

Rescue and Immediate Care Course Practical Assessment Booklet

Please return to WIRES Head Office

Student Name: _____

Workshop Location: _____

Workshop Session	Competency Achieved (Y/N)	Trainer Comments
Bird Identification		
Examination & Immediate First Aid		
Capture, Restraint & Transport		
Outcome Achieved		(group leader signature)

Workshop Trainer Signature: _____ Date: _____

HEAD OFFICE USE ONLY	
Signature	
Date Received	



WILDLIFE
INFORMATION
RESCUE AND
EDUCATION
SERVICE

Bird Identification Session

Instructions

Select a bird that you recognise and use one of the field guides provided to practice identifying the species. You can practice on a variety of birds if available.

Once you have become familiar with using a field guide, select a bird that you do not recognise and use the field guide and your knowledge from the online theory component to identify the species and to complete the following questions.

Please write your answers in the spaces provided below.

Identify the name of the species you have selected	Common Name:
	Scientific (Latin) Name:
What is the age of the animal? ie. chick, juvenile, adult	
What is the bird's distribution?	
What does the bird weigh?	
Is the bird within a healthy weight range for its species? <i>Hint:</i> refer to your RICC manual	
What would this bird eat in the wild?	
What would this bird be fed in captivity? <i>Hint:</i> refer to your RICC manual	



Examination & Immediate First Aid Session

Instructions

Your group leader will explain the process of conducting an examination on a rescued bird. Follow these instructions, and the instructions in the information sheets provided, to assist you in examining one of the bird bodies on the table and answering the following questions.

Ensure to complete the examination check list on the next page as you work your way through the examination. Please write your answers in the spaces provided.

What is the species being examined?	
What environment will it be placed in before you examine it?	
What are your initial observations of the bird (without picking it up)?	
How do you intend to minimise stress for the bird during the examination?	
	Begin to conduct the physical examination. Use the checklist on the next few pages to help you.
What, if any, injuries, illness or disease have you identified?	
Is the probable cause of the injuries/illness known? If yes, specify.	
What immediate first aid is required?	
Where will you transport this animal for assessment/treatment of its injuries?	
Who will you contact within WIRES to report the rescue and discuss the outcome?	



EXAMINATION CHECKLIST	Yes	No	Observation Notes
HEAD			
Is there any swelling and/or blood present?			
Are the eyes clear and responsive?			
Is the mouth pale?			
Are there any signs of blood, obstruction, infection or parasites in the mouth?			
BODY			
Is the keel bone sharp or protruding?			
Are there any obvious wounds?			
Are there any missing or matted feathers?			
Does the bird feel warm to your touch?			
WINGS			
Are the wings symmetrical, or is one wing drooping lower than the other?			
Does the bird pull the wing back into place when you extend it out to examine?			
Can you feel any heat, fractures or breaks?			
Are there any missing, damaged or matted feathers?			



LEGS			
Are the feet clenched or showing signs of injury?			
Can the bird support its own body weight and/or grasp properly?			
Can you feel any broken bones, heat or swelling?			
TAIL			
Are there faeces or dirt present around the cloaca?			
Does the tail feel unusually loose, indicating a possible fracture of the tailbone or pelvis?			

IMPORTANT: Physical examinations of live animals should ideally be conducted by a veterinarian and/or experienced rehabilitator wherever possible, until such time that new rescuers gain experience in this area.

Remember, a physical examination of a live animal should only be conducted if there were no obvious injuries, illnesses or diseases present during the observational assessment and rescue. Any indication of injuries, illness or disease found during a physical examination will require the physical examination to be ceased immediately, with vet treatment sought without further delay.



Capture, Restraint & Transport Session

Instructions

Your group leader will show you some rescue equipment commonly used to successfully conduct rescues. You will be issued with two different scenarios of either a bird rescue, reptile rescue or possum rescue.

Using the information sheets available to you, your RICC manual and the knowledge you have obtained from the online component of this course, answer the following questions for each of the scenarios you have been assigned. Please write your answers in the spaces provided below, using a separate table for each assigned scenario.

ASSIGNED SCENARIO 1.	
Please provide details of your rescue scenario here.	
What type of rescue equipment is required, including the type of transport/rescue container?	
What are the WHS risks associated with the rescue location?	
What are the WHS risks associated with handling the species?	
Which PPE (personal protective equipment) items are required to conduct the rescue?	
What would you be looking for in your initial observations of the animal?	
Explain how you would physically handle this animal during capture.	
If the animal is severely ill or injured, where will you transport it to?	
Who will you report this rescue to?	



ASSIGNED SCENARIO 2.

Please provide details of your rescue scenario here.	
What type of rescue equipment is required, including the type of transport/rescue container?	
What are the WHS risks associated with the rescue location?	
What are the WHS risks associated with handling the species?	
Which PPE (personal protective equipment) items are required to conduct the rescue?	
What would you be looking for in your initial observations of the animal?	
Explain how you would physically handle this animal during capture.	
If the animal is severely ill or injured, where will you transport it to?	
Who will you report this rescue to?	

NOTE: you will be required to demonstrate one of these assigned scenarios in a simulated rescue scenario, to be selected by a trainer.

