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 |  |
| [ ]  | A single species |  |
| [x]  | Animals of a taxonomic grouping (e.g. more than one sub-species). |  |
|  | Please indicate which category. |  |
|  | [x]  A [ ]  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** |
| Woma pythons  | *(Aspidites ramsay)* | 5 | [ ]  | [x]  |
| Blackheaded pythons  | *(Aspidites melanocephalus)* | 5 | [ ]  | [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 |
| [ ]  | Relevant up-to-date experience for the proposed species detailed below: |
|  | Click here to enter text. |

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) |
| [x]  | In a regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site not available for viewing by the public? |
| [ ]  | 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)*** |
| [ ]  | In its regular enclosure at the regular enclosure site? *(e.g. primary enclosure at the zoo)* |
| [ ]  | 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)* |
| [x]  | 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)* |
| [x]  | 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).*

**Enclosures will depend on the size of the snake and only one snake will be housed per enclosure.**

***Types of regular enclosures* will be as follows;**

**Minimum enclosure size for snakes up to 50cm = 30cm (length) x 20cm (deep) x 10cm (high) ventilated clip lock hard plastic containers in locked room (Appendix 3, photo 1).**

**Or a surface area no smaller than 0.6m2**

**Minimum enclosure size for snakes 50cm – 200cm = 120cm (length) x 70cm (deep) x 50cm (high) (Appendix 3, photo 2). All enclosures will be made of fibreglass with a glass front sliding door and key entry locked.**

**Or a surface area no smaller than 0.84m2**

**Minimum enclosure size for snakes over 200cm = 150cm (length) x 100cm (deep) x 50cm (high) (Appendix 3, photo 3). All enclosures will be made of fibreglass with a glass front sliding door and key entry locked.**

**Or a surface area no smaller than 1.5m2**

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).*

**All snakes exhibited outside the regular enclosure site will be exhibited in fully enclosed glass tanks which come with a key entry lock (Appendix 2, photo 4). These tanks are smaller and snakes will only be temporarily housed within during exhibits off the regular enclosure site. Display tanks will have heat mats/cords, a UV light and a bowl of water provided.**

**Enclosures will depend on the size of the snake and only one snake will be housed per enclosure.**

***Other authorised enclosures will be as follows:***

**Minimum enclosure size for snakes 50 – 200cm = 90cm (length) x 40cm (wide) x 40cm (high).**

**Or a surface area no smaller than 0.36m2**

**Minimum enclosure size for snakes over 200cm = 110cm (length) x 60cm (deep) x 40cm (high)**

**Or a surface area no smaller than 0.66m2**

**For transportation snakes will be individually placed in bags (see attached photo) and each bag will be labelled and allocated to a specific snake. Bags are turned inside out and have a strip of material sewn on for tying the bag off to prevent escape. Once the snake is secured within the bag they will then be placed inside individual plastic tubs which are clip locked and have ventilation holes as attached (tool boxes or other materials with conductive metals will not be used for holding snakes). Snakes will be transported in an air-conditioned car and at no point be left in the car unattended. For further detail please refer to the “Travelling for Displays Policy”.**

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).*

***Aspidites* speciesare generally more terrestrial in behaviour rather than arboreal therefore more space at a square metre capacity rather than a cubic metre capacity will be given.**

**A rock to aid in sloughing will be provided within the enclosure as well as a water bowl large enough for the snake to immerse itself in. Snakes will be held individually and a hide box relevant to the snake size will be provided and have an entry/exit hole. The box will be made of wood so there will be no problems with the snake tipping the box over onto the exit hole and becoming trapped. Newspaper will be used as a substrate and spot cleaning/water changes will be done daily with a full enclosure clean and substrate change every week. During weekly enclosure clean outs snakes are placed in their allocated transport travel containers and enclosures are cleaned with F10 solution as well as the dedicated snake cleaning utensils.**

**A UV light will be set on a timer for daylight hours and ceramic heat bulbs (wattage dependant on time of year) will be fixed within the enclosure and connected to a thermostat. Smaller snakes will be provided heat cords and/or heat mats and a water bowl. Temperature range within the enclosure will be between 27 - 35°C with a dual point digital thermometer fixed within the enclosure recording cooler and warmer areas of the enclosure. This species requires higher temperatures however there may be periods during winter where parts of the enclosure may drop to a minimum of 27°C during the coldest part of the night. The majority of the time the various temperature gradients within the median being around 30°C or over. Even though this species may not want to submerse itself in water or require UV lights for the proposed periods of time, they are available if it so desires to assist in providing maximum animal welfare benefits for the snakes.**

**Depending on the individual snake’s size, pinkies, fuzzies weaners or adult rats will be fed.**

**Snakes will be handled frequently when initially purchased to ensure habituation to human handling. Snakes will not be used for handing or display if they are sloughing or within four days of food consumption. Snakes will be weighed and records of weights kept monthly.**

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).

**These snakes not only have the potential to bite members of the public who are interacting with them but also staff members. During routine cleaning, cards (Appendix 2, photo 2) are placed on each regular enclosurewhich advise when the snake last ate, defecated, shed, or whether or not the snake is preparing to shed. If the snake is preparing to shed or if feeding is due staff members know to either not open the enclosure or take extra precautions. Snakes with any of these phases indicated on their card are not used for demonstrations until the relevant phase (shedding, digestion) is completed. Each staff member has allocated keys which access specific enclosures in accordance with their level of experience. For these details please refer to our “Staff Experience and Animal Access Policy”. This minimises the potential for inexperienced staff to be bitten.**

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.

**A health risk associated with reptiles is salmonellosis. Pregnant women, sick or immuno-compromised persons will not be allowed to have contact with the snakes during displays. Signs will be created to advise the public. Verbal advice during the exhibit and signs will advise people to wash their hands before and after handling. Example of our signs during displays are attached (Appendix 2, photo 1) which state “please wash your hands with soap and water as soon as possible but in the meantime please use our hand sanitiser for free”.**

**Snakes also have the potential to inflict a painful bite. Displays will be closely supervised and only well habituated animals will be used. Any snake showing signs of becoming agitated will not be handled and will be placed back into its travel enclosure.We adequately supervise the snakes by holding them whilst instructing people on how to pat them. By having constant control of the animal we can take the opportunity to talk about the species and advise people to wash their hands, ensure the animal is not injured by people (dropped, squeezed) and minimise the potential for escape.**

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

**Due to potential animal welfare risks staff do not deviate from their travel route to or from displays unless it is for a necessary stop such as refuelling at a fuel station. For further details on how the company minimises these associated risks please refer to our “Travelling for Displays Policy”.**

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**

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.)*

**Specieswill be held within a regular enclosure which are all key/ code locked and entry to all enclosures are within a room in the house which has one entry door that is key locked at all times.**

**During display snakes will be held or displayed in an approved key/code locked display tank.**

**In the event of escape it is an Australian species and would not pose a major pest establishment problem. Significant risk would relate to the snake’s welfare and measures to locate the animal would include visits to surrounding neighbours, putting up notices in the street with a picture and contact details.**

**Part F - Supporting information checklist**

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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]  | [ ]  | [ ]  |