

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

Question No: 89
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1.4
Programme: Parliamentary Coordinator MB
Topic: Common Assessment Methodology
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2015
Question Type: Written

Senator Siewert, Rachel asked:

1. Common Assessment Methodology: in the long term, are the plans to require states to adopt a Threatened Ecological Community category for listing and assessment of a collection of flora and fauna that exist in a community together?

Answer:

No, the *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding: Agreement on a Common Assessment Method for listing threatened species and ecological communities* does not create contractual or other legal obligations between the jurisdictions. States and territories are not required to conduct assessments for threatened ecological communities unless the jurisdiction has indicated they wish to opt-in.