

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

**Question No:** 38  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Biodiversity Conservation Division  
**Topic:** THREATENED SPECIES COMMISSIONER - PRIORITY ACTIONS  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

In July the TSC was announced and said he would look into what he could do to save Leadbeater's possum. <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/new-threatened-species-commissioner-has-2-billion-war-chest/5567966>  
Could you provide an update on what measures you have taken or intend to take to secure the future for the Leadbeater's possum in Victoria?

**Answer:**

The Commissioner has discussed the challenges facing the Leadbeaters possum and potential solutions with his group of informal advisors, the Threatened Species Scientific Committee, Victorian Government officials, The Wilderness Society, the 'Friends of the Leadbeater's possum', Zoos Victoria, Professor David Lindemeyer and other conservation practitioners. He has visited the wild population at Yellingbo National Park and inspected the captive breeding program for Leadbeater's possum at Healesville Sanctuary to better understand the difficulties and intricacies associated with conservation of this species. He has also made a commitment to visit the highland populations in coming months.

The Commissioner continues to work with these stakeholders to see what can be done to support recovery of the Leadbeater's possum.