



## Native Animal Trust Fund Inc Wildlife Rescue Service Reptile Rehabilitation Policy

The following Reptile Rehabilitation Policy refers to the rehabilitation of lizards, monitors and turtles and must be read in conjunction with the NATF Non-Endemic and Exotic Reptile Policy. Snake rescue and rehabilitation is covered by the NATF Snake Policy



The minimum requirements required for the care and rehabilitation of lizards, monitors and turtles include:

1. Training: Have completed *Introduction to the NATF & Basic Rescue* workshops **and** a NATF approved Reptile Rehabilitation training course **or** one-on-one approved training and be competent in the techniques of wild capture, transport, husbandry and housing.

### Responsibilities of the Reptile Rehabilitator include

1. Advising the co-ordinator of any injured reptile requiring rehabilitation as soon as possible.
2. Providing optimum levels of care and animal welfare including
  - a. Appropriate nutrition;
  - b. Continued availability of appropriate facilities;
  - c. An opportunity to express a range of natural behaviours;
  - d. Protection from predators;
3. Demonstrating a commitment to legal and ethically responsible rehabilitation.
4. Releasing all reptiles to a suitable natural environment at or near the locality of the original encounter.
5. Recording all reptiles and submitting NATF data sheets to the data base coordinator monthly.
6. Informing the Reptile Coordinator of individual Reptile Keeper Licence held;
7. Developing a working relationship with a nominated reptile veterinarian.
8. Ensuring all euthanasia is conducted by a qualified veterinarian.
9. Abiding by the NATF Non-Endemic and Exotic species policy.



At no time will a rehabilitator authorise X-rays or surgery without the permission of a Reptile Coordinator.

NPWS or Reptile Coordinator has the right to inspect premises and facilities at any time.

All NATF members must put the safety of themselves and other people first. If a rescue is considered unsafe, it must be aborted or further assistance sought through the Reptile Coordinator.





**Native Animal Trust Fund Inc**  
**Wildlife Rescue Service**  
**Exotic Reptile Policy 2007**

Definition of exotic reptile:-

\* a reptile which is not a native to australia. (not to be confused with non endemic reptiles - refer to 'non endemic policy').

Should a member come into contact with and or acquire an exotic reptile, they then will immediately, or, within 24 hours, which ever is most practicable, contact their reptile co-ordinator and inform them of such contact.

Such reptile will not be housed with any other reptile.

Information to be provided to the co-ordinator should include:-

1. Type of reptile (if known) or a detailed description of same.
2. The condition of the reptile.
3. How the reptile came into their possession.
4. Where they came into possession of the reptile.
5. Contact details of other parties involved in the 'contact' of the reptile.
6. Exact time/date of contact with the reptile (refer to opening policy statement - must be within 24 hours of initial contact)
7. Details of rescue methods (if any) conducted to capture the reptile.
8. Housing/husbandry used to secure the reptile whilst in NATF<sup>Inc</sup> Wildlife Rescue Service possession leading up to contact with the co-ordinator.

It is a statutory requirement under NSW legislation that any exotic reptile be delivered to an accredited veterinarian for euthanasia. However, depending on the exact species of exotic reptile (i.e. endangered/threatened) it is possible that such reptile, depending on its condition, health etc, will be 'saved' and quarantined. Such decisions of whether to euthanase or save, will be the sole decision of the governing bodies relating to the welfare of such exotic reptiles.

Native Animal Trust Fund Inc

## WILDLIFE RESCUE SERVICE

Volunteers in the Hunter Region

PO Box 1052 TORONTO 2283

Telephone 0418 628 483

0418 NATIVE

ABN: 47 035 117 979



### VENOMOUS REPTILE HANDLING MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM

**Please provide all details for Sections A and B.**

#### Section A

Surname:	Given Name:
NATF <sup>Inc</sup> Wildlife Rescue Service membership number:	
Doctor's name:	Phone:
Emergency Contact:	Phone:

#### Section B

When did you last undergo a complete physical examination by a medical practitioner? Please tick ☒:

Less than 12 months ago ☐      Approx. 2 years ago ☐      In the last 2-5 years ☐

More than 5 years ago ☐      Never ☐

If you haven't already done so, it is recommended that you have a medical examination and discuss with your doctor your intention to complete training in the handling and rescue of venomous snakes.

Have you any history of the following: indicate ☒yes or ☒no

<input type="checkbox"/> Heart Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> High Blood Pressure
<input type="checkbox"/> Is there any physical reason which could place you at risk in the handling and rescue of venomous snakes?		

If ☒yes to any of the above, you will required a doctor's certificate to indicate you are physically fit to complete training in the handling and rescue of venomous snakes.

I understand that, once trained, for the purposes of insurance,

i.I am only permitted to rescue venomous snakes while my membership is current and

ii.My membership renewal with the NATF<sup>Inc</sup> Wildlife Rescue Service will be paid prior to July 1<sup>st</sup> on any given year.

Signature

Date