

EURO POPULATION MANAGEMENT

5570. Hon Sally Talbot to the Minister for Mental Health representing the Minister for Environment

- (1) What was the commercial harvest quota for euros in —
  - (a) 2008;
  - (b) 2009;
  - (c) 2010; and
  - (d) 2011?
- (2) What monitoring of euro populations did Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) carry out in —
  - (a) 2007;
  - (b) 2008;
  - (c) 2009;
  - (d) 2010; and
  - (e) 2011?
- (3) What monitoring is planned for 2012, and —
  - (a) in relation to (2), how much did the surveys/monitoring cost;
  - (b) were other kangaroos counted whilst conducting these surveys;
  - (c) can the Minister account for how the money is spent on these surveys; and
  - (d) in relation to (c), if not, why not?
- (4) What Commonwealth or State statutory or regulatory requirements apply to the monitoring of populations of euros which are subject to commercial and non-commercial hunting?
- (5) The *Management Plan for the Commercial Harvest of Kangaroos in Western Australia 2008–2012* states ‘The primary goal of the management plan is to ensure that the commercial harvest of kangaroos is ecologically sustainable. This will be achieved through the application of the best available scientific knowledge, best practice management and monitoring of outcomes to ensure the viability of kangaroo populations is not compromised by any action undertaken in accordance with this plan.’

In relation to the species covered by the Management Plan —

  - (a) what management and monitoring of outcomes does the Minister consider meet the best practice standard;
  - (b) in relation to (a), has DEC met this standard;
  - (c) in relation to (b), if not why not, and what is the Minister doing to ensure the standard is met in future; and
  - (d) in relation to (a), if yes, can the Minister provide details to demonstrate that best practice management and monitoring of outcomes standards have been met?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

- (1)
  - (a) 14 000
  - (b) 20 300
  - (c)–(d) No commercial harvest quota was set.
- (2)
  - (a) A dedicated ground survey and aerial survey, as well as standard aerial survey in the northern zone and monitor blocks in other zones.
  - (b) A dedicated ground survey and aerial survey, as well as standard aerial survey in the south–east zone and monitor blocks in other zones.
  - (c) A dedicated ground survey and aerial survey, as well as standard aerial survey in the central zone and monitor blocks in other zones.
  - (d) A standard aerial survey in the northern zone and monitor blocks in the central and south–east zones.
  - (e) A standard aerial survey in the south–east zone and monitor blocks in the northern and central zones.

- (3) (a)–(d) DEC will be undertaking a standard aerial survey in the central kangaroo population monitoring zone in 2012. Population survey costs excluding normal salaries are detailed below. These costs are principally for aircraft, vehicles, travel and accommodation and exclude planning, analyses and reporting. Red kangaroos, western grey kangaroos and euros are counted in these surveys.

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| 2006–07 | \$57 110 |
| 2007–08 | \$67 455 |
| 2008–09 | \$79 667 |
| 2009–10 | \$75 296 |
| 2010–11 | \$64 436 |
| 2011–12 | \$42 224 |

- (4) If euro products are to be exported, the euros must be taken in accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. The Commonwealth Minister has required that euro management plans include detailed population survey and monitoring. There is no State statutory requirement for kangaroo management plans, however the Wildlife Conservation Act 1950 provides for the commercial taking of euros. Population monitoring and harvest monitoring are undertaken to demonstrate that conservation requirements are met.
- (5) (a) The kangaroo management plan details the licensing, commercial harvest management, and population and harvest monitoring that in combination ensure the sustainable harvest of kangaroos. Features of the management plan include requirements for proficiency testing of commercial shooters, requirements for verifiable shooter, processor and dealer returns, the use of non-reusable secure harvest tags and monitoring using aerial surveys that identifies population trends for the harvested species.
- (b) Yes.
- (c) Not applicable.
- (d) Population monitoring demonstrates that the three species remain widespread and abundant.