

**Subject:** Great Engagement Today!

**From:** Royden Saah <royden.saah@islandconservation.org>

**Date:** 7/26/2017 2:30 AM

**To:** Karl Campbell <karl.campbell@islandconservation.org>, Gregg Howald <gregg.howald@islandconservation.org>, "jrgodwinnc@gmail.com" <godwin@ncsu.edu>, "Fred Gould (fred\_gould@ncsu.edu)" <fred\_gould@ncsu.edu>, David Threadgill <dwthreadgill@tamu.edu>, Daniel Tompkins <TompkinsD@landcareresearch.co.nz>, "Piaggio, Antoinette J - APHIS" <toni.j.piaggio@aphis.usda.gov>, "Eisemann, John D - APHIS" <John.D.Eisemann@aphis.usda.gov>, "paul.thomas (paul.thomas@adelaide.edu.au)" <paul.thomas@adelaide.edu.au>  
**CC:** "Peter.Brown@csiro.au" <Peter.Brown@csiro.au>

Hi Steering Committee,

I have spent the majority of my last two weeks here in AU engaging with conservation and government staff. Many have been good, but today is worth noting immediately.

Today Peter and I met with what I think will be an important (informal) partner. Atticus Fleming, CEO of Australian Wildlife Conservancy ([www.australianwildlife.org](http://www.australianwildlife.org)). He is a lawyer by training, and a highly impactful conservationist. AWC manages so much land. Here is from the website:

We manage [26 properties](#), protecting endangered wildlife across more than 3.8 million hectares in iconic regions such as the Kimberley, Cape York, Lake Eyre and the Top End.

The AWC estate protects a very high proportion of Australia's terrestrial biodiversity including:

71% of all terrestrial mammal species;  
86% of all terrestrial bird species; and  
around 50% of all reptile and frog species.

He was extremely engaged and asked very astute question both from a technical nature and a policy nature. After wrapping his head around the GBIRD program (45 minutes overview and questions), his major question was, how would you apply a program like this to cats? Peter and I gave background on why we were starting with mice, and why we must be disciplined in our endeavor, but left the door open for unofficial coordination between AWC and GBIRD. We also said we would introduce him to Dan and Paul due to his interest genetics and PFNZ 2050.

Peter, any other thoughts?

Cheers  
Royden

**J. Royden Saah**

Program Coordinator

[Genetic Biocontrol of Invasive Rodents](#)

[Island Conservation](#)

+61 459 610 332 (mobile in Australia)

Roydensaah (skype)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Flickr](#) | [Blog](#)