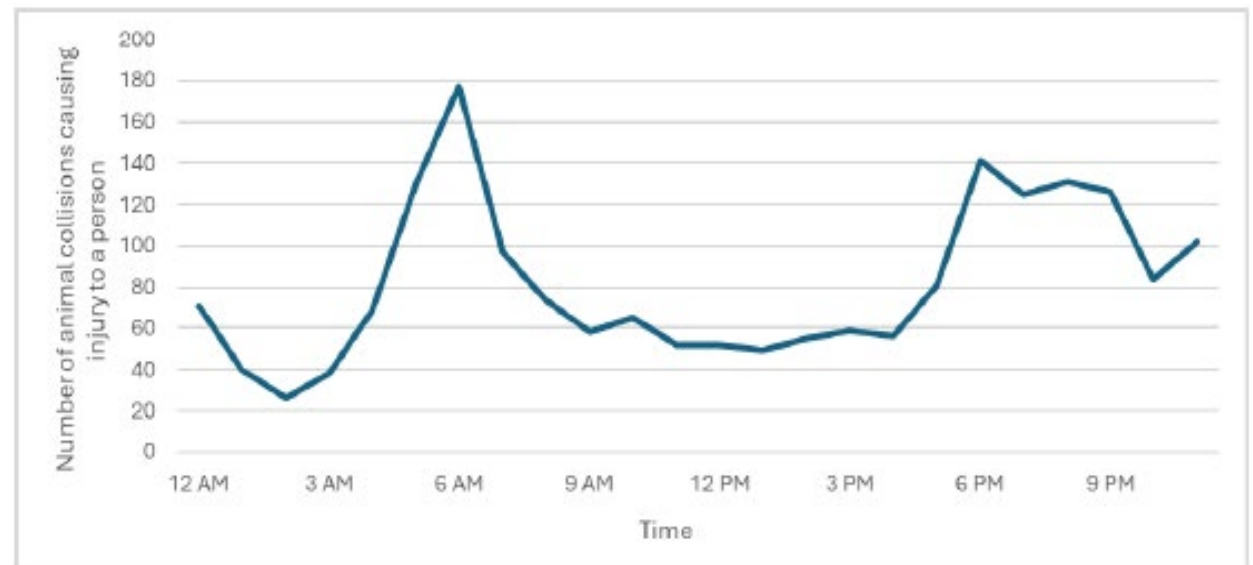
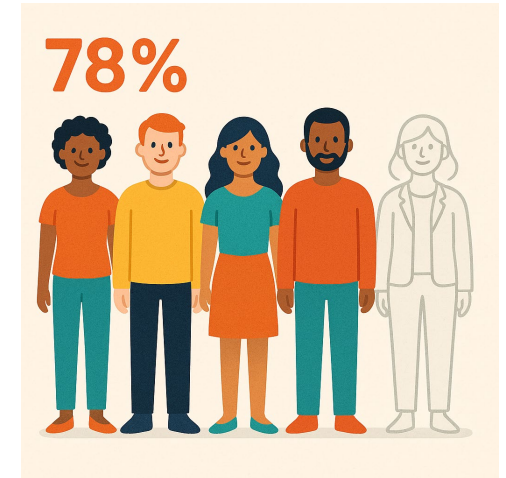
- Misconceptions about high-risk driving times:

**58%** said dusk

**31%** said night

Only **9%** said dawn

- **78% of Victorians are in support of an app** to report wildlife roadstrike



# Response

- Centralise reporting for members of the public - one number, one app, no second step
- \$2 car registration levy
- Implement standardised training





# Questions and discussion

