

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

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 102
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: String Kelp Beds
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 24 October 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Whish-Wilson, Peter asked:

The continuing loss of String Kelp beds (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) in Tasmania has long been known to be underway due to environmental change. *M.pyrifera* appears to still be listed as Conservation status "Not evaluated" under IUCN 3.1? What has Australia done to progress the nomination of IUCN protection for the species?

Answer:

The IUCN considers species status via information obtained by species experts. The Australian Government has no role in progressing IUCN nominations.

Macrocystis pyrifera is also known as giant kelp and is the key species which forms the closed or semi-closed forests of the EPBC Act listed Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia ecological community.