



VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 2021 E-BULLETIN #11

Message from PIRSA re: Cherry Gardens Bushfire

The information contained in this e-Bulletin has been sent to registered veterinary surgeons for and on behalf of the Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA). If you have any questions about this communication, please contact PIRSA directly.

Dear South Australian Veterinary Surgeons

Most of you will be well aware of the Cherry Gardens fire that broke out on Sunday 24 January. The fire has burnt approximately 2,600 hectares of predominantly native scrub. Understandably the bulk of this fire's impacts relate to wildlife.

Accordingly **SAVEM** (South Australian Veterinary Emergency Management) have been activated to triage impacted wildlife and place with licensed carers through coordination with DEW Fauna Permits as appropriate.

It is likely that members of the public may still contact their local veterinary clinic for assistance with fire impacted wildlife. The following links contain information that may be of assistance to you in the assessment and treatment of burnt wildlife:

<https://koalahealthhub.org.au/fact-sheets/>
https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/447114/Supportive-care-for-koalas.pdf

Please also be advised that the **Animal Welfare League of South Australia** will collect and cremate wildlife bodies free of charge. Please contact 8348 1300 if you require a pickup.

It would also be very much appreciated if you could let the **Department of Environment (DEW)** know what wildlife you treat and what licensed carers they are sent to: DEWFaunaPermitsUnit@sa.gov.au or 8124 4972. This will assist DEW in knowing where wildlife is being seen/sent to and to be better informed in the role private veterinary surgeons are playing in fire responses. If you need to know if a carer has the appropriate endorsement on their permit please contact DEW Fauna Permits and they will be able to let you know.

Yours sincerely
Primary Industries and Regions South Australia

27 January 2021