

Proposed wildlife trade operation for the export of kangaroo skins derived from the expanded Victorian Kangaroo Petfood Trial 2016–18.

(West Wimmera, Glenelg, Loddon and Greater Bendigo shires)

Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) Pty Ltd

With the endorsement of the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

Introduction

This proposed wildlife trade operation (WTO) puts forward a mechanism to enable the overseas export of skins obtained by Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L as a by-product from the Victorian Petfood Trial (VPFT). This WTO is to include the shires recently added to the VPFT and not already covered by VPP's existing WTO. Authorities to Control Wildlife (ATCW) for kangaroo species such as the Eastern Grey (*Macropus giganteus*) and the Western Grey (*M. fuliginosus*) are issued by the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), pursuant to Section 50 of the *Wildlife Act 1975*, the Wildlife Regulations 2013 and conditions specified in the permit.

In order to do this, Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L aims to satisfy the requirements for approval of a small-scale wildlife trade operation under Section 303FN of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (the EPBC Act).

Scale of the proposed wildlife trade operation

Under the EPBC Act and its associated regulations, an operation is a small-scale operation if it has a low impact on the survival or conservation status of the species to which it relates. The proposed operation is considered small-scale because it involves only those kangaroos controlled under the guidance of Victoria's state regulations and permits. Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L aims to export 80,000 kangaroo skins during the life of this WTO.

The proposed wildlife trade operation

This plan presents an auditable process for Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L to source kangaroo skins for export. The proposed WTO is based entirely on kangaroo skins sourced from kangaroos that have been controlled under the guidance of Victoria's regulations and permits issued within the shires recently added to the VPFT (i.e. West Wimmera, Glenelg, Loddon and Greater Bendigo). The proposal provides a process to ensure that the WTO operates in a manner that satisfies government requirements. The species covered by this WTO are the Western Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus fuliginosus*), Species Code Number 1263; and the Eastern Grey Kangaroo (*M. giganteus*), Species Code Number 1265. All kangaroos will be identified with an individual numerical tag issued by the state's controlling body and will remain on the skin at all times.

Skins

All skins for export will be sourced only from kangaroos derived from the newly listed shires under the Victorian Kangaroo Petfood Trial (i.e. West Wimmera, Glenelg, Loddon and Greater Bendigo). These permits are issued by DELWP pursuant to Section 50 of the *Wildlife Act 1975*, the Wildlife Regulations 2013 and conditions specified in the permit.

Skins will be sold to a licensed Fauna Dealer (Skins).

Duration of the proposed wildlife trade operation

The operation will be undertaken until expiry of the current expanded VPFT on 31 March 2018, as described in the Kangaroo Petfood Trial information supplied by DELWP (see:

http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/351530/Kangaroo-Pet-Food-Trial-Overview-update-15-September-2016.pdf

http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/354116/Kangaroo-Pet-Food-Trial-Landholders-update-15-September-2016.pdf).

The number of kangaroos

Permits for the control of kangaroos are issued by the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). In order to control kangaroos, landholders are required to apply for an Authority to Control Wildlife. This permit will state the number of kangaroos to control. Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L aims to export 80,000 skins during the trial from all the listed shires.

Controls

The Victorian government now controls the issuing of state kangaroo tags.

Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L is controlled by Section 28A of the *Wildlife Act 1975* and Wildlife Regulations 1992, existing PrimeSafe regulations and The Standard for The Hygienic Production of Pet Meat (PISC Technical Report 88 - Amended 2009). Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L will ensure that each kangaroo will have a tag attached to the skin that is numerical and individual, having been issued to the farmers by DELWP wildlife officers. Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L will record all tags processed and provide these tag numbers to DELWP.

Protected Wildlife Record Books are issued by DELWP and are required to be completed for each harvest and recorded against the issued permit. An Annual Return Form is also to be completed, by mid-April each year.

Summary

Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L will complete the necessary documentation and submit the appropriate documentation to the controlling bodies. It is submitting an Application for Approval of a Wildlife Trade Operation that includes the shires of West Wimmera, Glenelg, Loddon and Greater Bendigo, which have been recently listed as part of the Victorian Petfood Trial.

The information set out in this application aims to satisfy the requirements for a WTO (Small-Scale) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Victorian Petfood Processors (Vic) P/L currently has an approved WTO that enables the export of kangaroo skins from the shires listed in the original Victorian Petfood Trial.