

# Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria

March 2016

We investigate reports of sick & dead wildlife from free ranging populations in Victoria to understand baseline wildlife health & detect changes. This is important because wildlife health can affect biodiversity conservation & ecosystem health, biosecurity, & the health of domestic animals & people. (One Health)

**Please contact us to report sick and dead wildlife from free ranging populations of endemic mammals birds reptiles and amphibians in Victoria.**

**Pam Whiteley** BVSc MS MANZCVS (Medicine of Australian Wildlife & Epidemiology) BTeach ACCM  
**0400 119 301** [pamw@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:pamw@unimelb.edu.au)

**Sudden death in Eastern Grey Kangaroos occurred in February. This is unusual. Please report cases to us.**

**Ringtail possums with skin ulcers can have *Mycobacterium ulcerans* (Bairnsdale ulcer) infections. These can occur in Melbourne including the Bellarine and Mornington peninsulas, and the bacteria can cause skin ulcers in people. Please contact Pam to discuss suspect wildlife cases.**



**Please monitor wetlands especially for sick or dead waterbirds. Observe leg, wing and neck strength as birds with avian botulism have weak legs, then can't fly or hold up their heads. We want to examine birds to make a diagnosis as Avian Cholera or TB, algal or other toxin could also occur.**



**Please report dead parrots, cockatoos and lorikeets so we can investigate them and test for Psittacine Beak and Feather Disease circovirus and *Chlamydia psittaci* (psittacosis).**



**Please report wildlife morbidity and mortality to Pam Whiteley 0400 119 301  
[pamw@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:pamw@unimelb.edu.au) If Pam not available Dave Hobbs 80012562 Histopath 97312000**

**Samples can be transported overnight to Werribee for testing.**

**Wildlife Health Surveillance Victoria, Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences  
The University of Melbourne. 250 Princes Highway, Werribee, 3030**

Donations into this project are tax deductible. Please contact Pam.

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