**Australians Help Koalas, Other Animals Survive Fires**

**澳大利亚人们救助火灾中的生灵**

The Australian government said this week it will spend over 34 million dollars on helping wildlife recover from bushfires.

本周澳大利亚政府表示，将花费3400多万美元救助丛林大火中的野生动物。

The bushfires crisis threatens several animal species, including koalas and rock wallabies.

这次丛林大火对当地包括考拉和小袋鼠在内的一些动物构成了威胁。

Josh Frydenberg is the Treasurer of Australia. He told reporters on Monday, “This has been an ecological disaster, a disaster that is still unfolding.” He spoke during a visit to the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, where workers are treating 45 koalas for burns.

弗莱登伯格是现任澳大利亚财务主管。周一，他在访问麦加奎港考拉医院时告诉记者：“这是一场生态灾难，一场仍在蔓延的灾难。”该医院的工作人员正在为45只考拉治疗烧伤。

Frydenberg added that Australia’s native trees and plants had been “very badly damaged.”

弗莱登伯格还补充道，澳大利亚本土的树木和其他植物已经“严重受损”。

Huge wildfires have destroyed more than 11.2 million hectares - nearly half the area of Britain. The fires destroyed or severely damaged the areas where several native animals live.

大火蔓延烧毁了1120多万公顷土地——几乎是英国面积的一半，还摧毁或者说严重破坏了当地一些动物的栖息地。

Some estimates suggest as many as one billion creatures have died in the fires or are at risk now because of a lack of food and shelter. This number includes farm animals and family pets like cats and dogs.

据大概估算，多达10亿生物死于此次火灾，或者因火灾导致缺乏食物或避难所而身处险境。

这一数据包含了农场饲养动物和猫狗等家养宠物。

People around the world are sharing images of animals that survived the fires and videos of people risking their lives to help Australian wildlife.

世界各地的人们纷纷分享大火中幸存动物的照片，以及人们冒着生命危险救助澳大利亚野生动物的视频。

Food from the sky

来自天空的食物

In one program, national park employees used helicopters to air drop thousands of kilos of carrots and sweet potatoes to brush-tailed rock wallabies in New South Wales (NSW).

其中一个救助项目中，国家公园的工作人员利用直升机空投了数千公斤的胡萝卜和红薯给新南威尔士州的岩袋鼠。

The state’s environment minister Matt Kean said giving them this food is one way Australians are trying to help endangered animals like the wallaby.

澳大利亚环境部长马特·基恩表示，给它们提供这种食物是澳大利亚人帮助袋鼠等濒危动物的一种方式。

“The wallabies typically survive the fire itself,” he said, but they have no natural food left after the fire passes.

“小袋鼠能靠自身在火灾中幸存下来，”他说，但火灾过后它们却没有任何天然食物可食用。

Australia's national symbol

澳大利亚的国家象征

The koala is a national symbol, so Frydenberg said it would be a focus of national government spending. He added that the full amount of the damage would not be known until the bushfires are out. Experts say the fires could continue burning for months.

考拉是澳大利亚的象征，所以弗莱登伯格说，它将成为澳洲政府出资救助的重点对象。他补充道，在山火被扑灭之前，无法估计它带来的整体损失。专家表示，此次大火可能会持续数月。

Threatened Species Commissioner Sally Box said an estimated 30 percent of koala habitat in New South Wales state may have been lost. Koalas have heavy fur, and usually climb higher when they are in danger. That is not helpful in fast-moving bushfires.

濒危物种专员萨莉·博克斯说，新南威尔士州大约30%的考拉栖息地已被损毁。考拉的毛很厚，遇到危险时通常会往更高处爬。在快速蔓延的丛林火灾中，这样做有害无益。

“Everything that can be done to rescue and recover koala habitat will be done,” noted Sussan Ley, Australia’s Federal Environment Minister.

澳大利亚联邦环境部长苏珊·利表示:“我们将尽一切努力拯救和恢复考拉的栖息地。”

I’m Jill Robbins.

吉尔·罗宾斯报道。

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