Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice **Environment and Energy portfolio**

Question No: 57

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Outcome 1

Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)

Topic: Protection of Forest-Dependent Species

Hansard Page: 124

Question Date: 24 October 2016

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Rice, Janet asked:

Senator RICE: Finally, in terms of the protection of these forest-dependent species, does the department have a view as to what it is going to mean for these populations if the Tasmanian government go ahead with their proposed expansion of logging into the areas that are currently reserved until 2020? Under the Tasmanian forestry—

Mr Oxley: That was breaking news last week, at least from the perspective of the Wildlife, Heritage and Marine Division, and we have not had the opportunity to consider that at this point.

Senator RICE: Will you be considering it? Would you assess what the impact of that expansion of logging would mean to the threatened species that you are looking after? Mr Oxley: That is something I will take on notice.

Senator RICE: Yes. I would be interested with respect to the lobsters, the swift parrots, the masked owls and the spotted-tailed quolls.

Answer:

The management of the Tasmanian forestry estate is principally a matter for the Tasmanian state government.

The Department of Agriculture and Water Resources is the regulator of the Tasmanian Forestry Agreement.