

# Commercial Wildlife Harvesting Licence (Macropods)

Information for applicants and licensees, please read carefully.

## General

In this document: **macropod** means kangaroo and **harvester** means the holder of a Commercial Wildlife Harvesting Licence for macropods.

## Licence applications

Application forms must be completed in accordance with the information requested on the form. Ensure all information is correct and legible. Please write on the application form using BLOCK LETTERS.

Licence applications are not accepted by fax.

All applicants applying for a commercial wildlife harvesting licence must be at least 17 years of age, and must have completed the Firearms Competency Certification (Firearms Accuracy Course) and the Commercial Wildlife Harvesting Course, or the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM) compliant TAFE course.

Firearms Competency Certification must be current (within 12 months of the date of application). However, if an applicant was licensed within the previous harvest period, the applicant will not have to renew their Firearms Competency Certification (Firearms Accuracy Course).

All new applicants (never before licensed) must purchase a harvester record return book.

An applicant cannot begin harvesting until the harvest period opens and they have received their licence and tags.

All licences issued are sent by certified mail (receipted delivery) to the address given on the licence application.

## Fees

For current macropod licensing fees please visit <[www.derm.qld.gov.au](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au)> and go to:

Resource centre → Licences, permits and approvals and resource use → Animal licences and permits.

## Properties

Individual properties are not listed on the licence however, this does not give the holder of a licence the right to enter any property for the purpose of taking wildlife without the landholder's consent.

It is a licence condition that harvesters obtain and carry written landholder consent before harvesting.

Landholder consent forms can be obtained from the department. A separate landholder consent form is required for each property harvested and must be carried at all times when operating under the licence and produced to authorised officers when requested to do so. Officers are routinely checking harvesters' return details and harvesting activities with landholders to ensure compliance.

Harvest reporting is at a shire and zone level and recorded in dealer returns. You must ensure that the dealer records the correct shire and zone where macropods were harvested. You still record the harvest property in your harvester return before sale.

If a property has changed ownership, it is the responsibility of the harvester to obtain permission from the new landholder. Landholders have the right to stop harvesting operations and access on their property at any time.

## Licensed premises

Your licence must state the licensed premises and its location. The licensed premises is a place where, for example, you may keep dead macropods prior to sale, and where record/return books are kept when you are not undertaking activities under the licence. Licensed premises must be in Queensland. The licensed premises may be different from your residential address.

An applicant with a residential address in NSW must also supply the department with an address in Queensland that will be the licensed premises for the license. This can not be a PO Box.

All harvesters must advise DERM, in writing, of a change of address. Changes to your address details do not incur a fee.

## Harvesting of macropods

In line with the Wildlife Trade Management Plan for Export–Commercially Harvested Macropods 2008-2012, DERM has committed to regulating the commercial buying and selling of non-head-shot macropods.

From 1 January 2010, management arrangements have made it unlawful to give away, sell, or buy, non-head-shot macropods.

Whilst it has always been necessary to harvest macropods in a humane manner, a new condition has been written on all Macropod Commercial Wildlife Harvesting Licences stating that harvesters must abide by the National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes.

## Tag applications

To harvest macropods, you need a Macropod Commercial Wildlife Harvesting Licence and valid tags however, you do not need to have tags to hold the licence. You may apply for a licence without tags. Once licensed, you may apply for tags at any time during the harvest period and commence harvesting when you receive the tags.

The total quantity of tags issued for the harvest period will not exceed the harvest quota for that species/zone. There are three species open to harvest in three harvest regions (zones) in Queensland. These zones are described in the Harvest Period Notice. It is necessary to regulate tag distribution to ensure the maximum amount of a quota is available to be harvested. It is important to minimise the number of tags issued that may potentially never be used in the harvest.

- Specific tags are issued for each species and zone.
- Tags are colour-specific for each species.
- Tags are available in minimum lots of 50 tags per species/zone.

A harvester's tag allowance is the maximum number of tags which can be ordered for one species and zone (E-Grey CZ for example). This is based on the previous harvest period tag use. Harvesters will fall into one of three tag allowance classifications:

Tag allowance classification	Qualifying harvest (total harvest for previous harvest period)	Tag allowance (Max tags per species/zone combination)
LEVEL I	< 500	150
LEVEL II	500 - 2000	500
LEVEL III	> 2000	1000

New entrants and harvesters whose previous year's tag use was less than 500 will be Level I. From the onset of licensing these harvesters may order up to 150 tags per species/zone combination (this is subject to restrictions applicable to low quota species/zone combinations).

For example, a new entrant might order 150 central zone wallaroo tags, 50 central zone Red tags and 50 central zone E-Grey tags.

Progression to Level II occurs when a harvester demonstrates a harvest of 500 animals during a harvest period. In a similar manner a harvester who demonstrates a harvest of 2000 macropods within a harvest period, progresses immediately to a Level III tag allowance, they may then order up to 1000 tags per species/zone.

A tag allowance will remain valid for the next harvest period but during the following harvest period it may reduce or increase as a result of the harvest effort demonstrated during that year. The effect of a reduction in allowance would not be reflected until the following harvest period.

## Subsequent tag applications

Subsequent tag applications will be conditional upon the premise that at the time of application a harvester may only hold a number of unused tags that is equal to or less than 50 per cent of their tag allowance. This will be assessed via an applicant declaration.

For example: a harvester has a Level I tag allocation of 150 tags. The harvester wishes to order more central zone (CZ) red kangaroo tags; to do so the harvester must not be holding more than 75 Red CZ tags (i.e. half of 150).

In the same manner, a harvester with a Level III tag allowance will need to be holding less than or equal to 500 tags of a species/zone before they are entitled to order more.

For example: a harvester with a Level III allowance has exactly 500 unused Red CZ tags. The harvester is entitled to order no more than 1000 more Red CZ tags. The harvester would then have 1500 Red CZ tags. The harvester would have to use at least 1000 tags before they would be entitled to order more Red CZ tags.

## General tag information

If you are requesting the tags/return books to be sent to an address different to the address printed on the licence, please fill out the appropriate section in the application forms.

If you are requesting that you or another person collect your tags/return books, permission must be written on the tag form or attached to the form.

Tags can be ordered by fax, but you must send the original forms to the Charleville office, with 'faxed' and the date faxed written on the tag form—this is to avoid your application being processed twice. Harvesters should also note:

- Sufficient time should be allowed for processing and postage when applying for tags.
- Tags are issued to specific harvesters and are not transferable.
- Tags must be attached in increasing numerical order by the serial number on each tag.
- Returned tags are not eligible for credit or refund. In addition, if it becomes necessary, the Chief Executive may give a lawful notice directing a person to return unused tags without refund.

## Applicant declaration

The tag application form requests the applicant to provide their tag allowance and the number of unused tags on hand. There is a stop prompt reminder if the number of unused tags is more than 50 per cent of the applicants tag allowance.

There will be planned and random compliance audits on tag applications. Applications will be compared to harvester and dealer returns to ascertain the number of tags on hand at the time of application. Returns that indicate a person has given false information in the tag application will be investigated.

Macropod tags remain the property of the State. More importantly, since 1 January 2010, each macropod tag represents a quota unit— a macropod that may be harvested commercially.

## Return of operations

Harvest returns must be completed and sent to the DERM Charleville office at the end of each month.

A 'nil' return is required even if no macropods were harvested in a particular month. A 'nil' return is the same as the usual harvest return, except that the words NIL RETURN should be written in large letters across the middle of the return page.

Once a return book is issued to a harvester, no other harvester can use that book.

## General Information

Macropod forms and/or information can be downloaded from the DERM website <[www.derm.qld.gov.au](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au)>.

Any loss of licence, return book or tags should be reported to the DERM Charleville office as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding licence applications, please contact the Department of Environment and Resource Management, Charleville office on (07) 4654 4276.

Please note: this document is provided for guidance only. It is not provided in substitution of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*, its regulations or the Nature Conservation (Macropod) Conservation Plan 2005.