



Suzanne Orr MLA

Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs
Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water
Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services
Minister for Seniors and Veterans

Member for Yerrabi

RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Questions on Notice Paper No 6

9 May 2025

Question No. 361

MR EMERSON MLA - To ask the Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water:

What progress has the Government made on implementing the recommendations of the 2024 independent review of the Kangaroo Management Plan, particularly Recommendation 4.2 related to measuring spatial variation of kangaroo populations.

MINISTER ORR MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT Government is currently preparing a new draft Eastern Grey Kangaroo Controlled Native Species Management Plan that is informed by the 2024 independent review. Each of the review recommendations are being considered as part of this process and these will be incorporated into the new plan as appropriate. The new draft plan is expected to be released for public consultation in the second half of 2025.

Each year the ACT Government conducts kangaroo population estimates at priority sites to inform management and research activities. The independent review recommends considering periodic broader-scale kangaroo surveys across rural lands (Recommendation 4.2) and the large, reserved areas in the south and west of the ACT (Recommendation 7.2). These recommendations are being considered against other priorities for inclusion as actions in the new draft plan.

Progress that has been made on implementing other review recommendations includes:

- The involvement of the ACT Government veterinarian in culling operations was increased in 2024 and will continue in 2025 (*Recommendation 6.3*). This involvement will be in addition to the independent veterinary audits undertaken (every 3 years).

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- Shooter competency tests will be run annually from late 2025 and the frequency of retesting will be increased to 3 years (*Recommendation 6.5*).
- The use of the term 'euthanasia' has been replaced with 'humane killing' when referring to pouch young that are killed (*Recommendation 6.9*).
- Communication material now highlights more clearly that kangaroo management in ACT nature reserves is one part of a broader land management program and describes how this fits into the larger context of kangaroo management, and the status of kangaroos, across the ACT (*Recommendation 2.4*); and that managing grass layer health and maintaining habitat quality for threatened species is the central conservation issue, with kangaroo management one component of this (*Recommendation 3.8*).
- Work is underway to further explore carcass utilisation options, including costing the options proposed in the 2020 Australian Wildlife Services report (*Recommendation 5.3*).
- A Standard Operating Procedure document that details the current conduct of the conservation culling operation will be prepared over the next 12 months and this document will be provided to relevant parties for review, including the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (*Recommendation 6.2*).

Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.

Suzanne Orr MLA
Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water

Date:.....17/06/25.....

This response required 1 hour, 35 minutes to complete, at an approximate cost of \$158.49.