

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 119
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Environment Standards Division (ESD)
Topic: Qualification and Experience
Hansard Page:
Question Date: 08 June 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Reynolds asked:

Is there a “minimum standard” or published required standards of Qualification and Experience to prepare referrals/reports under the EPBC Act?

Answer:

There are no obligatory standards or qualifications to prepare referrals under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. A range of guidelines, including the published Survey Guidelines for Nationally Threatened Species (<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/policy-statements>) provide guidance to the community and consultants, including on what should be considered when planning and undertaking species presence surveys.