

ESTIMATES AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Thursday 5 July 2012

Conservation Commission

Hon. G. Watson asked -

- 1. With regard to the expenditure on the proposed new Forest Management Plan, what were the costs incurred by the Conservation Commission in 2010/11 for:
 - a. The costs of all audits relating to the impacts of the native forest logging industry (including relating to prescribed burns, Fauna Habitat Zones and in relation to compliance with either the current or future Forest Management Plan);
 - b. The costs of assessing all old growth nominations from the public; and
 - c. Any other costs relating to the native forest logging industry in any way.

Answer:

All staff (5) of the Conservation Commission service unit are involved to varying degrees with matters relating to forest management, however issues across the State are also addressed. Two staff in particular are involved with audits and the processing of old-growth nominations. The standard budgeting structure of the Commission does not report against forest management specifically.

- 2. With regard to the expenditure on the proposed new Forest Management Plan, what are the costs budgeted to be spent by the Conservation Commission in 2011/12 and in each year of the forward estimates for:
 - a. The costs of all audits relating to the impacts of the native forest logging industry (including relating to prescribed burns, Fauna Habitat Zones and in relation to compliance with either the current or future Forest Management Plan);
 - b. The costs of assessing all old growth nominations from the public; and
 - c. Any other costs relating to the native forest logging industry in any way.

Answer:

The Conservation Commission has a general allocation with respect to the preparation of the next Forest Management Plan over a period of three years as follows:

2011/12: \$156,000

2012/13: \$226,000

2013/14: \$141,050

3. Will the Minister confirm that the amounts set out on page 801 relating to the item "Forest Management Plan 2014-23" are the full extent of the costs of development of that proposed new plan, and if not, what additional costs are expected in each of the years set out on that page?

Answer:

The amounts set out on page 801 are additional to the existing staff and financial resources of DEC and the Conservation Commission being applied to the development of the next Forest Management Plan. These existing resources have been estimated at \$3.8 million for 2012-13 and \$1.4 million for 2013-14.

4. For each of the answers to questions 1, 2 and 3 which amounts, if any, will be recovered by the Commission from either Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) or the Forest Products Commission (FPC)?

Answer:

Nil.

5. For each amount recovered from either DEC or the FPC, are or will the relevant amounts be directly or indirectly on-charged to the timber industry in any way, and if so how?

Answer:

Not applicable.

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Thursday 5 July 2012

Conservation Commission

Hon. A. Farina asked -

6. I refer to Budget Paper No 2 Volume 2 at page 802, 'Outcomes, Services, and Key Performance Information' and line item Parks and Visitor Services, and ask -

Of the \$89.504 million allocated to Parks and Visitor Services for 2012/13:

- a. How much will be spent in the South West?
- b. On what will the money be spent in the South West?
- c. What are the start and completion dates for the South West projects funded through the \$89.504 million allocation to Parks and Visitor Services?

Answer:

- a) An estimated \$19.7 million will be spent against the Parks and Visitor Services service for the South West electorate region.
- b) Funds will be expended on lands and waters managed under the *Conservation* and Land Management Act 1984 for public use and enjoyment, including the preparation of management and recreation site development plans, building, managing and maintaining access and visitor facilities and providing visitor information, education material and interpretive activity programs. The funds will also be spent on working with volunteers, local tourist organisations and commercial tour operators and involving Aboriginal people in park management.
- c) Expenditure on the activities listed in answer (2) will be ongoing through 2012/13.

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