

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

Question No: 76
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Wildlife Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)
Topic: Victoria “pet food trial” – Victorian data
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 31 October 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Rhiannon, Lee asked:

Previously I was advised that the Victorian Government is using “ten years of annual non-commercial harvest data in the two pet food trial regions”

- a) Please clarify, is this harvest data the number of tags issued to farmers or is it the number of kangaroos actually shot (the Take)?
- b. Am I correct in understanding this means the Australian Government is accepting the Take of kangaroos as a proxy for population estimates in Victoria?
- c. Please provide a copy of that ten years of harvest data, per zone.

Answer:

- a) The Victorian Government has provided the Department with data showing the number of pest kangaroos that farmers were authorised to cull annually under the state’s Authority to Control Wildlife permits. It does not demonstrate actual harvest for the regions of Hume and the Grampians under the Pet Food Trial.
- b) The Department has used the Victorian Government’s data as a guide to the ecologically sustainable kangaroo harvest in the two regions under the three small-scale wildlife trade operations. The Department has also requested that Victoria develop robust survey and monitoring of these regions.
- c) Data from 2003 to 2014 (inclusive) are attached.

| | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos |
|--------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| GRAMPIANS | 2003 | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005 | 2006 | 2006 | 2007 | 2007 | 2008 | 2008 | 2009 | 2009 | 2010 | 2010 | 2011 | 2011 | 2012 | 2012 | 2013 | 2013 | 2014 | 2014 |
| Yarriambiack | 10 | 322 | 2 | 55 | 5 | 87 | 5 | 95 | 2 | 25 | 7 | 102 | 4 | 52 | 2 | 45 | 2 | 30 | 3 | 45 | 8 | 1243 | 3 | 62 |
| Horsham | 49 | 2550 | 45 | 1880 | 44 | 1900 | 34 | 1391 | 29 | 1223 | 47 | 1911 | 36 | 1474 | 31 | 1164 | 45 | 1071 | 31 | 1272 | 42 | 1471 | 33 | 1291 |
| Northern Grampians | 72 | 2695 | 95 | 3393 | 73 | 3025 | 66 | 2106 | 63 | 1940 | 88 | 2850 | 65 | 2233 | 61 | 2040 | 47 | 1768 | 80 | 2726 | 67 | 2224 | 89 | 3453 |
| Southern Grampians | 44 | 2785 | 47 | 3120 | 48 | 2750 | 49 | 2915 | 44 | 2420 | 47 | 2125 | 38 | 1698 | 46 | 2367 | 27 | 1455 | 32 | 2760 | 45 | 3777 | 38 | 3326 |
| Ararat | 35 | 1640 | 38 | 1895 | 28 | 1360 | 33 | 1560 | 30 | 1100 | 22 | 1045 | 31 | 1255 | 29 | 1240 | 15 | 540 | 34 | 1371 | 33 | 1317 | 35 | 1693 |
| Pyrenees | 57 | 2740 | 60 | 2510 | 40 | 1655 | 50 | 1925 | 51 | 1948 | 58 | 2277 | 44 | 1775 | 31 | 1100 | 32 | 1190 | 53 | 1815 | 77 | 2322 | 56 | 2346 |
| Total | 267 | 12732 | 287 | 12853 | 238 | 10777 | 237 | 9992 | 219 | 8656 | 269 | 10310 | 218 | 8487 | 200 | 7956 | 168 | 6054 | 233 | 9989 | 272 | 12354 | 254 | 12171 |

| | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos | ATCWs | Kangaroos |
|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| HUME | 2003 | 2003 | 2004 | 2004 | 2005 | 2005 | 2006 | 2006 | 2007 | 2007 | 2008 | 2008 | 2009 | 2009 | 2010 | 2010 | 2011 | 2011 | 2012 | 2012 | 2013 | 2013 | 2014 | 2014 |
| Wangaratta | 58 | 1860 | 59 | 1787 | 63 | 1901 | 90 | 3032 | 96 | 3365 | 68 | 2400 | 82 | 2805 | 62 | 2323 | 42 | 1805 | 73 | 2235 | 76 | 2840 | 62 | 2192 |
| Benalla | 64 | 1940 | 70 | 2135 | 33 | 1115 | 115 | 4126 | 83 | 2907 | 82 | 3459 | 59 | 2500 | 50 | 1930 | 30 | 1380 | 50 | 1913 | 89 | 3250 | 44 | 1662 |
| Strathbogie | 42 | 1620 | 30 | 1135 | 42 | 1570 | 65 | 2629 | 41 | 1547 | 43 | 1650 | 50 | 1940 | 50 | 1958 | 39 | 1765 | 46 | 2000 | 74 | 3222 | 86 | 3840 |
| Murrindindi | 56 | 2705 | 59 | 3230 | 58 | 3185 | 64 | 3757 | 67 | 3250 | 68 | 3922 | 62 | 2975 | 44 | 1535 | 45 | 1895 | 58 | 2407 | 70 | 2865 | 89 | 4355 |
| Mansfield | 31 | 1310 | 40 | 1400 | 31 | 1160 | 44 | 2065 | 40 | 2135 | 53 | 2810 | 60 | 3055 | 36 | 1395 | 43 | 2200 | 68 | 3090 | 74 | 3940 | 71 | 4245 |
| Mitchell | 78 | 21100 | 50 | 1680 | 53 | 11093 | 64 | 2732 | 73 | 11900 | 69 | 12075 | 63 | 2525 | 46 | 1744 | 35 | 1432 | 56 | 2330 | 80 | 3387 | 91 | 5180 |
| Total | 329 | 30535 | 308 | 11367 | 280 | 20024 | 442 | 18341 | 400 | 25104 | 383 | 26316 | 376 | 15800 | 288 | 10885 | 234 | 10477 | 351 | 13975 | 463 | 19504 | 443 | 21474 |

Note #1: ATCWs refers to the number of Authorities to Control Wildlife issued for kangaroos

Note #2: Data includes only Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Western Grey Kangaroos

Note #3: Data includes large kangaroo control works, resulting in some spikes e.g. kangaroo control work in the Puckapunyal Military Area in Mitchell LGA in 2003 (17500), 2005 (9000), 2007 (9000) and 2008 (9000)

Note #4: Data is of the maximum number of kangaroos authorised to be controlled, not the actual number of kangaroos controlled.