

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

C578

### QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE (Of which some notice has been given)

Thursday, 12 September 2013

Hon Stephen Dawson to the Leader of the House representing the Premier

I refer to the Premier's response to Question on Notice No 449 in the other place in relation to the Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy, and I ask:

- (1) Are all the elements of the strategy listed and if not, will the Premier provide a complete list?
- (2) What is the breakdown of the departmental expenditure in terms of the amount spent on each element of the strategy?
- (3) Can the Premier confirm that there is \$59.2 million remaining to be spent and if not how much unspent funds remain?
- (4) Of the remainder yet to be spent:
  - (a) What is the amount allocated to each element; and
  - (b) Where can each element be found in the 2013-14 State Budget?
- (5) Over how many years will the remaining funds be spent?

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I thank the Hon. Member for some notice of this question.

(1)-(5) The Kimberley Science and Conservation Strategy was launched on 17 June 2011. In the lead up to the 2013 Election and as part of the 2013 State Budget additional initiatives and funding were committed for the Great Kimberley Marine Park and new national parks, including Horizontal Falls and the creation of Australia's largest national park. The Strategy now comprises the following elements:

- New marine and national parks;
- Landscape Conservation Initiative;
- Kimberley Tourism initiatives;
- Kimberley Marine Research Program, delivered through Western Australian Marine Science Institute;
- Integrated Marine Observation System - Kimberley Array (marine science);
- Geophysical and Geochemical Survey;
- New Kimberley Fishing Initiatives;
- Science Portal, developed by Scitech; and
- Rock Art Research.



The expenditure to 31 March 2013 across the seven agencies involved in the implementation of the Strategy is \$22 million. The expenditure figures for the remainder of the 2012-13 financial year are still being finalised.

A further \$68.5 million is committed over the next four years to the end of 2016-17, this includes:

- \$25 million for new national parks and the landscape conservation initiative;
- \$30.1 million for Camden Sound, North Kimberley, Horizontal Falls and Eighty Mile Beach marine parks;
- \$8.6 million for a marine science research program and other science initiatives;
- \$1.8 million tourism initiative including major upgrades to visitor facilities in parks;
- \$1.1 million geological survey program; and
- \$900,000 for fisheries stocking program and marine education program.

There is also ongoing funding of \$9.2 million/year beyond 2016/17 for marine park management and the landscape conservation initiative.