

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

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 93  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Program:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Australian wildlife for commercial industries  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 14 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Rhiannon asked:**

Please provide a detailed update on the current permissions being provided to kill and/or export Australian wildlife for commercial industries.

**Answer:**

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act) requires wildlife harvesting for export to be ecologically sustainable and, for live animals, to meet welfare requirements. Commercial exports of items containing native species must be sourced from a program that demonstrates the ecological sustainability of the harvest. Aside from commercial fisheries, over 100 such programs are currently approved under the EPBC Act for native species including plants, saltwater crocodiles, kangaroos, possums and some invertebrates.

Exports of regulated native species and CITES-listed species usually require a permit under Part 13A of the EPBC Act. In 2015–16, Australia issued 711 permits for the export of wildlife. Of these, 405 permits were issued for the export of CITES-listed wildlife, 214 for native species (non-CITES listed wildlife) and 92 for other regulated wildlife exports.

Further information is provided in the Department of the Environment and Energy Annual Report 2015–16.