

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 20
Hearing: Additional Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Swift Parrot recovery – Program
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Question Date: 27 February 2017
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Whish-Wilson asked:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Can you more broadly tell us about the recovery program? I think we got some answers back to questions on notice that a new revised recovery plan was underway. That was October last year. Has there been any developments in relation to that?
Mr Andrews: Again, I would need to take that on notice so that Mr Richardson, who was here this morning, could answer it. I can tell you, and you would obviously be aware as a Tasmanian, that the single biggest driver, the single biggest thing we can do to save the swift parrot is to stop introduced sugar gliders from devouring the mums and their eggs. Sugar gliders are an introduced species in Tasmania

Answer:

The Department is in the initial stages of developing the new recovery plan for the swift parrot and has begun engaging with key stakeholders, including the Tasmania and Victorian Governments and members of the recovery team.

The next steps in this process will be to hold a workshop to develop and prioritise actions to manage the identified threats, including from the introduced sugar glider. It is expected this workshop will be held in mid-2017 and that a draft for public comment will be available by the end of the year.