

## Animal Trapping Recommendations

By using this trap to capture animal(s), you have an obligation to ensure the welfare of trapped animals including the target animal and any other types of animal you may accidentally trap.

- **Choose a place to set the trap** – Choose a quiet, sheltered spot on flat, level ground, away from potential dangers (such as ant nests, spiky plants, predators, cars). If you are setting more than 1 trap make sure they are spaced far enough apart so that trapped animals can't see or hear one another
- **Choose a time to set the trap** – Choose a weekday so help is at hand if you trap an animal. Wait for suitable conditions. Do not set the trap if it is going to be extremely hot (30 °C or more) or cold (less than 15 °C) or if rain or strong winds are expected.
- **Set the trap** – Place food that is appropriate for the target animal (such as oily fish for cats) at the back of the trap. Avoid using any foods that may be dangerous for animals such as meat with bones (choking hazard). Poisonous baits are not allowed.
- **Cover and stabilise the trap** – Place a covering (such as a towel, blanket or hessian sack) over the top of the trap (just leaving the opening end uncovered). Place heavy objects (such as logs or rocks) on the ground around the trap to weigh down the covering and stabilise the trap.
- **Check the trap** – If the trap is open during the day, they should be checked from a distance every two hours. If the trap is open during the night, they should be checked at least last thing at night and first thing in the morning.
- **What to do if you trap a cat** – Call your local Community Ranger. If the cat is injured, call your local veterinarian.
- **What to do if you trap wildlife** – If you accidentally trap wildlife and the animal is unharmed, release it immediately by opening the trap and standing back to allow it to escape. If the wild animal is injured, keep disturbance to a minimum and call the Wildcare Helpline (08) 9474 9055.
- **When the trap is not in use** – When not in use the trap should be closed and kept somewhere where there is no risk of an animal entering it and getting stuck without your knowledge.

For more information:

**Department of Parks and Wildlife** Standard Operating Procedure Cage traps for live capture of terrestrial vertebrates (SOP No. 9.2)

[https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/plants-animals/monitoring/sop/sop09.2\\_cagetraps\\_v1.1.pdf](https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/plants-animals/monitoring/sop/sop09.2_cagetraps_v1.1.pdf)

**RSPCA** Australia Knowledgebase – Information on best practice management of feral cats [http://kb.rspca.org.au/where-can-i-find-information-on-best-practice-management-of-feral-cats\\_578.html](http://kb.rspca.org.au/where-can-i-find-information-on-best-practice-management-of-feral-cats_578.html)