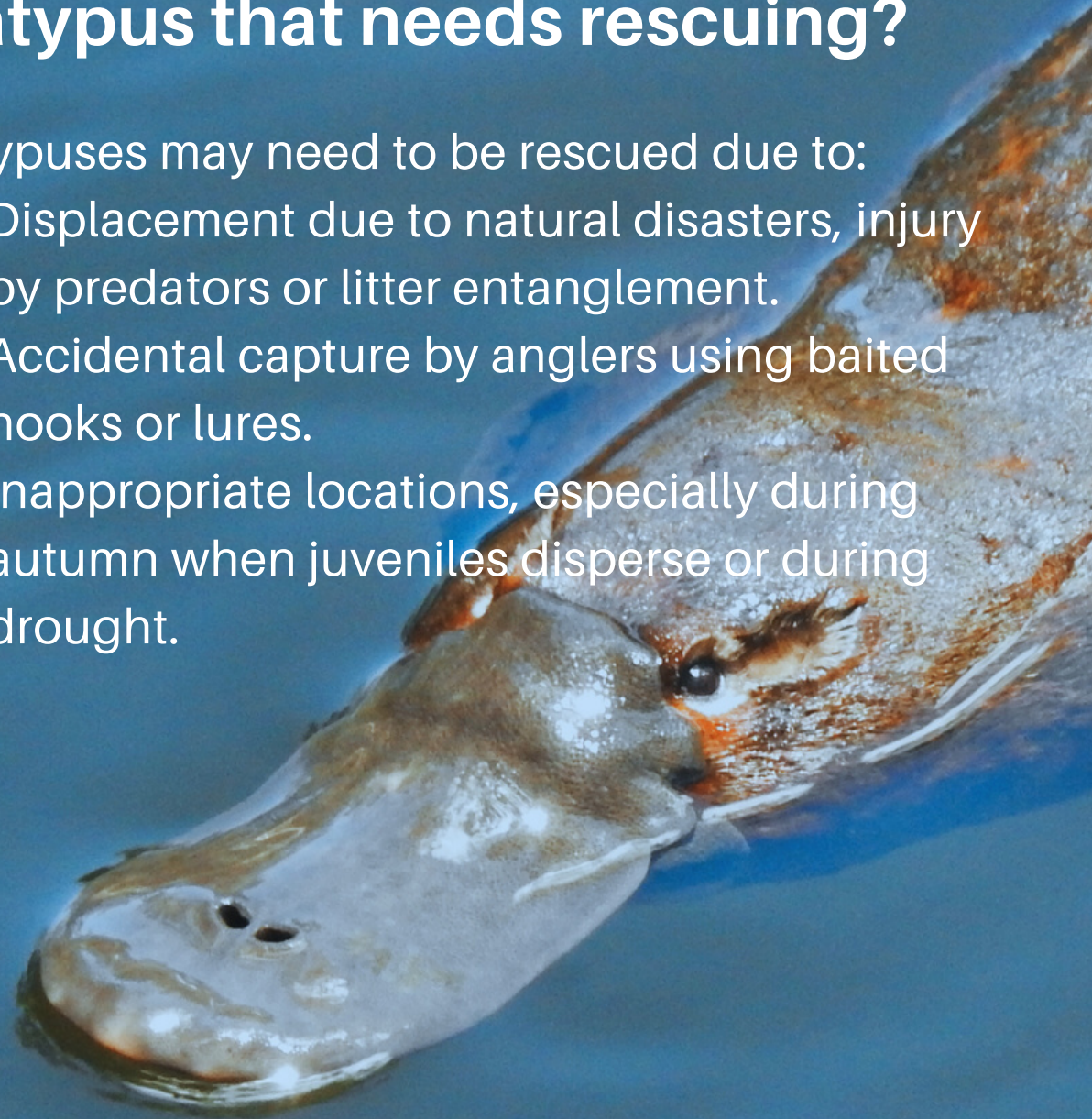


# PLATYPUS RESCUE

## What do I do if I come across a platypus that needs rescuing?

Platypuses may need to be rescued due to:

- Displacement due to natural disasters, injury by predators or litter entanglement.
- Accidental capture by anglers using baited hooks or lures.
- Inappropriate locations, especially during autumn when juveniles disperse or during drought.



### 1 ASSESS THE SITUATION

Observe the animal from a safe distance to determine if it is genuinely in distress.

### 2 CALL FOR HELP

Call RSPCA QLD 1300 ANIMAL  
If advised to proceed with rescue, and you can safely capture the animal, follow next steps. Remember your safety must come first

### 3 SAFE HANDLING

If you do need to intervene, safe handling is an absolute must. If you are not confident, please wait for the rescue organisation to arrive. Lift the platypus by gripping it firmly around the end half of the tail (but not the tail base, which a male can reach with his spurs).

### 4 CONTAIN

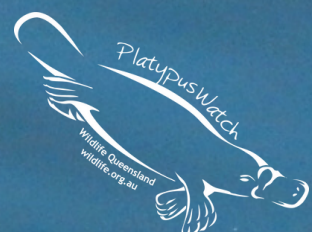
Try to keep the animal's eyes covered with a piece of clothing to reduce struggling. Place the platypus in a sturdy bag or secure box. Keep cool, between 20 - 25 degrees Celsius.

### 5 TAKE TO LOCAL VET

Take animal to local wildlife hospital or vet surgery and they will assess and give appropriate care.

### 6 MORE INFORMATION

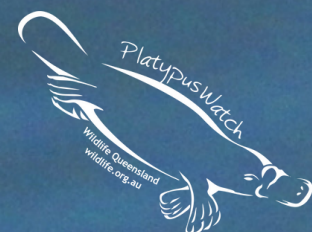
[APC Platypus Rescue Guidelines](#)  
[Platypus Husbandry Guidelines](#)





# WILDLIFE RESUCE CONTACTS\*

- RSPCA: 1300 ANIMAL
- WIRES: 1300 094 737
- Wildcare Australia: (07) 5527 2444
- Australian Wildlife Hospital Emergency: 1300 369 652
- Currumbin Wildlife Hospital: (07) 5534 0813
- Wildlife Rescue NQ Townsville: 0414 717 374
- Far North Qld Wildlife Rescue Cairns: (07) 4053 4467



\*NOT A DEFINITIVE LIST