

## **Additional information: Senate Inquiry into feral deer, goats and pigs**

**Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment**

**December 2020**

### **Questions taken on Notice**

Response to Senator Urquhart: Progress with implementing Tasmanian Government commitments made in response to the 2017 Legislative Council Inquiry into wild fallow deer.

<b>Government response commitment</b>	<b>Status (as at 5 December 2020)</b>
The Government will establish a Tasmanian Game Council to provide advice to the Minister on delivering contemporary and effective QDM in Tasmania, hunting and game management, browsing animal management and deer farming matters.	Completed
A new Game Services Tasmania will be established and appropriately resourced within DPIPWE to support landholders, farmers and hunters to effectively manage deer and all issues relating to game and browsing animals in Tasmania.	Completed
The Government will develop a contemporary statement on Quality Deer Management (QDM) in consultation with a new Tasmanian Game Council and stakeholders to provide clear guidelines for the future management of wild fallow deer in Tasmania.	Completed
The Government will undertake a comprehensive state-wide census of wild fallow deer in Tasmania.	Underway with aerial survey component completed
DPIPWE will work with research partners on a project that will assess the distribution and numbers of wild fallow deer in parts of the TWWHA. This project will complement the state-wide census.	Underway
An overarching review of the effectiveness of deer management strategies will be conducted five years from the first state-wide census. Inherent in any review will be an appropriate assessment of the wild fallow deer population at that time.	Will commence in 2025
DPIPWE will work with public land managers, landholders and the private land conservation sector to coordinate targeted control programs to manage emerging satellite populations, and populations moving into and/or impacting on areas with significant conservation values including the TWWHA.	Ongoing
The Government will investigate opportunities for regulated recreational hunting in the TWWHA and other Reserves in a	Ongoing with 10 reserves opened to deer hunting

legal, safe and responsible manner where land management frameworks allow.	
The Government will implement 5 year crop protection permits for deer and explore further opportunities to support landholders to manage deer by streamlining or reducing red tape.	Completed
The Government will work with deer farmers and other stakeholders to support farmed deer industry development including, the branding and marketing of farmed deer products, potential to expand and facilitate local processing opportunities, and supply chain product integrity.	Underway with Draft industry development plan completed
The new Tasmanian Game Council will be requested to provide advice on the feasibility of conducting a limited fixed-term trial to evaluate the potential for deer farmers and landholders to supply value-added wild deer products for the regulated food or restaurant trade.	Underway, consultant engaged to undertake feasibility study.
By the end of 2019 the Government undertake the statutory review of the <i>Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010</i> and the <i>Wildlife (Deer Farming) Regulations 2010</i> to ensure there is a contemporary and responsive framework for wild deer management and the development of the farm deer industry in Tasmania.	Underway, delayed due to Covid-19
Fawning season arrangements for recreational hunting within the traditional deer range will be maintained.	Completed - modified based on biological criteria

Response to Acting Chair (Senator Whish-Wilson): Funding investment in the University of Tasmania Linkage project.

Partner investment in the UTAS Australian Research Council funded project titled “Protecting the Tasmanian wilderness from an expanding deer population” is as follows:

Funding Source	Description	
	Cash	In-Kind
Australian Research Council	\$401,629	
University of Tasmania		\$246,082
Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (Tasmania)	\$120,000	\$102,924
Department of Primary Industries (NSW)		\$64,400
Tasmanian Land Conservancy		\$175,500
University of Auckland		\$65,736
Bush Heritage Australia		\$36,750
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$521,629</b>	<b>\$691,392</b>