## **Rescue & Triage Quick Guide**

for wildlife rescuers and transporters



## RESCUE

Ensure rescue is undertaken efficiently – the shorter the rescue time the better.



DISTANCE EXAMINATION

Initial assessment at rescue.

ASSESS: Demeanour, body condition, breathing, mobility and obvious injuries and abnormalities.



Organise transport based on initial assessment and category below.

Category 1	Category 2	Category 3
Requires IMMEDIATE veterinary	Requires PROMPT veterinary	Seek veterinary attention as
attention.	attention.	
		soon as practical.
Transport to vet without delay Do not provide food/water	Transport to vet within 6-12	Seek advice from a Species
Do not provide food/water	hours	Coordinator or Mentor.
Severe trauma and/or shock	Minor trauma and/or shock	Mild/chronic disease
$\Rightarrow$ Extreme pain/distress	$\Rightarrow$ Minor bruising/swelling	$\Rightarrow$ Malnourished
$\Rightarrow$ Respiratory distress	$\Rightarrow$ Minor abrasions	$\Rightarrow$ Parasite overburden
$\Rightarrow$ Significant blood loss/bruising	Moderate disease	$\Rightarrow$ Mild skin conditions
$\Rightarrow$ Head trauma/seizures	Mild dehydration	No obvious signs or likelihood of
$\Rightarrow$ Open or multiple fractures	Mild or chronic entanglement	moderate/severe pain
$\Rightarrow$ Full/partial paralysis	injuries	No obvious discomfort or distress
$\Rightarrow$ Limb(s) missing or dragging	Mild Lorikeet Paralysis Syndrome	No clear indication for urgent vet
$\Rightarrow$ Eye trauma		care
$\Rightarrow$ Evisceration (disembowelment)		
$\Rightarrow$ Unconscious (or history of)	Animals in this category should bright,	Animals in this category should be
$\Rightarrow$ Cloacal prolapse	alert and able to stand/perch.	bright, alert and able to stand/perch.
$\Rightarrow$ Electrocution/Burns	Provide gentle warmth if required.	Provide gentle warmth if required.
	Frovide gentie warmin ir required.	Fiovide gentie warmin it required.
Domestic animal attacks	Do not offer food/water without	Seek advice from a Species
Suspected poisoning	advice from a vet or Species	Coordinator for short-term care
Moderate dehydration	Coordinator.	including heat, food and water.
Acute fishing tackle &	Coordinatori	
entanglement injuries		
Moderate-severe Lorikeet	Monitor carefully.	Monitor carefully.
Paralysis Syndrome		-
Hypothermia	If deteriorating, move to	If deteriorating, move to
Heat stress	Category 1.	Category 2 or 1.
Myopathy	<b>,</b>	
Possible causes:	Possible causes:	Possible causes:
		rossible causes.
Vehicle strike	• Trauma	• Disease (e.g. dermatitis, Psittacine
<ul> <li>Dog/cat attack</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mild entanglement</li> </ul>	Beak & Feather Disease, chlamydia)
<ul> <li>Tree fall</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Suspected dog/cat attack</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Mild trauma</li> </ul>
Near drowning	<ul> <li>Disease (e.g. dermatitis, Psittacine</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chronic health issues</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Other trauma</li> </ul>	Beak & Feather Disease,	<ul> <li>Healthy orphans</li> </ul>
Severe entanglement	chlamydia).	
<ul> <li>Rodenticide poisoning</li> </ul>		

**Transport times:** The recommended transport times for veterinary treatment are based on wildlife rescued in the SEQ area where veterinary assistance is readily available through 4 wildlife hospitals/facilities as well as numerous 24 hour vet clinics.

If you cannot transport in the recommended time, seek immediate help with transport.