



ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

Kosciuszko Thredbo Pty Ltd is committed to facilitating the long-term sustainable enjoyment of the unique alpine environment for all those visiting Thredbo.

Thredbo has a dedicated team working on ways to reduce our impact on the environment through proper management of waste, energy, water and biodiversity. This summary details Thredbo's recent accomplishments and current initiatives.

Thredbo is continually working to minimise our environmental impact and if you have a suggestion on how our performance can be improved please contact the Environmental Services Department at info@thredbo.com.au.

NEW FOR 2023

- Thredbo is Gold in 2023! Thredbo has renewed our EarthCheck Gold Certification through hard work by staff and the local community. Our initial Gold certification came in 2021 and we are proud to be able to hold up the high standards required to continue with this level of certification.
- Electric Vehicle Charging is live. Thredbo is now home to 8 22kw AC EV chargers in the Overnight 4 carpark. These chargers can accept any EV on the Australian market and were installed in time for Winter 2023. Users will need to bring their own cable to connect their vehicle and charging is complimentary for guests and residents at this time.
- 10 Years with EcoTourism Australia! Thredbo's Guided Hikes and Backcountry Tours have been awarded the nationally recognised Advanced EcoTourism accreditation for the tenth year in a row. These products are recognised as sustainable tourism, and are a testament to the efforts of our team toward addressing impacts, education, and conservation.
- Rubber Recycling. As part of Thredbo's efforts to divert an increased amount of waste from landfill, rubber sheave liners and drive belts from chairlift maintenance are now being collected alongside bike tyres. Public bins for damaged tyres are available at the base of Kosciuszko Chairlift during summer, and all tyres from the MTB Workshop are also being collected under the scheme.
- Thredbo is making leaps and bounds towards carbon neutrality for its operations. A road-map has been produced through in conjunction with consultants as part of our partnership with NSW Government initiative Sustainability Advantage.



Celebrating
10 YEARS
of ECO Certification

WASTE MANAGEMENT – Recycling and Reducing Landfill

Thredbo is working to increase the proportion of waste being recycled across the Resort and Village. Initiatives include:

- Thredbo's used paper and cardboard is compacted into a specific purpose container. By using a compactor, we significantly reduce the number of collections required throughout the year which helps to reduce vehicle emissions.
- Thredbo collects used light bulbs and all battery types for recycling. We have a public collection point in the Thredbo Information Centre.
- Organics recycling was introduced in 2015; in 2020 a new organics recycling machine doubled our capacity in food waste recycling. Currently there are over 35 facilities participating around Thredbo resort, consisting of cafes, restaurants, offices, and larger lodges. In 2022-23, over 27 tonnes of organic waste was diverted from landfill.
- Used cooking oil is collected and repurposed into biodiesel and stock feed by a local farmer.
- Scrap metal is reused on site or transported to Cooma where it is recycled.
- Biosolids from the Thredbo wastewater treatment plant are used for soil conditioning on a farm located in the local region.
- Old mobile phones are donated to Phone-cycle who remarket them or if a mobile phone cannot be reused they recycle over 95% of the materials.
- Since 2018, all Thredbo owned outlets have replaced single use plastic with reusable or paper alternatives. Plastic bags have been replaced with non-woven drawstring multi-purpose reusable bags, polyester waterproof foldable bags, and paper bags.
- Food packaging, plastic cutlery and straws have been replaced by paper and commercially compostable products in all Thredbo food and beverage outlets.
- In 2022 over 1,500 kg of old or damaged staff uniforms were prevented from landfill. Most were sent to Upparel for textile recycling where materials are broken down and made into new products.
- Old and damaged bike tyres are now collected and recycled, reducing waste to landfill.
- The Thredbo Bakery and Friday Flat Bistro are members of Green Caffein, a reusable swap-and-go coffee cup scheme that is free for customers. Green Caffein is an easy way to take-away without using disposable coffee cups, helping to reduce the number of cups being sent to landfill.
- In the first half of 2023, over 1.2 tonnes of E-waste was transported to Sydney for specialist recycling. The closed loop nature of the system ensures that valuable resources are utilised in new products.



ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Thredbo utilises various strategies to minimise energy use, current initiatives are listed below.



- Together with Red Energy and Snowy Hydro, Thredbo is proud to be powering all major resort operations, and all KT-owned small sites across Thredbo, with renewable electricity.
- The new Merritt's Gondola uses an industry leading Direct Drive electric motor system resulting in a 5% energy saving over a traditional lift drive system.
- The Thredbo Leisure Centre solar panel installation supplied over 22% center's electricity requirements in 2022-23. In January 2019 the system met 100% of the Centre's requirements over a number of days.
- Thredbo's snowmaking system has been progressively upgraded and automated over the last decade resulting in energy efficiency gains.
- The mountain operations ski lift system is another large user of energy. Power factor correction equipment has been installed, increasing energy efficiency.
- Water source heat pumps are used to pre-heat water in the Thredbo Leisure Centre. Water from the snowmaking pond is used as the heat source, pre-heating the water to reduce the amount of gas required to heat the pool water to temperature.
- Solar powered street lights have been operating along Friday Drive in front of the Thredbo Alpine Apartments for over five years and are performing well.
- Since 2009 we have partnered with GreenFleet to offset carbon dioxide emissions from Kosciuszko Thredbo vehicles. Since the start of our partnership over 53,000 trees have been planted, offsetting over 14,200 tonnes of carbon emissions.
- Since 2014, Thredbo guests have been offered the opportunity to offset their trip to the snow through the 'My Thredbo Park Project'. The Park Project is a forestry carbon offset program for visitors where guests can opt-in by purchasing a tree for \$5.00 when buying their lift products. Each tree will help to offset the emissions generated by their journey to Thredbo.
- The Sewage Treatment Plant has been controlled with a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) control system since 2017. The system automates the majority of processes at the plant, helping the operators to run at greater efficiencies. The SCADA system also holds records of all the equipment being controlled allowing for review and planning for improvements.



WATER MANAGEMENT

Thredbo utilises various strategies to minimise water use, current initiatives are listed below.

- While Thredbo acknowledges that we use a large volume of water each year for snowmaking purposes, the vast majority of this water is returned to the Thredbo River each Spring when the snow melts.
- A significant reduction in water use has been achieved through the installation of low flow showers, waterless urinals, dual flush toilets and water efficient washing machines.
- In conjunction with local stakeholders Thredbo participates in a Waterwise program, promoting water conservation in the resort, despite large increases in guest numbers over the years.
- Summer watering requirements for village landscaping are reduced by applying mulch to village gardens. This mulch is produced by chipping locally sourced native green waste.
- Thredbo manages the wastewater treatment for the village. With no industry in Thredbo, this means that the vast majority of water used in Thredbo is returned to the Thredbo River following tertiary filtration at the treatment plant.
- Water quality is regularly tested and results are publicly available on the Thredbo website.
- Thredbo works with the University of Canberra's Institute for Applied Ecology, who have provided us with ongoing monitoring of the physical, chemical and biological conditions of the Thredbo River since 1989. This monitoring provides the information and data that allows us to best manage any impacts that the resort operations have on Thredbo River.



INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED ECOLOGY

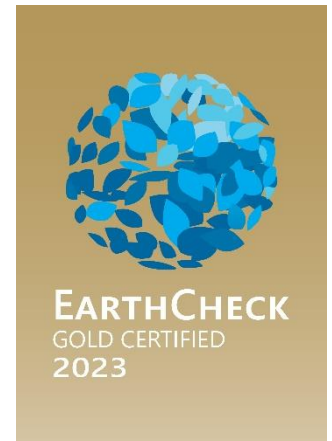
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

- Kosciuszko Thredbo acts in partnership with the NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service to protect the native, and manage the introduced, flora and fauna within the resort.
- 6,550 native trees, shrubs, and grasses were planted within Thredbo resort in 2022-23 by the Environmental Services and Mountain Departments.
- As part of all new developments, including mountain bike trails, detailed rehabilitation plans have been put in place to help stabilise the soil and provide habitats for native animals.
- Fauna crossings are integrated into any new ski slope and mountain bike trails developed by Thredbo ensuring native species are not impacted by recreational activities.
- 'Elliot' traps are loaned by Thredbo to businesses throughout the resort for the trapping and relocating of native small mammals from village buildings.
- A number of Thredbo staff have been trained in snake relocation to help protect both snakes and humans in the resort and village.



GENERAL

- Thredbo believes “if you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it”. To help measure our Environmental performance Thredbo has worked to become certified under EarthCheck’s Destination standard. We first gained Silver certification in 2017 and Gold Certification in January 2021.
- Thredbo has a comprehensive Environmental Management System (EMS) to coordinate and evaluate each of our key areas of business activity. Our EMS incorporates Key Performance Areas (KPAs) such as reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Each department is in charge of annually reviewing their progress towards our resort wide sustainability targets.
- Thredbo staff are encouraged to nominate Environmental Champions from each department to voice ideas or concerns regarding on-the-ground improvements to help Thredbo’s overall environmental performance.
- A Sustainability Team meets regularly to engage with the Thredbo community and Chamber of Commerce to ensure everyone is aware and working towards our shared environmental and sustainability goals.
- Spill Kits are installed around the resort. Staff that handle hydrocarbons, chemicals, or oils at work undergo training to safely clean up in the event of an accidental spill, which reduces the risk to staff, guests, and the environment.



EDUCATION

- Senior Thredbo managers have received environmental training through the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage “Sustainability Advantage” Program to encourage top-down leadership of environmental initiatives.
- All seasonal and permanent staff members employed by Kosciuszko Thredbo undertake yearly environmental awareness training to promote an environmentally friendly culture.
- Signage has been installed throughout the resort to encourage public participation in Thredbo’s environmental efforts.
- All purchasing staff have been made aware of Thredbo’s procurement program and are encouraged to order environmentally friendly products where feasible.



FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Kosciuszko Thredbo is currently investigating opportunities in the following areas;

- Cogeneration opportunities throughout the resort.
- Electric heat-pump replacements for gas boilers, to reduce overall emissions.
- Gas efficiency improvements in Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning systems.
- Opportunities to join a certified program to offset LPG usage in Resort.
- Thredbo’s lift replacement program to consider energy efficiency in the planning process.

ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS

Kosciuszko Thredbo has entered into many formal and informal partnerships to help manage our environmental footprint.



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