

**Division 39: Conservation and Land Management -**

*Question: Mrs Edwardes asked "Could I have an estimate of the cost of the projects in those parks?"*

*Answer:* The following projects have been allocated funding in existing national parks and other conservation reserves:

• Windjana Gorge – campground/energy system	\$60 000
• Purnululu – signage, walktrail and lookout	\$40 000
• Cape Range – carpark, toilet, shade and information shelters	\$50 000
• Karijini – day use facilities	\$100 000
• Monkey Mia Visitor Centre – power supply and boardwalk	\$63 000
• Mount Augustus – signage, trail information, improved toilets	\$15 000
• Stockyard Gully – risk management, information, site improvements	\$18 000
• Avon Valley – improved access and upgrade of recreation sites	\$20 000
• Serpentine – relocated entry	\$30 000
• Walyunga – walktrail and bridges	\$25 000
• Lesmurdie Falls – risk management, trails and bridges	\$10 000
• Penguin Island – ramp steps and lookouts	\$46 500
• Lane Poole – campgrounds, Icy Creek facilities	\$136 000
• Yalgorup – campground redevelopment	\$25 000
• Yanchep – refurbishment of McNess House, sign plan and paving	\$70 000
• Matilda Bay – completion of seawall	\$20 000
• Leeuwin Naturaliste – Ellenbrook carpark and access, Hamelin Bay, paths signs and toilet	\$93 000
• Wellington – Honeymoon Pool redevelopment	\$70 000
• St Johns Brook – upgrade facilities, toilet and shelter	\$30 000
• D’Entrecasteaux – Mt Chudalup lookout and trail, signage	\$25 000
• Warren – campsites, interpretation and trails	\$50 000
• Stirling Range – upgrade Bluff Knoll carpark	\$96 000
• Cape Le Grand – shower block Lucky Bay	\$60 000
• Two Peoples Bay – equipment shed, security	\$50 000
• Porongurups – upgrade Castle Rock access	\$15 000
• Waychinicup – upgrade camping area	\$7 500
• Yorkrakine Rock – interpretation facilities, shelter and signs	\$10 000
• Korrellocking – facilities, tables, interpretive shelter signs	\$10 000
• Dryandra Woodland – interpretation and completion of viewing facility	\$50 000
• Rowles Lagoon – walktrails, interpretation and signposting	\$50 000
• Gnaragara Park – maintenance of access and protection of park	\$250 000

In addition, funding has been made available to upgrade and maintain the Bibbulmun Track \$50 000

Capital funding is also allocated for tourist roading in national parks and other conservation reserves.

The following roading projects have been allocated funding:

• King Leopold Range – Bell Gorge	\$40 000
• – Mt Hart	\$4 000
• Mitchell Falls	\$5 000
• Mirima – Hidden Valley access	\$100 000
• Karijini – Dales Gorge road	\$110 000
• Cape Range – Yardie Creek spurroads	\$40 000
• Monkey Mia	\$280 000
• Lesueur	\$50 000
• Matilda Bay	\$12 000
• Mundaring Forest – bridge repair and maintenance	\$53 000
• Lane Poole – Park road	\$110 000
• Wellington – Pile/Mungilup road	\$50 000
• Leeuwin Naturaliste – Contos	\$120 000
• – Lefthanders	\$50 000
• D’Entrecasteaux – Salmon Beach road	\$45 000
• Walpole-Nornalup – Knoll Drive	\$22 000
• – Valley of the Giants	\$25 000
• West Cape Howe – Shelley Beach road	\$85 000
• Waychinicup – Waychinicup road	\$35 000

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• Cape Le Grand	– Hellfire road	\$100 000
• Dryandra Woodland	– Kawana	\$30 000

*Question:* Mr Edwards asked the Minister to provide a table of the breakdown of departments expenditure on salinity funding of previous years and this current financial year.

*Answer:* The budgeted whole of government consolidated fund expenditure for 2000-2001 and budget for 2001-2002 with respect to salinity is outlined in the table below.

Agency part	Expenditure 2000-01 (\$ million)	Budget 2001-02 (\$ million)	New initiatives - as of Budget 2001-02 (\$ million)
DEWCP	4.06	6.22	2.18
CALM	8.25	8.05	
FPC	3.49 <sup>(1)</sup>	1.39 <sup>(2)</sup>	
DoA	9.00	9.30	0.32
Alinta Gas funding		8.42 <sup>(3)</sup>	8.42
<b>Total – direct funding</b>	<b>24.80</b>	<b>33.38</b>	<b>10.92</b>
Corporate Overheads	7.56	7.66	0.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32.36</b>	<b>41.04</b>	<b>11.12</b>

(1) Includes only expenditure relevant to FPC.

(2) The Forest Products Commission's budgeted expenditure, on undertaking reforestation programs in regions affected by salinity, this financial year is \$1.4M. The Commission is in the final stage of completing a business case for ongoing funding of its reforestation programs in support of the State Salinity Strategy. If approved, the Forest Products Commission's expenditure for 2001-02 will be \$5.7M.

(3) As shown in Budget Paper No. 2 (p.634), \$8.424M for 2001/02 and \$9.288M for 2002/03 from the AlintaGas sale sits in the CALM's budget awaiting allocation decisions.

*Question:* Mrs Edwardes asked for information about parity and wages policy and the priority and assurance dividend?

*Answer:* Government policy is to progressively phase in a consistent pay rate for employees. A benchmark has been set for 2001-2002 and each future year and where employees are paid below the benchmark rate, a pay increase will occur. The amounts under the parity and wages policy are the amounts budgeted from the Consolidated Fund for increases.

The following targeted expenditure reductions have been made within the Department of Conservation and Land Management and approved by Government to meet the priority and assurance dividend.

Astronomical services	\$0.041 million
Conservation Commission	\$0.035 million
Corporate Services	\$0.354 million
Nature Conservation	\$1.797 million
Parks and Visitor Services	\$1.218 million
Sustainable Forest Management	\$0.203 million
Salinity Action Plan, cut to AlintaGas proceeds of \$9 million allocated for 2001/02	\$0.576 million

The adjustments have been made with a minimal impact of service levels and after considering whole of state priorities for conservation management.

*Question:* Mrs Edwardes asked what is the breakdown of the respective figures for outputs 1, 2 and 3 of the 2001-02 budget? Can I add outputs 4 and 5 to that?

*Answer:* The breakdown of Outputs 1 - 5 relating to Page 634 of Budget Paper No. 2 are as follows:

Output 1	Output 2	Output 3	Output 4	Output 5
		Resources and Services		

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	Nature Conservation	Sustainable Forest Management	Provided to the Conservation Commission of WA	Parks and Visitor Services	Astronomical Services
<b>Expenses from Ordinary</b>					
<b>Activities</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Salaries and Allowances	26,141	17,462	150	17,149	585
Superannuation	2,000	1,336	11	1,313	45
Grants, Subsidies and Transfer Payments	211				
Consultancies expense	975	437	100	485	3
Supplies and services	17,410	8,493	189	10,814	84
Accommodation	692	486	10	597	15
Borrowing costs	102			306	
Capital User Charge	1,840	2,657		4,743	223
Depreciation	2,112	2,917	2	5,283	186
Administration	232	162	2	199	5
Advertising and promotion	179	77	20	139	5
Consumable supplies	11,912	5,344	66	6,627	50
Equipment repairs and maintenance	600	465	5	520	10
State taxes	20	30		20	
Bad and doubtful debts expense	-10	-715		-40	
Other expenses	3	7			
Total	64,419	39,158	555	48,155	1,211

*Question: Mr McRae asked what were the uncontrollable external factors that prevented gazettal of any changes to threatened species status in 2000-01; do they relate to printing.*

*Answer:* Amendments to the threatened fauna and flora lists made by notice under the Wildlife Conservation Act are normally made annually and are based on advice from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee. The Committee met on 27 October 2000 and follow-up preparatory work by the Department was not completed for Ministerial consideration prior to the February 2000 election. Following Ministerial approval after the election, Parliamentary Counsel's Office prepared the necessary Gazettal notices. Because of the inclusion of marine turtles in the notice applying to fauna and the effect of their inclusion on the rights of Aboriginal people to take turtles for food, complementary amendments to the Wildlife Conservation Regulations were also required. The threatened species lists and regulation amendments were gazetted on 14 August 2001.