



# FAUNA MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE

## MRL-EN-PRO-0001

Revision Number	Issue Date	Prepared By	Approved By	ME Signature
00	8/02/2016	G. Barrett	J. Hesford	<i>J. Hesford</i>
01	23/05/2016	E. Tomich	J. Hesford	<i>J. Hesford</i>

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PURPOSE .....	3
2. SCOPE .....	3
3. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT .....	3
4. DEFINITIONS .....	3
5. RESPONSIBILITIES .....	4
5.1 Site/Project Manager.....	4
5.2 Construction Manager.....	4
5.3 Environmental Advisors / Consultant Zoologists.....	4
5.4 Exploration personnel .....	4
5.5 Workers (including Contractors).....	4
6. PROCEDURE(S) .....	5
6.1 Induction and training.....	5
6.2 General requirements .....	5
6.3 Driving .....	5
6.4 Trenching operations .....	5
6.5 Dams and 'turkey nests' .....	6
6.6 Exploration.....	6
6.7 Threatened fauna.....	6
6.8 Injured animals.....	6
6.9 RECORDS.....	6
7. MONITORING.....	6
8. REFERENCES .....	7

**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this procedure is to provide a framework for the management of native fauna in order to minimise adverse impacts on local populations and individual animals, and to promote compliance with legislative requirements.

**2. SCOPE**

This procedure applies to all Mineral Resources Limited (MRL) companies, its subsidiary company activities and all joint venture operations where MRL has substantial participation and/or management control.

This procedure is to be followed primarily by employees with specific environmental management responsibilities who will carry out the steps required and give advice to others. Some aspects of the procedure have broad application across the site workforce.

Some sites may have particular species present that require tailored management plans additional to this procedure.

**3. LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT**

The following legislation contains or may contain provisions protecting native fauna generally or particular species specifically:

- Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 (WA) (WC Act)
- Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA)
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Commonwealth) (EPBC Act)

**4. DEFINITIONS**

Native fauna	Species occurring locally and recognised as native to the area.
Conservation-significant fauna	Any species which is considered threatened or potentially threatened.
Threatened fauna	Any species published as Specially Protected under the WC Act and listed under Schedules 1 to 4 of the Wildlife Conservation (Specially Protected Fauna) Notice for Threatened Fauna. Also, any species listed under the EPBC Act.
Priority fauna	Potentially threatened fauna for which further survey data is required before listing as Threatened can be considered under the WC Act.
Feral fauna	Any introduced animal occurring in the local area with the potential to impact on local ecosystems through competition with, or direct predation of, native animals.
HDPE	High-density polyethylene.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES

### 5.1 Site/Project Manager

The Manager is responsible for:

- a) Ensuring full compliance with the requirements of this procedure
- b) Ensuring training is provided to personnel handling potentially dangerous animals.
- c) Ensuring the required resources are allocated to fulfil the requirements of this procedure.
- d) Ensuring any statutory reporting of incidents relating to fauna is undertaken.

### 5.2 Construction Manager

The Construction Manager is responsible for:

- a) Ensuring trenching operations are conducted in accordance with this procedure.
- b) Ensuring supervisors are aware of their responsibilities.

### 5.3 Environmental Advisors / Consultant Zoologists

Environmental Advisors and consultant zoologists are responsible for:

- a) Ensuring they obtain and maintain the necessary permits to handle fauna.
- b) Auditing and monitoring compliance with this procedure and with the requirements of any approvals specific to fauna, and report performance to Manager.
- c) Ensuring the content on fauna within the site induction is relevant and up to date
- d) Presenting tool box talks on relevant fauna issues
- e) Providing advice to site managers
- f) Relocating fauna where it is viable to do so.
- g) Managing sick or injured fauna.
- h) Maintaining records of fauna interactions and sightings

### 5.4 Exploration personnel

Exploration personnel are responsible for:

- a) Capping all drill holes after use.
- b) Meeting the general and driving requirements of this procedure.
- c) Reporting sightings of threatened fauna or any injuries or deaths of feral or native fauna.

### 5.5 Workers (including Contractors)

All Workers are responsible for:

- a) Meeting the general and driving requirements of this procedure
- b) Reporting sightings of threatened fauna or any injuries or deaths of feral or native fauna.

## 6. PROCEDURE(S)

### 6.1 Induction and training

- All employees and contractors are required to participate in the site induction which will cover general and site-specific fauna issues, including information about legal obligations to protect fauna and significant species occurring locally.
- Employees and contractors who are nominated to handle fauna - for example, for the removal of snakes from work areas - will require suitable training and permits. In Western Australia, permits for handling fauna are issued under the WC Act.
- Tool box talks will be presented from time to time on topics relevant to fauna present in the local area.

### 6.2 General requirements

- Firearms and pets are prohibited at all sites.
- Native fauna will not be captured or intentionally handled except by personnel or consultants qualified to do so.
- Do not feed or otherwise encourage native or feral animals and ensure foodstuffs are stored and disposed of appropriately to avoid scavenging.
- Manage landfills so that they do not become a food source for animals, especially feral animals.

### 6.3 Driving

- Vehicles are prohibited to leave the designated project area footprint without an approved Site Disturbance Permit.
- All personnel must drive to conditions and adhere to speed limits applied to mine roads and tracks.
- Road kills must be removed from the road to a minimum distance of 10 m into the vegetation to avoid further impacts on fauna, such as birds of prey, feeding on carcasses.

### 6.4 Trenching operations

- Open trenches for laying of pipelines and other services can 'trap' native animals which are often active nocturnally. Small mammals and reptiles falling into trenches at night can die during the following day from exposure or predation.
- Risk factors include the length and depth of open trench and proximity to native vegetation. Long sections (> 500 m) of open trench adjacent to native vegetation are high risk. Short sections of open trench within an already cleared area are low risk.

- Where a risk to native fauna from trenching is identified, develop and implement a plan to manage potential impacts on fauna. Management measures include regular trench inspections and removal of animals, inspections immediately prior to backfill, ramps at either end of the trench and at points along the length of the trench, and deployment of relocatable temporary shelters for small animals.

### **6.5 Dams and 'turkey nests'**

- All HDPE-lined dams must be fenced and have fauna egress matting installed. Fauna which fall or slip into dams lined with HDPE cannot escape due to the slippery surface of the liner. Fauna egress matting provides a gripping surface that animals can use to escape the pond.
- Unlined turkey nest dams should also be fenced.

### **6.6 Exploration**

- Exploration drill holes must be capped immediately with a concrete conical plug once drilling has ceased, to avoid native fauna falling into or becoming trapped down drill holes.

### **6.7 Threatened fauna**

- Maintain compliance with any threatened fauna management plans prepared under site approvals. Incidents relating to threatened species may be required to be reported to government.

### **6.8 Injured animals**

- If an injured animal is encountered on site, it can be sent to a wildlife caring organisation for treatment and recovery. Seek advice from the nearest suitable organisation.
- From time to time, it may be necessary to euthanize an animal that is seriously injured and has no prospect of recovery. As for injured animals, seek advice as to the most suitable option.

### **6.9 RECORDS**

The following records should be maintained:

- Incident reports
- Inspection records
- Fauna Interaction Register
- Licences and permits

## **7. MONITORING**

Monitoring of populations of local fauna may be required as a condition of approval or to manage a risk.

## 8. REFERENCES

---

Department of Mines and Petroleum (WA)	Fauna Egress Matting and Ramps, Environmental Notes on Mining, updated March 2012
MRL-EN-REG-0001	Fauna Interaction Register
MRL-OHM-PRO-0007	Incident Classification and Reporting Procedure
MRL-EN-PRO-0004	Land Clearing Procedure
MRL-EN-WIN-0007	Malleefowl Conservation Work Instruction
MRL-TS-FRM-0001	Training Record Form
MRL-EN-PRO-0011	Waste Management Procedure

---