

State Forestry Administration Notification No. 47 (Administration regulations for the shelter and rescue of wildlife)

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The 'Administration regulations for the shelter and rescue of wildlife' were deliberated and adopted at a meeting of the State Forestry Administration on September 29, 2017 and are hereby published, coming into effect on January 1, 2018.

Zhang Jianlong, Director-General, State Forestry Administration
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Administration regulations for the shelter and rescue of wildlife

Article 1

These regulations are formulated for the purpose of regulating the shelter and rescue of wildlife, in accordance with the relevant regulations of the Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China.

Article 2

Anyone undertaking the sheltering or rescue of wildlife shall comply with these regulations.

'Wildlife' as referred to in these regulations are those species of terrestrial wildlife which are protected in accordance with the law.

Article 3

The sheltering and rescue of wildlife shall follow the principles of being prompt, in situ, close by and scientific.

The buying and selling of wildlife or the products thereof under the guise of shelter and rescue is prohibited.

Article 4

The State Forestry Administration is responsible for organising, directing and supervising the shelter and rescue of wildlife across China. Forestry departments under local people's government at the county level and above are responsible for organising the implementation, supervision and administration of the shelter and rescue of wildlife within their administrative area.

Forestry departments under the local people's government at the county level and above shall, in accordance with relevant regulations, specify the institutions which shall undertake the shelter and rescue of wildlife, shall guarantee staff and funds, and shall strengthen the sheltering and rescue work.

Forestry departments under the local people's government at the county level and above shall carry out the sheltering and rescue of wildlife in accordance with these regulations. Where assistance across administrative areas or with other administrative areas is needed, both forestry departments

shall actively cooperate in full consultation with one another. Where needed, a mutual senior forestry department may coordinate.

Article 5

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall, in accordance with the requirements of forestry departments under the local people's government at the equivalent level and the practical requirements of wildlife shelter and rescue, establish sites for wildlife shelter and rescue, and shall allocate corresponding technical staff, equipment for rescue, facilities, medicines, and so on.

Forestry departments under the local people's government at the county level and above and their wildlife shelter and rescue institutions may, according to need, organise and undertake scientific research and captive breeding of wildlife and other such activities, and individually participate in the sheltering and rescue of wildlife.

Article 6

Forestry departments under the local people's government at the county level and above shall publish information relating to wildlife shelter and rescue institutions, including names, addresses and contact details.

Any organisation or individual who discovers wildlife that is injured or trapped and so in need of shelter or rescue shall report this to the local forestry department and their wildlife shelter and rescue institution.

Article 7

In any of the following situations, wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall conduct shelter and rescue:

1. Wildlife transferred by a law enforcement agency or other organisation or individual;
2. Wildlife discovered in the wild that is injured, ill, starving or trapped and so in need of shelter or rescue, which cannot be released back into the wild following simple treatment;
3. Wildlife discovered in the wild which could harm local ecosystems;
4. Other wildlife requiring shelter and rescue.

When wildlife under national or local special protection is threatened by a sudden event such as a natural disaster or major environmental pollution incident, wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall conduct emergency measures to assist in a timely manner, in accordance with the requirements of local government.

Article 8

When wildlife shelter and rescue institutions receive wildlife, they shall carry out registration, recording items such as the name, address and contact details of the person transferring the wildlife, the species and quantity of wildlife, and the time the wildlife was received, and shall issue proof of receipt to the person transferring the wildlife.

Article 9

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall, when sheltering and rescuing wildlife, conduct isolation and examination, quarantine, and treatment of wildlife that is injured or sick, in accordance with relevant technical specifications.

Article 10

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall handle wildlife sheltering and rescue in accordance with the following provisions:

1. For wildlife in good condition which does not require further treatment, or wildlife which has recovered following treatment and is able to survive in the wild, they shall, in accordance with relevant regulations, choose a natural environment suitable for that species for release back into the wild;
2. For wildlife that dies following shelter and rescue, they shall carry out quarantine; where quarantine standards cannot be met, they shall take harmless measures to deal with the wildlife; where quarantine standards are met and regulations require that the specimen be kept, they shall carry out appropriate measure to keep the specimen;
3. Wildlife that cannot be released back into the wild following rescue and treatment, and wildlife specimens and products thereof that have died, have undergone quarantine, definitely have utilisation value and are classed as wildlife under special state protection or the products thereof shall be allocated by forestry departments under the people's government at provincial level and above that have the corresponding authority to issue approval. Other wildlife and products thereof shall be allocated and handled by forestry departments under the people's government at the county level and above, in accordance with relevant regulations.

When dealing with wildlife that has been seized and handed over by law enforcement agencies, institutions shall first seek the opinion of the original law enforcement agency, and shall also abide by relevant regulations for management of seized items.

Article 11

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall establish records of sheltered and rescued wildlife, and shall record information such as the species, quantity, measures taken and condition.

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall record the entire process of rescue and shelter, and shall make written records. Where necessary, they shall also make audiovisual recordings of the entire process.

Article 12

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions shall report annually on the status of wildlife that is sheltered and rescued to the forestry department under the people's government at the equivalent level.

Forestry departments under the local people's government at the county level and above shall report annually on the overall situation regarding sheltered and rescued wildlife within their area of administration to their senior forestry department.

Article 13

Organisations and individuals with outstanding achievements in the field of wildlife shelter and rescue shall be rewarded in accordance with the Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China.

Forestry departments under the people's government at county level and above may, in accordance with relevant regulations, provide appropriate subsidies to organisations and individuals that participate in the sheltering and rescue of wildlife and undertake wildlife shelter and rescue

activities in accordance with regulations from the forestry department and their wildlife shelter and rescue institutions.

Article 14

Forestry departments under the people's government at county level and above shall strengthen supervision and inspection of wildlife shelter and rescue activities within their area of administration.

Article 15

Wildlife shelter and rescue institutions or other organisations and individuals that buy or sell wildlife and the products thereof under the guise of shelter and rescue shall be dealt with in accordance with regulations under the Wildlife Protection Law of the People's Republic of China.

Article 16

These regulations are in effect as of January 1, 2018.