

Australian native animals

(excluding frogs and tadpoles)



In NSW all native mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

Any teacher who wants to:

- keep native animals as pets
- keep and use native animals for educational purposes
- carry out research into protected fauna
- move native animals across state and territory borders

must obtain a licence from the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

There are two situations when teachers do **not** need a licence from the DEC. They are as follows:

- Schools are automatically licensed by the DEC to collect up to 20 tadpoles to use for observation in the classroom. This licence is automatically issued annually to all schools. Tadpoles must not be collected from a National Park and the frogs must be released back to the water source from where they were originally collected. The species note, *Frogs and toads*, provides more information about this licence and advice about the care of tadpoles.
- There are 41 species of native birds that any citizen of NSW may buy, sell or

keep without a licence. These species are:

- sulphur-crested cockatoo
- galah
- little corella
- long-billed corella
- western corella
- cockatiel
- red-collared lorikeet
- scaly-breasted lorikeet
- musk lorikeet
- rainbow lorikeet
- Port Lincoln parrot
- twenty-eight parrot
- hooded parrot
- red-rumped parrot
- red-capped parrot
- princess parrot
- Bourke's parrot
- elegant parrot
- scarlet-chested parrot
- Adelaide rosella
- eastern rosella
- pale-headed rosella
- yellow rosella
- western rosella
- budgerigar



- bar-shouldered dove
- diamond dove
- emerald dove
- peaceful dove
- common bronzewing
- crested pigeon
- brown quail
- king quail
- stubble quail
- little button-quail
- painted button-quail
- blue-faced parrot-finch
- Gouldian finch
- painted finch
- star finch
- zebra finch.

These 41 species of birds are still protected and it is illegal to trap them in the wild.

Any teacher who is planning to keep any species of native animal, other than any of the 41 species listed above, or who already keeps native animals for educational purposes must obtain a scientific licence from the DEC. This licence allows the animals to be used for educational purposes and to be transported for holiday care.

Obtaining a scientific licence

A condition of any scientific licence is animal ethics committee approval. To obtain this licence complete and submit Application form 3, *Application for SACEC approval for a Department of Environment and Climate change scientific licence*.

The completed form should be sent to:
Schools Animal Welfare Officer
Private Bag 3
RYDE NSW 2112

Suggested resources

Websites

NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change: Native animal fact sheets

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/plantsanimals/NativeAnimalFactSheetsByTitle.htm

NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change: Protected species

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/plantsanimals/ProtectedSpecies.htm

NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change: Living with wildlife

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/plantsanimals/LivingWithWildlife.htm

NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change: Sick, injured and orphaned native animals

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/plantsanimals/SickInjuredAndOrphanedNativeAnimals.htm

NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change: Wildlife management

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/wildlifemanagement/index.htm

Mike Swan Herp Books

www.mikeswanherpbooks.com.au/

Australian reptile park

www.reptilepark.com.au/default.asp

Australian wildlife

www.australianwildlife.com.au/default.htm

Australian reptiles online

www.australianreptilesonline.com/modules/books/

Printed resources

Weigel, J. (1988) *Care of Australian reptiles in Captivity*, Reptile Keepers Association, Sydney.