



Office of Environment and Heritage

Licence to Rehabilitate Injured, Sick and Orphaned Protected Animals

Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

The following licence conditions are current at the time of publication and are subject to change at any time.

Licence conditions

General conditions

1. The licensee may issue an authority to operate under the terms of this licence only to a person who:
 - a. resides within the area defined as the (Geographic Location)
 - b. is over the age of 18 years.
2. The licensee will ensure that persons operating under the authority of this licence will be provided with a copy of the licence and comply with all conditions of the licence.
3. The licensee and any persons authorised by the licensee to operate under this licence must at all times comply with the principles and requirements of the Rehabilitation of Protected Fauna Policy, approved Codes of Practice and Guidelines and with any directives issued by an authorised officer.
4. The licensee and any persons authorised by the licensee to operate under this licence must at all times be aware that there may be other applicable statutory provisions that relate to their activities.
5. The licensee and any persons authorised by the licensee to operate under this licence must at all times, produce evidence of their authority on request by an authorised officer.

Conditions of authorities

6. Authorities issued by the licensee to individual rehabilitators who may hold animals on behalf of the licensee must be in writing and reference the licence number and expiry date of this licence. Where photo identity cards are issued, these must include the expiry date shown on the licence.
7. The licensee must include a condition on all authorities issued by it to rehabilitators that they must report, within seven days and in a manner determined by the licensee and to a person nominated by the licensee, acquisition for rehabilitation or transfer of all protected animals in their possession for the purposes authorised by this licence.
8. The licensee must include a condition on all authorities issued by it to rehabilitators that they must permit the inspection by an authorised officer of all protected animals held under this licence and any facilities associated with providing care.
9. The licensee must include a condition on all authorities issued by it to rehabilitators that they must notify National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) immediately should they harm or hold a non-native (exotic) reptile.

Release, retention or euthanasia of protected animals

10. The release of protected animals into a park, reserve, marine park or aquatic reserve must be approved in writing by the relevant Park Authority.
11. NPWS will only consider an application for an authorised rehabilitator to permanently hold non-releasable animals if a member of their group's executive signs the aforementioned application and one of the following circumstances applies:

- a. The animal belongs to a species which needs to be rehabilitated in a social group and will serve as a companion under these circumstances.
 - b. The animal will be involved in a recognised education program that includes an information package and a schedule of at least 10 classes, training sessions, or presentations per year.
 - c. The animal will be involved in scientific research licensed under Part 2 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. Applications forms can be found at the [Wildlife licences for scientific, educational and conservation purposes web page](#).
12. If there is strong evidence that the protected animals is an escaped pet (e.g. it was found well outside of its natural range), the rehabilitator must make reasonable efforts to locate the owner or, failing that, notify the relevant NPWS office so that a ballot or other placement can be arranged.

Record keeping

13. The licensee must maintain a register listing the full names and addresses of all persons who are authorised to operate under the terms and conditions of this licence and the addresses of any other facilities used for the rehabilitation of protected animals under this licence.
14. All records required to be kept under this licence must be made available for inspection when so requested by an authorised officer.
15. The licensee must implement appropriate systems to regularly review the rehabilitation and record the fate of all protected animals that has been registered under condition 6. Minimum record keeping provisions are specified under 14.1.1 of the Code of Practice for the rehabilitation of protected fauna. A spreadsheet to assist with these minimum requirements can be found at [Information for licensed rehabilitation groups web page](#).
16. The licensee must maintain up-to-date registers of:
- a. All protected animals that are transferred to fauna parks, zoos and other institutions, organisations or individuals as may be allowed by the conditions of this licence. This register shall contain details of the animal and when and to whom it was transferred;
 - b. All permanently held live protected animals. This register shall contain details of the approval granted for the permanent retention of each animal and the name and address of the person authorised under this licence who holds the animal;
 - c. All preserved specimens of protected animals held for educational purposes. This register shall include a detailed description of each preserved specimen and the name and address of the person authorised under this licence in whose possession the specimen is held. Each preserved specimen, or the vessel in which the specimen is contained, shall be permanently marked with the register reference number.
17. Copies of records and registers must be submitted to Office of Environment and Heritage Wildlife Licensing and the local NPWS office no later than 30 September each year.

Public exhibition

18. The licensee must not permit any public viewing, display or exhibition of any protected animals that is undergoing rehabilitation under this licence. This condition shall not apply to either:
- a. the use of such protected animals for the essential demonstration of husbandry techniques at a licensee-sanctioned rehabilitation training course (except for un-furred mammals)
 - b. professional filming for promotional or educational or community interest purposes at a rehabilitation facility or, with the local NPWS office consent, at any other location
 - c. protected animals being within the view of the public at the rehabilitation facility if the design and location of the facility cannot exclude the protected animals from public view.

Under section 2.14 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* it is an offence to contravene or fail to comply with a condition of this licence.