

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

Question No: 10
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Regional Forest Agreements
Hansard Page: -
Question Date: 15 March 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Rice asked:

Since the Greater Glider was listed federally as a threatened species, what steps have been taken to ensure that forestry in NSW occurring under the RFA is undertaking additional measures to protect the Greater Glider, given that it is a forest-dependent species that relies on tree hollows for breeding and that logging is a primary cause of its habitat decline?

Answer:

The Australian Government considers that management of Australia's native forests should achieve a balance between social, economic and environmental outcomes. The Australian Government continues to view Regional Forest Agreements as the most effective way of achieving this balance.

Under the Agreements, state governments are responsible for the day to day management of ongoing forest operations, including the protection of threatened species such as the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* listed vulnerable Greater Glider.

The Agreements provide a framework that enable forestry operations to be undertaken in accordance with threatened species recovery plans or other related statutory conservation planning documents. The Australian Government is currently working with the NSW Government to develop a recovery plan for the Greater Glider.