

AE

002

Animal Ethics Committee

**Wildlife Trapping/Netting Research Application Form**



Scientific use of animals undertaken by Murdoch University staff and students must comply with the requirements of the *Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes, 2013* (the *Animal Code*) and the *Animal Welfare Act, 2002* (WA). Persons using animals for scientific purposes must consider the 3 R’s: **Replacement, Reduction, and Refinement** at all times.

Responses to **ALL** questions must be provided on this form. Applicants should not simply refer to an attachment without summarising relevant material on this form. Use

**Animal Ethics Office**

(08) 9360 7366

animal.ethics@murdoch.edu.au

All applications are to be submitted in the **IRMA** system as attachments to a coversheet.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Title:** |  |  |
|  |
|  |  |
| **1.1** | **Chief Investigator / Supervisor:** A Murdoch University internal staff member with ultimate responsibility for the projectIf you are not an internal Murdoch University staff member, please indicate your status e.g., Adjunct, external applicant. If Adjunct, include a copy of your confirmation of Adjunct appointment in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA. |
|  | Title | Given Name  | Surname |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | College |  |
|  | Contact Address |  |
|  | Telephone No. |  | Email |  |
|  |  |
| **1.2** | **Co-Investigator 1:** |
|  | Title | Given Name  | Surname |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | College |  |
|  | Contact Address |  |
|  | Telephone No. |  | Email |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Co-Investigator 2:** |
|  | Title | Given Name  | Surname |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | College |  |
|  | Contact Address |  |
|  | Telephone No. |  | Email |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Co-Investigator 3:** |
|  | Title | Given Name  | Surname |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | College |  |
|  | Contact Address |  |
|  | Telephone No. |  | Email |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Co-Investigator 4:** |
|  | Title | Given Name  | Surname |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | College |  |
|  | Contact Address |  |
|  | Telephone No. |  | Email |  |
|  |  |
|  | *If there are more than 4 Co-Investigators, complete the “Additional Co-Investigator” form,**and attach in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA.* |
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| **1.3** | **List the responsibilities of the Chief and Co-Investigators as they relate to this project.**  |
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|  |  | **Responsibilities**  |
|  | **CI** |  |
|  | **Co-I 1** |  |
|  | **Co-I 2** |  |
|  | **Co-I 3** |  |
|  | **Co-I 4** |  |
|  |  |
| **1.4** | **List qualifications, training and experience related to responsibilities for each investigator.** Briefly summarise how they are appropriate to the procedures to be performed and species to be used. |
|  |  |
|  |  | **Qualifications, training, experience** |
|  | **CI** |  |
|  | **Co-I 1** |  |
|  | **Co-I 2** |  |
|  | **Co-I 3** |  |
|  | **Co-I 4** |  |
|  |  |
| **1.5** | **Identify any training needs and indicate how these will be provided.** |
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| **1.6** | **Specific responsibilities** |
|  | Although some investigators have specific responsibilities, all investigators have personal responsibility for all matters that relate to the wellbeing of animals that they use for the duration of the approved period until provisions are made for the animal at the conclusion of their use. |
|  |  |
|  | **Primary Contact***Provide the name of the investigator who oversees the day-to-day aspects of the project. This need not be the Chief Investigator.* |  |
|  | **Emergency Contact***Provide the name of the investigator who can be contacted in an emergency.* |  |
|  | **Routine Care Contact***Provide the name of the person is responsible for the routine care of the animals e.g. if they are housed on a farm or in an animal house. Is this person the same as the primary contact?* |  |
|  | **Monitoring Contact***Provide the name of the investigator responsible for the ongoing monitoring of the animals, including weekdays, weekends / out of hours, and holiday periods (i.e. Christmas).* |  |
|  | **Nominated Person***Who will be responsible for completing the annual reports and providing the yearly animal usage numbers?* |  |
|  | **Euthanasia** *Provide the name of the person responsible for conducting the humane killing/euthanasia.* |  |
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| **1.7** | **Resources**  |
|  | (i) | Outline whether this project is funded and indicate the source of funds. |
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| **1.8** | **Location of project**  |
|  | (i) | Provide details of specific locations where this research will be conducted. |
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| **1.9** | **Collaborative project**  |
|  | (i) | Is this a collaborative project with another institution? |
|  |  | *If yes, state the name and location of institution/s.* |
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|  |  |
|  | (ii) | Provide the name of the main contact/s for the other institution/s. |
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|  |  |
|  | (iii) | State how the facilities of the other institution/s will be used. |
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|  | (iv) | Will Murdoch AEC have overarching responsibility for the project approval? |
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| **Part B -** | **Justification***In this section, provide an overview of the project, its aims, design and intended outcomes. It is important to use plain English to ensure that all* [*AEC members*](http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Research-Ethics-and-Integrity/Animal-ethics/Committee/) *understand the proposed project.* |
|  |  |
| **2.1** | **Keywords** |
|  | Provide a list of and definitions for any technical terms and acronyms to assist the AEC to understand this application: |
|  | **Term** |  | **Lay Explanation**  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |
| **2.2** | Provide a brief plain English description of the hypothesis, aims of this project, the proposed research design and methods, and the projected outcomes. |
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|  | **HYPOTHESIS** |
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|  | **AIMS***The aims may include an outline of how this project relates to an overall program of work/ the bigger research picture. Provide any useful information or context to this project including peer-reviewed literature, where possible. (Max one page)* |
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|  | **RESEARCH DESIGN/METHOD***Provide an overview of how the project is designed in relation to its aims. (Max one page)* |
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|  | **PROJECTED OUTCOMES***Include the projected benefits to humans, animals, or the environment, and how these benefits support the proposed use of animals. (Max one page)* |
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| **2.3** | **Originality**  |
|  | Is this a repetition of any previously performed study? i.e., has this study previously been undertaken anywhere in the world? *If yes, briefly describe the previous work and justify why this needs to be repeated. If no, how has this been determined?* |
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| **Part C -** | **Animal Wellbeing and Refinement** *In this section, identify and justify the impact of all aspects of the project on the animal’s well-being from the time it is obtained until the project is completed. At each step, provide information about how impacts on the animals will be minimised.* |
|  |  |
| **3.1** | **Describe in detail all procedures to be performed for each experiment.**Provide an overview including the number of trapping or netting sessions. When is the safest time to trap / net the animals? Are there any seasonal factors that impact on the trapping or netting? How do these fit with the overall project? Will any animals be targeted due to their numbers, sex, age, disease status or other reasons? |
|  | *Consider providing a flow chart, diagram, or timetable of the experiment/s to assist the AEC’s understanding. Attach any relevant SOPs in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA*. |
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| **3.2** | **Feral Animals** |
|  | (i) | Will the target or bycatch species include feral animals? |  |
|  |  | *If yes,* *provide details about what will happen to the animal following capture, including any regulatory requirements.* |
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| **3.3** | **Pregnant Animals** |
|  | Does the project involve the use of pregnant animals? |
|  | *If yes, give details. Identify the potential causes of adverse impacts on the wellbeing of these pregnant animals and the monitoring plan proposed*. *Include embryos/foetuses from ½ gestation onwards in the animal allocation numbers required for the research.* |
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| **3.4** | **Animal handling and restraint** |
|  | Will the animal/s be handled or restrained during the course of this project? |
|  | *If yes, describe the device and restraining procedure, including humane interventions to reduce stress on animals being restrained.* |
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| **3.5** | **Animal Housing** |
|  | (i) | Where will animals be held? |
|  |  | **Location:** |  | **Room** *(Where applicable)***:** |  |
|  |  |
|  | (ii) | How long will animals be held in this location including acclimatization? |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  | (iii) | Have the housing requirements for the animals been discussed with staff at the proposed animal facility? Provide the name of the person who has been consulted. |
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|  | (iv) | What measures will be taken to enhance animal welfare during the time the animals are part of the project? Consider issues such as temperature, handling, and conditioning.  |
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|  | (v) | Will enrichment be provided? |
|  |  | Describe any enrichment or justify why it is not required. |
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|  | (vi) | Does this research involve transport of animals? |
|  |  | Provide details of transportation type, locations and SOPs or codes that will be followed. |
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| **3.6** | **Animal Use** |
|  |  | **Animal Numbers** |  |
|  | **Species / Strain & Common Name** | **Target or Bycatch?** | **Yr 1** | **Yr 2** | **Yr 3** | **Total** |
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|  | *If more than 15 species or strains of animals will be used in this project, attach a separate table in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA*.*Ensure that you have stated your rationale for the choice of animal in Justification* |
|  |  |  |
| **3.7** | Do you plan to use any methods for capture other than trapping or netting? |
|  | *If yes, provide details.* |
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| **3.8** | **Rare or Endangered Species** |  |
|  | Are any of the target species classified as rare or endangered? |
|  | *If yes, specify which standard you have used (e.g. IUNC, DEC) and justify the use of the animals. Is there a related, alternative species suitable for the project? Animals from an endangered species must not be used unless the research is of direct benefit to the conservation of that species and will not further endanger the target species.* |
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|  | (i) | Estimate how many animals or what proportion of the animals will be released immediately following capture without any further intervention. |
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| **Part D -** | **Replacement** *In this section, explain what alternatives you have considered and why animals are needed for the project.* |
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| **4.1** | Could conventional field observations be used to obtain the required results? |
|  | *If yes, why is trapping or netting being utilised? If no, why not.* |
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| **4.2** | Have you considered potential alternatives to animals for all, or parts, of this project?  |
|  | Provide details of the alternatives implemented or why alternatives were not suitable or justify the need for the use of animals in this project. |
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| **4.3** | Will the results of this project assist in developing techniques that do not require the use of animals?  |
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| **Part E -**  | **Reduction** *In this section, provide information about the number of animals, the species and strain, the reasons why this number is necessary, whether there is an opportunity for sharing tissues or animals and strategies you have utilised to minimise the overall number of animals you plan to use.* |
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| **5.1** | Why is it necessary to capture animals? |
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| **5.2** | What strategies are in place to ensure that only the minimum number of animals necessary for this project will be used?  |
|  |       |
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| **5.3** | **Statistical Explanation** |
|  | (i) | To decide on the number of animals you plan to use, have you used a statistical calculation? |
|  |  | *If yes, provide details. If no, describe how you have arrived at the number of animals necessary for this project.* |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  | (ii) | Will statistical comparisons be made as part of the investigation? |
|  |  | *If yes, provide details of the types of statistical analyses which are planned. How does this match the number of animals you expect to use for the study?* |
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|  |  |
| **5.4** | If you have consulted a statistician or biometrician for advice on the statistical calculations for this project, provide the name and contact details for the person you have consulted (the statistician or biometrician does not need to be an investigator on the project). |
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| **Part F -** | **Impact**  |
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| **6.1** | **Harm or potential harm to the animal**  |
|  | Identify any potential harm/s to the animal that may arise from this research, including pain, distress, and loss of life. Identify how harms will be mitigated. |
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| **6.2** | Will animals show clinical symptoms or changes in behaviour during this research? |
|  | *If yes, describe what you would expect to see. How will the animals be monitored? What are the intervention points and what kinds of interventions will be undertaken?* |
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| **6.3** | What traps or nets will be used? How will they be marked or identified? |
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| **6.4** | How many traps or nets will be set, over what area and over what period of time? |
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|  |  |
| **6.5** | What is the maximum number of traps / nets per investigator that will be set? |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **6.6** | How often and at what times will traps / nets be checked or cleared? |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **6.7** | Will any kind of bait be used? |  |
|  | *If yes, specify what will be used and how.* |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **6.8** | When is the safest time to release the animals? (Consider issues such as whether the species is nocturnal and/or seasonal issues including the reproductive biology of the species). Identify how you have arrived at this judgment (e.g. literature review, expert advice, previous experience). |
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| **6.9** | What precautions will be taken if pregnant, lactating animals or animals with pouch young are captured?  |
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| **6.10** | What precautions will be taken to minimise the impact of the weather, especially if animals will remain in the net or trap for a period of time? Consider rain, cold, heat and other potential weather impacts. |
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|  |  |
| **6.11** | Is the trapping or netting likely to expose any of the animals to predation risks? |
|  | *If yes, identify these risks and describe how you will minimise them.* |
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| **6.12** | **Procedures**  |
|  | Provide a list of procedures and the likely impact of them on the animals. |
|  |  |
|  | **Type of procedure (surgical / non-surgical)***e.g. microchip insertion* | **Expected impacts of the procedure***e.g. temporary pain* | **Expected frequency of adverse impacts***e.g. always, 2%, rarely* | **Refinements taken to minimise adverse impacts***e.g. experienced personnel* |
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| **6.13** | **Identification of Animals** |
|  | Will animals be marked for identification or re-capture? |
|  | *If yes,* *how will they be marked? What impact/s will this have to the animal? What alternatives have been considered and rejected?* |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **6.14** | Provide details any tracking equipment that will be used. Include details of how will this be attached to the animal (e.g. collar, surgical implant)? How will the animal be tracked and over what period of time? What will happen to the tracking device once tracking is completed? |
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| **6.15** | **Sample Collection** |
|  | Describe any samples you intend to collect from the animals. What samples will be collected? How will the samples be collected? What equipment will be used to collect the samples? With what frequency will samples be collected (especially if re-sampling the same animals)? Will the collection of samples expose the animals to any risks? e.g. if blood sample include: volume, needle gauge, site of venepuncture, and number of attempts. Include any relevant SOPs in the DOCUMENTS tab in the submission. |
|  | *Attach any relevant SOPs in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA* |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **6.16** | **Cumulative Impact on Animals** |
|  | The AEC is required to consider the cumulative impact of all scientific procedures that will be performed. |
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|  | (i) | Will any individual animals be used in more than one AEC approved permit? If yes, provide justification for the re-use and AEC permit number/s: |
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|  | (ii) | To the best of your knowledge, are you aware of these same animals being used on other previous or concurrently approved projects? |
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| **6.17** | **Summary of Pharmacological Agents and Substances Administered** |
|  |  |
|  | **Agent / Substance** | **Drug** | **Dosage** | **Frequency** | **Route Administered** |
|  | **Anaesthetic Agent** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Post-Operative Analgesic** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Tranquilliser** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Antibiotic** |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Other** |  |  |  |  |
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| **Part G -**  | **Monitoring and Fate of animals** |
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| **7.1** | **Animal Monitoring**  |
|  | *Attach a monitoring chart to clearly indicate intervention points and responses in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA*. |
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|  | (i) | How will the animals be monitored in the field? |
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|  | (ii) | How will the animals be monitored during capture and handling? |
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|  | (iii) | If the animals are taken into captivity, how will they be monitored? What signs will be monitored and how frequently? |
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|  | (iv) | What monitoring will be undertaken post-release? |
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|  |  |
|  | (v) | Where will monitoring records be kept? |
|  |  | *Animal monitoring records should ordinarily be retained as close as possible to the animals and must be accessible to all relevant staff and AEC personnel. Investigators are encouraged to retain copies of records in another location.* |
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|  | (vi) | Will humane endpoints be used as part of this research? |
|  |  | *If yes, provide details.* |
|  |  |  |
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| **7.2** | **Fate of Distressed or Injured Animals**  |
|  | (i) | What criteria will be used to decide if a distressed or injured animal needs to be retired from the project or humanely killed? |
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|  |  |
|  | (ii) | Provide the name, contact details and relevant experience of a nominated veterinarian who is available for monitoring or assessment of animals. If this is not required, justify the reason. |
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| **7.3** | **Humane Killing/Euthanasia** *Include in this section details of both planned euthanasia and euthanasia that may need to be performed in an emergency.* |
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|  | (i) | List the details of the humane killing/euthanasia method that will be used for each species. |
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|  | (ii) | Justify the choice of method for humane killing/euthanasia. |
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|  |  |  |  |
|  | (iii) | Provide details of the pharmacological methods to be used. |
|  |  | *If yes, provide details or attach the relevant SOP in the DOCUMENTS tab in IRMA*. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | **Drug** | **Dosage** | **Route Administered** |
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|  | (iv) | Do you have a euthanasia method for emergencies that is species appropriate? |
|  |  | State the emergency method or explain why this is unnecessary, impractical or not warranted. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  | (v) | Will a registered veterinarian be consulted before a decision to humanely kill an animal is made? |
|  |  | If no, explain why this is unnecessary, impractical or not warranted. |
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|  | (vii) | What provision is available for any dependent offspring?  |
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|  | (viii) | Describe how death will be confirmed using at least **two** criteria |
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|  |  |  |
|  | (ix) | Outline the percentage of animals you expect to die (including from natural causes) or require intervention euthanasia during the project. |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | **Potential cause of death or euthanasia***e.g. pregnancy toxaemia* | **Steps taken to minimise impact***Regular monitoring, supportive treatment, veterinary assessment* | **Percentage of animals affected***<1%* |
|  |  |       |       |       |
|  |  |       |       |       |
|  |  |       |       |       |
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| **7.4** | Has provision been made for a post-mortem in the event of an unexpected death or euthanasia?  |
|  | Provide details of who will conduct the post-mortem, where it will be performed and whether issues of body storage and transport have been addressed or, if no, provide an explanation as to why. |
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| **7.5** | **Disposal of Carcasses**  |
|  | (i) | How will carcasses be disposed of? |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |
|  | (ii) | Will there be opportunity to use carcasses or tissues in any other project? Specify what consideration has been given to this possibility. |
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| **7.6** | **Fate of remaining animals at the end of the project**  |
|  | Outline what will happen to any remaining animals once the project is completed.e.g., planned humane killing, returned to the natural environment, etc |
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|  |  |
| **7.7** | **Other ethical considerations** |
|  | Are there any other features of your proposal, which raise other ethical considerations? |
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|  |  |
| **Part H -**  | **Legislative and Regulatory Controls** |
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| **8.1** | **Permits, Laws, and Regulations**  |
|  | Provide details below of any permit, law or regulation of the State or Commonwealth, e.g., Reg 23 permit and Section 40 required for the acquisition, retention, or use of animals in the project. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **8.2** | **Potential conflict/s of Interest**  |
|  | Do you have any actual or potential interest, including any financial interest or other relationship or affiliation that may affect judgements and decisions regarding the wellbeing of the animals involved? |
|  |  |
|  |  |

for Animal Ethics forms

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**How to submit this form:**

**Submission Information**

All forms are received and processed through the IRMA system. To do this, you will need to create a “**Coversheet**” in IRMA and attach this form and any supporting documents as part your submission.

1. Begin by creating a Coversheet. Log into IRMA and click on “**Researcher Profile**” (found in the top right-hand corner of your screen). If you do not have IRMA access, lodge a request with IT through ServiceNow.



1. Click on the “**Animal Ethics**” tab:
2. Ensure the drop-down option is showing as “**View Forms**”, and click the “**Create**” button to create a new coversheet:
3. Select the **New Application** coversheet template from the drop-down list (see below) and then click “**Next**”:
4. A new screen will appear (see below). Complete the first tab, “**Coversheet**” to provide the researcher and project information. Click on the weblink and download the **“Wildlife Research Application”** form.
5. When this form is complete, save the document to your computer and upload a copy into the IRMA coversheet. Click on the “**Documents**” tab (shown in 5. picture) and upload the form by clicking the “+ **Add**” button. Include any other supporting documentation, e.g. monitoring sheets, owner consent forms, SOPs, etc., in the “**Documents**” tab. Ensure each attachment is clearly labelled when uploading.
6. Once this form has been uploaded into IRMA, return to the “**Coversheet**” tab and click the “**Submit**” button (as shown in pic in 5.).

**TASK COMPLETE**