

ISPCA Policy on Wild Animals

The ISPCA is, in principle, opposed to the taking or killing of wild animals, or the infliction of any suffering on them. This includes the hunting, taking and killing of wild animals for the purposes of sport, or for the taking of skins, furs, plumage, ivory and horn.

In circumstances where it is deemed necessary to control wild or stray populations, or animals considered to be pests, then this should be done without inflicting avoidable suffering. Effective methods (e.g. fertility control or other non-lethal methods) should be used to avoid the need continually to remove or kill animals.

The ISPCA is opposed to the use, confinement, exhibition or performances of wild animals, including marine mammals, (either taken directly from the wild or bred in captivity) for commercial gain and/or human entertainment.

The ISPCA believes that animals should not be kept in zoological collections unless they form part of a valid programme of conservation, the objection of which is their eventual rehabilitation and release into the wild and the animals can be kept in a semi-natural environment which fully meets their physiological, behavioural, environmental and social needs.

The ISPCA is opposed to all snares and traps which cause suffering.

The ISPCA is opposed to the use of poisons which cause suffering.

The ISPCA is opposed to the import of wild animals and to the import of products derived from wild animals.

The ISPCA is opposed to inhumane methods used for killing lobsters, crabs and crayfish for food.*

The ISPCA advocates the management of colonies of feral goats to ensure that numbers are kept to a sustainable level.

The ISPCA opposes the taking or keeping of wild animals as pets.

The ISPCA the introduction and advocates the humane control of non-native species, whether domesticated or wild, where the release of members of such species into the environment, whether by accident or design, may damage indigenous species.

Mindful of the interdependence of all animal life, both human and non-human, and the environment, the ISPCA supports the principle of nature conservation.

Note to (*): inhumane methods include the technique of plunging the living animal into boiling water.