



Exhibited Animals Regulation 2016 requirements

Exhibited Animals Act 2015

Overview

The Exhibited Animals Regulation 2016 (Regulation) supports requirements in the *Exhibited Animals Act 2015* (Act). The Regulation requires authority holders to comply with record keeping requirements and animal identification requirements.

Mandatory compliance with Regulation requirements

An authority holder must comply with all requirements in the Regulation, in the way that is prescribed. An authority holder may exceed the requirement without breaching the Regulation but must meet the minimum requirement. For example, the Regulation may state a minimum sized enclosure for a species which must be met; however, an enclosure may exceed the minimum requirement.

An applicant must have a thorough understanding of their general exhibition and dealing obligation under the Regulation. This includes ensuring that authority holders have a clear understanding and comply with mandatory conditions of the licence when exhibiting or dealing with authorised animals.

If the Regulation does not prescribe requirements for an enclosure for a particular species the licence holder may refer to another recognised industry or relevant government department document for the species. For example, if designing an enclosure for a mammalian species which is not covered within the Regulation it would be acceptable for a licence holder to refer to a New South Wales standard for enclosure size for that species.

Understanding Regulation requirements

The following information has been provided to assist authority holders and new applicants understand various parts of the Regulation and what is required. This information does not cover all provisions of the Regulation. An authority holder must review and understand the Regulation and their obligations under the legislation.

Where the Regulation refers to an authorised animal it means each animal of each species. If the words 'authorised animal' is followed by a specific species or Category (such as category B or C) the requirements are referring to each animal of that particular species or category.

Part 3, Division 1


Section 5

This section defines authorised animals that are considered group animals. Throughout the Act and Regulation there are requirements which relate to group animals and requirements which relate to non-group animals.

The way to identify animals in a 'prescribed way' is also defined. When the words 'prescribed way' is used in the Regulation, it is referring to having to identify an animal using the methods outlined in section 5.

An animal can be identified in a prescribed way by means of a microchip, a tattoo, an ear tag or leg





band, unless an alternative is permitted (see Part 3, Division 2, subdivision 2).

Part 3, Division 2

Subdivision 1, Section 7

This section provides that each enclosure used for the purpose of holding an animal under an authority must have the common name and scientific name of the species displayed in a prominent way. This includes enclosures such as permanent exhibit enclosures, travel enclosures, off exhibit and other authorised enclosures.

Subdivision 2

Subdivision 2 does not apply to group animals. All category B and C animals held on the authority holder's licence must be identified in the prescribed way or an alternative way that effectively identifies the animal (e.g. a photograph).

The dingo and rabbit species must be identified in the prescribed way. This is due to the species pest status within Queensland and the significant impact they have on the environment and the economy.

If a category B or C animal is exhibited outside its regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site or exhibited off the regular enclosure site, it must be identified in the prescribed way. In these situations, an alternative way of identification (e.g. a photograph) is not acceptable.

Only if a signed veterinary certificate is supplied for an animal stating that identifying the animal in a prescribed way would pose a serious risk to its health, may the animal be identified in an alternative way.

Category B frogs, rodents and gliders are an exception and may be identified in the prescribed way or an alternative way regardless of how they are exhibited.

Subdivision 3, Section 12 & 13

Section 12 states that an authority holder must give notice to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries about the loss of a required record as soon as possible but no later than 7 days after the loss. Loss includes destruction or theft, damage that renders the record illegible and the inability to reproduce an electronic record.

Section 13 states that all rabbits must be desexed after 6 months of age, unless it would pose a serious risk to the rabbit's health. A veterinary certificate must be obtained either confirming the desexing or stating that desexing would pose a serious risk to its health.

Subdivision 3, Section 14

This section refers only to interstate exhibitors and provides for the written requirements that must be adhered to when coming into Queensland for the purpose of displaying animals under an interstate exhibitors permit.


Part 4

Section 16, 17 & 18

Section 16(1) requires that an authority holder must keep records mentioned in Schedule 2, Part 1 for all species. For example, if an authority holder has Woma pythons, written records about the total number of Woma pythons, any change in that total number and the reason for the change, must be recorded. All other requested written records must be completed as required in schedule 2, Part 1 for each species.

Section 16(2) requires records to be completed as soon as possible but no later than 7 days after the change.

Section 17 specifies records must be kept for 2 years in the event of an animal's death, transfer off the licence or authority change. Records must be kept at the premises where the regular enclosure site for the animal is located.



Section 18 prescribes that a copy of written records required to be kept for an animal must be given to the receiver of that animal on point of transfer. Copies of records including identification, health and all other general records must be provided when the person takes possession of the animal to ensure the animal's welfare needs are met once transferred to the new authority.

Part 6

The transitional provisions prescribe requirements for applicants who previously held an authority under existing legislation prior to the Act commencing.

Schedule 1

Lists species that are authorised as category C1 species that may be approved for exhibiting off the regular enclosure site (i.e. for mobile exhibit).

Schedule 2, Part 2

Division 1

This division refers to records which must be kept for each individual of each species (refer Part 4 Record requirements section 16). Information such as the animal's identification, sex of the animal, date of birth and details about an animal's death are required to be kept.

Prior to the transfer of an animal, authority holders involved in the transfer must obtain and record all relevant details of the transferor or transferee responsible for the animal. This is to assist the authority holder in ensuring they are obtaining an authorised animal from an authorised person and aids in any compliance which may be associated with that animal or its transfer.

These records must be produced if requested by an inspector appointed under the Act and notification as per Part 3, Division 2, Subdivision 3, section 12 must be carried out in the event of a record loss.

Division 2

This division requires the development of records associated with animal exhibit timeframes, and places where animals are exhibited.

Division 3 & 4

Division 3 sets out record requirements which refer to an animal's health. This information must be recorded and kept for each individual animal of each species.

Health records are an example of records which must be given to an authority holder receiving a particular animal of a species. The transfer of health information ensures transparency by ensuring the receiver of an animal is aware of any health requirements for the animal. The information will also assist the receiver in meeting their general exhibition and dealing obligations related to the animal's welfare.

Division 4 requires records to be kept for quarantining an animal and assist in compliance and provision of information about a particular animal and how it is being managed in the event of a quarantine period being required. Generally, quarantine enclosures may not meet all the necessary requirements for the animal, such as enclosure size, species specific fixtures, substrates, denning areas and other requirements needed for an animal's ongoing health and wellbeing.

The quarantining of an animal is generally due to a specific purpose such as importation or other factors and should only be imposed on a short-term basis as instructed by a veterinarian or as prescribed in legislation.

Schedule 4

Schedule 4 defines terms that are not defined in the body of the Regulation.

For more information visit www.daf.qld.gov.au