

Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit

Application Information

Legislation

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (section 53(1)(c) or (d) and 55)

National Parks and Wildlife (Wildlife) Regulations 2019

Overview

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is responsible for regulating the management of wildlife (i.e. native animals) in accordance with the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 ('the Act') and all Regulations and Proclamations made under the Act. A permit is required to take (e.g. destroy, capture, trap) protected animals or release protected animals back to the wild.

Under the Act it is an offence to take a protected animal or release to the wild any native animal, whether protected or unprotected, without a permit.

Policy statement

Human-wildlife conflicts occur at different scales and in different situations. DEW encourages an adaptive wildlife management approach to address the impacts caused by wildlife in a way that is humane and socially acceptable.

Where protected animals:

- are causing, or likely to cause, damage to environmental amenity (including built structures); or
- constitute a safety risk or hazard to people or industry,
- a permit may be granted to manage the impact caused.

DEW will support:

- a wildlife management approach that includes the granting of a permit to catch, trap and release a protected animal (i.e. snake catching and trapping and release of possums),
- the use of lethal control methods where non-lethal methods are not appropriate, or when undertaken in a strategic manner to reinforce non-lethal methods.

DEW acknowledge there are situations where non-lethal methods are not effective or appropriate to address the impacts caused by wildlife.

Where the destruction of wildlife is authorised, compliance with the relevant Code of Practice for humane destruction of wildlife is a condition of permit.

The capture, trap and release of protected animals that are dangerous or a biological hazard will be restricted to suitably qualified persons that provide wildlife management and control services on an ongoing basis.

Permit description

The Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit entitles the holder to provide a range of wildlife management and control services on an ongoing basis (whether or not for commercial gain), including relocation or destruction, for protected animals identified in the permit by reference to their species or other class to which they belong.

Types of wildlife management and control services (subject to specific criteria being met)

- Capture and release venomous snakes, or
- Possum trap and release
- or both of the listed activities (subject to specific criteria being met).

For other wildlife management and control services conducted on an ongoing basis please contact DEW for advice.

Animal welfare

The welfare of all animals that are destroyed, captured, trapped or released is important to DEW and the treatment of all animals must comply with the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* and any applicable code(s) of practice, animal welfare standards, guidelines or procedures where they exist.

How long does a permit last?

Permits expire on 30 June annually and cannot exceed 12 months in duration.

Eligibility

Applicants must be over 18 years of age.

How do I apply for a permit?

You will need to follow these steps:

1. Provide all information requested in this application form.
2. Ensure the application declaration is signed and dated.
3. Email the completed form to DEWfaunapermitsunit@sa.gov.au or post it to:
Fauna Permits Unit,
GPO Box 1782
Adelaide SA 5001

or lodge it in person at one of our offices:

- Adelaide: Ground Floor, 81-95 Waymouth Street
- Mount Gambier: 11 Helen Street
- Port Augusta: SGIC Building, 9 Mackay Street
- Berri: 3 Wade Street
- Port Lincoln: 86 Tasman Terrace

4. Applicants should allow up to eight (8) weeks for the processing of this application.

Fees

A permit fee of \$81.50 is payable.

A half year fee of \$40.75 is applicable to applications lodged between 1 January – 30 June.

Payment can be made in person or via post with your application using Cheque or Money Order (made payable to the Department for Environment and Water).

Paying by credit card:

Payment can be made in person or a Fauna Permits Officer will contact you upon receipt of your application to obtain card details.

Do I need to keep records?

Yes. You must submit a report to the Director of National Parks and Wildlife within 14 days of permit expiry. The reporting documentation will be provided upon the granting of a permit.

Further permits will not be granted unless the completed report is submitted.

Can the permit be transferred?

No. A permit is not transferable.

Do I require public liability insurance?

Yes. A condition of the permit requires the permit holder to maintain public liability insurance to cover the permit holder for any insurable risks arising from the activities authorised by the permit.

Do I require a first aid certificate?

Yes. In cases where the provision of a wildlife management or control service involves dangerous animals or animals that constitute a biological hazard, a condition of the permit requires that the permit holder must maintain a current first aid certificate for the entire permit period. In the case of snake catching the first aid training must include a component on dealing with snakebite treatment.

Do I require vaccinations to handle dangerous animals or animals that constitute a biological hazard?

Yes. In cases where the provision of a wildlife management or control service involves dangerous animals or animals that constitute a biological hazard (e.g. bats or flying-foxes), a condition of the permit would require the permit holder to be vaccinated.

Destruction of wildlife using firearms

IMPORTANT - The possession and use of firearms is controlled by the *Firearms Act 2015* and subordinate regulations administered by the South Australian Police. Any person possessing and using a firearm must comply with this, and other relevant, laws.

If a Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit authorises the destruction of wildlife using a firearm, the local police and neighbouring residents should be notified before any destruction of wildlife is undertaken, especially where high powered rifles will be used.

Application for a Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit

Pursuant to section 53(1)(c) or (d) and 55 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL RESULT IN DELAYS IN ASSESSING YOUR APPLICATION.

Part 1: Applicant details			
Your personal details			
Title	First name	Surname	Date of birth
Business name			
Location of business premises			
Street No.	Street name	City/suburb/town/locality	Post code
Business mailing address			
<input type="checkbox"/> as above			
e.g. Post Office Box		City/suburb/town	Post code
Your residential address			
Street No.	Street name	City/suburb/town/locality	Post code
Your contact details			
Telephone number	Mobile number	Email	
Current South Australian wildlife permit (s) held			
Permit name/type		Permit number	
Prior convictions			
Have you ever been convicted of an offence against the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> , the <i>Animal Welfare Act 1985</i> , South Australian Firearms Legislation or equivalent interstate legislation? If yes, please provide details below			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Description of offence		Year	State/Territory
Part 2: Wildlife management and control services to be undertaken			
Capture and release venomous snakes (snake catching)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete Part 4	
Possum trap and release	<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete Part 5	
Other wildlife management and control services	<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete Part 6	

Part 3: Areas of operation			
Please indicate areas of operation (e.g. Adelaide metropolitan area, Kangaroo Island, Fleurieu Peninsula, mining site X)			
Part 4: Capture and release of venomous snakes (snake catching)			
<p>The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) will issue permits to suitably qualified persons where they provide a wildlife management and control service on an ongoing basis (whether or not for commercial gain) for the safe removal of snakes causing a nuisance or danger to any person or where reptiles (including snakes) are in danger from tools, equipment, vehicles, humans, etc.</p> <p>DEW will not issue permits for the retention of any snakes or other reptiles captured which are not endemic to the area in which they were found. All non-endemic snakes or other non-endemic reptiles must be surrendered to DEW. Non-native snakes or other non-native reptiles must be surrendered to PIRSA Biosecurity.</p>			
Number	Statement	Your answer	
4.1	I hold documentation that certifies I have successfully completed training and have experience in venomous snake catching and handling.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4.2	I hold a current nationally accredited first aid certificate that includes a component on dealing with snakebite treatment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	or I hold documentation that certifies my competency to catch and handle venomous snakes. This documentation has been certified by a medical practitioner who specialises in this field.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4.3	I have a written emergency response plan which includes procedures for managing any incident involving snake bite and snake escape.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4.4	I hold the necessary public liability insurance to cover me for any insurable risks arising from capture and release of venomous snakes subject of this permit application.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4.5	I hold, or have held, a Class 3 Specialist Keep and Sell permit endorsed for level 2* or level 3* venomous snake species (or equivalent interstate permit) or a Snake Catchers Permit. *Refer DEW website Keeping Venomous Snakes Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No Please refer to Part 4A
Part 4A: Criteria to be met to carry out snake catching (where applicant does not hold, or has not held, a permit to keep venomous snakes)			
<p>You are required to maintain a logbook detailing a minimum of ten (10) snake catching call outs completed by you under the direct supervision of a person holding a current South Australian Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit. The snake catching call outs must be for different locations and involve the catching, handling and releasing of venomous snakes.</p> <p>The information required in logbook entries for each snake catching call out is set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date of call out - Species of snake caught - Location (e.g. street address and town) of call out - Location where venomous snake released - Name of Wildlife Management (Controller) permit holder who supervised the call out - Signature of Wildlife Management (Controller) permit holder who supervised the call out <p>Once you have completed the log book requirement and the log book provided to the Department for Environment and Water a decision can be made on your permit application.</p>			

Part 4B: Transport of venomous snakes or other reptiles

Note - The *National Parks and Wildlife (Wildlife) Regulations 2019* (regulation 39) sets out requirements for the construction and labelling of cages and containers for transport.

Please describe the transport cage or containers (as the case requires) to be used to transport venomous snakes or other reptiles. Attach additional sheets if required.

Description of transport cage or containers

Part 5: Possum trap and release

Minimum specifications for possum traps

Minimum trap size dimensions: 540mm (L) x 240mm (W) x 240mm (H)

Maximum individual grid mesh size: 19mm x 19mm (or an equivalent area)

Trap door mechanism: spiral bait holder or pressure mounted foot treadle to activate door release

Species and number of possums to be trapped and released

Common name of possum	Number of possums

Number	Statement	Your answer	
5.1	I hold the necessary public liability insurance to cover any insurable risks arising from activities subject of this permit application.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.2	The possum traps that will be used comply with the minimum specifications described above.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.3	Possum traps will only be used within a built structure (e.g. roof space) to trap possums.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.4	Possum traps will only be operational between dusk and dawn and checked daily in the morning.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.5	After trapping any possums and prior to release (after dusk) I will make a reasonable effort to prevent possum re-entry into the built structure by sealing off possum entry points. I will check that there are no remaining possums within the built structure prior to possum proofing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.6	Possums contained in a trap will be kept in a quiet place at the same property and will be protected from other people, the weather, temperature extremes, direct light, domestic pets and other wildlife. The possum trap will be covered with a permeable material that provides adequate ventilation and prevents direct light exposure.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.7	Possums will not be left in a possum trap for a period of more than 24 hours and will be provided with suitable food and water.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No



5.8	Possums will be released within 50 metres of the capture site and on the same property at dusk or night.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.9	I will take all reasonable steps to protect the possum from predation by other animals when the possum is released from the possum trap.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.10	Possums that cannot be released back to the wild due to disease, injury, or poor health will be taken to a registered veterinarian for humane euthanasia.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Part 6. Other Wildlife Management and Control Services			
<i>If you have any queries about making this application, please call the Fauna Permits Unit on 8124 4972</i>			
Please enter the species of protected animal that requires wildlife management or control			
Species		Number	
Describe the proposed activities to be undertaken (add additional pages if required)			
Describe your experience in the trap and release of protected species (add additional pages if required)			
Describe the impacts and/or damage being caused by the species (add additional pages if required)			
Provide details of the technique/method(s) to be used in the trap and release of this species (please attach photos of equipment) (add additional pages if required)			
6.1	I will take all reasonable steps to protect the animal(s) from predation by other animals when the animal(s) is released from the trap.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
6.2	Animals that cannot be released back to the wild due to disease, injury, or poor health will be taken to a registered veterinarian for humane euthanasia.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
6.3	I hold the necessary public liability insurance to cover any insurable risks arising from activities subject of this permit application.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Part 7: Declaration by applicant

I understand there are penalties for making a false or misleading statement. (Section 72 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*). I declare that the information included in this application is true and accurate.

Signature of applicant

Date

Method of Payment

Please nominate your preferred method of payment:

Cheque/Money Order*

*Please make payable to the Department for Environment and Water and attach to this application form

Cash*

* Cash payments can only be made in person at a local DEW office.

Credit Card*

* A Fauna Permits Officer will contact you upon receipt of your application to obtain card details