



WILDLIFE RESCUE SOUTH COAST

PO BOX 666, NOWRA NSW 2541

Registered in NSW: Y1612344 ABN: 49616307526

Information Sheet

Thank you for your enquiry about Wildlife Rescue South Coast. Our group is licensed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and our primary aim is to rescue, raise, rehabilitate and release native animals back into the wild.

Members, and potential members, are encouraged to attend our monthly general meeting, held on the second Wednesday of the month (except January). Our meetings are held at the Nowra Library meeting room.

Further information is available on our website www.wildlife-rescue.org.au, including the association by-laws, policies and other aspects, which you should be aware of before deciding to become a member.

Not every member has to become a hands-on wildlife rescuer or carer. Our members can contribute in a variety of ways. For example, you may choose to help with administration, publicity, or fund-raising just to name a few of the options available. These are all essential roles, without which we would not be able to undertake our wildlife rescue work.

If you do wish to be involved with hands-on rescue, you must attain a certain level of knowledge, and be assessed by our committee as being competent to undertake rescue or care activity. This ensures that the animals we look after are given the best care, and our volunteers are able to do their work safely.

Attached is some information about our group and what is involved in becoming a member. Please contact us if you have any questions. We can be contacted online at info@wildlife-rescue.org.au.

We hope that this information has been of interest and it has assisted in your decision about becoming a member of Wildlife Rescue South Coast (Inc.).

Enc.

- o Volunteering in Wildlife Care
- o Membership application

Some information for potential carers

Our Members Manual and Constitution has details particularly relevant if you are thinking about becoming a carer, including the association by-laws and policies. This can be downloaded from the member's page of our website www.wildlife-rescue.org.au. We made the decision to make this information publicly available as we believe members, potential members, and even members of the public have a right to know who we are, and what we expect from our members.

For example, if you are considering becoming a member to care for wildlife:

- Membership does not guarantee that you will be given an animal to care for. Our co-ordinators manage the placement of animals and the decision will depend on a volunteer having the appropriate facilities, training, experience and time to maximise the chances for the animal. Animals may need to be paired up with another of its species or moved to another carer for the next stage of rehabilitation before it is returned to the wild.
- Committee members and/or co-ordinators have the right to inspect your facilities before any animal or bird may be allocated to you.
- A general guideline of the main facilities required for various species follows, but there are specific requirements that relate to individual species or animals. For example:
 - Kangaroos: Large enclosed yard with 6 foot fences
 - Wallabies: Large enclosed year with 5 foot fences
 - Possums and gliders: Large aviary
 - Small Gliders: Large cage with fine mesh
 - Wombats: Specialised facility which the wombat cannot dig out of until ready for release
 - Birds: Aviary or cage large enough for flight
- Young animals should be raised in a stable environment with minimal stress according to the needs of the species. Travelling, changes to feeding routines, proximity of pets and children may all contribute to stress and can lead to a failure to thrive or unsuccessful release.