Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

**Management plan template**

*Exhibited Animals Act 2015*

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| Applicant name: | Click here to enter text. |
| Applicant company: (if applicable) | Click here to enter text. |

Part A - Species detail

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| This application is for: ***(click box to select/deselect)*** |
| [ ]   | A particular animal |  |
| [x]  | A single species |  |
| [ ]  | Animals of a taxonomic grouping (e.g. more than one sub-species). |  |
|  | Please indicate which category. |  |
|  | [ ]  A [x]  B [ ]  C1 [ ]  C2  |  |
|  |  |  |
| In the table provided record the common name, scientific name, maximum number of animal’s proposed (male and female if relevant) and indicate the relevant box for breeding requirements. If there is not sufficient space provided you may attach a list of the information and submit it with this Management Plan application. |
| **Common name** | **Scientific name** | **Maximum number proposed** | **Breeding** | **Nonbreeding** |
| **Koala**  | *(Phascolarctos cinereus)* | 3 | [ ]  | [x]  |
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**Part B - Relevant experience**

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| [ ]   | Relevant up-to-date experience for the proposed species held by the department |
| [x]  | Relevant up-to-date experience for the proposed species attached |
| [x]  | Relevant up-to-date experience for the proposed species detailed below: |
|  | **I have 10 years’ experience in the zoo industry working with koalas and a variety of other native and exotic animals. I have formal training and have completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Wildlife Biology, a Zoology degree and been the head keeper at the Australian Koala Sanctuary. I have attached a reference from the Manager I worked for during my time at the Sanctuary and the relevant university degree certificates.** **All koala keepers have completed a Certificate in captive animal management and have had at least one year fulltime hands on experience with koalas. Attached are their CV’s.**  |

Part C - Species Exhibition and dealings

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| How do you propose to keep the animal: ***(click one or more boxes to select/deselect)*** |
| [ ]  | In a travelling collection (i.e. no fixed location)? (e.g. not held at a regular enclosure site within Queensland) |
| [ ]  | In a regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site not available for viewing by the public? |
| [x]  | In a regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site that is open to the public most of the time? |

Part D - Exhibition & dealing activities proposed

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| How do you propose to exhibit the animal: ***(click one or more boxes to select/deselect)*** |
| [x]  | In its regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. primary enclosure at the zoo)* |
| [x]  | In a controlled area outside the regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. in a stadium, stage area or other designated area within the zoo)* |
| [ ]  | In a regular enclosure, in a controlled area outside the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. in a fully enclosed enclosure displayed on tables under a marque enclosed with bollards or a 1.2m high removable barrier or in a fenced area surrounded by 6 foot removable cyclone mesh fence)* |
| [ ]  | In a controlled area outside the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. removable snake pit with 1.2m high walls with canvas floor sewn into the bottom of the walls or completely enclosed fenced off area with)* |
| [ ]  | Outside a regular enclosure and controlled area off the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. roaming with carpet python at a school fete or market place)* |
| [ ]  | Recording the animal’s image at the regular enclosure site for display to the public? *(e.g. posting images and recorded footage of authorised animals in social media networks)* |
| [ ]  | Recording the animal’s image for the purposes of film and television production? |

Part E - Significant relevant risks and relevant adverse effects

For ***each*** activity proposed in part C complete details below by identifying:

* any significant relevant risks or adverse effects; and
* how you propose to manage these risks associated with the exhibition and dealing of the animal(s) for each of the topics below:
1. Please record details or forward attachments of details for the regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site for the animal and identify the maximum number of each species that will be held within the proposed enclosure *(e.g. plans, photos, diagrams, enclosure specifications).*

**Koalas will be held within the “Koala Corner” regular enclosure that is a purpose built enclosure that meets the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines Exhibited Animals – Koala specifications. The enclosure is cleaned and swept daily. Plans for the proposed Koala Corner enclosure are attached. The standards laid out in the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines Exhibited Animals – General (where applicable) in exhibiting and dealing with the koalas will be followed, as well as . any requirements of the *Exhibited Animals Regulations 2016* such as enclosure identification*.***

**The enclosure is constructed to provide access to shade at any time of the day as seen in the attached plans.**

1. Please record details or forward attachments for all other regular enclosures, other proposed authorised enclosures or controlled areas you will use for the animal and record the maximum number of each species that will be held within the proposed enclosures where relevant *(e.g. travelling enclosures, holding enclosures, controlled areas).*

**Transport of the koalas (for example to the vet) will be in accordance with the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines Exhibited Animals – Koala specifications. Information about other enclosures such as transport enclosures is also in the attached “Koala Procedures Guide”.**

**For public interaction the koalas will be placed on a vertical support kept in the “Koala Encounter” controlled area. When used for interactive programs and photographic opportunities one koala at a time will be transported to the controlled area whilst being held by a keeper. No transport enclosure will be used as this is a short walk from the regular enclosure and would cause unnecessary stress on the koala and can be safely walked to the controlled area within the zoo. During the walk any public members approaching will be advised to follow them to the Koala Experience area for the show and no contact will be permitted.**

1. Identify animal welfare risks and how they will be managed relevant to the exhibition and dealing activities proposed *(e.g. enclosure fixtures, heating, water, diet, enrichment, training and conditioning).*

**Stress related risks associated with being handled and transported and during interactive programs including extremes of temperature, dehydration, sickness and infection. How to mitigate these risks is set out in the attached Koala Procedures Guide.**

**The zoo has access to our own supply of fresh eucalypt browse. Local council has approved access to cut koala fodder in local parks and council owned land in the event of our own supply becoming scarce. Additional trees were planted last year to ensure a longer term supply and longevity of the plantation. Please see “Koala browse collection and plantation maintenance policy” attached.**

**Leaf changes will be completed each day after the leaf cut run and step by step instructions in the Koala browse collection and plantation maintenance policy gives guidance including how to coppice, transport leaves, wash down and store browse and any other detail required for keepers allocated to leaf cut runs. Fodder will be placed into PVC pipes drilled onto vertical supports ensuring that koalas can reach the leaf when sitting in forks or from areas where horizontal supports meet vertical supports. Fresh clean water is available to koalas at all times and changed daily. During hot weather leaf is sprayed down with water on a regular basis throughout the day. Daily monitoring will be undertaken to ensure the health and well-being of our koalas and weights will be recorded at least once per month. Percentage of leaf not consumed and species of leaf not eaten will be monitored and recorded each day in the keeper diary which is reviewed each day by our leaf cutter keeper.**

**The enclosure is securely locked and sits within the perimeter fence of the zoo to prevent theft. Additional cameras are mounted throughout the zoo for security purposes.**

**Koalas will be weighed on a monthly basis as per required health monitoring program. We will seek advice from our local veterinarian regarding any weight loss or health issues of concern. Our local vet has 15 years’ experience with wildlife care, including koala care. For further information please refer to the attached Koala Procedures Guide which is a specific document developed for our keepers and includes instructions on what to do each day with the koalas.**

1. Identify the relevant human safety risks associated with the exhibition and dealing of the animal relevant to the proposed activities (excluding public interaction activities).

**The koalas on exhibit are placid in nature and well-conditioned to being handled. Koalas have the ability to inflict deep scratches making handling a potential safety issue for the interactive program (photo experience) with the public. The “Handling and Public Interaction Guide” attached records all detail which must be adhered to when handling koalas and includes information about how to carry koalas to the Wildlife Encounters controlled area where public interaction takes place and what to say to approaching members of the public. The guide also covers maximum times for use and rest day periods, how to place the koala on the vertical support and other relevant husbandry management requirements for the koalas.**

1. If any of the activities proposed with species involve public interaction, provide detail including any significant relevant risks and how they will be managed.

**We will offer an exclusive interactive program so that visitors can enjoy a positive experience with our koalas prior to the interactive timeslot. The experience will follow the standards as set out in the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines Exhibited Animals – Koala specifications for interactive programs.**

**Please see the attached “Handling and Public Interaction Guide” for further details regarding our procedures for photo opportunities and instructing participants on where to stand and how to pat the koala as well as all other detail relevant to koala handling and interaction.**

1. Identify any other significant animal welfare, biosecurity or safety risks that could be associated with the proposed exhibition and dealings of the animal.

**To prevent wild koalas from accessing the enclosure no trees are within 3m of the enclosure walls. All relevant additional details are covered in the Koala Procedures Guide and other policies attached.**

1. How you will manage reproduction of the animal, including for example arrangements for progeny of the animal if breeding permissions are requested?

**No breeding will occur as our koalas are all female**

1. What are the relevant adverse effects associated with exhibition and dealing of the animal related to the proposed activity(s) and how will they be prevented or minimised? *(e.g. How will the applicant prevent or minimise an event such as escape, theft, animal attack or other for each activity proposed. If an event were to occur how the applicant proposes to prevent or minimise the effects on animal welfare, health, safety or wellbeing of a person or social amenity, the economy and environment.)*

**Koalas are adept arboreal species and will escape from enclosures unless prevented from doing so. If captive koalas escape they are unlikely to survive due to the urban nature of the surroundings and the risk of vehicles, predators (dog attacks), disease and suitable habitat/available feed or nutrition. All koalas are counted every morning and each koala is microchipped. In the event of an escape keepers will search the property until the animal is located and the relevant government department will be contacted as soon as practicable.**

**Part F - Supporting information checklist**

Please indicate in the boxes provided how, if any, the relevant documents have been submitted:

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| **Document** | **Up-to-date documents held by the department**  | **Document attached** | **Information detailed****this management plan** | **Not Applicable** |
| Policies including procedures and guidelines .  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| Pictures, diagrams and plans of proposed regular enclosure. | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |
| Pictures, diagrams and plans of other proposed enclosures and controlled areas.  | [ ]  | [x]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |