

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

**Question No:** 51  
**Hearing:** Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1.1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)  
**Topic:** Threatened Species Commissioner – feral cat problem  
**Hansard Page:**  
**Question Date:**  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

What success have you had so far in tackling the feral cat problem?

**Answer:**

A number of on-ground practical actions to limit the impact of feral cats has commenced. For example, the Australian Government is bolstering efforts on Christmas Island to make the island cat free, trialling feral cat management actions in Kakadu National Park, and a growing number of Green Army projects is tackling feral cats and their impacts. The Department is continuing to work towards registration and roll-out of the Curiosity feral cat bait.

The Government is revising the Threat Abatement Plan for predation by feral cats based on significant expert advice and consultation with feral predator experts – including through a two day workshop hosted by the Threatened Species Commissioner which brought together around 60 of Australia's leading feral cat experts.

Australia's first Threatened Species Strategy will be launched at the Threatened Species Summit on 16 July 2015. Tackling feral cats will be a key action area of the strategy and it will have hard and measurable targets for reducing feral cat impacts.

There has been considerable success in raising community awareness and support for feral cat management and control – particularly through the Threatened Species Commissioner's engagement at grass-roots levels but also in mainstream and social media.