

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

**Question No:** 76  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Environment Assessment and Compliance Division  
**Topic:** ANAO AUDIT OF COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE EPBC ACT  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Waters asked:**

Will any information about the design of this model or outcomes be made publicly available, in line with the audits recommendations? Does the department intend to improve public access to monitoring data in line with the audit's commentary?

**Answer:**

The National Environmental Significance Threat and Risk Assessment (NESTRA) was developed jointly with CSIRO, who has published a report on the development of this tool. This report is available from CSIRO's website at:

<https://publications.csiro.au/rpr/pub?list=SEA&pid=csiro:EP144358&sb=RECENT&expert=false&n=1&rpp=25&page=1&tr=117&q=nicol&dr=all>

The Department has also published an annual compliance plan which identifies how the results of the NESTRA assessment will be utilised. The Compliance Monitoring Plan 2014-15 is published on the Department's website at:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/compliance-monitoring-plan-2014-15>

With respect to public access to monitoring data, the Department often requires approval holders to ensure that management plans and reports are required under the conditions of approval are made publicly available on the approval holders website.

Additionally where a breach of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has been substantiated, and the Department has responded with an infringement notice, civil or criminal penalty, this outcome is published on the Department's website.