Prosecution Bulletin no. 2/2016

Summary

- A Cedar Creek man was fined \$1,500 for wildlife record-keeping offences.
- The sentence was delivered by Magistrate Morgan in the Pine Rivers Magistrates Court on 20 November 2015.
- The man was charged with a total of thirty offences under the Nature Conservation (Administration) Regulation 2006 and Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006.

Facts

The defendant was the holder of a recreational wildlife licence that permitted him to keep certain types of reptiles and amphibians.

The *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and associated regulations impose obligations on the holders of recreational wildlife licences requiring them to keep and produce certain records.

The Department conducted an investigation in relation to the defendant's activities upon receipt of complaints from members of the public.

The following breaches were identified which formed the subject of the charges:

- The defendant's record book contained inaccurate and incomplete entries;
- The defendant failed to give the relevant part of a movement advice to the Department within 7 days;
- The defendant failed to produce documents to a conservation officer; and
- The defendant failed to notify the Department of his change of address.

Outcome

On 20 November 2015, the defendant pleaded guilty to the charges and he was sentenced by Magistrate Morgan at the Pine Rivers Magistrates Court.

The defendant was fined a total of \$1,500 and no conviction was recorded.

In sentencing, His Honour considered that:

- There were a large number of offences;
- The regulation of the possession and movement of wildlife is important, and the best way of regulating that is for licence holders to maintain records;
- The defendant had been remarkably slack in that regard; and
- There was no malicious component to the offending.

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