

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

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

**Question No:** 75  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Program:** Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Victoria “pet food trial” – Victoria’s population estimate  
**Hansard Page:** n/a  
**Question Date:** 31 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Rhiannon, Lee asked:**

In Feb 2016 I was told there is no baseline kangaroo population estimate for Victoria, yet the government is allowing the commercial industry to shoot Victoria’s kangaroos in a so-called pet food trial.

How will scientists be able to track kangaroo population trends if there is no baseline survey data?

**Answer:**

The Victorian Government has advised the Department that the number of kangaroos taken under the Victorian Kangaroo Petfood Trial will be around 30 000 per year. This is a small proportion of the national kangaroo population, which is estimated to be at least 49 million.

The Department is working with the Victorian Government to move towards scientifically robust population survey and monitoring to support the state’s Kangaroo Petfood Trial.