

**DIVISION 63: ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION -**

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

1. Page 1094, dot point 6

1.1 *Is the area burnt by wildfires or any other fires not deliberately lit included in figures for total area burnt in any departmental analysis of fire reduction burning?*

*Answer:*

The Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) publishes each year in its Annual Report the area of prescribed burns and the area burnt by wildfires on DEC-managed lands. These figures are reported separately.

In developing its future programs of prescribed burning each year, DEC develops a three-year indicative program and an annual program. These programs take into account the location and extent of wildfires that have occurred in previous years as well as past prescribed burning.

1.2 *How many complaints has the Department received about fuel reduction burns, including complaints about smoke haze or damage?*

*Answer:*

Complaints can be made in a variety of forms, including verbally to individual officers in a range of circumstances, and records of total numbers of all such complaints are not kept. However, during 2006 DEC's Director General and the Minister for the Environment received 13 separate written complaints about prescribed burns, including complaints about smoke haze. From 1 January 2007 to 1 June 2007 five written complaints were received.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

2. Page 1094, dot point 8

*How much is allocated for control of weeds and feral animals on unallocated crown land, measured as a total cost and per hectare or square kilometre?*

*Answer:*

DEC's predecessor received an annual budget increase of \$950,000 in 2003/04 when it was given responsibility, commencing in July 2003, for the control of feral animals and weeds as well as fire preparedness on 89 million hectares of unallocated Crown land and unmanaged reserves. Out of this the allocation to feral animal control and weed control is \$450,000, which equates to 50 cents per square kilometre. Additional resources are being drawn from the two-year, \$15 million Saving Our Species biodiversity conservation initiative.

Total DEC expenditure in 2006/07 across all lands, including national parks, nature reserves, State forest and unallocated Crown land, is approximately \$3.1 million for weed control and \$6.7 million for feral animal control. Because programs are often integrated across land tenures, separate figures for individual categories of land are not readily available, however the total expenditure on unallocated Crown land in 2006/07 will be around \$870,000. Total expenditure across all lands for 2007/08 is anticipated to be in the order of \$8.1 million.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

3. Page 1094, dot point 20 (3<sup>rd</sup> last)

*Have the Keating review recommendations altered the way the department measures the time taken in the approvals process, and if so do they make the time taken appear shorter than if they were measured by the mechanisms in place prior to the Keating recommendations?*

*Answer:*

No, the Keating recommendations have not altered the way that time taken in the approvals process is measured.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

4. Page 1094, dot point 22 (last)

*How does the average time and range of times taken in processing clearing permit applications in 2006 compare with times taken prior to Labor taking power in 2000?*

*Answer:*

Prior to July 2004, clearing was regulated under the Soil and Land Conservation Regulations 1992 administered by the then Department of Agriculture. There was no approvals process under this legislation and as a result there were no timeframes. Clearing in excess of one hectare that resulted in a change of land use had to be notified to the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation at least 90 days prior to the commencement of clearing. If the Commissioner considered that land degradation would result if clearing proceeded, the Commissioner could impose a Soil Conservation Notice under section 30B of the Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

5. Page 1101, Major Achievements in 2006/07, dot point 3, and page 1104 Major Initiatives 2008, dot point 1

5.1 How many national, regional or conservation parks, conservation reserves, nature reserves, marine reserves or catchment areas do not have management plans?

Answer:

The area covered by management plans under the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 to 30 June 2006 is shown in the table below.

Area Covered by Management Plans*			
Tenure classification	Area covered by management plan (ha)	Total tenure area (ha)	Percent covered
National Park	1 751 553	5 593 536	31.3
Nature Reserve	361 956	10 860 832	3.3
Marine Park/Reserve	1 489 461	1 536 551	96.9
Other Recreation/Conservation Reserves	94 110	990 195	9.5
Total	3 473 080	18 981 114	18.3

\* Figures exclude (a) some regional park management plan areas and (b) the area covered by the Forest Management Plan except those reserves with specific area management plans.

DEC is responsible for managing 97 national parks and several hundred other reserves (nature reserves, conservation parks, regional parks, marine parks, marine management areas and marine nature reserves). There are currently 57 final management plans with a further 23 plans in preparation. Management plans may cover individual or multiple parks/reserves.

5.2 How many conservation areas added to the state reserve system as a result of the stopping of old growth logging policy do not have management plans?

Answer:

Draft management plans have been prepared for St Johns Brook and Jarrahwood Conservation Parks, Walpole Wilderness and Adjacent Parks and Reserves (Mt Frankland North, Mt Frankland South, Mt Lindesay, Mt Roe, Boyndaminup National Parks), and Wellington National Park and Westralia Conservation Park.

Draft management plans in preparation include Parks of the Leeuwin Ridge, Scott National Park and Gingilup Swamps Nature Reserve (which includes Bramley, Forest Grove and Yelverton National Parks), Lane Poole Reserve, and Greater Kingston National Park and Tone-Perup Nature Reserves.

All other conservation areas identified as part of Protecting our old-growth forests policy are on the Department's priority list for preparing management plans.

None of the conservation areas added to the reserve system as a result of the Protecting our old-growth forests policy have final management plans. However, all new national parks, conservation parks and nature reserves created as a result of the Government's policy to stop logging of old-growth forests are covered by the general prescriptions of the Forest Management Plan.

5.3 How have you funded these management plans so that they are fully implemented?

Answer:

The Government approved extra funding under the Protecting our old-growth forests policy for the establishment and management of new national parks and conservation parks, including preparation of management plans. Additional recurrent funding of \$2.504 million in 2001/02 and \$4.504 million ongoing was provided. Additional capital funding of \$9.67 million over four years was approved, commencing in 2001/02.

5.4 *How have you measured the success of this management?*

*Answer:*

DEC and the Conservation Commission of Western Australia have developed an outcome-based auditing system for parks and reserves. This involves the development of Key Performance Indicators to measure the success of the objectives outlined in management plans. Adoption of this process has greatly assisted the statutory, independent auditing role of the Conservation Commission.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

6. *Page 1102, Service 4 – Parks and Visitor Services*

6.1 *In relation to total cost of service – why is there only a 3.4% increase from 2006-07 to 2007-08?*

*Answer:*

The 3.4 % increase in the total cost for Parks and Visitor Services reflects inflation in input costs for the service together with adjustments for funding for joint management under the Miriuwung Gajerrong Agreement (+\$1.003 million), and the Burrup Maitland Industrial Estate Agreement for a conservation reserve on the northern Burrup Peninsula (+\$570,000).

6.2 *What measure has the Government used for inflation in the 2007-08 budget?*

*Answer:*

The Government used a measure of 3.0 percent for consumer price index growth for 2007-08.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

7. *Page 1107, Major Initiatives 2007-08, dot point 1*

7.1 *How much will be spent on the wood heater buyback program”*

*Answer:*

An allocation of \$300,000 is included in the 2007/08 budget.

7.2 *Which suburbs will be eligible, and which will be excluded, and why?*

*Answer:*

The current wood heater replacement program is funded under the Perth Air Quality Management Plan. Both the Plan and the wood heater replacement program at present focus on the community, amenity and health impact of smoke from domestic sources on the Perth metropolitan area. All homes in suburbs within the Perth metropolitan area are eligible to participate in the program.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

8. *Page 1107, Service 7 – Regulation of discharges to the Environment, Line – Total Cost of Service*

8.1 *Given the Government spent \$16.7 million in 05-06 and only budgeted \$16.2 million in 06-07, why was it unable to spend that amount (estimated actual less than \$14 million)?*

*Answer:*

The apparent decline in expenditure of approximately \$2.2 million is due to the transfer of expenditure previously included in this service to another service. Approximately \$2.5 million for Native Vegetation Protection was transferred to the Nature Conservation Service as part of forming DEC.

8.2 *Why has there been only \$500,000 increase in the budget this year, given the failures of the Government in this area?*

*Answer:*

The increase in expenditure of approximately \$2.7 million from the 2006/07 Estimated Actual to the 2007/08 Budget Estimate is due to an increase in available funding for this function derived from industry regulation fees which were approved in the 2007-08 budget process

8.3 *Would the unspent two million dollars have saved the people of Esperance from exposure to risk if it had been directed into proper monitoring?*

*Answer:*

As indicated in the response to question 8.1, the \$2 million referred to was allocated to the regulation of native vegetation clearing. Monitoring requirements are imposed on industry as a condition of licence and as such the cost is borne by licence fees. As indicated in the response to question 8.2, funding is being increased for the Department's industry regulation function through increased fees.

8.4 *Could this money have been used to properly monitor Midland Brick when the then Minister allowed a five-fold increase in hydrogen fluoride emission levels?*

*Answer:*

Monitoring of Midland Brick's emissions is required to be conducted as a condition of the company's licence. The company has been fined for failure to comply with its licence conditions. DEC is also commencing a 12 month ambient air quality monitoring program in the Midland area funded in service 6 (Air Quality Management Plans and Air Quality Monitoring).

8.5 *Has the previous maximum fine for environmental discharge of one million dollars ever been imposed, and if not is the proposal to increase the maximum fine to five million dollars a political farce? (also dot point 4, Major Initiatives 07-08, p. 1108).*

*Answer:*

The imposition of fines for offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1986 is solely at the discretion of the courts, not the Department. The maximum of \$1 million has not yet been imposed by the courts. Increasing penalties is part of an updating of the Act to make it more comparable with legislation in other jurisdictions. It is also intended to provide an increased deterrent to industry for breaching the Environmental Protection Act 1986.

***Question: Hon Barbara Scott asked -***

9. *Page 1093, dot point 1*

9.1 *How is the Department increasing community awareness and what is the cost of this?*

*Answer:*

Increasing community awareness of climate change is integral to DEC's climate change program and is specifically being addressed through the following initiatives:

- Act Now for the Future initiative;
- Indian Ocean Climate Initiative and Adaptation Program; and
- Household Sustainability Audit and Education Program.

The Act Now for the Future initiative is a public awareness program and includes a one-stop virtual shop to provide information to help Western Australians live more sustainably, including providing easy access to more than \$10 million in State Government energy and water-saving rebates. The Act Now for the Future website is being promoted through a series of advertisements that illustrate how small changes in the choices people make can have a dramatic effect on the environment. In the 2007/08 financial year \$650,000 has been allocated to the Act Now for the Future campaign.

The Indian Ocean Climate Initiative and Adaptation Program aims to increase scientific and community knowledge of the impacts of climate change on Western Australia and to apply this knowledge to develop adaptation strategies in partnership with community, industry and the Commonwealth Government. Funding of \$125,000 has been allocated for the provision of advice on the impacts of climate change on communities and sectors of the Western Australian economy, with a particular focus on the south-west and north-west of the State.

The Household Sustainability Audit and Education Program will be delivered by the Department for Planning and Infrastructure under a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Environment and Conservation. This program will provide an integrated education and information program addressing a range of climate change factors including, energy, water, waste and transport. The program will focus on what members of the public can do to reduce emissions at the household level. The program aims to reach 10,000 households over two years, delivering a total estimated emissions reduction of 487,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases. Funding of \$750,000 has been allocated in 2007/08.

Community awareness will also be raised through DEC's community education branch, which delivers behavioural change programs such as WasteWise and TravelSmart. DEC will continue to raise awareness about climate change issues through its website, publications, media statements, schools programs and events.

9.2 *What are the Department's predicted outcomes of climate change for Western Australia?*

*Answer:*

Detailed information on the outcomes of climate change for Western Australia is currently being assessed as part of phase 3 of the Indian Ocean Climate Initiative.

The Government has allocated \$500,000 in 2006/07, \$1.0 million in 2007/08, \$1.0 million in 2008/09, \$1.0 million in 2009/10 and \$500,000 in 2010/2011, totalling \$4.0 million, over 5 years for this initiative.

Detailed scenarios on the impacts of climate change on the south-west and north-west of the State will be prepared at a scale that is applicable to regional scale planning. This information will be based on down-scaling of the latest national and global knowledge of climate change impacts as outlined in the fourth assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Information from the Indian Ocean Initiative phases 1 and 2 is publicly available from the website [www.ioci.org.au](http://www.ioci.org.au).

**Question: Hon Paul Llewellyn asked -**

*Page 1095, Service Appropriation Summary, Service 2, Sustainable Forest Management.*

1.1 *What proportion of this allocation is spent on management of production forests?*

*Answer:*

The Budget Statements describes the appropriation for the Sustainable Forest Management Service as being for "The sustainable management of State forest and timber reserves...", which is production forest in that one of its purposes for management is timber harvesting on a sustained yield basis. Therefore, at the broadest level all of the appropriation is for the management of production forests.

The appropriation also covers the indirect costs of management of production forest such as centralised financial and human resources, buildings, mapping and research.

**Question: Hon Paul Llewellyn asked -**

*Page 1095, Service Appropriation Summary, Service 2, Sustainable Forest Management.*

1.2 *What is the cost recovery program for this expenditure?*

*Answer:*

The cost recovery mechanism involves two parts. Firstly there is an annual contribution of \$0.9M to implementation of the *Forest Management Plan 2004-2013* which is required to be paid by the Forest Products Commission (FPC). Secondly, the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) performs works on production forest for the FPC. These works are to the value of \$7.6M per annum and commencing in 2006/07 these funds are provided to DEC through an appropriation rather than have DEC invoice the FPC.

Additionally, other external parties such as Alcoa provide funds to DEC for rehabilitation and protection works. Mining compensation revenue for 2007/08 is estimated at \$3.9 million.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

2. *On page 1093 the total appropriation provided to deliver services - forward estimates - is*

*2008/09 - \$190,397,*

*2009/10 - \$190,293,*

*2010/11 - \$197,534.*

2.1 *How does the environment budget of Western Australia compare to other States?*

*Answer:*

Interstate comparison of environment budgets poses difficulties as each State organises its agency functions and classifies expenditure in different ways. There is, however, a national exercise to compare expenditure across

States in various categories. This is done by the Commonwealth Grants Commission, which publishes some comparative information per capita for each State. For example, Commonwealth Grants Commission data for 2005-06 for "National Parks and Wildlife Services". There are no equivalent data available from the Commonwealth Grants Commission that would allow reliable comparison between States in respect of environmental Protection budgets.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

*Page 1094, dot point 9, continued emphasis on delivering partnership with non government sector in providing tourism and recreation services and facilities.*

2.2 *What partnerships have been formed? Explain general working.*

*Answer:*

DEC has a range of partnerships with the private sector to assist with the provision of tourism and recreation services and facilities on the lands and waters that it manages.

The *Conservation and Land Management Act 1984* allows DEC to enter into leases and licences for commercial operations, and many of the tourism and recreation services and facilities on DEC-managed lands and waters are provided through these types of agreements. Commercial operations licence conditions, especially those for specific activities in environmentally sensitive areas, as well as lease requirements, are often structured in a way that encourages the commercial operator to assume some management responsibilities and adopt a "stewardship" approach to the park in which they operate. An example of a lease that adopts this approach is the lease to the Gumala Aboriginal Corporation for the Savannah Campground in Karijini National Park. The Savannah Campground lease is for a term of 21 years, with an option for a further 21 year term. The development includes a \$3.5million capital investment, with requirements for the lessee to meet sustainability key performance indicators, including social outcomes such as employment and training opportunities for local Aboriginal people. The rental is a percentage of gross turnover, with the lease containing development options that can be exercised at the lessee's discretion subject to the success of the operation.

Examples of licences are the semi-permanent safari camp operations and also the provision of helicopter tours in Purnululu National Park. Provisions similar to the above-mentioned Savannah Campground lease conditions apply to these operations and have resulted in measurable environmental best practice goals as well as enabling the operators to meet the increasing market expectations of their clients.

Other partnerships with the private sector include Landbank, which is a project led by Tourism WA in which Tourism WA and DEC are identifying and assessing potential tourism development sites on DEC-managed lands that meet environmental, social and tourism criteria. It is intended to identify five or six potential low impact development sites that have preliminary development approval and make them available for eco-tourism by 2010. Resulting development proposals will still be required to undergo normal approvals and agreements will be structured to encourage a partnership approach.

DEC has also entered into partnerships with a range of non-government organisations through Memoranda of Understanding (MOU). DEC has MOUs with:

- Leave No Trace Australia, to work cooperatively on educating the public about minimal impact visitor behaviour;
- Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) and Rio Tinto Future Fund, to facilitate the "Future Volunteers" funding agreement between CVA and Rio Tinto Future Fund, which funds volunteer projects primarily carried out on DEC-managed lands;
- Bibbulmun Track Foundation, to facilitate cooperative arrangements in relation to management and maintenance of the Bibbulmun Track (long distance walking track); and
- WA 4WD Association and Track Care WA, to promote the responsible use of DEC-managed lands by four wheel drivers and motorised recreational visitors, including working cooperatively on track stabilisation, clean-up projects and other environment care initiatives.

DEC will also be seeking to formalise its relationship with the Munda Biddi Foundation through a MOU in relation to cooperative arrangements for management and maintenance of the Munda Biddi Trail (long distance cycle trail).

DEC is also providing financial assistance to the State's peak outdoor recreation body, Outdoors WA, to assist with the implementation of its business plan for the National Outdoor Leader Registration Scheme.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

*Page 1094, dot point 19, Air Quality Management.*

2.3 *Could you give your opinion of the LIDAR Report that is in place as a comparison to previous testing and explain any differences in Alcoa's air monitoring testing program?*

*Answer:*

The results of the 2006 LIDAR study showed that emissions or plumes from the Wagerup alumina refinery extended several kilometres from the refinery remaining close to the ground, under specific meteorological conditions.

The Doppler LIDAR system deployed under contract from the Arizona State University was the first system of its kind used to study atmospheric wind fields and industrial plume movements in the Wagerup area. This system relies on backscatter of an eye-safe laser beam from airborne dust particles which are always present to varying degrees in the atmosphere. The movement of air masses (i.e. winds) at different heights can therefore be observed by this technique.

The study of the wind fields over the Wagerup region was a primary aim of using this system as knowledge of these wind fields is central to understanding the movement and distribution of airborne refinery emissions over the general area and to facilitate more accurate modeling of such dispersion, which is a major point of consideration in the approvals process for Alcoa's proposed Wagerup Stage III expansion submissions.

Plumes from the Wagerup alumina refinery generally contain a higher concentration of dust particles than the atmosphere, hence these plumes can be identified and tracked by this LIDAR system. The tracking of these plumes to observe their movement, location, residence time and dispersion or break-up were also primary objectives of the LIDAR study.

DEC's air quality studies at Wagerup are being done separately from Alcoa's studies, but DEC maintains liaison with Alcoa, to share data and information where appropriate, and ensure that respective studies compliment each other. Alcoa's air monitoring testing program has generally been focused on:

- direct monitoring of stack emissions by in-stack testing;
- dust monitoring by high volume air sampling equipment, especially around the residue disposal areas;
- fixed location monitoring by instruments for meteorology and specific gases such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, benzene, etc; and
- passive and active sampling programs for gases using a range of technologies in various locations;

and more recently an intensive monitoring program during 2006/2007 in response to conditions imposed on the proposed Wagerup III expansion submissions, which included:

- daily radiosonde releases to gather vertical profiles of meteorological parameters such as winds, temperature and relative humidity;
- a monitoring study by CSIRO; and
- odour assessment testing.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

*Page 1098, State Cane toad Eradication programmes.*

2.4 *Update and how successful.*

*Answer:*

The cane toad campaign budget is \$900,000 for each of 2006/07, 2007/08 and the outyears.

The breakdown of funding in 2006/07 is:

- \$795,000 for funding of the DEC cane toad team based in Kununurra, undertaking surveillance in the Northern Territory, front-line cane toad trapping and capture, and liaison with Stop the Toad Foundation (STTF) and Kimberley Toadbusters (KTB); Department of Agriculture and Food additional staff at the Kununurra border checkpoint; and communications, newsletters, brochures and advertising.
- \$105,000 for funding of the DEC all cane toad initiative coordinator, assistance to the STTF regional officer in Kununurra, assistance to KTB and special projects.

Further to the above internal reallocations have resulted in an additional State contribution of \$36,000 being provided to each of KTB and STTF in 2007 to assist their ongoing operations, with a further \$16,000 to STTF for a fencing trial in the Northern Territory.

An external review of the cane toad programs of STTF, KTB and DEC is currently underway, being undertaken by the national Invasive Animals Cooperative Research Centre, with an expected cost of approximately \$16,000. This review will be completed in the next month or so and will set the way forward for operations in the 2007 late dry season and thereafter. This follows a review of the DEC cane toad efforts conducted in 2006 that concluded that the campaign to keep cane toads out of Western Australia was worth continuing while cautioning that the dramatic wet seasons that the east Kimberley region can experience pose real threats for the effectiveness of any control programs.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

2.5 *What is the latest prediction for toads entering Western Australia?*

*Answer:*

The State is committed to delaying the arrival of cane toads for as long as possible and to keep them out if we possibly can. Nevertheless, given the rate of westward movement of cane toads over the last couple of wet seasons, there is a real risk that cane toads could reach Western Australia within 1 to 3 years.

**Question: Hon Nigel Hallett asked -**

*Page 1094, dot point 6*

2.6 *What is the budget for fuel reduction burning in 2007/08, 2006/07 and 2005/06?*

*Answer:*

The budgets for prescribed burning operations undertaken by the Department for all regions are: 2005/06 - \$7.725 million; 2006/07 - \$8.581 million; 2007/08 - \$8.630 million.

**[Supplementary Information No H1.]**

**Question: Hon Simon O'Brien asked -**

*Whether we could have a breakdown of which parks will be engaging the benefit of the Parks Improvement Fund and for what amounts.*

*Answer:*

The Park Improvement Fund will provide \$2 million towards maintenance of existing visitor facilities on lands managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation throughout the State and \$5.2 million for the replacement or provision of new visitor facilities as listed below.

**Parks and Visitor Services (PVS) Capital Work Projects in Parks, Reserves and State Forest Areas: 2007-2008**

<b>Project/project description</b>	<b>Local Govt</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$'s</b>
<b>Kimberley Region</b>		
Rowley Shoals Marine Park - install public moorings to prevent the ongoing degradation of the fragile coral reef system from vessel anchoring.	Derby – West Kimberley	\$70,000
Geikie Gorge National Park - design shade shelters for visitors in the day use area around the gazebo and picnic table.	Derby – West Kimberley	\$10,000
Purnululu National Park - World Heritage Area - reposition car park, facilities and walktrails at Piccaninny Gorge, which are impacting on a culturally sensitive area and also improve visitor experiences.	Wyndham - East Kimberley	\$60,000
Wolfe Creek and Purnululu - with volunteers stabilise walk trail to improve visitor safety.	Wyndham - East Kimberley	\$7,000
Windjana/Silent Grove and Geike Gorge National Parks - with volunteers revegetate day use areas to minimise dust and improve appearance.	Derby – West Kimberley	\$6,000



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**Pilbara Region**

Cape Range National Park - provide visitor information, new toilets and shade, shelter at Yardie Creek.	Exmouth	\$150,000
Cape Range National Park - upgrade pedestrian access, protect heritage areas and provide a quality interpretive experience for visitors to the Oyster Stacks.	Exmouth	\$53,000
Cape Range National Park - Milyering Visitor Centre – install hybrid/solar power supply at visitor centre, workshop, ranger’s house and visitor accommodation.	Exmouth	\$150,000
Pilbara Parks - continue to maintain visitor facilities and park infrastructure across the region.	Ashburton	\$170,000

**Midwest Region**

Nambung National Park - Pinnacles Desert Interpretive Centre – complete the construction of a visitor precinct to cater for in excess of 300,000 visitors a year. Includes, toilets, car and coach parking, hybrid power generation, water and waste treatment, interpretive centre and improved pedestrian access to the Pinnacles.	Dandaragan	\$750,000
Kennedy Range National Park - finalise concept development plan for all recreation sites in the park and prepare site development plans for new Temple Gorge campground, new walk trails and redevelopment of four day use sites.	Upper Gascoyne	\$50,000
Shark Bay World Heritage Area - replace section of corroded lookout substructure at Eagle Bluff Boardwalk overlooking the marine park and treat all steel. Replace corroded handrails with stainless steel, and warped timber decking with recycled plastic along the 200m boardwalk.	Shark Bay	\$320,000
Kalbarri National Park - construct shade shelter at Natural Bridge.	Kalbarri	\$90,000
Lesueur National Park - construct toilets at two recreation sites along the new tourist drive to complement recent and proposed developments of lookouts, walk trails, picnic facilities and visitor interpretation.	Dandaragan	\$350,000
Kalbarri Parks - continue to maintain park visitor infrastructure and facilities in Kalbarri parks.	Kalbarri	\$70,000
Moora District - continue to maintain park visitor infrastructure and facilities in the district.	Dandaragan	\$109,000
Shark Bay District - continue to maintain park infrastructure and facilities in the district.	Shark Bay	\$70,000

**Swan Region**

Swan Coastal District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure	Rockingham and Wanneroo	\$205,000
Perth Hills District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure	Armadale, Mundaring, Murray	\$205,000
Perth Hills National Park centre - renewal and replacement of the buildings and equipment to maximize the life of the facility.	Armadale, Mundaring, Murray	\$25,000

**South West Region**

Leeuwin-Naturaliste National Park - upgrade and redevelop pedestrian areas and beach access at the southern and northern carparks at Hamelin Bay.	Augusta -Margaret River	\$200,000
Wellington National Park - Honeymoon Pool day use area - complete site works to information shelter, access paths from carpark to river deck and landscaping.	Collie	\$80,000

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Blackwood River National Park - redevelop Sues Bridge campground and day use area to increase capacity and create safer and improved river access for visitors.	Nannup	\$120,000
Southwest Region - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure.	Augusta -Margaret River, Nannup, Collie	\$27,000
Blackwood District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure.	Augusta -Margaret River, Nannup	\$100,000
Wellington District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure.	Collie	\$100,000
D'Entrecasteaux National Park - develop 4WD camping area, jetty for lake and install interpretation at Lake Yeagerup to cater for increasing visitor numbers.	Manjimup	\$45,000
Walpole Normalup National Park - redesign and upgrade the Mt Frankland arrival space site, including shelter, interpretation and universal pedestrian access.	Manjimup	\$65,000
Walpole Normalup National Park - design and develop universal access, boardwalk and a new wilderness view lookout at Mt Frankland.	Manjimup	\$500,000
Walpole Normalup National Park - protect eroded boat ramp and jetty area by constructing a revetment wall at Coalmine Jetty in line with geomorphology study and recommendations.	Manjimup	\$50,000
Walpole Normalup National Park - complete toilets, picnic areas, pedestrian access redevelopment of Coalmine Beach and Channels area.	Manjimup	\$35,000
Donnelly District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure	Manjimup	\$100,000
Frankland District - maintain parks, forests and reserves recreation infrastructure.	Manjimup	\$100,000
Porongurup National Park - plan, design and develop a new viewing platform for Castle Rock, to replace the existing lookout, which has safety concerns.	Plantagenet	\$500,000
Torndirrup National Park -redesign lookouts and paths at the Gap and Natural Bridge to cater for increasing visitor numbers and ensure visitor safety.	Albany	\$140,000
Parks in the South Coast Region - replace outdated, weld mesh BBQ's with Gas BBQ's	Albany, Ravensthorpe, Jerramungup	\$60,000
Gull Rock National Park - commence the planning for facilities upgrade at this reserve and improve the maintenance.	Albany	\$50,000
Cape Arid National Park - Shire Reserve 518 Thomas River - provide an information shelter incorporating interpretation and self registration fee paying facilities at the DEC-managed Shire recreation reserve which is an enclave within the park .	Esperance	\$35,000
Esperance National Parks - continue to maintain park visitor facilities and infrastructure across the district.	Esperance	\$100,000
Albany National Parks - continue to maintain park visitor facilities and infrastructure across the district.	Albany, Ravensthorpe, Jerramungup	\$130,000
<b>Wheatbelt Region</b>		
Williams Nature Reserve - define and develop a day use area to protect biodiversity values of reserve by managing degradation caused by human impacts, increasing appreciation of reserve values and involving local		

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community.	Williams	\$60,000
Great Southern District reserves - maintain and improve visitor facilities and experience.	Williams	\$35,000
Yilgarn District - undertake general maintenance of recreation facilities across reserves to ensure visitors can enjoy the safe use.	Yilgarn	\$8,000
Avon-Mortlock District - undertake maintenance of facilities across reserves to ensure visitors can enjoy the safe use of high standard facilities.	Lake Grace, Dumbleyung	\$8,000
<b>Goldfields Region</b>		
Wallaroo Rocks Conservation Park - Wallaroo Rock site development - Realign road, develop day use and camping areas, sealed vault toilets, and provide some picnic facilities and signage in first year. Second stage-interpretation shelter and panels and final roadwork.	Menzies	\$90,000
Goldfields parks and reserves -maintain recreation and tourist infrastructure across the region.	Coolgardie	\$100,000
<b>Regional Parks</b>		
Canning River Regional Park - construct an Eco Education Centre that will provide environmental education services to the schools and community of the Canning region and interpretive information on Canning River Regional Park.	Canning	\$1,000,000
All Regional Parks - maintain trails, lookouts, information, interpretation, signs, picnic areas, access, boat ramps.	Cockburn	\$100,000
<b>PVS Division (corporate)</b>		
South West and Warren Regions - Munda Biddi Trail – complete construction of second half of Stage 2, between Nannup and Northcliffe (passing through Manjimup, Quinninup and Pemberton). Plan for Stage 3 through to Albany.	Manjimup, Nannup	\$200,000
Swan, South West, Warren and South Coast Regions – Long Trails Maintenance - Ongoing maintenance of long trails, including Bibbulmun Track, Munda Biddi Trail and Cape to Cape walk trail.	Various	\$60,000
PVS Division - RECDATA - provide the information needed to make informed decisions on recreational upgrades through the improvement of the VISTAT program.	Statewide	\$42,500
Statewide - Volunteer projects - provide the opportunity for Regions to create new volunteer projects and enhance other DEC projects which use volunteers to support tasks otherwise not possible.	Statewide	\$30,000

**[Supplementary Information No H2.]**

**Question: Hon Simon O'Brien asked -**

*What is the success rate of rehabilitation of seagrass meadows by Cockburn Cement?*

*Answer:*

Under the approval for the long-term dredging of shellsand in Owen Anchorage, Cockburn Cement is required to conduct research into transplanting and rehabilitating seagrass meadows, and to apply the findings to its operation.

Transplanting trials are in the early stages and to date have demonstrated little long-term success. The 2006 Annual Compliance Report states that about 50% of transplanted units survive the first year, but only 10% have survived in older plots. The findings of this research are being used to improve transplant techniques.

