



# Wildlife Rehabilitation Registration Form

## INFORMATION SHEET AND REGISTRATION FORM

The Department maintains a list of people who can rehabilitate wildlife that do not require a permit in Tasmania. After attending training, people are encouraged to provide their details to the Department to ensure they receive notifications about injured and orphaned wildlife.

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

## Why is it important to register?

The Department maintains a register/list of wildlife rehabilitators around Tasmania who are willing to rehabilitate and release native species that do not require a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit (WRP) to rehabilitate.

The benefits of adding your details to the register are:

- inclusion in a pool of people statewide who are recognised as being able to rehabilitate species that don't require a permit;
- receive notifications via an app called xMatters for wildlife that are in need of wildlife rehabilitation;
- access to mentoring and support; and
- receiving communications and information from Government.

## Wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania

Whilst wildlife rehabilitation is a voluntary activity that involves assisting injured and orphaned wildlife, wildlife rehabilitators **are not** considered a volunteer of the Department.

The Department regulates the activities of the wildlife rehabilitation sector and assists with coordinating injured and orphaned wildlife placements with wildlife rehabilitators on behalf of the sector.

## What are the key rehabilitation tasks?

Wildlife rehabilitators use techniques designed to mimic natural processes and behaviours to prepare an animal to be released back into their native habitats.

Key tasks include:

- building and maintaining indoor and/or outdoor enclosures that mimic the natural environment;

- acquiring supplies;
- bottle feeding and toileting (several times a day for marsupials);
- cleaning and sanitising enclosures and equipment;
- sourcing native food or food and milk replacement formula specifically manufactured for wildlife in care;
- arranging veterinary care as needed;
- administering veterinary prescribed treatments;
- arranging suitable release sites;
- record-keeping;
- seeking advice from a mentor; and
- community education.

## What are the key responsibilities?

Key responsibilities of wildlife rehabilitators include but are not limited to:

- covering the cost of food and veterinary care; equipment and training;
- dedicating enough time to provide sufficient care for each stage of the animal's development;
- providing suitable housing;
- working with your mentor to get the best outcomes for the animal;
- being aware of biosecurity issues and limiting the risks of disease transmission;
- ensuring you have the appropriate skills and equipment before taking on an animal;
- applying for permits when necessary; and
- practicing self-sustainability so that you are in the best position to care for wildlife.

## Wildlife rehabilitation skills pathway

Wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania is different from other states in Australia. In Tasmania, wildlife rehabilitators are allocated to wildlife rehabilitation experience levels, based on their demonstrated capacity to care for wildlife with differing levels of rehabilitation complexity. For mammals and birds these levels are tiers 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as

described in the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation \(2021\)](#) (the Guidelines).

This tiered pathway has been designed by experienced wildlife rehabilitators in Tasmania. For more detailed information please refer to the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation \(2021\)](#).

## Am I required to hold a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit?

In Tasmania, a Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit (WRP) is required to possess wildlife requiring rehabilitation except for mammals in tier 1 (one).

### Mammals – Tier 1

Mammals listed under tier 1 of the Guidelines may be possessed for rehabilitation without a WRP. Members of the community who want to rehabilitate mammals under tier 1 are required to have completed training before registering with the Department. The [WIRES Introduction to Tasmania Mammals Course](#) is highly recommended. After registering you will receive notifications for tier 1 mammals in need of a wildlife rehabilitator.

### Birds – Tier 1

This registration form can be used to apply for a WRP for birds in tier 1 (one).

## Threatened species

In addition to a WRP, a Listed Taxon Permit (LTP) issued in accordance with the *Threatened Species Protection Regulations 2016* will be required to authorise the dealing with a *threatened species* scheduled under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*. The following application will service as an application for a LTP to deal with a threatened species for the purpose of rehabilitation and release.

## What animals can I rehabilitate if I am new to wildlife rehabilitation?

New wildlife rehabilitators in Tasmania are referred to as novice wildlife rehabilitators and



when wishing to rehabilitate mammals, often begin with fully furred brushtail possums, Bennett's wallabies and pademelons.

For birds, novice rehabilitators begin with a range of different species depending on their interests. For example, those interested in honeyeaters would begin with fledgling noisy miners and wattle birds.

For reptiles, novice rehabilitators usually begin with blue-tongue lizards and other skinks.

## How do I get support?

In Tasmania, new rehabilitators are paired with experienced rehabilitators (mentors) who provide support and guidance. Rehabilitators with mentor support have greater success. If you do not have a mentor already, the Department can assist with locating one.

## How is the network coordinated?

The Department works collaboratively with Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Services Inc. (WIRES) and wildlife rescue service providers, such as Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary, to place injured and orphaned wildlife with rehabilitators.

Notifications for injured and orphaned wildlife are sent out through a web-based platform called xMatters. This is run by WIRES.

Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary coordinates a network of volunteer wildlife rescuers who can, at times, assist with transportation of wildlife to wildlife rehabilitators.

## Consent to release personal information

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 wildlife.

If you choose to share 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. These details have been given in good faith for use by wildlife rehabilitators only and must not be distributed to anyone else.

## Useful information

- Laws can be accessed from

[Home - Tasmanian Legislation Online](#)

- Link to website and the Guidelines

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

## Important information to read before registering

Before registering to become a WR you are encouraged to read the following information available through the Department's website:

- [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation \(2021\)](#);
- [Wildlife Network Tasmania's Code of Conduct](#);
- Wildlife Health Australia's [National Wildlife Biosecurity Guidelines](#);
- the aim of wildlife rehabilitation; and
- [permit requirements](#) for rehabilitation and display of wildlife to the public.

## How do I register?

Complete and send in the attached registration form.

If you have any previous training or experience attach all supporting documentation to your registration form.

## Cost of registration

There is no fee for this registration.

## What will I receive?

Once your registration form has been received and processed you will be contacted by the Department to discuss your registration.



You will also be provided with a copy of the wildlife rehabilitator contact list.

### **Application for WRP for birds and/or reptiles and amphibians – Tier 1(one)**

If you have used this registration form to apply for a WRP for birds and/or reptiles and amphibians in tier 1 (one) and are successful, you will receive a WRP in your name and return and record documentation. A WRP commences on the 1<sup>st</sup> June each year and ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> May of the following year.

If you wish to continue rehabilitation activities under a WRP, an application for a WRP must be completed upon expiry, not this registration form. An application for a WRP can be found on our website [Wildlife Rehabilitation in Tasmania | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania \(nre.tas.gov.au\)](http://www.wildlife-rehabilitation.tas.gov.au)

If you are unsuccessful, you will receive an explanation as to why.

## **Personal information**

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



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## Return this form to:

Wildlife Services, GPO Box 44, Hobart TAS 7001

Phone (03) 6165 4305. Email [Wildlife.Services@nre.tas.gov.au](mailto: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. Experience and knowledge of wildlife rehabilitation

a) Please detail any experience you have had in the handling and/or rehabilitation of wildlife.\* Please note species types, reason it required rehabilitation, development stage, success rate, when and where you obtained any experience. *Supporting documentation, if any, should be attached to this application.*

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b) Please list any relevant training courses you have completed in the rehabilitation of wildlife and/or if you have already been working with a mentor.\* Please note, training is strongly recommended prior to taking on injured and orphaned wildlife for rehabilitation. *Supporting documentation, if any, should be attached to this application.*

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#### 4. Wildlife rehabilitation in Tasmania relies on a mentoring system. Do you have a mentor?\*

No  Yes – Please provide mentor’s name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 5. Facility (enclosure) information

a)  I have enclosures that meet the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation](#) for the species that I am applying for\*

b) Rehabilitators must have suitable facilities before they can rehabilitate wildlife such as outside enclosures for possums and wallabies. If you have any existing enclosures, please list them below.\* Recommendations on appropriate enclosure size and design can be found in the [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation](#).

	Approximate size
<b>Bird aviaries:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> How many?	
<b>Wallaby enclosures:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> How many?	
<b>Possum aviaries:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> How many?	

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c) Please provide details of any other indoor and outdoor facilities.

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## 6. Release property information

Do you have access to a property suitable for release (10 hectares or more)?\* *Please provide details.*

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## 7. 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

## 8. 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 Tasmania's [Best Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation](#)

## 9. Please provide details if you have been convicted of a 'Relevant Offence'.\*

*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*

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*copy of what constitutes a relevant offence can be posted to you by using the contact details found elsewhere on this form.*

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I, the Applicant, declare that:

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

Applicant's signature:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date:\* \_\_\_\_\_



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## OPTIONAL - Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit (WRP) application for birds and/or reptiles and amphibians in tier 1 (one)

1. Would you like to apply for a WRP for birds in tier 1 (one)?\*

Yes  No

2. Would you like to apply for a WRP for reptiles and amphibians in tier 1 (one)?\*

Yes  No

3. Preferred way of receiving permit:\*

Post  Email

4. 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) we will dispatch with your permit.*

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

Held address:\* \_\_\_\_\_  
Post code: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Declaration 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

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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;
- my enclosures meet the minimum requirements laid out in the Best Practice Guidelines for the species that I am applying for; and
- I consent to the collection and use of my personal information in accordance with the Department's Personal Information Protection Policy.

Applicant's signature:\* \_\_\_\_\_ Date:\* \_\_\_\_\_