



**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

**2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

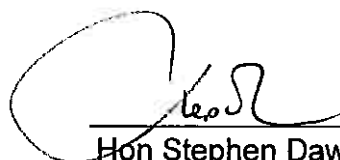
**Page No.**

**The Committee asked:**

- 1) What are some of the implications for your agency from the Commonwealth Budget released on May 2018?

**Answer**

The Commonwealth Budget allocated additional funding for capital upgrades for facilities under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy. This funding will support national research infrastructure and ensure the maintenance of data streams through equipment upgrades and utilisation of the latest technologies. This includes infrastructure under the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network that supports the surveillance monitoring network for improved monitoring and assessment of Australia's rangelands, including the Supersite Flux tower at Credo, a former pastoral lease managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, and the establishment and sampling of national surveillance monitoring sites. Currently there are 105 such sites established in Western Australia. The capital funding will also support maintenance of the Atlas of Living Australia that collates Australia's biodiversity data, including data contributed through the Department's NatureMap and Florabase databases.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**

Public / Internet

13/06/18

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

**2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

**Page No.570**

**Hon Diane Evers MLC asked:**

1) I refer to the last point on page 570 of Budget paper 2 v2:

Please provide a breakdown of the number of visits to each marine and terrestrial park that the agency managed in 2016-17?

**Answer**

The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions manages several hundred marine and terrestrial parks and reserves in addition to State forest and other lands. The total area exceeds 28,500,000 ha.

Visitor use was monitored at 446 sites in 2016-17 utilising a variety of methods including traffic classifiers and counters, pedestrian counters, observation surveys, and ticket sales in national parks, State forest and other reserves throughout the State managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service. Below is a breakdown of visitation to each Parks and Wildlife Service region.

**2016-17 Visitation to Parks and Wildlife Service managed lands and waters**

Region	Visitation
Wheatbelt	187,288
Goldfields	187,874
Long Trails	329,227
Kimberley	454,319
Pilbara	705,947
South Coast	1,433,662
Warren	1,586,188
Midwest	2,028,003
South West	4,900,701
Swan	8,557,714



**Hon Stephen Dawson MLC**  
**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

**2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

**Page No.571**

**Hon Diane Evers MLC asked:**

- 2) I refer to the last point on page 571 of Budget Paper 2, Volume 2:
- a) Can you please advise what adaptive management strategies in relation to climate change have been implemented;
  - b) With reference to (a) what has been the result; and
  - c) Can you please advise what additional strategies the Department will be implementing in future?

**Answer**

- a) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) implements a range of adaptive management strategies addressing the threat of climate change. For example, a means to mitigating the threat of climate change is the expansion of the conservation reserve system, which provides options to enable species to utilise and adapt to larger more integrated protected areas. The Government is committed to creating the Fitzroy River National Park, a marine and national park over the Buccaneer Archipelago and expansion of the Wellington National Park. It will also establish and manage two new regional parks in Bunbury – the Preston River to Ocean Regional Park and the Leschenault Regional Park. Additionally, prescribed burning is mitigating the threat of major bushfires and weed control and dieback management maintain the resilience of our parks and forests.
- b) The result has been an expanding conservation estate, a strong record of prescribed burning since this Government was elected, and weed and dieback management prioritised to high conservation value assets.
- c) Into the future, DBCA will create the Fitzroy River National Park, a marine and national park over the Buccaneer Archipelago and expand the Wellington National Park. It will also establish and manage two new regional parks in Bunbury – the Preston River to Ocean Regional Park and the Leschenault Regional Park.



**Hon Stephen Dawson MLC  
MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**

**Legislative Council Standing Committee on Estimates and Financial Operations**

**2018-19 Budget estimates hearings - questions prior to hearings**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

**Page No. 569**

**Hon Diane Evers MLC asked:**

3) I refer to the line item – Voluntary Targeted Separation Scheme in the Spending Changes table on page 659 of Budget Paper 2:

- a) Please provide a breakdown of how many FTEs are included in this item, what levels they are, and what division they were employed in for the following areas:

**Answer**

Please refer to the table below

	<b>Location</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Suburb</b>
(i)	Albany	0			
(ii)	Augusta	0			
(iii)	Bridgetown	0			
(iv)	Bunbury	2	PSGA Level 7 PSGA Level 7	Regional and Fire Management Services Forest and Ecosystem Management	
(v)	Mandurah	0			
(vi)	Busselton	1	AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services	
(vii)	Collie	3	PSGA Level 5 AWU Level 2 PSGA Level 3	Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services	
(viii)	Manjimup	2	AWU Level 3 AWU Level 3	Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services	
(ix)	Margaret River	0			
(x)	Harvey	1	AWU Level 4	Regional and Fire Management Services	
(xi)	Pinjarra	0			
(xii)	Nannup	1	AWU Level 3	Regional and Fire Management Services	
(xiii)	Waroona	0			
(xiv)	Mount Barker	0			
(xv)	Dunsborough	0			
(xvi)	Donnybrook	0			

(xvii)	Denmark	0			
(xviii)	Jerramungup	0			
(xix)	Boyup Brook	0			
(xx)	Dwellingup	3	AWU Level 3 AWU Level 4 AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services	
(xxi)	other SW region locations	3	AWU Level 2 AWU Level 3 AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services Regional and Fire Management Services	Kirup Kirup Kirup
(xxii)	the metropolitan combined	45.8	PSGA Level 2 (0.5 FTE)	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 8	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 2 (0.9 FTE)	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 5	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 4	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 2 (0.8 FTE)	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 4	Corporate and Business Services	Mundaring
			PSGA Level 5	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 2	Corporate and Business Services	Kensington
			PSGA Level 5 (0.4 FTE)	Office of the Director General	Kensington
			PSGA Level 5	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Kensington
			PSGA Level 8	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Kensington
			PSGA Level 5	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Kensington
			PSGA Level 5	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Regional and Fire Management Services	Kensington

			PSGA Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services	Crawley
			AWU Level 5	Regional and Fire Management Services	Jarrahdale
			PSGA Level 4	Regional and Fire Management Services	Jarrahdale
			PSGA Level 5	Regional and Fire Management Services	Crawley
			PSGA Level 5	Regional and Fire Management Services	Victoria Park
			AWU Level 3	Regional and Fire Management Services	Mundaring
			AWU Level 4	Regional and Fire Management Services	Crawley
			AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services	Wanneroo
			PSGA Level 3	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			PSGA Specified Calling Level 2	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			PSGA Specified Calling Level 3	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			PSGA Level 8	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			PSGA Level 6	Science and Conservation	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Science and Conservation	Kensington
			PSGA Specified Calling Level 3	Science and Conservation	Kensington
			PSGA Level 3	Science and Conservation	Woodvale
			PSGA Level 1 (0.8 FTE)	Science and Conservation	Kensington
			PSGA Specified Calling Level 2	Rivers and Estuaries	Kensington
			Govt Services (Misc) Level 1 (0.84 FTE)	Facilities and Environment	South Perth
			Govt Services (Misc) Level 1	Facilities and Environment	South Perth
			GOSAC Level 6	Corporate Services	South Perth
			GOSAC Level 5	HACS	Kings Park
			BGPAGA Level 3	Horticulture and Conservation	Kings Park
			BGPAGA Level 3	Horticulture and Conservation	Kings Park
			BGPAGA Level 4	Horticulture and Conservation	Kings Park
			BGPAGA Level 4	Horticulture and Conservation	Kings Park

		BGPAGA Level 5	Executive	Kings Park
		PSGAGO Level 3	Visitor Centre	Rottneest/Fremantle
		PSGOGA Level 1 (0.52 FTE)	Accommodation	Fremantle
		PSGOGA level 7	Corporate Services	Rottneest/Fremantle
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61.8</b>		



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC  
**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**

**Note to Minister:**

Please refer to the table below showing VTSS information for other locations in Western Australia not originally requested.

<b>Location</b>	<b>FTEs</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Suburb</b>
Other locations combined	9.8	PSGA Specified Calling Level 2 (0.8 FTE)	Parks and Visitor Services Division	Walpole
		AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services	Jurien Bay
		PSGA Level 4	Regional and Fire Management Services	Northcliffe
		PSGA Level 1 (0.8 FTE)	Regional and Fire Management Services	Walpole
		RAGA Grade 2 (0.6 FTE)	Regional and Fire Management Services	Walpole
		PSGA Level 2 (0.6 FTE)	Regional and Fire Management Services	Walpole
		PSGA Level 7	Regional and Fire Management Services	Merredin
		AWU Level 4	Regional and Fire Management Services	Pemberton
		PSGA Level 7	Regional and Fire Management Services	Kununurra
		AWU Level 2	Regional and Fire Management Services	Pemberton
		PSGA Level 5	Regional and Fire Management Services	Jurien Bay
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.8</b>			



**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

**2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

**Page No.570**

**Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked:**

- 1) I refer to the statement found in Budget Paper 2, Volume 2, Page 570: "As part of joint management arrangements with Traditional Owners at Murujuga National Park on the Burrup Peninsula, the Department will assist in the development of a Living Knowledge Centre and park infrastructure in collaboration with Woodside and Rio Tinto. Consultation is being undertaken with the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation to consider the nomination of the Burrup Peninsula for World Heritage listing." And ask:
  - a) Has the Premier committed to pursuing the nomination of the Burrup Peninsula for World Heritage Listing?
  - b) If yes to (a) on what date did he make this commitment?
  - c) If no to (a) why not?
  - d) Has Peter Jeffries the CEO of the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation issued a statement saying that the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation wanted to pursue World Heritage listing?
  - e) If yes to (d) on what date did he make this commitment?
  - f) Has the Commonwealth Government formally requested the views of the WA State Government to some or all of the Dampier Archipelago and the Burrup (Murujuga) Non-Industrial Land being nominated to the World Heritage List?
  - g) If yes to (f) when did this occur?
  - h) Given that the State Government and the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation are committed to World Heritage why is the State Government now embarking on a process of only considering the nomination of the Burrup Peninsula for World Heritage Listing?

**Answer**

- 1)
  - a) Yes.
  - b) 6 March 2017.
  - c) Not applicable.
  - d) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) is aware of ABC regional radio reports that Peter Jeffries said that the Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation (MAC) wanted to pursue World Heritage listing. DBCA has been advised by Mr Jeffries that the MAC Board is consulting with its membership to formally confirm this position. MAC

has advised that it will write to the State to request that World Heritage listing be progressed if its members and the Circle of Elders support the listing. The State is yet to receive this formal request.

- e) 29 March 2018.
- f) No.
- g) Not applicable.
- h) As noted at (d) above, MAC has advised that it is currently consulting with its membership and the Circle of Elders prior to confirming its position in writing to the State. The State is committed to pursuing the nomination if MAC formally supports the listing.



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS**

**2018-19 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARINGS - QUESTIONS PRIOR TO HEARINGS**

**Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA)**

**Page No.190, 365, 552, 571 and 659**

**Hon Robin Chapple MLC asked:**

- 2) I note that climate change is only mentioned in passing on: page 190 in Primary Industries and Regional Development; Page 365 under Fire and Emergency Services; Page 552 and 571 under Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions; and Page 659 under Water Corporation, and ask:
- a) What is the Department doing to mitigate or manage climate change impacts within this budget;
  - b) How many staff or FTE equivalents are employed within the Department to mitigate or manage climate change impacts;
  - c) With reference to (b):
    - i) Who are they, and what are their specific duties;
    - ii) If no staff are employed, why not; and
    - iii) What is the budget for this area and how does it compare year on year for the last five budgets;
  - d) With the increased output of CO<sub>2</sub>e emanating from an expanding LNG sector, what is the current estimated level of annual CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions in WA for the last year of data, and please include the year;
  - e) If there is an estimate of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions in WA for the last year of data will the Department table the report/s that establishes this data; and
  - f) If no answer is provided for (d) or (e) please explain why?

**Answer**

- a) The Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) implements a range of adaptive management strategies addressing the threat of climate change. For example, a means to mitigating the threat of climate change is the expansion of the conservation reserve system, which provides options to enable species to utilise and adapt to larger more integrated protected areas. The Government is committed to creating the Fitzroy River National Park, a marine and national park over the Buccaneer Archipelago and expansion of the Wellington National Park. It will also establish and manage two new regional parks in Bunbury – the Preston River to Ocean Regional Park and the Leschenault Regional Park. Additionally, prescribed burning is mitigating the threat of major bushfires and weed control and dieback management maintain the resilience of our parks and forests.

- b) Mitigation and management actions for climate change are embedded in numerous departmental activities and functions, therefore DBCA is unable to determine the number of staff or FTE equivalents or the specific budget allocated to this area.
- c) Please refer to the response to (b).
  - i. Please refer to the response to (b).
  - ii. Please refer to the response to (b).
  - iii. Please refer to the response to (b).
- d) DBCA does not have access to this information as it does not collate information on CO2e emissions.
- e) Please see response to (d).
- f) Please see response to (d).



Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

**MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT; DISABILITY SERVICES**