

**Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio  
2016-17 Supplementary Budget Estimates  
20 October 2016

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**AGENCY:** CSIRO

**TOPIC:** Flora and fauna species at Ginninderra site

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Rhiannon

**QUESTION No.:** SI-145

1. With reference to the CSIRO's development of the Ginninderra agricultural and horticultural testing station into an urban area, I was informed in the recent Senate Estimates hearings that ecological assessments are being done, with a full EIS yet to be written:
  - a. What are the threatened flora or fauna species known to exist at the site?
  - b. What is the most up to date species list CSIRO has of the site?
  - c. Are there kangaroos at the site? If there are any:
    - i. How many?
    - ii. Is it intended to shoot those kangaroos so that the urban development can occur at the site, or is the CSIRO committed to finding non-lethal solutions to removing wildlife so that development can occur at the site?
    - iii. How many kangaroos have been shot at the site previously, and when?

**ANSWER**

- 1) The Ecological Values report prepared by environmental consultancy Umwelt is publically available on the Ginninderra website: <http://ginninderraproject.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Ecological-Values-of-CSIRO-Ginninderra-Field-Station.pdf>
  - a) No threatened flora were found during the ecological survey, but the threatened ecological community of Box-Gum Grassy Woodland was identified. Of the fauna species targeted for survey, threatened species that were recorded included the golden sun moth, striped legless lizard, little eagle, white-winged triller and scarlet robin. The international migratory bird species Latham's snipe was also observed, but its conservation status is considered secure.
  - b) Appendix 2 and 3 of The Ecological Values report provide the most up to date information on the species identified at the CSIRO Ginninderra site. Extracts of the relevant appendices are attached.
  - c) Yes there are Eastern Grey Kangaroos on the site.
    - i) There are currently estimated to be 300 kangaroos on site, most of which are located north-west of Hall's Creek where the site boundaries are normal farm fence height.
    - ii) No it is not CSIRO's intention to cull kangaroos so that urban development can occur.

CSIRO is collaborating with the ACT Government on kangaroo fertility control research, but no trials have been undertaken of this work at the CSIRO Ginninderra Site to date.

iii) Kangaroo culling takes place from March to July inclusive, in accordance with ACT Government licence conditions. The following table outlines the culls undertaken by year.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Tags<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Actual culled</b>
2002	60	8
2003	60	51
2004	20	14
2005	15	11
2006	50	8
2007	50	23
2008	50	22
2009	50	36
2010	100	59
2011	100	52
2012	100	78
2013	100	100
2014	100	100
2015	150	0 <sup>2</sup>
2016	150	150

Notes:

1. The number of tags issued is the limit of the number of kangaroos that can be culled in that year.
2. No cull conducted