



# Wildlife Animal Ethics Committee (WAEC) Adverse Event Report Form

# May 2024

## Information

* **Adverse event (AE):** any event that may have a negative impact on the wellbeing of an animal. These include, but are not limited to, death, injury, illness, distress or pain. See the [Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-code-care-and-use-animals-scientific-purposes) for more detail.
* **Expected adverse event (EAE):** any event that may have a negative impact on the wellbeing of animals and was predicted or foreshadowed in the approved project or activity.
* **Unexpected adverse event (UAE):** any event that may have a negative impact on the wellbeing of animals, or compromise the project or activity, and was not predicted or foreshadowed in the approved project or activity.
* The WAEC requests that all adverse events (whether expected or unexpected) are reported. Wildlife studies lack sufficient accurate information on the rates of expected adverse events. This is different to the laboratory situation where good information is available on the adverse event rate for laboratory strains of animals bred for experimentation. The WAEC hopes that over time accurate information will be obtained to establish a reliable estimate of what adverse events might be reasonably expected and approved by the WAEC, with only unexpected adverse events then needing to be reported. Your compliance with reporting all adverse events will assist in this process.
* If an adverse event occurs, the **DPIRD WAEC Executive Officer must be notified via** [**wildlifeaec@dpird.wa.gov.au**](mailto:wildlifeaec@dpird.wa.gov.au) **or phone within 24 hours of discovery.** Further information can be added as it becomes available. If you do not have enough information to complete a detailed adverse event report immediately, provide a brief preliminary notification (via email or phone) to the WAEC Executive Officer and advise that you will provide a detailed adverse event report as soon as possible.
* Prompt actions must be taken to alleviate unanticipated pain and distress and must take precedence over an individual animal reaching the planned endpoint of the project, or the continuation or completion of the project. Adverse impacts must be addressed rapidly, and animals must receive appropriate treatment or be humanely euthanised without delay.
* Complete each section of this form and email to [wildlifeaec@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:wildlifeaec@dpird.wa.gov.au)
* Report only one incident / event per form. A single incident may include multiple animals, e.g., a dead female with a dead pouch young, multiple trap deaths in the same trap checking round.
* The efficient use of photos or videos to assist the WAEC understand the AE is strongly encouraged.

## Details of the Adverse Event (AE)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Chief Investigator (CI): |  | |
| **WAEC approved permit number:** |  | |
| **Project title:** |  | |
| **Location / facility where the AE occurred:** |  | |
| **Time and date of occurrence:** |  | |
| **Weather conditions just prior to and during the AE (temperature, humidity, rainfall, wind etc.):** |  | |
| **Species and common name, sex and age:** |  | |
| **Total number of animals handled / involved in this project:** |  | |
| **Total number of animals involved in this AE (including pouch young):** |  | |
| **Number of animals found dead:** |  | |
| **Number of animals found sick, injured, or distressed:** |  | |
| **Number of animals treated:** |  | |
| **Number of animals euthanised:** |  | |
| **Method of euthanasia:** |  | |
| **Was this AE expected (foreshadowed in application) or unexpected?** |  | |
| **How many AEs have there been previously for this project?** |  | |
| **Event description and circumstances leading up to the AE (If a trapping event include trap type / capture method, and when trap was last checked):** |  | |
| **Were photographs / video taken and attached to this report?** |  | |
| **Outline the immediate actions taken:**  *Immediate response, treatments etc.* |  | |
| **Post-mortem:** *was a post-mortem carried out? If not, please explain why.* |  | |
| **Summarise the results from investigations taken / tests carried out:**  *Veterinary and lab reports must be provided when / if available.* |  | |
| **What is the confirmed or probable cause of the AE?** |  | |
| **Has the AE impacted the project in any way?**  *If so, please provide details.* |  | |
| **What actions / precautions / management will be taken to prevent any recurrence?** |  | |
| **Will a project amendment be required?** | Yes No | |
| **Person notifying this event:**  *If not the CI, then their role in the project.* | Name:  Role in project: | |
| **Signature:** | | **Date:** |

**WAEC comments and feedback to CI:**

**Adverse event report accepted / not accepted:**

**Chair WAEC name:**

**Signature: Date:**