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The keeping of Australian native wildlife as pets can be a most rewarding experience, this needs to be encouraged and expanded.

Wildlife can enrich one's life in many varied and unimagined ways, our wonderful animals, come with their own unique traits and husbandry requirements.

The ridiculous position that Australians find themselves in currently, being free to keep rats, mice, rabbits, and other feral species. Then unable to keep many of our own wonderful native species. This needs to change.

The wildlife species that are being kept on licence in Victoria have been done so with minimal fuss. This requires expansion to protect what we have. If the Thylacine were being kept in numbers in private hands, they would still be with us today.

**Therefor we recommend:**

- (1) That DELWP encourage the private keeping of native Australian wildlife.  
Replacing the current range of predators and pests, currently sold in pet shops in Victoria.
- (2) Strict adherence to the promotion of genetic purity by the department, in a time of great ecological change. It is a waste of time and effort. When greater numbers held as insurance populations should be of the highest priority.
- (2) Processing by veterinary practitioners or DEWLP officers of injured wildlife deemed unviable and unable to be returned to the wild. These could be placed into private collections, instead of the current mandatory destruction of these animals. This would improve genetic diversity in insurance populations.
- (4) The reporting of animals held, and licence renewals should be combined, to improve reporting rates of animals held in captivity.
- (5) The abandonment of multiple wildlife licences and schedules to a simpler one of licence.
- (6) Removal of all native rodents from a licence requirement. Should this take place?  
we believe currently endangered species would become quite common.  
While the vermin currently held by pet shops and in private hands would become uncommon and be seen as a threat to native species to which they currently are.

Please see attached Australian Government PDF Review Australian Native Animals Pets below.



ReviewAustralian  
Native Mammals as I

27/06/21

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