



Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2020-21
Wednesday, 11 November 2020
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.18am until 10.19am.

The committee called:

Agriculture, Water and the Environment portfolio, excluding agriculture and water:

- Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment; and
- Threatened Species Scientific Committee.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- overdue recovery plans for threatened species;
- Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, threatened species management and recovery plans;
- current state of the koala as a vulnerable species, threats, and management plan;
- Australian Academy of Science's statement on environmental reforms in the context of the review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, titled 'Environment reform must include a 'biodiversity BOM'';
- resourcing and role of the Threatened Species Scientific Committee;
- Regional Land Partnerships and allocation of resources within the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment for recovery plans;
- Brandy Hill quarry expansion and impact on koala habitat; and
- Australian Government's Threatened Species Strategy.

This concludes the hearings for the Environment and Communications Legislation Committee Budget Estimates 2020-21.