

Kangaroo Harvesting Program

Q&A – Landowners

WHAT IS THE KANGAROO HARVESTING PROGRAM (KHP)?

The KHP commenced on 1 October 2019 and helps landholders reduce issues caused by kangaroos on-farm, it makes use of the carcasses and provides an income for the trained harvesters.

The program offers landholders who are experiencing issues with Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos an alternative to an Authority to Control Wildlife (ATCW) at no cost. Unlike an ATCW, landholders wanting to manage kangaroos on their property through the KHP do not need to apply for a permit.

The Victorian Government designates KHP zones across Victoria which are assigned quotas that specify the number of Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos that can be controlled in any one area to ensure the sustainability of kangaroo populations.

Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos can only be harvested by authorised harvesters with the landowner's permission. The carcasses are transported to registered processors to be processed.

WHY IS THERE A KANGAROO HARVESTING PROGRAM?

While kangaroos are protected wildlife, the Victorian Government appreciates that they can have a detrimental effect on farmers, producers and Victoria's economy. These problems might include crop destruction, competition with livestock and damage to property such as fences.

This program allows landowners to engage authorised harvesters to control Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos on their property. It also means that kangaroo carcasses will be used to create economic benefit for Victoria, rather than being left to waste away in paddocks.

The program ensures Victoria's Eastern and Western Grey kangaroo populations are managed in a sustainable way through set harvest quotas, in line with a Kangaroo Harvest Management Plan and national animal welfare standards, while helping landowners who are having problems with over-abundant kangaroos.

WHO IS OVERSEEING THE KHP?

The program is designed and implemented by the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions in collaboration with the Game Management Authority (GMA) and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

Visit our website for further information: <https://djpr.vic.gov.au/game-hunting/kangaroo-harvesting>

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN THE KHP?

If you have a problem with Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos on your property, then please visit djpr.vic.gov.au/game-hunting/kangaroo-harvesting to see which zone your property is located in.

To get involved in the program as a landowner, you'll need to register through [Service Victoria](#).

Once registered, you can [request a list](#) of currently authorised harvesters who have expressed an interest in operating in your zone.

It will be up to you to make direct contact with harvesters to organise a time and date for harvest to occur.

Authorised harvesters will be able to control Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos on your property if they hold a quota allocation for your zone.

Harvesters do not charge you for their service, and landholders do not need to apply for any permits.

CAN YOU STILL APPLY FOR AN AUTHORITY TO CONTROL WILDLIFE (ATCW) SYSTEM?

Yes, landowners will still be able to apply for an ATCW and that system will operate independently of the KHP.

An ATCW gives landowners permission to control wildlife including kangaroos on their property. However, unless specified in the conditions, the carcasses cannot be removed and used by processors.

ATCW applicants are strongly encouraged to access the KHP rather than applying for an ATCW.

ATCWs will continue to be administered by the Conservation Regulator Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). Further information is available at [Wildlife.vic.gov.au: Wildlife management and control authorisations](https://wildlife.vic.gov.au/Wildlife-management-and-control-authorisations).

DO I NEED TO SURRENDER AN EXISTING ATCW BEFORE I CAN ENGAGE A HARVESTER?

No, there is nothing to prevent a landholder who has an ATCW to control kangaroos on their property from also engaging a harvester to harvest on their property.

However, the number of Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos approved for control under ATCWs is taken into account when setting quotas for the KHP. If high numbers are approved for ATCW control, the quota may be lower in following years. You should only take out an ATCW to undertake your own control if you think you will have a genuine need to control more kangaroos than a harvester can harvest.

HOW DO I ARRANGE FOR A HARVESTER TO CONTROL KANGAROOS ON MY PROPERTY?

Visit our website djpr.vic.gov.au/game-hunting/kangaroo-harvesting to register as a landowner and receive details of harvesters operating in your zone.

WHAT IF THERE AREN'T ANY HARVESTERS OPERATING IN MY AREA OR THEY WON'T COME ON TO MY PROPERTY?

If there are no authorised harvesters operating in your area or that can attend your property, you can apply for an ATCW from DELWP to control the kangaroos yourself.

https://www.wildlife.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/word_doc/0027/87813/ATCW-Application-20.1.docx

WHERE ARE THE ZONES LOCATED AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUOTAS?

Visit our website to find out the harvester zones and quotas djpr.vic.gov.au/game-hunting/kangaroo-harvesting.

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KHP?

Landowners do not have to participate in the KHP.

If landowners are approached by harvesters requesting to harvest Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos on their property, they are under no obligation to grant permission to that harvester.

WILL I RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR KANGAROOS THAT ARE HARVESTED ON MY LAND?

No, harvesters are not required to make a payment to landowners to harvest Eastern or Western Grey kangaroos from their properties.

WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO PROVIDE TO THE HARVESTER?

You must provide written consent for the harvester to destroy Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos on your property. A consent form can be obtained at <https://djpr.vic.gov.au/game-hunting/kangaroo-harvesting>.

WHAT INFORMATION SHOULD I REQUEST FROM A HARVESTER BEFORE ALLOWING THEM TO HARVEST KANGAROOS ON MY PROPERTY?

You need to view a copy or evidence of their authorisation to harvest Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos – either a photocopy of their authorisation or their authorised harvester e-licence on the Service Victoria app.

It is recommended that you request evidence from the harvester that they have appropriate public liability or public indemnity insurance prior to providing permission to the harvester to harvest on your land.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SUSPECT A HARVESTER HAS BEEN ENGAGING IN ILLEGAL SHOOTING ON MY PROPERTY?

If you suspect a harvester on your property is acting illegally or you have unauthorised harvesters accessing your property, please contact the GMA Customer Service Centre on 136 186 to report the incident and an Authorised Officer will be in contact with you.

I HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE HARVESTER WHO CONTROLLED THE KANGAROOS ON MY PROPERTY, WHAT DO I DO?

All concerns should be reported to the GMA Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Non-compliance with the conditions of the KHP may result in an investigation. Any harvester that acts outside the conditions prescribed by their authorisation can have their authorisation to operate revoked and may face significant penalties.

DO I NEED A PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION CODE (PIC)?

No. You will enter the address for the harvest when you complete the Landowner or Manager consent form.

WHEN WILL A HARVESTER HAVE ACCESS TO MY PROPERTY?

You must discuss property access and times with the relevant harvester. It is up to the harvester and landowner to agree when shooting may take place.

If a harvester is shooting on your property outside of the times you have agreed to, please contact the GMA Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or if you are in immediate danger call 000 and ask for police assistance.

DO I HAVE TO PAY A HARVESTER TO MANAGE KANGAROOS ON MY PROPERTY?

No. The harvester will be paid by the processor upon delivery of Eastern or Western Grey kangaroo carcasses.

HOW IS THE PROGRAM DIFFERENT FROM THE KANGAROO PET FOOD TRIAL?

The KHP started following an assessment of the Kangaroo pet food trial which ended in October 2019. Under the trial, landowners contacted a pet food processor to help deal with excess Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos, but under the new program landowners register their interest on a website and receive harvester details or deal directly with harvesters.

All harvesters are registered and authorised through the GMA. This includes the requirement for them to meet minimum standards to ensure animal welfare and safe meat handling practices are carried out.

Further, landowners who engage harvesters to control Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos on their property do not need to apply for an ATCW. Rather, harvesters are allocated a quota of Eastern and Western Grey kangaroos that they can remove from a specific zone.