



Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit

For an individual person

FACT SHEET AND APPLICATION FORM

If you would like to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife to enable release back into the wild you will need to complete the attached application. Please read this fact sheet before completing and submitting your application.

What does the permit authorise?

A Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit (WRP) is issued under Regulation 48 of the *Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulations 2021* pursuant to Regulation 42 and may authorise one or more of the following actions as specified on the permit:

- to take injured wildlife for the purpose of providing treatment or intervention;
- to possess injured wildlife;
- to release rehabilitated wildlife from captivity;
- to lawfully destroy (euthanise) injured wildlife in specific circumstances; and
- to take, possess or dispose of products of wildlife (deceased wildlife).

A WRP does not authorise the display of wildlife

THE AIM OF WILDLIFE REHABILITATION IS THE SUCCESSFUL RELEASE OF WILDLIFE BACK INTO THE WILD.

undergoing rehabilitation or the transfer to a wildlife park or zoo – if you think an animal is unfit for release, please contact the Department.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Skills Pathway

Wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania is different from other states in Australia. In Tasmania, wildlife rehabilitators are allocated a level based on their demonstrated capacity to care for wildlife with differing levels of rehabilitation complexity. For mammals and birds, Tier levels 1 to 5 are described in the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife](#)

[Rehabilitation \(2021\)](#) (the Guidelines).

This tiered pathway has been designed by experienced wildlife rehabilitators in Tasmania. The aims of this pathway are to:

- support rehabilitators to build up their skills and confidence over time;
- start new rehabilitators with the least complex wildlife species and life stages;
- improve the retention of wildlife rehabilitators, by providing them with wildlife to rehabilitate that are suitable for their skill level, therefore minimising negative experiences;

- have a consistent sector-wide approach to rehabilitating wildlife in Tasmania; and
- support better animal welfare outcomes for Tasmania's wildlife.

For more detailed information please refer to the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation \(2021\)](#).

The Guidelines also recommend a minimum number of animals that should be rehabilitated before an applicant may apply for a higher tier level. Depending on the circumstances of the rehabilitator, it may take longer for some than others to reach the required number of rehabilitated animals. The Department does not endorse a rehabilitator exceeding their capacity to care (taking on more animals than you can provide appropriate care for).

Mammals – Tier I

Mammals listed under Tier I of the Guidelines may be rehabilitated without a WRP. Members of the community who want to rehabilitate mammals under Tier I are required to have completed training before registering with the Department. The [WIRES \(Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service\) Introductory Mammal Rehabilitation Training](#) course is highly recommended. After registering you will receive notifications for Tier I mammals in need of a wildlife rehabilitator.

Wildlife Rehabilitator registration requirements

Anyone wanting to rehabilitate wildlife in Tasmania must complete the [Wildlife Rehabilitation Registration Form](#).

Mentoring System in Tasmania

Wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania relies on a mentoring system. Experienced rehabilitators (usually at the Tier 4 and 5 levels) provide support to less experienced rehabilitators to help them understand the complex needs of Tasmanian wildlife. Rehabilitators with mentor support have greater success. If you do not have a mentor already, the Department can assist with locating one.

Mentor Recommendation

The Mentor Recommendation form is used by the Department to consider whether a Wildlife Rehabilitator is suitable to take on new wildlife species and wildlife at different life stages. If you would like to apply to change tiers, add new wildlife species or wildlife at different life stages, your mentor will need to complete the *Mentor Recommendation* form on the last two pages of this application form. Your mentor will be able to recommend, based on their own experience, and from observing and interacting with you, whether or not you are

ready to move up to the next tier.

Your mentor will consider:

- the training you have completed;
- your practical rehabilitation skills and how confident you are;
- whether you can manage a broad range of different scenarios; and
- your knowledge of the wildlife you have been rehabilitating.

This does not mean that you will be penalised for making mistakes - all rehabilitators have made mistakes at some point in their journey. However, if you view these as learning experiences and adapt your techniques this will be considered favourably.

Mentor recommendations can be submitted with the WRP application, or a mentor may choose to send this information to the Department separately.

Information in the mentor recommendation may be used as a basis for discussion between the Department and you (the mentee) about your suitability to move to the next level.

Mentors are encouraged to contact the Department to discuss the mentor recommendation.

Recognition of Prior Learning and Experience

Applicants for a WRP may have attended training courses in relevant areas and/or have



previous experience with wildlife in other jurisdictions. Mentors and mentees should discuss this and, where relevant, take this into account when making a recommendation.

Examples of this are:

- wildlife rescue training or experience;
- wildlife rehabilitation experience in other states in Australia; and
- animal husbandry and handling training or experience.

With this in mind, your mentor may recommend that you be fast-tracked to the next tier.

Who can apply?

Any person wishing to rehabilitate and release native wildlife.

How do I apply?

Complete and return the attached application form (not this fact sheet).

Cost of permit

There is not a fee for this type of permit.

Consent to release personal information

To support wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania the Department works collaboratively with Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary and WIRES to assist in the placement and rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife.

If you choose to share your details with vet clinics and wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife rescuers may be able to assist with transporting wildlife requiring rehabilitation to you. Sharing your information will enable continuity of care for the wildlife.

If you choose to share contact information with WIRES, you will receive notifications from their xMatters platform notifying you of wildlife requiring rehabilitation.

The Department also distributes a Wildlife Rehabilitator Contact List to wildlife rehabilitators on an ad hoc basis to facilitate networking and mentoring support. Details shared on this list are your name, locality, phone number and rehabilitation experience.

Useful Information

- Applicable legislation can be accessed from:

[Home - Tasmanian Legislation Online](#)

- A Link to the Department's website and the Guidelines:

[Wildlife Rehabilitation in Tasmania | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](#)

What will I receive?

Successful applicants will receive a permit in their name and a document to record cases in care (referred to as a return document on your permit).

Unsuccessful applicants will receive an explanation as to why their application was unsuccessful.

What do I have to do once I receive my permit?

Read and comply with the permit conditions and the Best Practice Guidelines.

Complete and provide to the Department all return and record requirements.

A new permit will not be granted if return documents for previous permits have not been received.

You must only accept wildlife for rehabilitation that are authorised under your permit.

What happens if I want to move to the next tier?

Throughout the duration of your permit, if you are approved to move to the next tier the Department will automatically vary your existing WRP and authorise you to commence caring for wildlife at your new tier.

Permit Reissue

If you wish to continue rehabilitation activities under a WRP, you will need to submit a completed [Application to Continue Wildlife Rehabilitation](#) each year.

If you are granted a permit/licence and intend to conduct activities requiring the authority of a permit or licence beyond its expiry, such as the possession of wildlife, it is your responsibility to ensure you submit a complete application within an appropriate timeframe



for processing in order to continue operating lawfully.

Duration of Permit

The WRP commences on the 1 June each year and ends on the 31 May of the following year.

Personal Information

Information on the collection, maintenance, use and disclosure of personal information can be found on our website. [Personal Information Protection Policy | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](#)



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Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania



Return this form to:

Wildlife Services, GPO Box 44, Hobart TAS 7001
Phone (03) 6165 4305, Email Wildlife.Services@nre.tas.gov.au

Application instructions:

All fields marked with an asterisk* are mandatory and require a response, noting you may be prompted to fill out other sections based on your responses. Incomplete applications are unable to be processed by the Department and will be returned to you without further processing. A new complete application will need to be submitted. Please allow at least 20 business days for processing of applications. Where an application fee is required, please refer to [Licence and Permit Fees | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](#) for payment details. The Secretary may request further information or evidence in relation to this application. If you fail to provide the required information within 10 business days, your application will be refused and you will need to submit a new application. Please contact the Department at the earliest opportunity to discuss the potential for an extension, noting that your request may not be accepted. It is an offence to provide false and misleading information at any stage during the application process.

Please note:

Applications will not be processed if you have any outstanding returns and/or records required from a previous permit or licence which have not been received by the Department.

1. Personal Information

Given names:* _____

Family name:* _____

Residential address:* _____

Post code: _____

Postal address: _____

Post code: _____

Telephone:* _____ Email:* _____

2. Preferred way of receiving permit*

Post Email

3. Intended way of completing returns

Hardcopy Electronic Spreadsheet *Please ensure you have included an email. An electronic version of the Rehabilitation Record Form (in excel format) will be sent with your permit.*

4. Please specify the address where the wildlife listed on this permit application will be held

Held address:* _____

Post code: _____

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5. I have previously held a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit

Yes - Provide number _____ No (go to question 7)

6. Would you like to apply to change Species or Tier from your previous permit?

Yes (go to question 7) No (complete questions 7, 14, 15 and 17)

7. Species and Rehabilitation Skill Level

Please refer to the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation](#) before completing this section

I wish to apply for the following Species and Tiers: Please tick the species and tier noting that an application for a higher-level tier will incorporate any lower-level tiers.*

Mammals

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Macropods					
Possums					
Wombat					
Bandicoots					
Other^					

^ Monotremes Microbats Native Rodents Dasyurids

Birds

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Tier 4	Tier 5
Bush birds and parrots					
Sea birds					
Water birds					
Raptors^					

^ please refer to the Raptor coordinator before completing

Reptiles and amphibians

	Tier 1	Tier 2
Tasmanian Reptiles and Amphibians excluding venomous snakes		
Tasmanian venomous snakes		

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8. Please list any relevant training courses you have completed, and the date attended. Please attach additional sheets if required.*

9. List the number of animals you have cared for in the table below. Please attach an example of a relevant health sheet/record keeping.*

Species	Number of animals	More details (Health conditions, rehabilitation result etc.)

10. Demonstrate experience with wound management and administering medication (You might provide an example of an animal in your care, include reasoning, actions, and result).*

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Please only complete questions 11, 12 and 13 if you are applying for Tiers 2 and above.

11. Demonstrate your understanding of rehydration and its importance *(You might provide an example of how you have rehydrated an animal in your care, including why, how and the result).**

12. Provide examples that demonstrate working towards caring for wildlife in the next Tier level, for example:

- working with a mentor to assist with the care of an animal;*
- setting up appropriate enclosures and equipment;* or
- attending training courses.*

13. List any other relevant information to assist with assessment of your application *(not mandatory).*

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14. Permit returns *If you have previously held a permit, you must provide returns for this permit before the Department will issue you with another permit.**

I have already provided my returns to the Department.

I have attached my returns for my previously held permit to this application.

15. Enclosures

I have enclosures that meet the [Best Practice Guidelines](#) for the species that I am applying for*.

16. Mentor recommendation*

I have attached a copy of a mentor recommendation.

My mentor will send a recommendation directly to the Department.

17. Consent to release personal information

Please see fact sheet for further information.

Do you consent to having your details shared with vet clinics and wildlife sanctuaries?*

Yes No

Do you consent to having your details shared with WIRES including xMatters?*

Yes No

Do you consent to having your details placed on the Department's Wildlife Rehabilitator Contact List?*

Yes No

Do you consent to having your details shared with the Raptor Rehabilitation Coordinator?*

Yes No

18. Acknowledgements

I have read and understood Wildlife Network Tasmania's [Code of Conduct](#)

I have read and understood the Department of Natural Resources and Environment's [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation](#)

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19. Declarations and important information to read before applying for a permit

Please indicate whether you have been convicted of a 'Relevant Offence' within the period of 5 years immediately preceding the day on which this application is made.*

A list of relevant offences determined by the Secretary for the purposes of the definition of relevant offence in Regulation 3(1) of the Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulations 2021 can be found at <https://nre.tas.gov.au/wildlife-management/forms-permits-and-fees/relevant-offences>. Alternatively, a copy of what constitutes a relevant offence can be posted to you by using the contact details found elsewhere on this form.

- I HAVE been convicted of a Relevant Offence and I have attached written details
- I have NOT been convicted of a Relevant Offence

Please note that when making this application, it is an offence to provide information that you know is false or misleading, or to mislead the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania by omitting relevant information that you know you should provide. If you have any doubts about whether or not you should provide certain information you should contact the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania using the contact details elsewhere on this form or seek independent legal advice.

I, the Applicant, hereby make application for a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit to rehabilitate and release wildlife, inclusive of a permit for dealing with listed taxon if the wildlife I am authorised to rehabilitate are threatened species scheduled under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*, and declare that:

- the information provided in this application is true and correct;
- I consent to the collection and use of my personal information in accordance with the Department's Personal Information Protection Policy; and
- my enclosures meet the minimum requirements laid out in the [Best Practice Guidelines](#) for the species that I am applying for.

Applicant's Signature:* _____ Date:* _____

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Return this form to the mentee or to the Department:
 Wildlife Services, GPO Box 44, Hobart TAS 7001
 Phone (03) 6165 4305, Email Wildlife.Services@nre.tas.gov.au

Mentor Recommendation

This form must be completed by a mentor/s.

1. **Mentor name:*** _____ **Mentee Name:*** _____
2. **I have mentored the above mentee in the care and rehabilitation of the following animals during the period _____ to _____ (insert dates mm/yy):*** Please attach additional information if required

Species	Number of animals I have assisted the mentee with*	Health conditions/outcome
Bennett's wallaby		
Tasmanian Pademelon		
Brushtail possum		
Other		

3. **Wildlife rehabilitators must demonstrate to a mentor that they are competent at their current tier level before moving up to the next tier. The checklist below has been developed as a guide to assess competency. Mentors should consider this checklist before providing a mentor recommendation as part of this form.**

The mentee has demonstrated the following skills: (please tick all that the mentee has indicated an adequate ability in or understanding of)*

Wildlife Rehabilitation Phase	Skills			
	Immediate Care (including temporary care)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Capture and handle wildlife appropriately	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>		Correctly identify wildlife species	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conduct a thorough initial assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>		Create a care plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify and treat dehydration
<input type="checkbox"/>		Seek advice from a mentor when needed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Seek vet advice when needed
<input type="checkbox"/>		Implement quarantine procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide appropriate enclosures

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Rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Understanding of the biology of the species, including the anatomy, physiology, social structure, stages of development and species behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow biosecurity measures and have a good understanding of zoonotic diseases relevant to the species and how to mitigate the risks
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain good hygiene	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide appropriate nutrition
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide appropriate enclosures	<input type="checkbox"/>	Successfully buddy (where appropriate)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Successfully manage the conditions, illnesses, injuries and diseases common to the species and/or life stage in that tier	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administer medication under veterinary supervision (oral/injectable)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain good record keeping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ability to recognise abnormal signs/behaviours
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognise and appropriately manage stress	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ability to follow a care plan
Preparation for release	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide appropriate pre-release enclosures	<input type="checkbox"/>	Implement methods to reduce human interactions
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent understanding of how to prepare an animal for release	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent understanding of wild behaviours and attributes that demonstrate readiness for release
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide appropriate nutrition	<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify suitable release sites
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Undertake successful releases of rehabilitated wildlife		

4. I recommend that the mentee move up to the next experience level:*

Yes Not yet

5. I can provide mentor support to _____ (insert mentee name) to rehabilitate the following life stages/species:* _____

6. Any additional comments to support the tier review:

7. Declaration

I, the mentor, declare that:

- the information provided in this mentor recommendation is true and correct.
- I consent to the collection and use of my personal information in accordance with the Department's Personal Information Protection Policy.

Mentor's Signature:* _____ Date:* _____