

Wildlife Act Review

Submission Comment 5:

Contributor: Individual

Primary interests:

- Private and/or commercial keeping, breeding, trading, displaying and/or processing of wildlife or wildlife products

Comment

I believe there needs to be some sort of exceptions or rules that allow the export of certain long-term privately kept wildlife. For example; if the wildlife in question has been captive bred and owned for x amount of years there should be exceptions on exporting said wildlife, personally I feel 5-10 years of ownership is a good scope of "long-term". This could be monitored by the use of microchipping, this can verify the period of ownership of the individual wildlife. This exception should only be extended to non-threatened species with a limit to how many of each protected species is allowed to be exported, there is currently a similar rule for this for certain bird species. This would allow long-term owners of pet reptiles to have the option of moving outside of the country without having to rehome their pets. I personally own a python and the thought of having to part with them in exchange for moving to another country feels somewhat unfair. However, I understand that the rules are there for a reason and to protect our wildlife from mass exportation for the wildlife trade. In addition to being able to export long-term wildlife, if the microchip data has proof of exportation from Australia, if a person was to return to reside in Australia, then importing that wildlife could also be made possible.

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