

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

Question No: 9
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.1
Programme: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Australian native mammals - extinctions
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 21 October 2015
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart asked:

1. QON57 states that it is difficult to assign dates to extinctions of Australian native mammals and that no Australian mainland animals have been declared extinct under the EPBC Act. Yet in October last year, the Minister was quoted as setting a goal of ending the loss of mammal species by 2020. How does the Minister plan to test whether he has ended something that can't be determined?
2. Will the Minister be claiming success if the current status quo is maintained or is the Minister planning to be in a position to say that by 2020 no Australian mammal anywhere will be threatened with extinction ever again?

Answer:

The Department will measure success against achievement of the targets outlined on pages 48-58 of the Action Plan in the Threatened Species Strategy which is available at <http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/publications/threatened-species-strategy>.