

# Monthly newsletter



December 2013

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## Notices and news

### New(ish) Challenges For Researchers Striving For Conservation Outcomes

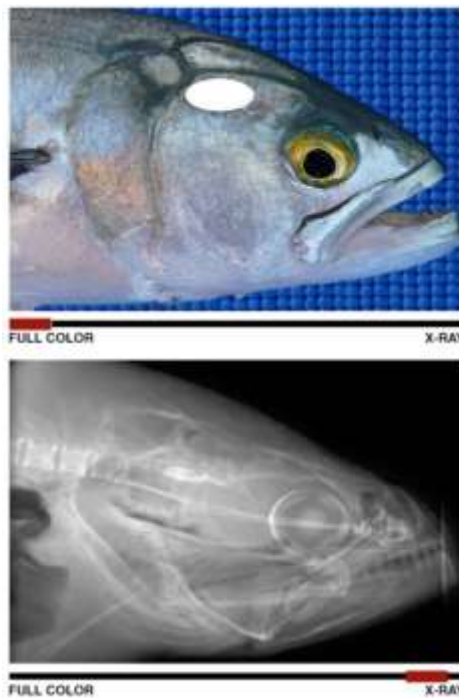
Please click the following links: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/paper/WR12014> and <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S000632071200239X> for 2 interesting articles that detail some issues that face conservation biologists in their quest for wildlife and habitat protection. Both articles have reference for researchers and welfare advocates alike. Recommendations for researchers to adopt open and public discussions on the need to employ inherently invasive research techniques to be able to progress conservation outcomes are well founded as means to facilitate continued basic research.

### An interesting read – The recently published Decision To Refuse an Application for Accreditation Affirmed in the NSW Adminstration Decisions Tribunal

Earlier this year, a NSW government decision to refuse an application for accreditation as an animal research establishment and a licence to supply guinea pigs for use in connection with research has been affirmed in the NSW Administrative Decisions Tribunal. The recently published decision highlights a number of issues that also confront Animal Ethics Committees (AEC) on a regular basis and offers a very clear and concise summary of the kind of strategic review each AEC would go through during their deliberations. For the Tribunal's Reasons for Decision, please click <http://www.caselaw.nsw.gov.au/action/PJUDG?jgmid=167664>.

## Attention Anglers – both research and recreational!

Having recently witnessed IKIJIME performed by trained and experienced research anglers, the welfare benefits of this field procedure cannot be understated. But, the various shapes and sizes of fish (and consequently their skull and brain position) can often be the limiting factor in the delivery of an effective, welfare orientated euthanasia technique.



With funding assistance from the Australian Federal Government, there is now a new app available – the “Ikijime Tool” (available for both iPhone and Android devices). With pictures and corresponding x-rays of the brain location of over 80 species of the Australian/NZ/Pacific region, the app provides the user with the ability to remove the guesswork in delivery of humane euthanasia.

The apps are available by searching the usual app stores.

## Tips and Hints for your applications

### Online Applications

The online forms are now very real entity and will soon be relevant for all researchers working with animals. Likewise, the work-flow imbedded within and the procedures surrounding the operation of the forms have become a reality for Research Office staff and the Animal Ethics Committee. This culminates in a very busy period of refinement at both ends of the form. Your patience is appreciated at this time. We look forward to working together with all of the stakeholders of the forms to ultimately deliver a valuable tool facilitating research at MQ.

### Protocol Titles

Please include both the common and scientific name of the animals relevant to your research.

## Important AEC Information

### Carprofen Dosing

The AEC discussed the frequency of administration at the meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013. Because there is some variation within the literature regarding the recommended frequency of administration, the Committee deliberated with the aim of delivering a consistent recommendation across researchers. It was decided that for procedures that are likely to be painful, animals are to receive Carprofen every 12 hours. This should be administered for a minimum of 24 hours and subsequently as required (dependent on the nature of intervention and following an assessment of the animal's pain).

## Training opportunities this month

Please contact the AWO for any training requirements.

**NEW RESEARCHERS:** The Christmas/New Year Break is a great opportunity to allocate some time to refine those newly acquired animal handling skills.

New Researcher training has been incorporated into the CAF Induction process. The format of this training will be refined in the New Year to ultimately deliver the best possible service to new researchers or any researcher looking to refresh their skills.

## Animal Ethics Calendar

### Next Application submission deadline date 2014

Monday 28 January 2014

### Next Animal Ethics Committee Meeting date 2014

Thursday 20 February 2014 (First AEC meeting of the year)

### Next Working With Research Animals Workshop

Thursday 27 February 2014

## Animal Ethics Committee Meeting dates 2014

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS*	MEETING DATE
<i>Tuesday 28 January 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 20 February 2014</i></b>
<i>Friday 28 February 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 20 March 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 31 March 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 17 April 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 28 April 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 15 May 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 26 May 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 19 June 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 30 June 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 17 July 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 28 July 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 14 August 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 25 August 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 18 September 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 29 September 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 16 October 2014</i></b>
<i>Monday 24 November 2014</i>	<b><i>Thursday 11 December 2014</i></b>

## Contributions

If you would like to contribute to the Animal Ethics monthly newsletter, kindly email that content for the next month's newsletter.

Should you have any queries regarding your research, please do not hesitate to contact me:

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***Alternatively, for more information about AEC policies, procedures, forms and ethical clearance requirements, please go to our webpage at [http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how\\_to\\_obtain\\_ethics\\_approval/animal\\_ethics](http://www.research.mq.edu.au/for/researchers/how_to_obtain_ethics_approval/animal_ethics)***