



Hon Albert Jacob MLA
Minister for Environment; Heritage

Your Ref:
Our Ref: 50-06148

Ms Shona Macskasy
Secretary
Koi Society of Western Australia
c/- PO Box 91
MIDLAND WA 6936

Dear Ms Macskasy

Thank you for your letter dated 21 November 2014 regarding the potential release of koi herpes virus.

Decisions about the release of biological control agents into the Australian environment are dealt with under Commonwealth legislation, specifically, the *Quarantine Act 1908* (administered by the Commonwealth Departments of Agriculture and Health) and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (administered by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment). I note that your letter was primarily addressed to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Hon Greg Hunt MP, and that is the appropriate office to deal with your enquiry.

Given that some of the issues you raise are relevant to the Fisheries and Agriculture portfolios, I have taken the liberty of providing a copy of your letter and this response to the Western Australian Minister for Agriculture and Food; Fisheries, Hon Ken Baston MLC, for his information.

Thank you for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

Albert Jacob MLA
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; HERITAGE

cc Hon Ken Baston MLC

15 DEC 2014