

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 286
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Tiger Quoll recovery plan
Hansard Page: 16
Question Date: 04 March 2016
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Rice asked:

Senator RICE: Is it acceptable that, for a species that was classified as endangered in 2002, it has taken 14 years to develop the recovery plan?

Mr Andrews: I do not think it is, and that is why the Threatened Species Strategy has made a commitment to have up-to-date recovery plans and conservation advices for all threatened species. That was what was announced last year when Australia's Threatened Species Strategy was launched.

Mr Knudson: As Dr de Brouwer talked about, this is a different outcome, but, that being said, we can certainly take the question on notice and come back on the specifics of this recovery plan and why it has taken so long. That seems to be the essence of your question.

Senator RICE: Yes, an inordinate amount of time. ...

Answer:

The final draft 'National Recovery Plan for the Spotted-tailed *Quoll* *Dasyurus maculatus*' was submitted to the Department by the lead author, the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, in 2015 for consideration for adoption under the EPBC Act.

As with most recovery plans approved under the EPBC Act, this plan was led by and authored by a state government. As a recovery plan covering three listed subspecies distributed across six states and territories, there have been challenges in getting participation by and endorsement of the plan by all jurisdictions.

The Minister for the Environment will shortly receive a brief to formally consider the recovery plan for adoption under the EPBC Act.