

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

Question No: 97
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.4
Programme: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Threatened Species List – agreements for common assessment methods
Hansard Page:
Question Date:
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

What obstacles exist, if any, to putting agreements in place for a common assessment method for threatened species, and a single operational list of threatened species in each jurisdiction? What is the Department's hopeful timeframe for those agreements and ultimately, lists?

Answer:

The Department of the Environment is working through technical details of the proposed common assessment method with state and territory counterparts and is hopeful of reaching agreement on an Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding in coming months.

Legislative and administrative changes may be required in each jurisdiction to implement the common assessment method. Each jurisdiction will also need to transition currently listed threatened species to an agreed threat category on its single operational list. We expect that these processes will take up to two years to implement following signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.