

Kangaroo Harvesting Program 2026 quota determination

Commercial quota for 1 January to 31 December 2026

Kangaroo Harvesting Program

The Kangaroo Harvesting Program (KHP) allows for commercial harvesting of grey kangaroos in Victoria. Commercial harvesting is authorised by the *Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan 2024-2028* (KHMP) under the *Wildlife Act 1975*. The KHMP requires the Secretary of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) to set an annual commercial quota, which is the maximum number of Eastern and Western Grey Kangaroos that can be harvested, while maintaining sustainable kangaroo populations.

Since commercial kangaroo harvesting began in Victoria in 2019, the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research (ARI) has recommended the total statewide take of kangaroos should not exceed 10% of the population across both commercial harvesting and the ATCW system to maintain sustainable kangaroo populations. The commercial quota is calculated after accounting for the number of kangaroos that are predicted to be controlled under the ATCW system in each of the five Harvest Zones (**Figure 1**) in the coming year. Landholders can apply to the Conservation Regulator for an ATCW at any time.

DEECA regularly monitors the take of kangaroos through both the KHP and the ATCW system. If numbers are approaching the recommended maximum total take in any Harvest Zone, or if emergency events such as floods or bushfires are impacting kangaroo populations, commercial harvesting may be reduced, suspended or closed in affected areas to ensure kangaroo populations are sustainable.

Determining the 2026 commercial quota

As in previous years, DEECA has engaged ARI to provide recommendations on a sustainable commercial kangaroo harvest for Victoria – see the ARI report *Kangaroo harvest quotas for Victoria, 2026*. DEECA sets the commercial quota based on these recommendations.

The recommended maximum total take across the five Harvest Zones for 2026 is 207,800 kangaroos, consisting of 186,700 Eastern Grey Kangaroos and 21,100 Western Grey Kangaroos. Total take includes commercial harvesting and control undertaken through ATCW authorisations.

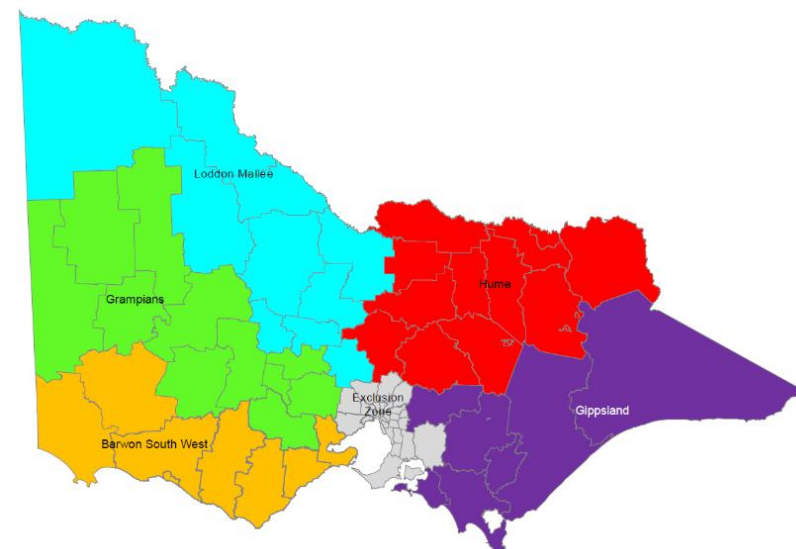


Figure 1: Commercial kangaroo Harvest Zones

The commercial quota for 2026 is 95,450 kangaroos, consisting of 84,600 Eastern Grey Kangaroos and 10,850 Western Grey Kangaroos across Harvest Zones.

Table 1 (next page) shows the most recent kangaroo population estimate (population surveyed in 2024), total recommended take, ATCW prediction and commercial quota of each grey kangaroo species in each Harvest Zone for 2026.

No quota has been issued in the Loddon Mallee Harvest Zone for Western Grey Kangaroos for 2026, as the predicted number of kangaroos controlled through ATCWs is greater than the recommended total take.

Further information

For more detailed information on the calculation of the quota, refer to the ARI report, *Kangaroo harvest quotas for Victoria, 2026*.

Table 1. Population estimates, total recommended take, ATCW predictions and commercial quota for Eastern Grey Kangaroos (EGK), Western Grey Kangaroos (WGK) and both grey kangaroo species (Combined) across the five Harvest Zones in Victoria.

Harvest Zone	Population estimate			Total recommended take			ATCW prediction			Commercial quota		
	EGK	WGK	Combined	EGK	WGK	Combined	EGK	WGK	Combined	EGK	WGK	Combined
Barwon South West	249,000	12,000	261,000	24,900	1,200	26,100	12,050	450	12,500	12,850	750	13,600
Grampians	273,000	112,000	385,000	27,300	11,200	38,500	16,950	1,100	18,050	10,350	10,100	20,450
Loddon Mallee	408,000	87,000	495,000	40,800	8,700	49,500	25,850	9,550	35,400	14,950	0	14,950
Hume	771,000	-	771,000	77,100	-	77,100	41,050	-	41,050	36,050	-	36,050
Gippsland	166,000	-	166,000	16,600	-	16,600	6,200	-	6,200	10,400	-	10,400
TOTAL	1,867,000	211,000	2,078,000	186,700	21,100	207,800	102,100	11,100	113,200	84,600	10,850	95,450