

Information Sheet

Permit to destroy wildlife

Issued pursuant to Section 53(1)(c), 53(1)(d) or 53(1)(c) and (d), *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972*

Overview

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is responsible for regulating the management of wildlife (protected animals) in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (NPW Act). Permits are required for the destruction of any protected animals and may be granted to allow property owners to destroy animals that are causing or likely to cause, damage to the environment or to crops, stock or other property, or that are causing or likely to cause damage to environmental amenity (including built structures), or pose a safety risk or hazard to people or industry.

Under the NPW Act it is an offence to destroy or remove any protected animal without a permit, with a maximum penalty of \$2,500 or imprisonment for 6 months.

Destruction of animals is time consuming and in isolation not considered an effective method for managing wildlife that are causing impacts. To achieve a reduction in impacts an integrated management approach should be taken and should include a range of non-lethal methods. Destruction of animals should only be undertaken in a strategic manner to reinforce the effect of non-lethal methods used.

In situations where managing wildlife involves the destruction or removal of wildlife DEW is committed to:

- o applying decision-making processes that effectively integrate both long-term and short-term economic, social, environmental and equitable considerations;
- o working together with landholders, community and industry to promote early action planning and develop appropriate integrated wildlife management strategies (using non-lethal methods and lethal methods (when required)) for managing wildlife.

Animal welfare

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

How do I apply for a permit?

You will need to send your completed application form to your nearest natural resources centre or office.

Fees

No fees apply.

Do I need to keep records?

You must submit a return within 14 days of permit expiry. Further permits will not be granted unless a completed return is submitted.

How long will it take to obtain a permit?

Your application can take up to 4 weeks to process, however most applications are assessed and permit issued within 10 working days.

How long does a permit last?

A permit is generally issued for the time required to manage the issue (e.g. growing season). Permits cannot exceed 12 months in duration.

Can the permit be transferred?

A permit is not transferable. However, at the time of application you may nominate other persons to destroy wildlife on your property under your direction.

Do I need a firearms licence to apply for a permit?

No. You, the permit applicant, do not require a firearms licence if you have listed other people in your permit application to destroy wildlife on your property under your direction. These people must have a current firearms licence. The permit will identify the people authorised to carry out the destruction of wildlife.

Further information

Visit www.environment.sa.gov.au for more information about living with wildlife and animal welfare.



Application for a permit to destroy wildlife

Issued pursuant to Section 53 (1)(c), 53(1)(d) or 53(1)(c) and (d), *National Parks and Wildlife Act, 1972*

This form is not valid for use after 30 June 2019.

Important information for applicants

This form is to be used to apply for a permit to destroy wildlife. Information requested will enable your application to be assessed as prescribed under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. Your application must be assessed and approved by a delegated Department for Environment and Water (DEW) officer and permit issued before animals can be destroyed.

Please send the completed form to your nearest natural resources centre or office.

Assessment considerations

This application will be assessed with consideration of the following;

1. Extent of economic/environmental damage being caused or is likely to be caused by wildlife,
2. Wildlife represents a threat to human safety,
3. A range of non lethal methods have been tried with limited success,
4. The destruction of some animals provides an effective method of minimising the impact of wildlife,
5. The technique used to take wildlife is humane and complies with appropriate Codes of Practice or animal welfare standards,
6. The impact of the activity will not detrimentally affect ecological sustainability and species conservation.

YOU MUST COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF THIS APPLICATION FORM

Applicant details (* optional fields)			
Surname:		Given Name(s):	
Date of Birth:		E-mail:	
Residential Address:		Suburb:	Post Code:
Postal Address:		Suburb:	Post Code:
Telephone: (business hours)		Telephone: (after hours)*	
Mobile:		Facsimile: *	

1. Have you previously held this type of permit?

Yes (previous permit number) No

Summary of animals destroyed under most recent permit (If you have recently held a destruction permit, this completed summary is required prior to the issue of a permit for this application.)

Permit No.: **Year held:**

Species: **Number destroyed:** **Yellow tag number(s) used:**

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