

Trap and Release Protected Animals Permit (possums)

Before completing your application, please read the following information.

Legislation

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (sections 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 native wildlife 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. 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.

Permit description

The Trap and Release Protected Animals Permit entitles the holder to trap and release protected animals (not as part of an ongoing activity), identified in the permit by reference to their species, where protected animals;

- are causing, or likely to cause, damage to environmental amenity (including built structures); or
- may constitute a safety risk or hazard to people or industry, but are not dangerous or a biological hazard.

Policy statement

DEW encourages a living with wildlife approach to address the impacts caused by wildlife in a way that is humane and socially acceptable.

To manage impact caused DEW may issue a landowner a permit to capture, trap and release a protected animal. Protected animals that are dangerous or a biological hazard may only be captured, trapped or released by suitably qualified persons that hold a valid Wildlife Management (Controller) Permit.

Assessment considerations

Permit applications are assessed with consideration to the following:

- Wildlife occupancy of residential or business premises (e.g. in roof space) is causing impacts or damage
- The wildlife behaviour poses a risk to infrastructure or assets
- The extent of impacts or damage being caused, or likely to be caused, by the wildlife
- The wildlife are a potential threat to human safety.

Animal welfare

The welfare of all animals that are captured, trapped or released is important to DEW and the treatment of all animals must comply with the *Animal Welfare Act 1985* and the limitations, restrictions and conditions of the permit granted.

Fit and proper person assessment

Applicants will be asked whether they have been convicted of prior offences against the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*, *Animal Welfare Act 1985*, or other environment legislation interstate and/or overseas. Where a conviction is declared, applicants must provide a description of the offence, along with the year and State/Territory/Country. You can still proceed with an application and have it assessed.

How long will it take to obtain a permit?

Most applications are assessed within 2 weeks (10 business days). An application may take up to 4 weeks (20 business days) to process during busy periods.

Fees

No permit fee applies.

Do I need to keep records?

Yes. A report specifying the species and number captured, trapped and released must be completed within 14 days of permit completion (i.e. when the permitted number of animals is reached) or within 14 days of permit expiry (whichever is the earlier). Further permits may not be granted for the same species on the same property unless the report is submitted. The permit holder may only trap and release the species and number of protected animals as listed on the permit. A reporting template will be provided upon granting of the permit and is also shown on the last page of the application form.

How long does a permit last?

Typically a permit is granted for a period of up to 3 months.

Traps used to capture possums

The following possum trap specifications must apply;

- Minimum trap size dimensions: 540mm (L) x 240mm (W) x 240mm (H)
- Maximum individual grid mesh size: 19mm x 19mm
- Trap door mechanism: spiral bait holder or pressure mounted foot treadle to activate door release.

Department for Environment and Water responsibilities

The Department for Environment and Water abides by the Government of South Australia's [Information Privacy Principles Instruction](#). The information required on this form is collected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. We collect this information to determine your eligibility for a permit, to issue the related permit and for compliance activities related to the permit. Your personal information will not be disclosed to a third party except in accordance with the [Information Privacy Principles Instruction](#). Information held by the Department may be used by law enforcement agencies, as well as other uses provided for by law. Such access for approved purposes may be granted to other government agencies. When you complete this application form, understand that you have consented to the release of information provided by you, to other agencies for compliance and/or enforcement purposes.

You should only proceed with this application if you have read and understand the requirements that apply to this permit type.



Where do I send my completed application form?

You will need to send your completed application form to the National Parks and Wildlife Service office that is located nearest to the property being affected by wildlife.

	Address	Email	Phone
Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges			
Barossa Metropolitan Adelaide Adelaide Hills Fleurieu Peninsula	Post & office: 115 Maryvale Road Athelstone 5076	DEW.AMLRBlackHillOffice@sa.gov.au	(08) 7133 7300
Yorke and Mid North			
Southern Flinders Mid North Yorke Peninsula	Post & office: 155 Main North Road Clare 5453	YorkeandMidNorth.NPW@sa.gov.au	(08 8841 3400
Limestone Coast (South East)			
Mt Gambier	Post: PO Box 1046 Mount Gambier 5290 Office: 152 Jubilee Highway East, Mount Gambier	LC.NPWS@sa.gov.au	(08) 7424 5770
Naracoorte	Post: PO Box 134 Naracoorte 5271 Office: Wonambi Road, Naracoorte		(08) 8760 1203
Meningie	Post: PO Box 105 Meningie 5264		(08) 7133 7270
Eyre Peninsula and Far West			
Port Lincoln	Post: PO Box 22 Port Lincoln 5606 Office: 86 Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln	EPParks@sa.gov.au	(08) 8688 3111
Ceduna	Post: PO Box 569 Ceduna 5690 Office: 50B McKenzie Street, Ceduna		(08) 8625 3144
Gawler Ranges	Post: PO Box 221 Wudinna 5652		(08) 8648 1883
Streaky Bay	Post: PO Box 333 Streaky Bay 5680 Office: 15 Bay Road, Streaky Bay		(08) 8626 1108
Kangaroo Island			
Kingscote	Post: PO Box 39 Kingscote 5223 Office: 37 Dauncey Street, Kingscote	DEW.NPWSReferralsKangarooland@sa.gov.au	(08) 8553 4444
Flinders and Outback			
Port Augusta	Post: PO Box 78 Port Augusta, 5700 Office: Level 1, 9 Mackay Street, Port Augusta	DEW.FlindersandOutback@sa.gov.au	(08) 8648 5300
Balcannoona (Vulkathunha Gammon Ranges)	Post: Private Mail Bag 13 Via Copley 5732		(08) 8648 4829
Wilpena Pound (Ikara-Flinders Ranges)	Post: Private Mail Bag 22 Hawker 5434 Office: Wilpena Road, Hawker		(08) 8648 0049
Riverland and Murraylands			
Berri	Post: PO Box 231 Berri 5343 Office: 28 Vaughan Terrace Berri, 5343	RM.NPWS@sa.gov.au	(08) 8429 9690
Murray Bridge	Post: PO Box 752 Murray Bridge 5253		
Lameroo	Post: PO Box 21 Lameroo 5302		

Application for a Trap and Release Protected Animals Permit (possums)

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

Form not valid for use after June 2024

Part 1: Personal information			
Your personal details			
Title	First name	Surname	Date of birth
Your residential address			
Street No.	Street name	City/suburb/town/locality	Post code
Your mailing address			
<input type="checkbox"/> as above			
e.g. Post Office Box		City/suburb/town	Post code
Your contact details			
Telephone number	Mobile number	Email	
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> , 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: Property location and use			
2.1 Location where you plan to trap and release the protected animal(s)			
<input type="checkbox"/> residential address stated above <input type="checkbox"/> different location (please provide details below)			
Street No.	Street name	City/suburb/town/locality	Post code
2.2 Primary use of property			
<input type="checkbox"/> private residence			
<input type="checkbox"/> business premises (please specify)_____			
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify)_____			



Part 3: Species causing impacts or damage		
3.1 Species and number subject of this application		
Species common name	Estimated number on the property	Number of animals to be trapped and released
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Brushtail Possum		
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Ringtail Possum		
Part 4: Impacts or damage and non-lethal actions taken		
4.1 Please tell us about the possum impacts you are experiencing. Tick and provide detail where necessary to those that apply to your situation.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Threatening human safety <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive noise from possums occupying roof space and disrupting sleep <input type="checkbox"/> Odour from animal droppings and urine <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: 		
<input type="checkbox"/> Impacting built environment/assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Damage from chewing wiring or wood poses hazard (please specify damage) <input type="checkbox"/> Damage from scratching <input type="checkbox"/> Damage from animal droppings and urine <input type="checkbox"/> Nesting material in roof space poses hazard <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): 		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other/additional information (please specify below)		
4.2 Length of time possums have caused impacts or damage		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 2 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 - 4 weeks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 - 2 months
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 - 3 months		
<input type="checkbox"/> More than 3 months (please specify):		

4.3 Current actions to minimise impacts or damage		
Are you currently using non-lethal methods to minimise the impacts or damage caused by protected animals?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If 'No', please explain why:		
If 'Yes', please tick and describe below:		
Non-lethal methods used to minimise the impact or damage	Length of time trialed	Outcome of method
<input type="checkbox"/> Blocked off possum access points to building or structure <input type="checkbox"/> Installed one-way door flap at possum entry points to building or structure <input type="checkbox"/> Removed possum scent markings at entry points with household bleach <input type="checkbox"/> Pruned overhanging branches to building or structure <input type="checkbox"/> Installed tree collars around tree trunks to prevent building or structure access <input type="checkbox"/> Installed a possum box on the property <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) <input type="checkbox"/> None (please explain below why you have not trialed non-lethal methods)		
Comments/additional information:		
Part 5: Method of capture for possums and source of possum trap		
Trapping of possums must use a trap with the following specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum trap size dimensions: 540mm (L) x 240mm (W) x 240mm (H) Maximum individual grid mesh size: 19mm x 19mm Trap door mechanism: spiral bait holder or pressure mounted foot treadle to activate door release. 		
Where will you source a trap that meets the above specification to trap possums?		
<input type="checkbox"/> I will hire a possum trap from my local council <input type="checkbox"/> I will hire a possum trap from an equipment hire business <input type="checkbox"/> I will buy a possum trap	<input type="checkbox"/> I own a possum trap <input type="checkbox"/> I will borrow a possum trap from family, friend or neighbour <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):	



Part 6. Persons to carry out trap and release of possums		
Who will be trapping and releasing the possums?	<input type="checkbox"/> applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> another person
If a person other than yourself will trap and release the possums, please list their details below		
Full name		
Residential address		
Part 7: Statement of intent for trapping and releasing possums		
1. The possum traps to be used comply with the minimum specifications.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
2. 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
3. Possum traps will only be operational between dusk and dawn and checked daily in the morning.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
4. I will make a reasonable effort to prevent possum re-entry into the built structure by sealing off possum entry points prior to releasing trapped possums.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5. I will check that there are no remaining possums within the built structure prior to sealing off all entry points.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
7. 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
8. 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
9. Possums will be released within 24 hours of capture (released after dusk on the day of capture) and on the same property (in the possum's own territory) within 50 metres of the capture site.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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: Permit duration		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 month	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 months	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 months
Part 7: Permit delivery method		
If a permit is granted, how do you want to receive the permit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Email
Part 8: Declaration by applicant		<i>Form not valid for use after June 2024</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I understand there are penalties for making a false or misleading statement. I declare that the information included in this application is true and accurate. 		
Signature of applicant		Dated



Report on taking protected animals (Trap and Release Protected Animals Permit)

National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 section 53(4)

TO:

The Director, National Parks and Wildlife

GPO Box 1047

Adelaide SA 5001

Permit number: _____

Name of permit holder: _____

Address: _____

Summary of animals taken

Species common name	Actual number trapped and released	Date and time of release of each animal

Signature:.....

Date:.....



**Government of
South Australia**

For more information please contact your local National Parks & Wildlife Service regional office

www.environment.sa.gov.au/licences-and-permits/wildlife-permits

