

FAUNA CONSERVATION REGULATIONS

New regulations controlling the commercial exploitation of kangaroos came into operation on 18th November, last year. All kangaroo carcasses and skins must now have a tag attached before they can be consigned for sale.

A limited number of shooters have each been licensed to take a quota of 4,000 red kangaroos or euros per year. Departmental biologists have recommended these restrictions in order to preserve viable populations of these kangaroos. These restrictions will limit the commercial take of red kangaroos and euros to about 250,000 per year.

In February, licensed shooters were issued with one-third of their tag allocation.

Leaseholders who have considerable trouble with large numbers of red kangaroos and euros causing damage will be issued with a limited number of tags. The only persons who may take these animals are the property owner or a person nominated by him and approved by the Department. It is not necessary for a property owner to obtain permission to shoot red kangaroos or euros (on his property) in those areas of the State where an open season has been declared. However, should they wish to sell skins, they would need to apply for an appropriate number of tags.

There is to be no commercial exploitation of grey kangaroos except in cases where animals must be destroyed because of the amount of damage caused. In these circumstances, the sale of carcasses will be permitted and special tags will be made available.

Tags for red kangaroos and euros are yellow and cost ten cents each. Grey kangaroo skins or carcasses must have white tags attached and these cost twenty cents each.

The tags must be attached in either of the two positions indicated at point A in the sketch. They have ridges which pass through a clip and lock into place. Unless it is cut the tag cannot be



The new kangaroo tag.

removed from the carcass. The only persons permitted to cut the tag from the skin are tannery operators and Departmental wardens.

Other restrictions relating to the kangaroo industry include:—

- All chillers must be licensed.
- Licenses have been introduced for pet meat processors.
- Skin dealers must take out licenses.
- A comprehensive system of returns has been introduced.

OTHER REGULATIONS

Other regulations provide for the control, by license, of the following activities:—

- The destruction of dangerous fauna.
- Taking protected fauna causing damage to property.
- Taking avian fauna for sale.
- Keeping fauna in captivity.
- Dealing in avian fauna.
- Farming fauna for sale and keeping fauna for commercial display.
- Taking and keeping fauna for educational purposes.
- Taking fauna for scientific studies.
- Exporting fauna.
- Importing Australian and exotic fauna.
- Taking game (ducks and quail).
- Marking or banding fauna for research purposes.

Regulations relating to the keeping of fauna in captivity have been expanded and include the following provisions:—

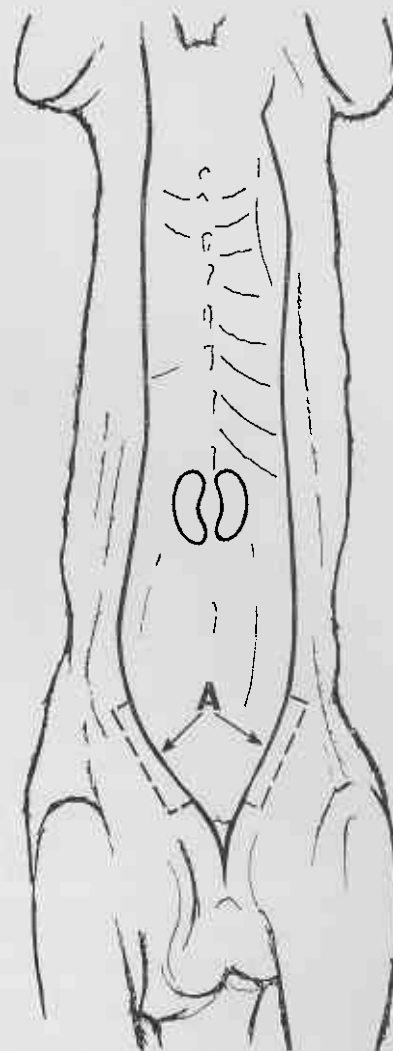
- Any person who has 10 or more unprotected birds or any protected bird in captivity must be the holder of the appropriate license.
- Birds' wings must not be clipped or pinioned except with permission of the Chief Warden of Fauna.
- Detailed specifications for the keeping of caged birds in captivity.

Under certain circumstances, special permission will be granted to persons wishing to keep waterfowl in captivity.

The regulations relating to Honorary Wardens are reproduced in full below:—

Regulation 41. (1) An honorary warden may—

- (a) take possession and control of any fauna which the honorary warden believes, on reasonable grounds, to have been involved in the commission of an offence and deliver the fauna to a member of the Police Force or to any person appointed in writing by the Minister for the purpose to be dealt with according to law, or if the fauna is alive, he may release the fauna in a suitable place in the wild;



- (b) take possession and control of any weapon, instrument, illegal device or other thing or means which the honorary warden believes, on reasonable grounds, has been used, is being used, or is about to be used, by a person in the commission of an offence, and deliver it as soon as is reasonably possible into the custody of a member of the Police Force to be dealt with according to law.

(2) When an honorary warden suspects, on reasonable grounds, that a person is committing or has committed an offence against the Act or these regulations, he may require the person to give him the person's name and address.

(3) An honorary warden may require any person to produce any license issued to him under these regulations.

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- (4) A person shall not—
- (a) refuse to produce any license issued to him pursuant to the provisions of the Act or these regulations when required to do so by an honorary warden;
 - (b) refuse to state his name and address when lawfully required to do so by an honorary warden;
 - (c) state a false name or address to any honorary warden when lawfully required by an honorary warden to give his name and address;
 - (d) use abusive language to an honorary warden; or
 - (e) wilfully mislead, hinder, assault, resist or obstruct, incite or encourage any other person to mislead, hinder, assault, resist or obstruct, any person in any particular way likely to affect the discharge of that person's duty pursuant to the provisions of the Act or these regulations.

A number of other regulations were introduced relating to the control of sanctuaries, illegal means and devices, prohibited imports, game species, marking of fauna, releasing animals and the inspection of premises by Departmental Wardens.

Honorary Wardens or other interested persons should contact the Department for further information on the new fauna regulations.