**Head Reptile Keeper**

Ballarat Wildlife Park is situated in one of the fastest growing cities in Victoria and is only 1.2 hours’ drive from Melbourne CBD, with affordable property opportunities. Established in 1985, Ballarat Wildlife Park is one of the longest running privately operated wildlife parks in Victoria. In recent years, Ballarat Wildlife Park has undergone expansion, including the construction of a number of new exhibits and planning is currently underway for future development.

The successful applicant will participate in the daily husbandry of the reptile and amphibian collection, including venomous snakes, large monitors and boas and large crocodilians.

The reptile house is large and diverse and includes potentially dangerous and technically challenging species.

The applicant will need to maintain cleanliness and presentation of exhibits and off-exhibit areas keep accurate animal records and weekly reports.

This is a full-time position (5 days per week) and will involve work on weekends and public holidays.

**Prerequisites:**

* Considerable experience with the care of reptile and amphibians in a wildlife park/zoo setting.
* Deep knowledge of the captive husbandry and biology of reptiles and amphibians including crocodilians
* Understanding of filtration and heating systems
* Exceptional communication skills with the ability to collate and assist in the writing reports
* Promotion of a sympathetic view to interpret animal behaviour and conservation
* Passion and enthusiasm for providing a supportive and outstanding customer experience
* Supervision of staff and volunteers at all levels within the reptile department
* Ability to work closely with other staff in a team environment whilst also being able to work autonomously with minimal supervision
* Understanding of Hazard identification and application of risk management
* Meet with and report to Management on a weekly basis

**Personal Characteristics:**

* Well-developed interpersonal skills
* Flexibility in approach to problems
* Creative problem solving
* Analytical, planning and presentation skills
* Well organised with good time management skills
* Strong customer focus
* Ability to plan and organise workloads
* Able to work in a cooperative manner to facilitate results and teamwork
* Team building skills

**Qualifications:**

* Certificate III in Captive Animal Management or other relevant qualification/experience
* Previous experience with the captive maintenance of venomous snakes with an excellent safety record
* Previous experience with the captive maintenance of crocodilians
* Formal tertiary qualifications in business (or related fields) is highly desirable but not essential
* Current Basic First Aid
* Current drivers licence and own reliable transport

**To apply:**

Please send references and a current resume and a covering letter outlining your ability to meet the above selection requirements to Julia Leonard, General Manager by email to julialeonard@wildlifepark.com.au

Applications must be received by **COB 26/08/17**