# 2024 Harvest Report

Commercial Kangaroo Harvest South Australia



Department for Environment and Water

#### Department for Environment and Water

GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001

Website: www.environment.sa.gov.au

Contact link: http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/contact-us

Disclaimer

The Department for Environment and Water and its employees do not warrant or make any representation regarding the use, or results of the use, of the information contained herein as regards to its correctness, accuracy, reliability, currency or otherwise. The Department for Environment and Water and its employees expressly disclaims all liability or responsibility to any person using the information or advice. Information contained in this document is correct at the time of writing.

© Crown in right of the State of South Australia, through the Department for Environment and Water 2025

This work is Copyright. Apart from any use permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cwlth), no part may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission obtained from the Department for Environment and Water. Requests and enquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be directed to the Chief Executive, Department for Environment and Water, GPO Box 1047, Adelaide SA 5001.

Preferred way to cite this publication

DEW (2025), 2024 Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Report for South Australia, Government of South Australia, through Department for Environment and Water, Adelaide

Download this document at <u>www.environment.sa.gov.au</u> and search for '2024 Harvest Report'

### Foreword

Kangaroos are an iconic part of South Australian landscapes. They are valued for their role in ecosystems, and as a resource that can be used sustainably. The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) is responsible for the conservation and management of kangaroos in South Australia in accordance with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (NPW Act), ranging from policy leadership to on-ground operations in consultation with government, industry and communities.

Widespread changes to the environment since European settlement have changed the abundance of many native species. Some species have declined in number, while others have adapted to the changes and can exploit the opportunities provided by altered habitats. These species which have adapted well – including kangaroos – are now present in larger numbers, and/or are more widespread than before.

Large numbers of kangaroos may be in conflict with various land uses and the objectives for which land is being managed. When this conflict occurs, kangaroos can cause detrimental impacts that may be environmental, economic, or social in nature. The drying conditions associated with drought can magnify these conflicts, especially where localised movement of kangaroos may occur as they seek food and water.

The NPW Act provides for the destruction of kangaroos for the purposes of mitigating or preventing damage and allows for the commercial harvest of the common kangaroo species (Red Kangaroo, Western Grey Kangaroo, Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Euro and Tammar Wallaby). High-quality science, effective monitoring and compliance provide the foundation for the management of our environment and natural resources, including our kangaroo species. This is achieved through appropriate management of legislation, research, investigations, assessments, monitoring and evaluation.

DEW's partnerships with industries, government agencies, Landscape Boards and the community ensures that there is continual capacity building with respect to kangaroo management, and that the best skills and expertise are used to inform decision making.

M Williams

Michael Williams DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

## Contents

Foreword	
Tables and Figures	
Summary	
Legislation	1
2023 Quotas	
2023 Harvest regions	
2024 Harvest	3
Harvest region data	4
Carcass weights	
Harvest Quota Management	8
Sustainable Use Quota	
Special Land Management Quota	
Non-commercial destruction permits	9
Compliance	11
Compliance checks	
Compliance action	
Compliance priorities for 2024	
Kangaroo Management on Reserves	13
Research	14

## **Tables and Figures**

Table 1: Kangaroo harvest regions and sub-regions for South Australia during 2024	1
Table 2: Harvest statistics from kangaroo field processor returns for the 2024 calendar year	
Table 3: Harvest statistics from kangaroo meat processor returns for the 2024 and 2023 calendar years	3
Table 4: Harvest and sex bias of Red Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year	4
Table 5: Harvest and sex bias of Western Grey Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year	5
Table 6: Harvest and sex bias of Euros during 2024 calendar year	5
Table 7: Harvest and sex bias of Eastern Grey Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year	5
Table 8: Harvest and sex bias of Tammar Wallabies during 2024 calendar year	6
Table 9: Average weights of harvested Red Kangaroos during 2024	6
Table 10: Average weights of harvested Western Grey Kangaroos during 2024	7
Table 11: Average weights of harvested Euros during 2024	7
Table 12: Average weights of harvested Eastern Grey Kangaroos during 2024	
Table 13: Average weights of harvested Tammar Wallabies during 2024	7
Table 14: Non-commercial destruction of kangaroos per commercial harvest region during 2024	9
Table 15: Kangaroo management compliance activities for kangaroos harvested in South Australia during 2024	11
Table 16: Numbers of non-commercially destroyed kangaroos on reserves declared under the National Parks and Wil	ldlife
Act 1972 in South Australia during 2024	13

Figure 1: Map of harv	est regions a	nd sub-regions of Sout	th Australia	2

### Summary

### Legislation

All kangaroo species in South Australia are protected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (NPW Act), have value in ecosystem processes, and contribute to biodiversity. The NPW Act (section 60G) and associated regulations allow for the sustainable harvest of the following common kangaroo species:

- Red Kangaroo (Macropus rufus)
- Western Grey Kangaroo (M. fuliginosus)
- Eastern Grey Kangaroo (M. giganteus)
- Euro (M. robustus)
- Tammar Wallaby (M. eugenii).

The NPW Act recognises the genus of all of these species as being Macropus, rather than Notamacropus or Osphranter, as some are now recognised in the Australian Faunal Directory, therefore Macropus has been used in this report for consistency.

The wildlife trade provisions of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) regulate the export of kangaroo products from Australia. The harvest and export of these protected species requires a management plan endorsed under the NPW Act and a Wildlife Trade Management Plan endorsed under the EPBC Act.

The Department for Environment and Water (DEW) manages the commercial harvest of kangaroos in South Australia. Management of the commercial harvest in 2024 was implemented through the South Australian Commercial Kangaroo Management Plan 2020 – 2024 (the Management Plan). The Management Plan meets the requirements of the NPW Act, and the EPBC Act, as an approved Wildlife Trade Management Plan.

This harvest report details the operation of the Management Plan and includes the following information:

- Harvest for 2024, by harvest sub-region and species;
- Harvest quota management;
- Special Land Management Quota issued;
- Non-commercial destruction statistics;
- Compliance statistics;

- Current management programs on reserves; and
- Research that the Department is involved with relating to kangaroos.

#### 2024 Quotas

In accordance with the Management Plan, annual harvest quotas were based on the results of kangaroo population surveys (aerial and ground) and modelled population estimates.

#### 2024 Harvest regions

The Management Plan defines five harvest regions that consist of 17 sub-regions (Table 1 and Figure 1). Harvest sub-regions are primarily based on the administrative boundaries of the former Soil Conservation Board districts (or an amalgamation thereof).

Table 1: Kangaroo harvest regions and sub-regions for South Australia during 2024.

Harvest Region	Harvest Sub-region
Eastern Pastoral	North Flinders North East Pastoral Eastern Districts Mallee
Western Pastoral	Marla-Oodnadatta Marree (inside dog fence) Marree (outside dog fence) Kingoonya Gawler Ranges
Eastern Agricultural	South Flinders Yorke Mid North
Western Agricultural	Eyre East Eyre West
Southern Agricultural	Hills and Fleurieu Kangaroo Island Upper South East Lower South East

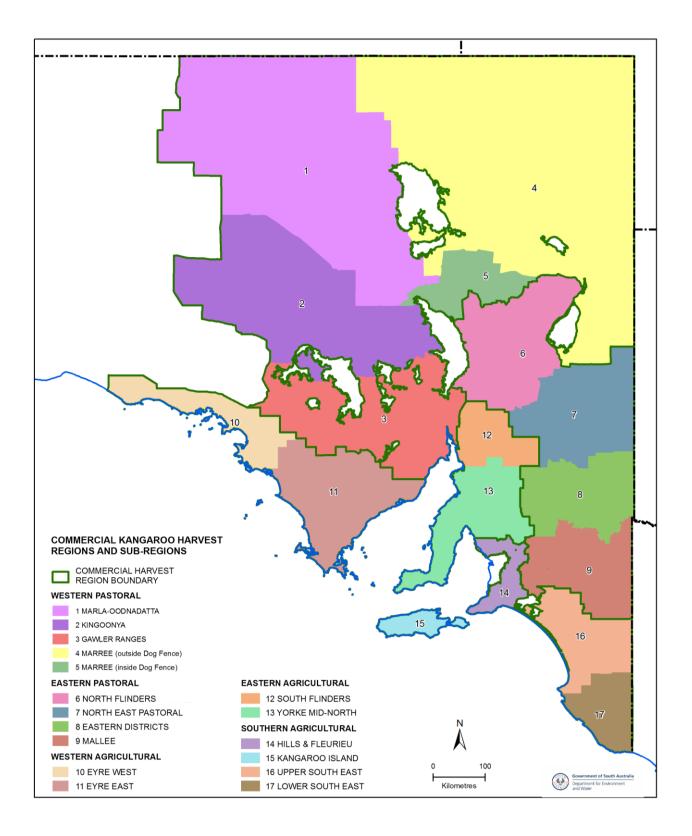


Figure 1: Map of harvest regions and sub-regions of South Australia

### 2024 Harvest

Harvest returns are received each month by the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) from kangaroo field processors (shooters) and kangaroo meat processors. Data from kangaroo field processor returns may be subject to amendment (Table 2). Data sourced from kangaroo meat processor returns (Table 3) are regarded as the more accurate in terms of numbers, as these data are related to payments made to kangaroo field processors.

During 2024 a total of 105,845 kangaroos were harvested, which represented 17% of the available quota (Table3). Red kangaroos had the highest harvest of the five species harvested of 63,664, followed by western grey kangaroos of 29,518. (Table 2).

Table 2: Harvest statistics from kangaroo field processor returns for the 2024 calendar year.

Species	Pop. est.	Quota*	Harvest*	% Quota harvested
Red Kangaroo	2,019,168	373,400	63,664	17%
Western Grey Kangaroo	954,571	152,500	29,518	19%
Euro	430,872	64,600	5,147	8%
Eastern Grey Kangaroo	121,539	20,000	7,516	38%
Tammar Wallaby	384,671	24,900	0	0%
Total	3,910,821	635,400	105,845	17%

\* Including Special Land Management Quota.

There is a discrepancy between meat processor and field processor totals of 658 kangaroo carcasses. This represents 0.11% of the total quota and is not considered significant, given the varied sources from which these data are compiled. The higher number of kangaroos recorded using the field processor returns may relate to outstanding issues awaiting resolution with field processors and meat processors where errors have been identified on their returns. The discrepancy may change once these matters have been resolved.

### Table 3: Harvest statistics from kangaroo meat processor returns for the 2024 and 2023 calendar years.

Species	Quota*	Harvest*	% Quota harvested
Red Kanga	roo		
2024	373,400	64,087	17%
2023	338,100	58,644	17%
Western G	rey Kangaroo	0	
2024	152,500	29,879	20%
2023	221,200	28,403	13%
Euro			
2024	64,600	5,046	8%
2023	34,900	6,049	17%
Eastern Gre	ey Kangaroo		
2024	20,000	7,491	37%
2023	15,100	7,445	49%
Tammar W	allaby		
2024	24,900	0	0%
2023	24,900	53	<1%
Total			
2024	635,400	106,503	17%
2023	634,200	100,594	16%

\* Including Special Land Management Quota.

#### Harvest region data

The 2024 kangaroo harvest data by harvest region and species is provided in Tables 4-8 and is sourced from kangaroo field processor returns. These tables do not include the Special Land Management Quota (SLMQ) which is detailed in the Harvest Quota Management section of this report.

The largest harvest of red kangaroos occurred in the Eastern Pastoral harvest region, with 29,194 kangaroos harvested, however, the harvest region with the highest percentage of available red kangaroo quota harvested was Eastern Agricultural (47%, Table 4). Western grey kangaroos had the highest harvest in the Eastern Agricultural harvest region of 10,069, but the harvest region with the largest percentage of western grey kangaroo quota harvested was Eastern Pastoral with 36% of the available quota harvested (Table 5). The highest total take of euros, both harvest and percentage of quota, was in the Eastern Agricultural harvest region (2,529 euros, 22% of quota, Table 6). Eastern grey kangaroos were available for harvest in one harvest sub-region (Lower South East) within the Southern Agricultural harvest region, where 7,516 kangaroos were harvested, which equated to 41% of the quota (Table 7). Tammar wallabies were first harvested from Kangaroo Island in 2022, however during 2024 there was no harvest of Tammar wallabies (Table 8).

During 2024, the male bias in the large kangaroo species ranged from 60% in eastern grey kangaroos to 82% in red kangaroos, a slight increase in male bias compared to 2023 (55% – 76%). Euros continue to show a high male bias of 98-100% as females are not usually economically viable due to their small size (Table 6). There was no harvest of Tammar wallabies in 2024.

Harvest Region	Pop. est.	Quota <sup>1</sup>	% <b>p</b> *	Harvest <sup>1,2</sup>	% <b>q</b> *	# Females	# Males	Male bias (%)
Western Pastoral	1,091,034	190,200	10-20%	23,979	13%	4,240	19,737	82%
Eastern Pastoral	797,876	130,900	10-20%	29,194	22%	6,707	22,486	77%
Eastern Agricultural	130,259	22,100	17%	10,491	47%	2,174	8,315	79%
Total	2,019,168	343,200	10-20%	63,664	19%	13,121	50,538	<b>79%</b>

Table 4: Harvest and sex bias of Red Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year.

<sup>1</sup>Quota and Harvest do not include Special Land Management Quota

<sup>2</sup> Harvest includes 5 carcasses left in field (did not meet industry standards) that are not included in the # Females and # Males.

\* % q = commercial take as percentage of approved quota; % p = allowed commercial take as percentage of population estimate (range relates to individual harvest sub-region quotas).

Harvest Region	Pop. est.	Quota <sup>1</sup>	% <b>p</b> *	Harvest <sup>1,2</sup>	% <b>q</b> *	# Females	# Males	Male bias (%)
Western Pastoral	124,465	18,600	15%	4,455	24%	909	3,546	80%
Eastern Pastoral	118,073	15,300	10-15%	5,518	36%	1,731	3,787	69%
Western Agricultural	132,795	19,800	15%	338	2%	141	184	57%
Eastern Agricultural	268,094	40,100	15%	10,069	25%	3,059	7,007	70%
Southern Agricultural	311,144	44,400	10-15%	9,138	21%	3,655	5,480	60%
Total	954,571	138,200	10-15%	29,158	21%	9,495	20,004	68%

Table 5: Harvest and sex bias of Western Grey Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year.

<sup>1</sup>Quota and Harvest do not include Special Land Management Quota

<sup>2</sup>Harvest includes 19 carcasses left in field (did not meet industry standards), that are not included in the # Females and # Males.

\* % q = commercial take as percentage of approved quota; % p = allowed commercial take as percentage of population estimate (range relates to individual harvest sub-region quotas).

#### Table 6: Harvest and sex bias of Euros during 2024 calendar year.

Harvest Region	Pop. est.	Quota <sup>1</sup>	% <b>p</b> *	Harvest <sup>1,2</sup>	% <b>q</b> *	# Females	# Males	Male bias (%)
Western Pastoral	180,889	24,100	0-15%	1,108	5%	1	1,107	99.9%
Eastern Pastoral	167,839	22,500	0-15%	1,510	7%	47	1,463	97%
Eastern Agricultural	82,144	11,600	12-15%	2,529	22%	60	2,468	98%
Total	430,872	58,200	0-15%	5,147	<b>9</b> %	108	5038	<b>98</b> %

<sup>1</sup>Quota and Harvest do not include Special Land Management Quota

<sup>2</sup> Harvest includes 1 carcasses left in field (did not meet industry standards), that are not included in the # Females and # Males.

\* % q = commercial take as percentage of approved quota; % p = allowed commercial take as percentage of population estimate (range relates to individual harvest sub-region quotas).

#### Table 7: Harvest and sex bias of Eastern Grey Kangaroos during 2024 calendar year.

Harvest Region	Pop. est.	Quota <sup>1</sup>	% <b>p</b> *	Harvest <sup>1,2</sup>	² % q*	# Females	# Males	Male bias (%)
Southern Agricultural	121,539	18,200	15%	7,516	41%	3,013	4,503	60%
Total	121,539	18,200	15%	7,516	41%	3,013	4,503	60%

<sup>1</sup> Quota and Harvest do not include Special Land Management Quota and harvest

<sup>2</sup> No carcasses were left in field

\* % q = commercial take as percentage of approved quota; % p = allowed commercial take as percentage of population estimate (range relates to individual harvest sub-region quotas).

Harvest Region	Pop. est.	Quota <sup>1</sup>	% <b>p</b> *	Harvest <sup>1,2</sup>	% <b>q</b> *	# Females	# Males	Male bias (%)
Southern Agricultural	384,671	19,200	5%	0	0%	0	0	0%
Total	384,671	19,200	5%	0	0%	0	0	0%

Table 8: Harvest and sex bias of Tammar Wallabies during 2024 calendar year.

<sup>1</sup> Quota and Harvest do not include Special Land Management Quota and harvest

<sup>2</sup> No carcasses were left in field

\* % q = commercial take as percentage of approved quota; % p = allowed commercial take as percentage of population estimate (range relates to individual harvest sub-region quotas).

#### **Carcass weights**

Commercial harvests typically have a bias towards larger and heavier animals. The average number of kangaroos harvested and average weight per carcass for males and females for each harvest region and species are presented below (Tables 9-13). Data does not include carcasses left in the field.

Average weights of carcasses for the large kangaroo species ranged from 27.3 kg to 33.3 kg for males and from 17.8 kg to 21.0 kg for females (Table 9, 10, 12). The heaviest kangaroos were harvested from the Southern Agricultural harvest region, where the average weight for male eastern grey kangaroos was 33.3 kg and average weight for female eastern grey kangaroos was 21.0 kg (Table 12). Euros are sometimes smaller animals than the other kangaroo species, particularly female euros. The heaviest average weight for both male and female euros came from Western Pastoral, 26.6 kg, and 17.6 kg, respectively (Table 11). Tammar wallabies are the smallest macropod harvested in South Australia however no harvest occurred in 2024 (Table 13). The weights of kangaroos reported here are very similar to those reported last year in the 2023 Harvest Report (DEW 2024).

Harvest region	# Females	# Males	Ave. female weight (kg)	Ave. male weight (kg)
Western Pastoral	4,233	19,734	18.0	28.0
Eastern Pastoral	6,707	22,486	17.2	28.1
Eastern Agricultural	2,174	8,315	18.1	25.9
Total	13,121	50,538	17.8	27.3

Table 9: Average weights of harvested Red Kangaroos during 2024.

Harvest region	# Females	# Males	Ave. female weight (kg)	Ave. male weight (kg)
Western Pastoral	909	3,546	18.4	27.3
Eastern Pastoral	1,731	3,787	17.6	26.3
Western Agricultural	141	184	19.2	31.6
Eastern Agricultural	3,059	7,007	18.1	26.5
Southern Agricultural	3,655	5,480	19.1	31.8
Total	9,495	20,004	18.5	28.7

Table 10: Average weights of harvested Western Grey Kangaroos during 2024.

Table 11: Average weights of harvested Euros during 2024.

Harvest region	# Females	# Males	Ave. female weight (kg)	Ave. male weight (kg)
Western Pastoral	1	1,107	13.0	26.6
Eastern Pastoral	47	1,463	17.6	23.9
Eastern Agricultural	60	2,468	15.3	25.6
Total	108	5,038	15.3	25.4

Table 12: Average weights of harvested Eastern Grey Kangaroos during 2024.

Harvest region	#Females	#Males	Ave. female weight (kg)	Ave. male weight (kg)
Southern Agricultural	3,013	4,503	21.0	33.3
Total	3,013	4,503	21.0	33.3

Table 13: Average weights of harvested Tammar Wallabies during 2024.

Harvest region <sup>1</sup>	# Females	# Males	Ave. female weight (kg)	Ave. male weight (kg)
Southern Agricultural	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

### Harvest Quota Management

#### Sustainable Use Quota

Sealed tags were sold throughout the year in accordance with the allocated harvest region quotas for 2024. Harvest reports were viewed regularly, allowing the progress of the kangaroo quota utilisation in each region to be monitored.

The harvest of kangaroos in most harvest regions was generally low when compared to the available quota in 2024. The highest harvest (as a percentage of Sustainable Use Quota) occurred in the Eastern Agricultural Harvest Sub-region for red kangaroos, where 10,491 of the available 22,100 were harvested (47.5%).

Drought impacted most of the pastoral areas of the State during 2019 and 2020, with the aerial kangaroo survey results over this period showing a decrease in population estimates for kangaroos. Kangaroo surveys conducted since 2021 have shown that kangaroo populations were beginning to recover after the drought and starting to increase in numbers in some areas. Surveys during 2024 indicated an overall increase in the kangaroo population across the State, with an increase in red kangaroos, eastern grey kangaroos and euros, but a slight decrease in western grey kangaroos (DEW 2024 Quota Report (2023)).

The kangaroo harvesting industry in South Australia has continued to take approximately 100,000 kangaroos annually since 2010, irrespective of the numbers of kangaroos present within the landscape and available quotas. The total harvest for 2024 was 106,503, a slight increase on the 2023 total harvest of 100,594.

### Special Land Management Quota

Special Land Management Quota (SLMQ) may be set at up to 1.5% of the estimated population size of each species. SLMQ can be used when land management issues arise that may be due to localised or widespread seasonal conditions. This reserve of tags is available within a Commercial Harvest Management Region for use when all commercial quota has been allocated, to mitigate ongoing land condition damage. This quota component is only for the harvest of kangaroos that would otherwise be culled under DEW Permits to Destroy Wildlife, and is designed to minimise the number of kangaroos destroyed under these permits and not utilised by the commercial industry.

There was no SLMQ released during 2024.

### **Non-commercial destruction permits**

Details of permits issued for non-commercial destruction of kangaroos (Permits to Destroy Wildlife) in each commercial harvest region for 2024 are provided in Table 14.

Permits have been allocated to harvest regions using the following rules:

- Where a permit for a property straddles harvest regions, the permit is attributed to the harvest region having the majority of the property area.
- Where a permit has been issued and the majority or entirety of the land is outside the commercial harvest area, then that permit has been included in Harvest Region 'Outside commercial harvest area'.

Table 14: Non-commercial destruction of kangaroos per commercial harvest region and outside the harvest area during 2024.

Species available for commercial harvest												
	Red Kangaroo		Western Grey Kangaroo <sup>a</sup>		Eu	Euro G		Grov		ımar llaby		
Harvest region	Permits issued <sup>b</sup>	Animals on permit	Permits issued <sup>b</sup>	Animals on permit	Permits issued <sup>b</sup>	Animals on permit	Permits issued <sup>b</sup>	Animals on permit	Permits issued <sup>b</sup>	Animals on permit	Total permits issued <sup>c</sup>	Total animals on permit
Western Pastoral	16	5,665	15	4,835	5	550					36	11,050
Eastern Pastoral ^	79	5,173	175	12,044	18	2,165	13	565			285	19,947
Western Agricultural	13	432	113	10,287	7	230					133	10,949
Eastern Agricultural^	96	3,782	198	10,653	95	3,701	2	80			391	18,216
Southern Agricultural	1	50	596	34745	5	30	34	1,344	74	11,820	710	47,989
Outside commercial harvest area*	0	0	29	1,346	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	1,346
Total (Inside and Outside harvest area)	205	15,102	1,126	73,910	130	6,676	49	1,989	74	11,820	1,584	109,497

<sup>a</sup> includes both the mainland Western Grey Kangaroo and the Kangaroo Island Western Grey Kangaroo.

<sup>b</sup> number of permits that include this species.

<sup>c</sup> as a single permit may list multiple species, the reported 'total permits issued' are greater than the actual number of permits issued.

^ Eastern Pastoral Region now includes Murray Plains Soil Conservation Board (SCB); Eastern Agricultural Region now includes approx. 2/3 of Lower North SCB and Yorke Peninsula SCB; as of 1 January 2020.

\* Adelaide Metropolitan Area is outside the expanded commercial harvest area, but has western grey kangaroos issued on permits in environments similar to adjacent Southern Agricultural Region.

## Compliance

### **Compliance checks**

During 2024, DEW staff routinely checked field processor returns for incorrect information which was then investigated and corrected. The lodgement of monthly returns was monitored, with compliance action taken against permit holders who submitted late returns. Likewise, field processors with outstanding expired sealed tags were followed-up to ensure tags were returned.

Fifty-seven field chiller sites (including mobile chillers, drive-through sites and fixed chillers) were in operation throughout the pastoral and agricultural areas of South Australia during 2024. DEW wardens inspected forty-nine field chillers during 2024.

The aim of field chiller inspections is to ensure that field operations are compliant with the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972* (the Act) and associated regulations.

When inspected, field chillers are checked to ensure:

- Kangaroos are taken according to the National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes (2020).
- Sealed tags are correctly affixed to kangaroo carcasses.
- Sealed tags are valid for use.
- Sealed tags affixed to each carcass are correct for that species.
- Harvester ID, date of harvest and location are stated on each carcass.
- Carcasses are presented in the correct form.
- Any food safety issues are documented and reported to the Biosecurity SA Food Safety Program (PIRSA).

Field trips are also an important means of maintaining relationships with field processors (55 permit holders in 2024) and gaining an understanding of landscape condition.

Five kangaroo meat processors and one skin processors (tannery) operated in South Australia during 2024. Compliance inspections at the meat processors' facilities provide a good picture of the level of field processors' adherence to legislative requirements. Seven inspections were made of meat processing facilities and two inspections were conducted at the skin processor (tannery).

Thirty audits, a mixture of e-audits and field audits, of field processors' field record books and written landholder consents, were undertaken during 2024.

### **Compliance action**

DEW wardens are able to issue verbal warnings, educational letters, written cautions and expiation notices. Expiation notices attract a penalty. If a caution is issued to an individual and that person continues to commit the same offence, an expiation notice is generally issued. Serious or habitual offenders may have court action taken against them.

During 2024, 14 expiation notices, 21 caution notices and 1 advisory letter was issued regarding offences in relation to kangaroos harvested in South Australia, as detailed in Table 15.

A prosecution was also finalised in 2024, which related to harvesting without a permit and providing false and misleading data.

Table 15: Kangaroo management compliance activities for kangaroos harvested in South Australia during 2024

Description of offence	Result
Permit holder to supply returns within 14 days	8 Cautions 2 Expiation
Have in possession out of date sealed tags	2 Cautions
Use of expired (out of date) tag	2 Cautions 1 Expiation
Use of incorrect tags (species or sub-region)	2 Cautions
Non-compliant carcass	10 Expiations
Failure to record required information in Field Record book	4 Cautions
Failure to provide written landowner permission	1 Expiation
Other	1 Advisory Letter 3 Cautions

### **Compliance priorities for 2024**

The following points summarise the outcomes against the compliance priorities for 2024, as stated in the 2023 Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Report for South Australia.

- 1. Continue engagement of DEW staff across the entire commercial harvest area in the kangaroo management program (e.g. field chiller checks, training of additional staff).
  - In progress A total of 6 regional staff assisted with conducting compliance inspections.
- Continue with field processor audits, ensuring a minimum of 24 e-audits are conducted in addition to in-field audits, whenever possible. New field processors to be audited within 12 months of commencing in the industry.
  - Ongoing. A total of 30 field processor audits were conducted in 2024 including 11 in person audits and 19 e-audits.
- 3. Maintain a strong field presence with inspections of all active chiller sites to be conducted at least once per year.
  - Ongoing 86% of active chiller sites were visited during 2024, compared to 82 % of active chiller sites visited during 2023.

#### **Compliance priorities for 2025**

The priorities for 2025 are:

- 1. Continue to engage and involve DEW staff across the entire commercial harvest area in the kangaroo management program (e.g. field chiller checks, training of additional staff).
- Continue with field processor audits, ensuring a minimum of 30 percent of field processors are audited each year (either in person or by eaudit). New field processors to be audited within 12 months of commencing in the industry.
- 3. Maintain a strong field presence with inspections of all active chiller sites to be conducted at least once per year.

### **Kangaroo Management on Reserves**

On National Parks and Wildlife (NPW) reserves, kangaroos are managed where they impact reserve conservation values. The management of kangaroos on DEW managed land is guided by a policy framework that is based on scientific principles and informed by the objectives of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*. A proposal to control kangaroo populations on reserves must demonstrate the impact of kangaroos on the conservation values of the reserve, detail monitoring programs to evaluate the success of the control program, and demonstrate adequate control measures for introduced herbivores. The objectives of these programs are to improve conservation values by aiding ecological restoration and/or threatened species recovery. All kangaroos are harvested or culled in accordance with the respective National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes (2020) or Non-Commercial Purposes.

During 2024, non-commercial kangaroo control programs were undertaken on 9 DEW reserves. A total of 1,685 western grey kangaroos, 49 red kangaroos and 406 euros were culled (Table 16). In addition, 729 western grey kangaroos, 1,240 red kangaroos and 20 euros were commercially harvested from 5 NPW reserves (total of 1,989 kangaroos), which is an increase from 2023 of 889 kangaroos. Data on the kangaroos that have been commercially harvested from NPW reserves is included in the 2024 Harvest Details section (tables) of this report.

Harvest region	Reserve	Western Grey Kangaroo	Red Kangaroo	Euro
Western Agricultural	Venus Bay CP	10		6
	Coffin Bay NP	192		
	Lincoln NP	477		
Western Pastoral	Gawler Ranges NP	628	49	400
Southern Agricultural	Para Wirra CP	279		
	Newland Head CP	8		
	Kaiserstuhl CP	46		
	Deep Creek	19		
	Charleston CP	26		
Total		1685	49	406

Table 16: Numbers of non-commercially destroyed kangaroos on reserves declared under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 in South Australia during 2024.

## Research

No new research projects related to kangaroo management were supported by DEW during 2024.

### References

DEW, (2019), 2018 Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Report for South Australia, Government of South Australia, through Department for Environment and Water, Adelaide.

AgriFutures Australia, (2020), National Code of Practice for the Humane Shooting of Kangaroos and Wallabies for Commercial Purposes.

DEW, (2023), 2022 Commercial Kangaroo Harvest Report for South Australia, Government of South Australia, through Department for Environment and Water, Adelaide.

DEW, (2024), 2023 Quota Report Commercial Kangaroo Harvest South Australia, Government of South Australia, through Department for Environment and Water, Adelaide.

Published by the Department for Environment and Water Government of South Australia March 2025

Telephone +61 (8) 8204 9000 Facsimile +61 (8) 8115 1256

ABN 36702093234

Report prepared by: Department for Environment and Water Conservation and Wildlife Branch National Parks and Wildlife Service Division

#### www.environment.sa.gov.au



With the exception of the Piping Shrike emblem, other material or devices protected by Aboriginal rights or a trademark, and subject to review by the Government of South Australia at all times, the content of this document is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence. All other rights are reserved.

© Crown in right of the State of South Australia



Department for Environment and Water