Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice **Environment portfolio**

Question No: 34

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 5

Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division

Topic: Kangaroos – Red and Eastern Grey

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 27 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Rhiannon asked:

In Oct 2012 the Department advised that since 2007 there have been increases in red kangaroo and eastern grey kangaroo populations. Notwithstanding the previous question, how that that statement reconcile with the fact that in individual Kangaroo Management Zones in NSW show declining trend-lines since 2007, despite arbitrary and unscientific changes to survey methodology artificially inflating numbers?

Answer:

The New South Wales annual reports continue to indicate steady population increases for red kangaroos in all relevant management zones.

For eastern grey kangaroos, populations have increased over the same period in most zones (11 out of 17), remained stable in one zone (Cobar) and have decreased slightly in 5 zones (Tibooburra, Broken Hill, Lower Darling, Griffith and Goulburn).

Table 1. Red Kangaroo population data 2007–2013 extracted from NSW annual reports on the kangaroo management program.

Western Division	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Tibooburra	361,586	432,096	606,518	560,706	636,038	621,124	937,643
Broken Hill	725,035	1,092,982	1,190,299	809,665	855,368	1,079,052	1,138,627
Lower Darling	113,119	188,018	251,731	185,449	193,931	186,473	295,180
Cobar	107,825	85,912	156,639	97,823	148,177	210,921	252,750
Bourke	258,668	143,042	140,371	180,413	251,196	251,196	429,000
Narrabri	233,780	121,426	124,915	189,118	433,366	530,367	371,257
Coonabarabran	161,119	168,000	170,804	202,199	250,625	343,239	357,256
Griffith	221,656	292,969	228,433	231,422	245,208	556,415	366,603

Table 2. Eastern Grey Kangaroo population data 2007–2013 extracted from NSW annual reports on the kangaroo management program.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Glen Innes	149,621	236,600	236,600	236,600	269,500	269,500	269,500
Armidale	161,726	141,610	141,610	141,610	199,200	206,780	206,780
Upper Hunter	67,499	92,016	92,016	92,016	167,500	167,500	167,500
Goulburn	114,430	114,430	114,430	71,800	71,800	71,800	108,200
Braidwood	64,461	64,461	64,461	78,800	78,800	78,800	107,900
Gundagai	106,046	106,046	106,046	69,100	69,100	69,100	116,800
Yass	72,588	72,588	72,588	100,300	100,300	100,300	106,500
Cooma	57,746	57,746	57,746	252,800	252,800	252,800	248,300
Young				83,100	83,100	83,100	171,200
Tibooburra	59,034	64,222	93,058	92,905	37,781	51,214	73,882
Broken Hill	216,474	281,904	439,369	366,677	241,831	179,320	221,803
Lower Darling	220,665	226,569	367,220	215,420	231,585	231,585	232,187
Cobar	208,066	282,841	350,925	251,233	256,097	176,060	311,522
Bourke	110,115	183,441	152,776	147,001	140,721	128,018	446,909
Narrabri	398,589	697,531	514,483	447,330	752,771	1,229,345	1,246,675
Coonabarabran	905,594	568,378	583,873	695,066	935,327	1,089,829	1,457,381
Griffith	677,124	571,999	638,262	321,128	562,931	541,306	700,388