

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Wildlife Veterinary Nurse – Travelling Veterinary Service
Type	Casual
Hours, Days	8.30am-6pm (including public holidays as required)
Location	Travelling Veterinary Service – Warragul
Reporting to	Head of Business and Veterinary Operations
Direct Reports	N/A

Role and Responsibilities

Reporting to Wildlife Victoria’s Head of Business and Veterinary Operations, the Wildlife Veterinary Nurse will respond to wildlife cases as a first responder in field, as well as provide nursing care to wildlife cases across the volunteer wildlife rehabilitator network. The role is a mobile one based out of a fully kitted out 4WD vehicle and involves assisting the duty veterinarian with the assessment, triage and case management across all species of Australian native wildlife. The service also provides veterinary response capabilities and expertise during Statewide emergencies and catastrophic events that affect wildlife, including bushfires, floods, heat-stress events and disease outbreaks. The Travelling Veterinary Service operates 7 days a week, 365 days of the year.

Key responsibilities:

- Assist the duty veterinarian in responding to cases requiring in-field veterinary assessment, as allocated by Wildlife Victoria’s Emergency Response Operators located at Head Office in Abbotsford.
- Assist the duty veterinarian with clinical management of more complex cases involving a variety of native wildlife species in local wildlife shelter visits
- Collaborate professionally with private sector veterinarians and veterinary nurses as well as Zoos Victoria to achieve optimal animal welfare outcomes for patients.
- Work effectively with agencies such as DEECA, GMA, Zoos Victoria and emergency services.
- Comply with all Codes of Practice pertaining to the assessment, treatment and euthanasia (where indicated) for wildlife species.
- Support the maintenance of case notes of all cases seen and report outcomes back to Wildlife Victoria in a timely fashion.
- Support in-field operational safety of x-ray equipment, scheduled drugs, captive bolt device and firearms and any associated record-keeping.
- Assist the duty veterinarian with overall incident management on scene at rescue cases attended including providing direction to rescuers, members of public and other personnel on scene (with the exception of situations where statutory authorities such as Victoria Police or DEECA are acting in an incident control role).
- Assist in cleanliness, including laundry and waste disposal, of the Travelling Vet Service base and vehicles.
- Provide feedback and work constructively with the Wildlife Victoria team to continually refine and improve service delivery, including contributing meaningfully to the development and upkeep of operating documents such as Standard Operating Procedures.
- Participate in major incident response as part of a larger team or teams, which may include

multiagency response.

- Manage administrative duties as directed by the duty veterinarian or Head of Veterinary Operations, including suppliers, inventory, communications, and other agencies as required.
- Manage the cleanliness and supply of all materials and equipment required for clinical and rescue work.
- Other duties as directed from time to time, within the scope of the Travelling Veterinary Service or the broader Wildlife Victoria organisation.

Selection Criteria

Essential:

- Minimum Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing (or equivalent).
- Demonstrated interest in and commitment to wildlife medicine, and connection to the Wildlife Victoria purpose.
- An understanding of animal rescue and practical experience of such highly desirable.
- Ability to support the triage of cases to achieve maximal animal welfare outcomes.
- An engaging, caring, mature personality able to engage with and support Wildlife Victoria's volunteer workforce.
- Capacity for resilience in handling the high incidence of euthanasia required in frontline wildlife medicine.
- Demonstrated ability to effectively understand and manage operational risk in-field.
- Current Victorian Drivers Licence.
- Vaccinated for Q Fever and Rabies/Lyssavirus.

Desirable:

- Established networks into the wildlife sector and government agencies.
- Experience in a first responder role (veterinary or other).

About Wildlife Victoria

Wildlife Victoria is a not-for-profit organisation that has provided the Victorian community with a Wildlife Emergency Response service for over 35 years. The organisation has a small number of paid staff and a large number of volunteers.

Every year thousands of native animals in Victoria become sick, injured, or orphaned, often as a direct result of human activity. If left unassisted, these animals may suffer and die in pain or of starvation. Our Wildlife Emergency Response Service receives notifications from members of the public via our emergency phone and online reporting system. We receive more than 130,000 requests for help a year and assist over 86,000 animals across 450 species. When a member of the public contacts us about a sick, injured, or orphaned animal, our Emergency Response Operators provide advice to help the caller manage the situation appropriately, and when necessary, arrange for a trained volunteer to attend. They also liaise with other organisations to ensure the best possible outcome for the animal.

The rescue service relies on an extensive state-wide network of rescue and transport volunteers, veterinarians who provide pro-bono services for wildlife, and the licenced carers and shelters who accept animals into their care for rehabilitation and release.

We advocate for wildlife whenever their welfare is under threat or compromised. We support efforts by government, community groups and individuals to ameliorate threats to wildlife, particularly those that are caused by humans. Through our education programs and activities, we help wildlife by providing people with the knowledge and skills they need for peaceful and positive co-existence with wildlife, and by facilitating positive community attitudes toward wildlife.