

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

Question No: 30
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Sustainability Policy and Analysis Division
Topic: NRM PLANNING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE FUND - REGIONS
Hansard Page: 100
Question Date: 26 June 2014
Question Type: Spoken

Senator Urquhart asked:

Senator URQUHART: I have two questions left on natural resource management. I will have more questions on the NRM funding in outcome 1 tomorrow and the significant cuts being made to that as part of the creation of the National Landcare Program. But, in regard to adapting to climate change, what is happening in NRM funding in this space?

Ms Mummery: As noted earlier, there is a natural resource management planning for climate change fund. Part of that fund, which has been managed in this program, is \$13.6 million of administered funding over four years for research to deliver regional level information on future climate and also on climate change impacts and adaptation strategies. That information is currently being developed by a range of research providers. In the first instance we are looking at some delivery of climate futures information later in 2014. There has been a high level of engagement with the regional natural resource management groups to ensure that that science is meeting their needs and that the climate variables that are being considered align with the decision making of the regional natural resource management groups. The impacts and adaptation strategies information is also being delivered over the next year or so. The program goes until the end of 2015-16 and is intended to provide quite targeted information for those regions. There are eight major regions in Australia which have been established through their different climates and how those link with land-use activities.

Senator URQUHART: What are those regions?

Ms Mummery: It might be easier if I take that on notice. They have all got slightly different names, from our monsoonal through to the south coast and the Murray Darling Basin.

Senator URQUHART: That is fine; take that on notice.

Answer:

At the time the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Planning for Climate Change programme was established, there were 56 NRM regions across Australia. For delivery of Stream 2 of the programme, these were divided into eight 'clusters'. The NRM groups within each cluster are:

Monsoonal North cluster

- Northern Gulf
- Southern Gulf
- Burdekin
- Northern Territory (Top End and Gulf Savanna sub-regions)
- Rangelands (West Kimberley sub-region)

Wet Tropics cluster

- Cape York
- Torres Strait
- Wet Tropics
- Mackay Whitsunday

East Coast cluster

- Fitzroy
- Burnett Mary
- South East Queensland
- Northern Rivers
- Hunter-Central Rivers
- Hawkesbury-Nepean
- Sydney Metro

Central Slopes cluster

- Border Rivers and Maranoa-Balonne
- Border Rivers-Gwydir
- Namoi
- Condamine
- Central West

Rangelands cluster

- Desert Channels
- Alinytjara Wilurara
- South West Queensland
- SA Arid Lands
- Northern Territory (Arid Lands and Table Lands sub-regions)
- Rangelands (Pilbara, Gascoyne/Murchison and Goldfields/Nullarbor sub-regions)
- Western

Southern and South-Western Flatlands

- Kangaroo Island
- Adelaide and Mt Lofty Ranges
- Northern and Yorke
- Eyre Peninsula
- South Coast
- South West
- Wheatbelt
- Perth
- Northern Agricultural

Murray Basin

- Lachlan
- Murrumbidgee
- Australian Capital Territory
- Murray
- Lower Murray Darling
- North East
- Goulburn-Broken
- North Central
- Mallee
- SA Murray Darling Basin
- Wimmera
- South East

Southern Slopes

- Southern Rivers
- East Gippsland
- West Gippsland
- Port Phillip and Westernport
- Corangamite
- Glenelg Hopkins
- Tasmania North
- Tasmania North West
- Tasmania South

These are shown visually on the NRM cluster map below.

