

Division 68: Environment and Conservation —

[Supplementary Information No A31.]

Question: Mrs C.A. Martin requested statistics about national parks that have management plans and national parks that do not.

Answer: There are 77 national parks covered by a gazetted management plan, including 29 covered by their own specific area management plan and 48 covered by a regional management plan.

There are 22 national parks that are not covered by a management plan.

[Supplementary Information No A32.]

Question: Mr F.M. Logan requested a breakdown of how the \$1 million announced as part of the Turning the Tide with Phytophthora Dieback program will be spent.

Answer: Two rangers will be employed to undertake community and visitor education, access management, compliance and enforcement required for the management of dieback in the park, especially in very high conservation value and restricted access areas. Functions will include installing and maintaining infrastructure to manage and inform visitors about the threat of dieback, and implementing a dieback risk management plan that will be developed in year 1.

Approximate costs are:

Salaries and overheads	\$170,000
Vehicle costs	\$30,000
Establishment costs	\$15,000
Operational costs	\$15,000
Housing	\$20,000
Total	\$250,000

[Supplementary Information No A33.]

Question: Mr F.M. Logan requested information on the funding for the Gorgon offset threatened species program, where that funding goes and how long it runs for.

Answer: The Gorgon Joint Venture will provide \$10 million over 12 years to the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) for the Threatened and Priority Species Translocation and Reintroduction Program, with \$1.3 million each year for the first five years, then \$0.5 million each year for the subsequent seven years. Funding is indexed from 1 January 2007. Two payments have been received to date, in November 2009 and November 2010.

The funding is to be used to translocate and reintroduce selected species of fauna from Barrow Island to other suitable habitat within Australia and to monitor and manage the new populations and their habitats. To date, four mammal species and two species of birds have been translocated from Barrow Island and reintroduced to areas of their former ranges on islands and the mainland. These newly established populations have been regularly monitored for dispersion, breeding and general health. Further translocations are planned for mid 2011.

Approximately 6 FTEs are employed with program funds, spread across approximately 20 personnel, most of whom are existing DEC staff contributing expertise to the program.

[Supplementary Information No A34.]

Question: Mr F.M. Logan asked for a breakdown of how the allocation of \$220 000 in 2010–11 for the enhanced project assessment and strategic support was spent and how the proposed \$2.254 million for the project will be spent.

Answer: In 2010/11, the \$222,000 was spent on the initial recruitment of officers to undertake the assessment of uranium proposals and improving information management within the Office of the Environmental Protection Authority.

The proposed budget for 2011/12 provides for the employment of three officers to improve the management of information, the development of Information Management databases to assist with improving client services, finalisation of the recruitment of three officers to undertake the assessment and compliance monitoring related to uranium proposals, and three officers to provide strategic environmental advice leading to improved certainty to proponents and a more efficient proposal assessment process.