



Mr Kerry Pfeiffer
President – Monaro Acclimatisation Society
9 Thompson Drive
TATHRA NSW 2550

Dear Mr Pfeiffer

Thank you for your letter to the Minister for the Environment and Water, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, concerning consultation over the listing of *Galaxias terenasus* (roundsnout galaxias) on the threatened species list under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Minister Plibersek has asked me to thank you for your correspondence and to reply on her behalf.

The Threatened Species Scientific Committee (the Committee), which advises the Minister, calls for submissions on proposed threatened species listings. Under the EPBC Act, there is a statutory 30 business day public consultation period regarding all listings, which are published in *The Australian* newspaper and on the department's website:

www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/nominations/comment.

All public submissions are considered before the Committee makes its final recommendation. The call for public submissions for the listing assessment of the roundsnout galaxias was made from 21 February to 14 April 2022.

In addition to this statutory requirement, and in order to receive a range of views, key stakeholders (including state and territory governments, Traditional Owners) and interested or impacted groups are directly contacted for comment, where they can be identified. It is regrettable that on this occasion Monaro Acclimatisation Society was not identified for inclusion.

Listing assessments are based on the best scientific information available at the time. The EPBC Act stipulates that the Committee, in making its recommendation to the Minister, and the Minister in making the final decision, may consider only the species' eligibility and impact on its survival when including a species on the threatened species list.

With respect to your specific concerns about the impact of the listing on decisions regarding the stocking of trout, I would suggest that you take that up with NSW Department of Primary Industries, who are the appropriate authority in the Monaro and Snowy Mountains area.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to the Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

Phil Alcorn
A/g Assistant Secretary
Biodiversity Division, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water