

Guide to the EOI form



Department of Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions



Your EOI will be used to inform DBCA's review of the Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence approved species list.

- Suggest a new species for addition to the Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence permitted species list, or recategorisation or removal of an existing species. Note: the following fauna will not be considered - emus, raptors, crocodiles, marine species and pythons.
- No herpetofauna will be considered for Category A, exempt from needing a licence, through this process.
- EOI questions determine if suggested species meet biodiversity conservation, biosecurity, animal welfare, and public health and safety and requirements for inclusion on the list.
- If you have multiple suggestions, please complete a separate form for each one.
- You must reside in Western Australia and be over 18 years of age to be eligible to complete the form. If you are under 18, a parent or guardian can complete the form on your behalf.
- You must provide some personal details. Information you provide will be treated in a confidential manner.

What you need to know	Where to find information
The species must be a native animal that naturally occurs in Western Australia.	Check the Checklist of the Terrestrial Vertebrate Fauna of Western Australia .
Conservation status	A link in the form will guide you to the DBCA Threatened and Priority Fauna List .
In what region of WA does the species naturally occur, and if the species occurs in other parts of Australia.	If you are unsure of the regions in Western Australia, refer to the map on the DBCA website .
Care requirements the species need to be adequately kept in captivity.	Research what keeping facilities and expertise the species requires. It is recommended you consult a relevant animal keeping group or species specialist. If you don't know, you can answer 'unsure'.
Availability of the species from legal captive-bred populations held under appropriate licences in other parts of Australia.	All species suggested must be available from legally held, captive-bred populations. You are asked to provide details on where the species can be legally obtained, including the type of licence or permit and the corresponding licence or permit number if known. Availability of species can be obtained by emailing other Australian wildlife licensing agencies.
Suggesting adding species - Is the species genus well represented on the current list, how the suggested species differs significantly from existing species and your reason for suggesting this species.	A genus is a group of related species. For example, there are 7 species of cockatoos in the <i>Cacatua</i> genus and six species of monitors in the <i>Varanus</i> genus listed in the current pet keeper's list.
Suggesting recategorisation of an existing species.	Refer to criteria listed in Regulation 11 of the BC Regulations and assess the suggested species against those criteria.
Suggesting removal of an existing species: you will have free text space to justify why the species should be removed.	To save time, have your justification prepared, citing evidence that aligns with the BC Regulations . (The character limit for an answer is 4,000). Please email us at biodiversity@dbca.wa.gov.au if you wish to provide references.

There is no obligation on the CEO to include a particular species of fauna in the CEO guidelines issued for the purposes of the Regulations. You can now progress to the form or read on for additional information.

Additional information

The EOI provides a forum for public consultation to inform the review of pet keeper's species list. DBCA is considering input from interstate wildlife licensing agencies during the review and EOI processes.

- DBCA is responsible for the protection of native animals both in the wild and in captivity in Western Australia. Assessment of changes to the species list, whether through additions, recategorisation or removals, are designed to reflect this responsibility.
- The CEO must issue licensing guidelines relating to native fauna that may be possessed as pets under the Regulations. These guidelines specify fauna for which a licence is not required, and fauna for which a licence is required including which keeping category applies to fauna permitted to be possessed under a licence. The Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence permits the holder to possess native fauna listed in the [CEO licensing guideline Fauna possessing \(pet keeper's\) licence](#) as a pet.
- A pet for the purposes of the Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence is a native Australian animal protected under legislation, able to thrive in captivity and primarily kept and cared for by its owner for companionship and appreciation.
- To be included on the pet keeping list, suggested species must be suitable for keeping as a pet. This means species must meet the biodiversity conservation objectives of the [Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016](#) (BC Act) and the [Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2018](#) (BC Regulations), the biosecurity objectives of the [Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007](#) (BAM Act), have regard for the animal welfare objectives of the [Animal Welfare Act 2002](#) and public health and safety requirements.
- The expression of interest (EOI) process is an important part of DBCA's review of the pet keeper's species list. It provides an opportunity for individuals, organisations, and stakeholders to contribute their views and suggestions. Submissions that successfully meet EOI criteria will be assessed by a panel in relation to biodiversity conservation, animal husbandry, biosecurity and animal welfare. The panel will provide recommendations to the CEO of DBCA for consideration, following which the revised pet keeper's species list in the CEO licensing guidelines for the Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence will be issued.
- Where there is concern or lack of scientific certainty, the precautionary principle will be applied.
- There is no obligation on the CEO to include a particular species of fauna in the CEO guidelines issued for the purposes of the Regulations.
- In assessing information collected through this process, DBCA retains discretion to act independently of the recommended options to meet biodiversity conservation objectives in accordance with legislation and government policies.

It is anticipated the review process will be completed by the end of 2025 following which revised CEO Guidelines for the Fauna possessing (pet keeper's) licence will be issued, and a summary of Expressions of Interest submissions and the review process will be published on the DBCA Fauna licensing web page.