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Contact: Biosecurity SA (08) 8303 9620

## Prohibited Exotic Animal Pets

### Why Control Pets?

Exotic (non-native) pets or display animals kept legally and illegally in Australia are a potential source of new pest animal populations. All exotic reptiles and amphibians currently held in captivity in Australia (legally held in zoos) are potentially an extreme threat to our economy and environment if they were to escape from captivity and establish wild populations. Some exotic snakes that are venomous and large constrictors and pythons present a serious risk to the safety of the public.

If there were no controls over the keeping of potential pest animals, some animals would inevitably escape or be accidentally released and become feral populations.

Many animals such as the rabbit, fox and cane toad have become serious pests after being introduced to Australia. Apart from the cost of the impacts of exotic pests there is also a significant cost to the government and landowners to control wild populations of introduced animals.

Under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2004* (NRM Act) the entry, movement, keeping and sale of all exotic reptiles and amphibians is prohibited without a permit (except Axolotl). Significant penalties exist under the NRM Act for the illegal keeping of prohibited exotic animals. The regulation of prohibited animals is administered by Biosecurity SA.

Please report any illegal activities such as the importation, sale and keeping of prohibited animals by phoning one of the numbers below. By doing so you will help to protect our environment from the impacts of pest animals. The numbers are available 24 hours.

Plant or animal pests	1800 084 881
FISHWATCH	1800 065 522

### Further information

Biosecurity pest plants and animals

[www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/nrm\\_biosecurity](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/nrm_biosecurity)

Prohibited fish list

[www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/aquatic/current\\_and\\_potential\\_pests/aquarium\\_and\\_ornamental\\_fish/prohibited\\_noxious\\_fish\\_list](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecuritysa/aquatic/current_and_potential_pests/aquarium_and_ornamental_fish/prohibited_noxious_fish_list)

### These species are prohibited pets



Common newt (*Triturus vulgaris*)



Red eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)



American corn snake (*Elaphe guttata*)