

# Recreation policy Domestic pets



## Pets and other animals in recreation areas and catchments

We are responsible for ensuring a safe, secure and cost effective bulk drinking water supply for South East Queensland. We aim to partner with our neighbours, all levels of government, water service providers and the broader community with a clear objective of a whole-of-catchment approach to source water protection.

We recognise the important role that we play in balancing the ongoing health of the catchments and quality of the region's drinking water supply while providing access to a range of activities at our dams, lakes and parks.

### Background

Visitors often seek permission to bring domestic pets and other animals into lakes and recreation areas while they are recreating, to exercise their pet or as a companion.

A range of impacts and issues can result from non-native animals in catchments and recreation areas, including:

- Behavioural impacts on native wildlife
- Attack on or killing of native wildlife
- Introduction of additional nutrients, disease and pathogens to water and land
- Adverse impacts on the amenity of other users
- Adverse impacts on the safety of other users

In addition, many of Seqwater's catchments and recreation areas are within areas identified by Department of Environment and Heritage Protection as important koala habitat and must be managed to protect koala populations.

We are privileged to have significant species within this area, such as koalas, Australian lungfish and Mary River cod, that cannot be found anywhere else in the world.

Within our operating area there are Matters of National Environmental Significance, including:

- Two world heritage properties
- Seven national heritage places
- Three wetlands of international importance
- Seven listed threatened ecological communities
- 176 listed threatened species
- 74 listed migratory species

This is why it is critical for our catchment and recreation areas to be protected and that we limit any potential impacts.

### Policy Position

You are not allowed to bring domestic pets and other animals into catchment lands, lakes and designated recreation areas subject to the following exceptions:

- Where an animal is essential to assist a person who suffers from an illness or impairment
- In response to emergency situations such as search and rescue or police operations
- Where a designated area permits dogs on leashes and the animal is kept on a leash and under the control of the visitor at all times while within the area
- In circumstances where Seqwater has given specific approval.

At no time are domestic pets or other animals permitted to enter the lakes or waterways. This is a condition of entry to all Seqwater sites.

# Recreation policy Domestic pets



You can find a list of sites that have dogs-on-leash areas on our website.

## For more information

**w** [seqwater.com.au](http://seqwater.com.au)

**e** [recreation@seqwater.com.au](mailto:recreation@seqwater.com.au)

**p** 1800 SEQWATER

**f** [facebook.com/seqwater](https://facebook.com/seqwater)

**t** @seqwater