

Version
as at 1 March 1950

Wildlife Act 1950

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Commencement	see section 2

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Note

Section 35 provides information of repeals included in this Act.

This Act is administered by the Wildlife Conservation Agency

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An Act to provide for the protection, management, conservation, and sustainable use of wildlife and wildlife habitats in Square Country and for the establishment of the Wildlife Conservation Agency.

1 Short Title

- (1) This Act may be cited as the *Wildlife Act 1950*.

2 Commencement

- (2) This Act shall come into force on the first day of March 1950.

3 Purpose

The purposes of this Act are:

- (a) to conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitats;
- (b) to establish the Wildlife Conservation Agency as the national authority for wildlife management;
- (c) to regulate the taking, use, and management of wildlife;
- (d) to provide for scientific research, education, and public awareness on wildlife;
- (e) to ensure sustainable use of wildlife for present and future generations.

4 Interpretation

In this Act, unless the context requires otherwise:

“**wildlife**” means any indigenous or naturalised species of animal, bird, fish, amphibian, reptile, or other living organism, whether free-living or semi-captive.

“**protected species**” means any species listed in Schedule 1;

“**game species**” means any species listed in Schedule 2;

“**invasive species**” means any species listed in Schedule 3;

“**habitat**” means any natural or modified environment essential to the survival of wildlife, including forests, wetlands, rivers, lakes, estuaries, grasslands, and marine environments.

“**Agency**” means the Wildlife Conservation agency established under this Act;

“**Director**” means the Director of the Wildlife Conservation Agency;

“**license**” means a written permit issued under this Act or by the Agency;

“**sanctuary**” means any area declared under Part 5 of this Act for the protection of wildlife;

“**take**” includes hunting, capturing, killing, injuring, disturbing, removing, or otherwise affecting wildlife or their eggs, nests, or habitats;

“**authorised officer**” means any person appointed by the Agency to enforce this Act;

5 Act binds the Crown

This Act binds the Crown of Square Country

Part 1

Wildlife Conservation Agency

6 Establishment of the Agency

- (1) There is hereby established a body corporate to be known as the *Wildlife Conservation Agency* (hereafter called the Agency).
- (2) The Agency shall have perpetual succession and a common seal and may enter into contracts, acquire and dispose of property, and sue or be sued in its own name.

7 Objects and functions of the Agency

The objects of the Agency are to:

- (a) protect, conserve, and manage wildlife and their habitats;
- (b) enforce the provisions of this Act and any regulations made thereunder;
- (c) establish and manage wildlife sanctuaries, reserves, and corridors;
- (d) facilitate scientific research, education, and public awareness programs;
- (e) manage sustainable hunting, game management, and licenses;
- (f) control invasive species and restore habitats;
- (g) advise the Minister on wildlife policies, strategies, and international agreements;
- (h) promote community participation and indigenous involvement in wildlife management.

8 Director of the Agency

- (1) The Minister shall appoint a Director of the Agency.
- (2) The Director shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the Agency.
- (3) The Director may delegate powers to authorised officers and other employees of the Agency.

9 Governance and Advisory Board

- (1) There shall be an Advisory Board for the Agency consisting of:
 - (a) experts in ecology, wildlife biology, and conservation science;
 - (b) representatives of indigenous communities;
 - (c) representatives of conservation NGOs;
 - (d) Government officials from relevant ministries.
- (2) The Board shall advise the Director and Minister on strategic decisions, priorities, and policies of the Agency.

10 Powers of the Agency

The Agency shall have the power to:

- (a) issue licenses, permits, and exemptions under this Act;
- (b) declare sanctuaries, reserves, and critical habitats;
- (c) conduct inspections, investigations, and enforcement activities;
- (d) undertake wildlife monitoring, research, and restoration programs;

- (e) enter into contracts, agreements, and partnerships with national and international organisations;
- (f) recommend species protection status and propose changes to Schedules;
- (g) undertake public education, training, and community engagement programs.

Part 2

Protection of Wildlife

11 Protected species

- (1) No person shall take, kill, injure, capture, or disturb a protected species except under a license or permit issued by the Agency.
- (2) The Agency shall maintain a current list of protected species and may propose additions or removals to the Minister.

12 Habitats and nesting sites

- (1) The Agency may identify critical habitats and nesting sites and impose restrictions to prevent harm.
- (2) Any person who destroys, damages, or interferes with such habitats commits an offence.

13 Endangered and threatened species

- (1) The Agency shall maintain lists of endangered, vulnerable, and threatened species.
- (2) The Agency may develop and implement recovery programs, including captive breeding, reintroduction, predator control, and habitat restoration.

14 Migratory species

- (1) The Agency shall enforce protection of migratory species in accordance with international agreements.
- (2) Unauthorised taking or disturbance of migratory species is strictly prohibited.

Part 3

Hunting, Game, and Licenses

15 Regulation of game species

- (1) The Agency may regulate hunting of game species, including seasons, quotas, and methods.
- (2) Hunting or taking of game species is permitted only under a license issued by the Agency.

16 Licenses and permits

- (1) The Agency may issue licenses for:
 - (a) hunting and taking of game species;
 - (b) scientific research;
 - (c) culling of invasive species;
 - (d) educational or cultural purposes.

- (2) The Agency may impose conditions, limitations, and reporting requirements for all licenses.

17 Prohibited methods

The following methods of taking wildlife are prohibited unless specifically authorised:

- (a) use of explosives or poisons;
- (b) hunting from aircraft or vehicles;
- (c) hunting at night with artificial lights;
- (d) any method deemed cruel, unsustainable, or inconsistent with conservation objectives.

18 Sale and trade of wildlife

- (1) No person shall trade in protected species without Agency authorisation.
- (2) Trade in game species is subject to sustainability, quotas, and reporting requirements.

Part 4
Sanctuaries, Reserves, and Corridors

19 Declaration of sanctuaries

The Agency may declare areas as wildlife sanctuaries to protect species or habitats, by notice in the Gazette.

20 Regulation within sanctuaries

- (1) Entry may be restricted or prohibited.
- (2) Taking or disturbing wildlife is prohibited unless authorised by the Agency.

21 Wildlife reserves

The Agency may establish wildlife reserves for conservation, research or public education. Reserves shall have managements plans specifying access, permitted activities, and conservation objectives.

22 Wildlife corridors

The Agency may establish corridors to connect fragmented habitats, supporting species migration, genetic diversity, and ecosystem resilience.

Part 5
Invasive Species and Habitat Management

23 Invasive species control

- (1) The Agency may identify and control invasive species through approved methods.
- (2) Individuals or organisations may participate in removal programs under Agency supervision.

24 Habitat restoration

The Agency may restore and rehabilitate degraded habitats through:

- (a) reforestation;
- (b) wetland restoration;
- (c) pollution mitigation;
- (d) removal of barriers to wildlife movement.

Part 6
Research, Monitoring, and Education

25 Research permits

Scientific research involving wildlife requires a permit issued by the Agency.
Conditions may include ethical treatment, minimal disturbance, and reporting obligations.

26 Captive breeding programs

- (1) The Agency may establish captive breeding programs to conserve endangered species.
- (2) Reintroduction into the wild must follow an Agency-approved plan.

27 Monitoring and data collection

The Agency shall monitor wildlife populations and habitats and maintain databases for management, reporting, and policy purposes.

28 Public education and awareness

The Agency shall conduct educational programs, promote public participation, and facilitate community stewardship of wildlife.

Part 7
Offences, Enforcement, and Penalties

29 Offences

It is an offence to:

- (a) take, injure, kill, or disturb protected wildlife without authorisation;
- (b) destroy, or interfere with habitats, nests, or breeding sites;
- (c) violate license or permit conditions;
- (d) use prohibited methods;
- (e) trade in protected species illegally.

30 Penalties

- (1) Individuals: fines up to £25,000 and/or imprisonment up to 5 years.
- (2) Corporations: fines up to £125,000; directors may also be held personally liable.

31 Powers of authorised officers

Authorised officers may:

- (a) enter land, premises, or vehicles to ensure compliance;
- (b) seize wildlife, equipment, and documents;
- (c) issue infringement notices;
- (d) arrest persons suspected of committing offences.

Part 8
International Cooperation

32 International agreements

The Agency shall ensure compliance with international treaties and conventions regarding migratory, endangered, or transboundary species.

33 Collaboration

The Agency may collaborate with foreign governments, NGOs, and scientific organisations for conservation, research, and management initiatives.

34 Community engagement

The Agency shall encourage citizen science, volunteer programs, and public reporting of illegal activities.

Part 9
Miscellaneous

35 Repeals and savings

- (1) Any previous legislation inconsistent with this Act is repealed.
- (2) Rights or permits granted under previous legislation shall continue until reviewed under this Act.

SCHEDULE 1—Protected Species
(Section 11)

1 Protected Species

Protected Species in Square Country are:

- (a) Square Falcon (*Falco quadratus*);
- (b) Emerald Woodpecker (*Picus viridans*);
- (c) River Otter (*Lutra fluviatilis*);
- (d) Square Country Trout (*Salmo quadrensis*);
- (e) Mountain Hare (*Lepus montanus*);
- (f) Golden Leaf Frog (*Rana aurifolia*);
- (g) Silverback Tortoise (*Testudo argentea*);
- (h) Coastal Kingfisher (*Alcedo maritima*).

SCHEDULE 2—Game Species

1 Game Species

- (a) Grey Deer (*Cervus quadratus*);
- (b) Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*);
- (c) Pheasant (*Phasianus quadratus*);
- (d) Mallard Duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*);
- (e) Mountain Quail (*Oreortyx montanus*);
- (f) Snipe (*Gallinago quadrensis*).

SCHEDULE 3—Invasive Species

1 Invasive Species

- (a) Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*);
- (b) European Rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*);
- (c) Feral Cat (*Felis catus*);
- (d) Water Hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*).