

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 244  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Programme:** Director of National Parks  
**Topic:** Marine Parks and Marine Reserves Review  
**Hansard Page:** 68  
**Question Date:** 08 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Siewert asked:**

**Senator SIEWERT:** I wanted to follow up with some questions around the marine parks and marine reserves review. In the last round of estimates—I have an answer to a question on notice here—the expenditure was listed as \$3.1 million; it is now budgeted at \$4.2 million.

**Ms Barnes:** There was more work done after that—the team continued. I understand from the secretariat that there was more consultation and more meetings. The \$4.2 million is the cost to date now.

**Dr de Brouwer:** It is a budget over two financial years.

**Senator SIEWERT:** So that is what has been spent to date?

**Ms Barnes:** Yes.

**Senator SIEWERT:** What is the budget? Is that what you took on notice?

**Ms Barnes:** The budget was approximately \$4.2 million. It does go across two financial years. In the 2015-16 budget, it was approximately \$2 million, and in the year before, 2014-15, it was \$2.17 million.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Sorry, maybe I got caught up in the semantics here. That is the budget?

**Ms Barnes:** Yes.

**Senator SIEWERT:** So the \$3.1 million was expenditure?

**Ms Barnes:** It was expenditure until October.

**Senator SIEWERT:** So the budget was always \$4.2 million?

**Ms Barnes:** Yes—spread over two years.

**Senator SIEWERT:** Have you now expended that \$4.2 million?

**Ms Barnes:** I will get you that answer on notice.

**Answer:**

The expenditure to date on the Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review is \$3.7 million.