

**PUBLIC**

18/8/14



**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Wednesday, 23 July 2014**

**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B1: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Can I get a breakdown by way of supplementary, of where that \$2.6 million was spent?"*

*Answer:*

The *Royalties for Regions* funded Parks for People Caravan and Camping initiative is funded over four years. In the first year, 2013-14 the budget allocation was \$2,550,000 and a total of \$1,841,837 was spent. Unexpended funds are carried forward to 2014-15. A summary of the projects and expenditure in 2013-14 is provided in the table below.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Park/Project</b>	<b>2013-14 budget</b>	<b>2013-14 expenditure</b>
<b>New campgrounds</b>	Credo, Former Pastoral Station	\$90,000	\$90,000
	Boranup, Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park	\$22,500	\$7,000
	Koongk-a-maya, Dryandra Woodland	\$135,000	\$135,000
	Karara area	\$50,000	\$37,670
	Potters Gorge, Wellington National Park	\$50,000	\$37,524
	Big Lagoon, Francois Peron National Park	\$22,500	\$0
<b>Expand / upgrade campgrounds</b>	Miners, Coalseam Conservation Reserve	\$22,500	\$21,407
	Osprey, Cape Range National Park	\$45,000	\$45,000
	Lucky Bay, Cape le Grand National Park	\$45,000	\$44,668
	Conto, Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park	\$585,000	\$323,740
	Nanga, Lane Poole Reserve	\$562,500	\$336,192
	Shannon, Shannon National Park	\$45,000	\$45,000
	Black Point, D'Entrecasteaux National Park	\$100,000	\$100,000
	Banksia, D'Entrecasteaux National Park	\$50,000	\$50,000
<b>Tourism leases</b>	Logue Brook/Lake Brockman	\$450,000	\$293,652
<b>Visitor facilities</b>	Baden Powell, Lane Poole Reserve	\$50,000	\$49,986
<b>Planning and design</b>	All projects (statewide)	\$225,000	\$224,998
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,550,000</b>	<b>\$1,841,837</b>

**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B2: Hon Alanna Clohessy asked "I just wanted to know where the new sites were in this financial year. I will take it as supplementary, particularly because we are worried about the time. I would like a brief description about the project and how much each cost, and the time line from when they begin to end."*

*Answer:*

Projects that commence in 2014-15 under the Parks for People Caravan and Camping initiative are outlined in the table below.

Location	Project description	Budget	Timeline
Big Lagoon, Francois Peron National Park	new campground	\$1,250,000	1 July 2013 – 31 December 2016
Miliyanha campground, Millstream National Park	expansion and upgrade of existing campground	\$500,000	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Moresby Range Proposed Conservation Park	upgrade of visitor facilities and roads	\$250,000	1 July 2013 – 31 December 2016
Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park	upgrade of visitor facilities in the park	\$175,000	1 July 2014 – 31 December 2016
Wellington National Park	upgrade visitor facilities	\$350,000	1 July 2014 – 31 December 2016
Logue Brook area	upgrade of visitor facilities and trails development	\$150,000	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016
Leschenault Peninsula Conservation Park	upgrade of visitor facilities	\$175,000	1 July 2014 – 30 June 2016

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**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B3: Hon Rick Mazza asked "Would it be possible to get a list of the different tasks that volunteers undertake with the department?"*

*Answer:*

Volunteers may undertake tasks in all vocational, professional, and academic roles represented in the Department, where they are competent. A sample of projects with a brief description of the tasks undertaken by volunteers is shown in the table below.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>
Camp Ground, homestead and park hosts	General customer service, allocation of accommodation, fee collection, provision of visitor information, basic cleaning and general park management.
Wildcare helpline	24/7 telephone referral service to the public for sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife.
Reptile removers	Removal of snakes and other reptiles for the general public.
Honorary CALM Officer (HCO)	Provide general customer service and advise members of the public who may be in national parks and other remote areas.
Wildlife Rehabilitators Consultation Group	Provides expert advice to Departmental staff and other rehabilitators.
Wildlife rehabilitators	Care for injured, orphaned, or sick native wildlife until ready for release.
Animal Control Agent (ACA)	Primary function is humane euthanasia of large fauna and dangerous birds.
Bushranger Cadet Instructor	Provides instruction to Bushranger Cadets at schools.
Bibbulmun Track	Marketing and promotion, sale of maps, equipment hire, track maintenance, and/or guiding members of the public.
Munda Biddi Trail	Marketing and promotion, sale of maps, equipment hire, trail maintenance, and/or guiding members of the public.
Track Care WA - generic projects and support	Four-wheel drive track restoration and repair. Maintenance and repair of remote stations, wells and other infrastructure.
Allied Clubs to the Four-Wheel Drive Association of WA	Provides overall community governance of four-wheel drive groups on land managed by Parks and Wildlife. With Track Care WA and other groups, they build, repair and maintain four-wheel drive tracks and facilities as necessary.
Satellite tracking Carnaby Cockatoos and roost monitoring	Tracks and monitors roosts of Carnaby Cockatoos.
WA Seabird Rescue	Rescues seabirds of Western Australia.
WA Herbarium	Assists with survey, identification and cataloguing of plants, promotion and education.
Malleefowl Preservation Group	Surveying and mapping habitat for bird populations in remote areas, and public promotion.

Marine mammal rescues	Assists with major marine mammal rescues.
Roadside surveys and mapping	Assists staff with surveying and mapping native habitat and fauna.
Woodvale Wildlife Research Centre	Assist staff in a variety of research programs, including field work, administration and data entry.
Marine science program	Seasonal turtle or bird counts, shoreline habitat restoration and trans-location of fauna.
Adopt an Orchid	Research, surveys and general field work.
Statewide ranger and Parks and Wildlife staff support	Assists staff in their day to day park management or administrative roles.
Conservation and environmental restoration work support	Assists staff in ground restoration work such as weeding, ground preparation and planting.
Red-Tailed Phascogale, Dibbler and Numbat recovery	Surveying, trapping, breeding and relocating rare and endangered species.
West Australian Field and Game Association	Assists Departmental managers and other adjacent property owners in eradication of feral animals.
Species and communities	Assists Departmental staff with data entry and field work.



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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B4: Hon Rick Mazza asked "What type of infringements are being issues for the collection of those fines?"*

*Answer:*

Penalties related to a range of offences are estimated at \$30,000 for 2014-15 and are shown against the line item "Receipts from Regulatory Fees and Fines" for transactions administered by the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

There are 7 possible offences under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 with penalties of \$200 in each instance, 78 possible offences established under the Conservation and Land Management Regulations 2002 with penalties ranging from \$35 to \$200, and 8 possible offences under the Forest Management Regulations 1993 with penalties ranging from \$150 to \$200. Examples of possible offences include "Unlawfully taking flora or fauna in marine nature reserve, marine park or marine management area" (penalty \$200), "Polluting water supply" (penalty \$200), "Unlawfully driving or using vehicle" (penalty \$100), "Failing to comply with condition of camping area" (penalty \$50) and "Failure to produce information relating to forest disease on request" (penalty \$150).

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**Wednesday, 23 July 2014**

**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B5: Hon Peter Katsambanis asked "We had a budget of around about \$201 million and an estimated actual of \$209 million. What is the reason for the increase of around \$8 million in delivery of services for the financial year just ended?"*

*Answer:*

The 2013-14 Estimated Actual for the Department of Parks and Wildlife of \$209.148 million is higher than the budgeted figure of \$201.473 million largely due to funding adjustments approved during the year including payments of \$3.530 million for voluntary severances, additional funding of \$1.8 million for increased insurance premiums, funding of \$0.763 million to upgrade protective equipment for fire fighters, an adjustment of \$0.534 million to the salary cap to allow for externally-funded staff and provision of \$0.450 million for the Burrup Maitland Industrial Estates Agreement following approval of a business case.

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## ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Wednesday, 23 July 2014

#### Department of Parks and Wildlife

*Question No. B6: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Could you perhaps by way of supplementary information provide a list outlining all of the projects or programs funded and also the amounts please?"*

*Answer:*

The following programs in the table below are currently being funded by Royalties for Regions.

Program	Funding period	Total budget
Conservation Parks Visitor Infrastructure and Roads initiative	Initially four years ending 2013-14 but has been extended into a fifth year to 2014-15.	\$20,000,000
Parks for People Caravan and Camping initiative	Four years from 2013-14 to 2016/17.	\$21,050,000
Great Kimberley Marine Park	Four years from 2013-14 to 2016/17.	\$8,030,000
New Kimberley National Parks	Four years from 2013-14 to 2016/17.	\$3,500,000
Marine Parks Management	Four years from 2011-12 to 2014-15.	\$11,000,000
Kimberley Tourism initiatives	Initially three years ending 2013-14 but has been extended into a fourth year to 2014-15.	\$3,115,000



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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B7: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "I am sure the department has done some work previously on what it would cost to extend the park in this area. Could you provide that information?"*

*Answer:*

There has been no formal costing for an extension of Kalbarri National Park. It is estimated the development of visitor facilities and infrastructure in the first two years would cost around \$2 million and on-going maintenance would be around \$250,000 per annum.

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**ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**  
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**Wednesday, 23 July 2014**

**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B8: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Can you provide me with some figures on the number of deaths and injuries that have occurred in Karijini National Park over the past number of years? I am keen to get a sense of perhaps what has happened over the past five years, so from 2009-10 onwards."*

*Answer:*

For the period 2009 to end July 2014, the total number of recorded incidents, resulting in either injury or death to persons in Karijini National Park, is 101. These data include a total of four deaths over this period, comprising of one drowning, one fall, one heart attack and one misadventure at night, the last-mentioned incident possibly involving substance abuse. Numbers of incidents recorded are nine (2009), 18 (2010), 19 (2011), 18 (2012), 14 (2013) and 23 (2014). Although the figures quoted may indicate upward trends in occurrence of incidents, it should be noted that this phenomenon is probably a reflection of multiple factors, including enhanced reporting arrangements across the State over recent years, as well as the inclusion of relatively minor incidents in the data, such as insect stings and persons reporting light-headedness while walking.

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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B9: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Can you by way of supplementary information, provide a figure on the number of anchor points in the park?"*

*Answer:*

There are a total of 12 anchor points in the Weano recreation area of Karijini National Park. Three of these anchor points have been installed, while the remaining nine are natural features such as rocks or trees. Rescue teams utilise these anchor points to facilitate lifts of injured persons out of gorges in the Weano area, while injured patients are walked out on stretchers in the Dales recreation area, due to differing topography and access.

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## ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Wednesday, 23 July 2014

#### Department of Parks and Wildlife

*Question No. B10: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "I refer to WA's World Heritage listed areas. What funding does the department spend on World Heritage listed areas? Am I correct in saying that the Department of Parks and Wildlife is the lead government agency in this area?"*

*Answer:*

Yes. The Department is the lead agency in relation to three of Western Australia's four World Heritage listed areas including the Ningaloo Coast, Shark Bay and Purnululu National Park. The fourth World Heritage listed area is the Fremantle Prison with the Department of Finance – Building Management and Works being the lead agency. The expenditure through appropriations in 2013-14 for each area is listed in the table below.

World Heritage listed area	Expenditure 2013-14
Ningaloo Coast	\$5,141,446
Shark Bay	\$8,851,395
Purnululu National Park	\$1,179,511
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$15,172,352</b>



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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B11: Hon Ken Travers (Chair) asked "I am keen to know what work has been done in terms of research on the revegetation of that area and how much has been spent on it. How much has actually been spent on the revegetation of any of that area? Have you done any work on what would be the cost to revegetate that area?"*

*Answer:*

In May 2009 a report was prepared for the then Department of Environment and Conservation. Titled *Restoration of Banksia Woodland after the removal of pines at Gngangara: Seed species requirements and prescriptions for restoration*, this document reviewed the Department's restoration trials, recommended planting methods for restoration and provided species lists for direct seeding.

The cost of revegetation of the post-harvest plantation back to native *Banksia* woodland was demonstrated to cost up to \$10,000 per hectare. However the Department of Parks and Wildlife is currently expending up to \$4,000 per hectare using a minimalist approach to revegetation. During the restoration trials and subsequent broadscale restoration projects the Department has restored approximately 300 hectares of State forest at the Gngangara plantation for a total cost in the order of \$1.5 million.

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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B12: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Was there broad consultation on this new strategy, and are you in a position to provide a list of who was consulted in developing the strategy?"*

*Answer:*

Community involvement continues to be an important component of the Cane Toad Strategy for Western Australia. The strategy is a living document that can be updated as new information becomes available. Following five years of implementation, a review was undertaken in 2014 resulting in an updated strategy.

In 2009, the Cane Toad Strategy was developed with the support of a stakeholder reference group that included community representatives and the draft strategy was released for a six week public comment period.

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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B13: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Can you provide an estimation of what has actually been spent by the department in combating toads? You might not be able to help me with this one, but was there an amount of money attached to the updated strategy or not?"*

*Answer:*

Since 2009, the Liberal-National Government has invested more than \$7.8 million in on-ground activities and research to help manage the impact of cane toads. Existing resources will be used to implement the revised cane toad strategy (2014-2019), including integrating efforts with the government's \$81.5 million investment in the Kimberley through the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy.

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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B14: Hon Ken Travers (Chair) asked “I think you just made the claim that there has been an increase over the last 10 years – what that has been over the last 10 years, if you have got it for the last 10 years, and what you are projected to grow over the forward estimates in both dollar terms and the number of visitations?”*

*Answer:*

Table 1 and 2 attached provide entrance and camping revenue, number of visits and camper nights over the last ten years and projected growth over the forward estimates.

**Table 1. Entrance and camping revenue, number of visits and camper nights over the last ten years**

Item	04-05	05-06	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14
Number of visits	10,813,845	11,646,464	12,051,670	12,051,670	13,729,433	14,331,163	15,592,890	15,592,890	16,170,842	16,741,214
Entrance revenue (\$)	2,202,617	2,202,229	2,398,809	2,626,335	2,847,999	3,112,585	3,218,295	3,834,435	4,030,230	4,274,217
Number of camper nights	143,312	147,409	158,707	193,087	233,765	247,082	174,860	302,575	315,152	343,516
Camping revenue (\$)	1,074,839	1,105,565	1,190,306	1,448,152	1,753,238	1,853,118	2,061,448	2,269,312	2,363,643	2,576,371

**Table 2. Forward estimates for entrance and camping revenue, number of visits and camper nights**

Item	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18
Number of visits	17,461,086	18,211,913	18,995,025	19,811,811
Entrance revenue (\$)	4,402,651	4,536,666	4,627,399	4,719,947
Number of camper nights	374,433	415,620	469,651	530,705
Camping revenue (\$)	2,808,244	3,117,151	3,522,381	3,980,290





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**Department of Parks and Wildlife**

*Question No. B15: Hon Stephen Dawson asked "Just confirming, Mr Sharp did say that \$30,000 figure was simply for Yanchep alone, was it not? It was not across the state. If you can, by way of supplementary, provide me a list of the estimated amount forgone for the weekend for all the parks?"*

*Answer:*

The total estimated forgone entry fee revenue across the State over the Western Australia Day long weekend is shown in the table below. There are no parks where entry fees are charged in the Goldfields, South West and Wheatbelt.

<b>Parks and Wildlife Region</b>	<b>Estimated forgone revenue (\$)</b>
Goldfields	N/A
Kimberley	7,800
Midwest	19,400
Pilbara	4,600
South Coast	6,000
South West	N/A
Swan	21,000
Warren	5,000
Wheatbelt	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63,800</b>

