

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

Question No: 102

Hearing: Budget Estimates

Outcome: 1.4

Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)

Topic: Threatened Species management plans (review)

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Question Date:

Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart, asked:

In a best-practice sense, how often does a threatened species management plan need to be reviewed to gauge its effectiveness? How much does the average review cost?

Answer:

There is a requirement under the EPBC Act that a recovery plan be reviewed every five years. A recovery plan may also be reviewed more frequently in response to emerging new information. Reviews may be conducted in a workshop convened by a recovery team; other reviews may be facilitated by a responsible state agency or the Department. Reviews are usually led by, where they exist, an appropriate recovery team comprising representative stakeholders.

There is insufficient information available to calculate the average cost of a review as a range of agencies carry out reviews, and each review varies significantly in the amount of new information available, the time needed to collate the information, the complexities of the issues involved and the number of stakeholders participating.