**ANNUAL ANIMAL USE REPORT FOR 2023**

All research involving the use of animals must comply with the *Animal Welfare Act 2002* (WA)and the requirements of the *Australian code for the care and use of animals for scientific purposes* (8th edition, 2013). ‘The Code’ (clause 2.4.34) - Investigators must provide the following to the AEC in accordance with AEC and institutional policies and procedures:

*(i) an annual report for an approved project, regardless of the duration of AEC approval for the project*

*(iii) a final report on outcomes as soon as practicable after completion or discontinuation of a project*

**THIS REPORT COVERS THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 - 31 DECEMBER 2023**

If no animal work was performed during the year, you must submit this report as a ‘Nil’ return.

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| 1. **PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR DETAILS** | | | | | |
| **Name:** | | | | **Organisation:** | |
|  | | | |  | |
| **Email:** |  | **Phone:** |  | **Mobile:** |  |

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| 1. **PROJECT DETAILS** | | |
| **AEC Project Number:** | **Approved Start Date:** | **Approved Finish Date:** |
| **Actual Start Date:** | **Actual Finish Date:** |
| **Project Title:** | | |
| **Location(s):** | | |

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| 1. **PROJECT STATUS –** *(Continuing, Completed or Expired)* *Indicate one box only X* | | |
| The project is continuing in 2023 under this AEC approval project number. | **Continuing** |  |
| The project has been completed, expired, or terminated\*. AEC approval is no longer required, and the file is to be closed. | **Completed** |  |
| ***\*If the project is completed or expired,*** *Section 8.* ***FINAL REPORT*** *must be completed.* | | |

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| 1. **NIL RETURN -** *Indicate one box only X* | | |
| Is this a **NIL** return, i.e., no animal work performed during 2023? | **Yes** [] | **No** [] |
| *If* ***no****,* please continue to complete the remaining sections of the report. | | |
| If ***yes,*** please explain (here) why no animals were used in 2023 and go to section 10. If the project has ended, also complete section 8. | | |
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| 1. **ANIMALS APPROVED and USED - List all animals approved by the AEC for this project** *(one row per animal species)* **and indicate the number actually used in 2023.** | | | |
| ***Note: Animals must be counted in each project and must be counted each calendar year they are in a project.*** | | | |
| **Animal Species**  **(Include non-targets)** | **Total animal number approved for the entire project** | **Total number approved for 2023** | **Number of animals actually used during 2023** |
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| **If the number of animals exceeded the number approved by the AEC, please explain why.** | | | |
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| 1. **MORTALITIES** – *actual deaths during the reporting period.* | | | |
| **Animal Species**  (Include non-targets) | **Planned deaths** – humanely killed or died as per AEC project approval. | **Unplanned deaths** – euthanasia or found dead. | Did unplanned deaths exceed the critical limit? |
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| **7. PROGRESS REPORT** *for the reporting period 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023* |
| **7.1 What progress has been achieved during the reporting period?**  *Provide a brief progress report and describe if/ how the project is meeting its aims (approx. 1-2 paragraphs). Please use PLAIN ENGLISH. (If technical jargon is unavoidable, please add a brief description).* |
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| **7.2 Was the wellbeing and fate of the animals consistent with the approved application?**  **Yes** [] **No** []  *Please provide a brief report regarding the welfare of animals used during 2023. Were there any unexpected adverse events? What steps have you considered to improve animal welfare? Could the results obtained during the reporting period, help replace animals, reduce the number of animals used or refine procedures?* |
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| **7.3 Did any other problems occur which have interfered with progress?** **Yes** [] **No** []  *If* ***yes,*** *please describe the circumstances below. What steps have been taken to address the issue?* |
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| 7.4 Are you planning to make any changes to the project? Yes [ ] No [ ]  e.g., increase animal numbers, make changes to methodology, staff or location.  If **yes**, you will need to submit an **Amendment Request** to the Animal Ethics Office before making any changes. |

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| **8. FINAL REPORT – END OF PROJECT**  *Please complete this section if the project has been completed or expired in 2023. The information provided should include the entire project and not just the 2023 reporting period.* |
| **8.1** Describe the research outcomes of this project with reference to the original aims (i.e., summarise the key results and conclusions and provide details of any publications arising from this project). |
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| **8.2** Please provide an assessment of the project in relation to the ethical use of animals (i.e., justification of the number of animals used, the appropriateness of the animal species selected and the wellbeing and fate of animals at end of the project.) |
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| **8.3** How can the procedures or experiments used in this project be refined in future projects to reduce animal usage and/or improve animal welfare? |
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| **9. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE** |
| The project has been carried out in compliance with the Code and AEC approval during 2023.  **Yes** [] **No** []  If **no**, please describe. |
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| **10. DECLARATION** |
| **I declare that the information contained in this report is true and correct**  **NAME: SIGNATURE: DATE:** |

**Submission –** Please email this form to the [AnimalEthicsOffice@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:AnimalEthicsOffice@dpird.wa.gov.au)

before Monday 22 January 2024.