



FAUNA DISPLAY

The Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018 come into effect on 1 January 2019.

Key points

- The display of fauna in professionally managed zoos, wildlife parks, and other similar facilities has the capacity to make a positive contribution to conservation by increasing awareness and educating the public.
- New arrangements under the Regulations ensure that native animals on display are contributing to conservation while ensuring their welfare needs are being met.
- The display of native fauna is principally provided for in Regulations 33, 45 and 131.
- Holders of existing licences relevant to displaying native fauna will continue to be authorised under the new Regulations without needing to apply for a new licence until the existing licence expires.
- When an existing licence expires, a new application can be made online at the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions' (DBCA's) website www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/licences-and-permits or by contacting DBCA on wildlifelicensing@dbca.wa.gov.au.
- A *Fauna possessing (display) licence* authorises the holder of the licence to possess fauna for the purpose of display for conservation or education. There are two licences available: Standard and Advanced, and licences may be subject to conditions.
- Guidelines will provide criteria for determining whether fauna is suitable to be held under a Standard or Advanced licence, as well as fauna that are able to be kept for display without a licence.
- Significant penalties apply to possessing native fauna and displaying native fauna unless otherwise authorised.
- The Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018 can be accessed via www.legislation.wa.gov.au.

Background Information

All native plants and animals are protected in Western Australia under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

DBCA is responsible for the protection and conservation of all native fauna throughout Western Australia, both in the wild and when kept in captivity.

The display of fauna in professionally managed zoos, wildlife parks, and other similar facilities has the capacity to make a positive contribution to conservation by increasing awareness and educating the public about our unique wildlife and contributing to our understanding of their biology and ecology.

DBCA recognises its responsibility to ensure that native animals on display are contributing to conservation while ensuring their welfare needs are being met. This includes ensuring that people who keep and display fauna adhere to National Standards and codes of practice, by issuing licences to regulate the taking and possessing (including display) of fauna.

Transitional Licensing Arrangements for Fauna Display

From 1 January 2019, new licensing arrangements for possessing native fauna for display purposes apply.

Holders of existing licences relevant to displaying native fauna will continue to be authorised under the new Regulations without needing to apply for a new licence until the existing licence expires. When the existing licence expires, a new application will be required.

Online applications for licences will be available from DBCA's website www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/licences-and-permits or by contacting DBCA on wildlifelicencing@dbca.wa.gov.au.

The display of native fauna is principally covered in Regulations 33, 45, 131, 176 and Schedule 11, as outlined in the table below.

Previous licence under the <i>Wildlife Conservation Act</i>	New licence under Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018
Licence to keep fauna for educational or public purposes (issued for purpose of display)	Standard fauna possessing (display) licence or advanced fauna possessing (display) licence (depending on the category of fauna)

New Licensing Arrangements

The display of fauna for education and conservation purposes is permitted under a *Fauna possessing (display) licence*. This includes, but is not limited to zoos, wildlife parks, education facilities or mobile displays. If the fauna is to be displayed or exhibited for other purposes, then a *Fauna possessing (other purposes) licence* is required. Licences can include certain con.

A *Fauna possessing (other purposes) licence*, *Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence*, *Fauna dealing (general dealer's) licence*, and *Fauna dealing (pet dealer's) licence* may authorise the holder of the licence to possess native fauna for education, research, study or conservation; rehabilitating fauna for release into the wild; and any other purpose specified in the licence, and may authorise display to the extent specified in the licence. If such an authorisation exists, there is no further requirement to hold a *Fauna possessing (display) licence*.

To keep fauna under a *Fauna possessing (display) licence*, all applicants must demonstrate that:

- there is a clear conservation and/or education purpose;
- the welfare of the animals is not compromised;
- there is minimal risk to the environment; and
- there is minimal risk to human safety.

There are two types of *Fauna possessing (display) licence*: Standard and Advanced. Applications can be made for static display, mobile display, or static and mobile display.

A **Standard** licence is required when possessing the species of fauna for display that meet all of the following criteria:

- not threatened fauna or specially protected fauna;
- not likely to be the subject of illegal trade and is not likely to be illegally taken from the wild;
- resilient to handling and to being kept in captivity;
- does not have special feeding or housing requirements;
- not dangerous to human health or wellbeing; and
- does not represent a biosecurity risk.

An **Advanced** licence is required when possessing fauna for display that meet any of the following criteria:

- threatened fauna or specially protected fauna;
- has special keeping requirements or keeping requirements are not adequately known;
- poses risk to human health or wellbeing, or biosecurity; or
- has high economic value, may be the subject of illegal trade and is likely to be at risk of being taken from the wild.

A list of all species that require Standard and Advanced licences will be available in guidelines which will be available online.

Significant penalties apply for possessing native fauna without a licence unless otherwise authorised.

Licence Fees

The following table sets out the application and licence fees applicable to licences to display native fauna.

Licence type	New application and licence fee*	Renewal application and licence fee*
Standard fauna possessing (display) licence	\$240	\$110
Advanced fauna possessing (display) licence	\$355	\$150

* Note inspection fees will also apply where DBCA needs to assess the facilities in which display animals are being kept.

To find out more about the Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018 visit:

www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/biodiversity-conservation-act

For further information about licensing visit:

www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/plants-and-animals/licences-and-permits

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FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your local office of the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions. See the department's website for the latest information www.dbcwa.wa.gov.au



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions