

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 112

Broad Topic: Staff training

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Birmingham asked:

1. How many staff training programmes has the Department conducted in the past financial year and at what cost?
2. How many of these staff training programmes were held outside Canberra?
3. How many staff attended these programmes and where were they held?

Answer:

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities provides staff with opportunities to access job related learning activities and individual career development activities.

Currently the department does not have a mechanism to capture and record centrally details of all learning and development activities undertaken by staff. Providing specific details for each training activity is therefore not possible without an extensive manual process which would constitute, in the context of existing workloads, an unreasonably large diversion of resources.

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Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 113

Broad Topic: Travel Costs

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed a whole-of-government coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies? Please explain the changes that have occurred to your department and portfolio agencies in relation to its travel and related services.
2. Is purchasing of travel and related services less expensive under the new arrangements?
3. Is purchasing of travel and related services more efficient under the new arrangements?
4. Have savings been achieved in your portfolio because of the new arrangements?
5. How much did your department and portfolio agencies spend on travel in 2008-09, 2009-10 and to date this financial year.
6. How have staff within your department and portfolio agencies found the new arrangements? For example is it more efficient to arrange travel?

Answers:

1. The calculation of savings for each agency related to the change in unit price (airfare price) based on the 2007/08 travel expenditure and travel pattern. The 2007/08 travel expenditure was discounted by 20 per cent to provide for any discrepancies in the source data; as such the savings were based on 80 per cent of 2007/08 travel expenditure. Further, a materiality test was applied so that only agencies with travel expenditure greater than \$1 million would be required to return savings to the budget.

The changes require all *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (FMA Act) agencies to make travel arrangements through a Travel Management Company (TMC) that has been successfully appointed to the panel. Progressively agencies will approach the panel of TMCs over the next 12 months, to select their new provider through a simplified Request For Quote process.

The department and portfolio agencies received and signed the new interim agreements for Whole of Australian Government (WoAG) coordinated procurement arrangements for travel and related services at the end of June 2010 and the agreement took effect from 1 July 2010. All departmental officers were advised of the changes to the Lowest Practical Fare and Frequent Flyer Programs policies.

2. Yes.

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3. Yes.
4. An accurate comparison of expenditure under the new travel arrangements will not be possible until the end of this financial year. However, with the lower fare structures under the new arrangements, it is reasonable to expect that savings will be realised over this period.
5. Total Travel Spend for the department and portfolio agencies follows:

Department or Agency	Total Travel Spend 2008-2009	Total Travel Spend 2009-2010	Total Travel Spend 2010 1 July – 30 September 2010
Department of Sustainability Environment Water Population and Communities (SEWPaC)	\$ 10,970,300	\$ 10,429,793	\$ 2,523,538
Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)	\$ 8,370,248	\$ 10,059,663	\$2,499,116
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)	\$ 2,215,786	\$ 1,908,506	\$ 436,475
Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)	\$ 406,201	\$ 1,388,683	\$ 1,187,144
National Water Commission (NWC)	\$ 595,859	\$ 658,164	\$ 230,021
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (SHFT)	\$ 14,040	\$ 5,619	\$ 1,316
Director of National Parks (DNP)	\$ 511,959	\$ 636,194	\$ 204,966

6. Most of the change in relation to the new travel arrangements has been in fare and fee structures. At an operational level, the impact of new travel arrangements on staff within the department and portfolio agencies has been negligible.

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 114

Broad Topic: Commonwealth Property
Management Framework

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed the establishment of the Commonwealth Property Management Framework. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies?
2. Has the implementation of this Framework lead to savings in your portfolio? Please provide details.

Answer:

1. The establishment of the Commonwealth Property Management Framework has resulted in:
 - formalisation of Property Management Plans for *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* agencies within the portfolio; and
 - provision of occupational density data to the Department of Finance and Deregulation (DoFD) twice annually, and in preparation for reporting property costs in future years.
2. No savings have been realised to date, but as a result of current occupational density reporting, DoFD has quantified funding which will need to be returned to the budget in future years.

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 115

Broad Topic: Whole-of-government
departmental efficiencies

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. The 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies. How has this applied to your department and portfolio agencies?
2. Can you provide details of how these efficiencies will be achieved? Please provide specific examples.
3. Will the implementation of the Government's election commitment to maintain the 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend impact on your department or portfolio agencies ability to meet the efficiencies outlined in the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook?
4. Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff to meet the 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook detailed whole-of-government departmental efficiencies in your portfolio? If so, please provide details? Are there such plans for the future?

Answer:

1. The implementation of the whole-of-government departmental efficiencies has been flowed through to each budget holder across the department.
2. The efficiency dividend has been flowed through to each budget holder across the department and portfolio agencies. Budget holders have implemented a range of measures such as greater use of video conferencing and implementing more efficient ways of doing business better through improvements in systems and processes.
3. The impact of efficiency dividend and the whole-of-government departmental efficiencies have been factored into the development of the department's and portfolio agencies' annual budgets.
4. No voluntary or involuntary redundancies have been offered and at this stage there are no plans to offer voluntary or involuntary redundancies in the future.

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD

Question No: 116

Broad Topic: Government stationery requirements

**Proof Hansard Page and Date
or Written Question:** Written Question

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What are the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. special type of paper, envelopes)?
2. What are the cost of these items? Is the Department/portfolio agencies paying for these?

Answer:

1. All items purchased by Minister Burke's office and Parliamentary Secretary Farrell's office are standard departmental stationery items including stores (pens, rulers, etc), photocopier paper (plain and colour), envelopes and toner.
2. As of 8 November 2010, costs (including GST) for these items to the nearest dollar are:

Item	Minister Burke's Office	Parliamentary Secretary Farrell's Office
Stores	\$1,349.00	\$813.00
Photocopier Paper	\$390.00	\$165.00
Envelopes	\$1,137.00	\$57.00
Toner	Nil	Nil
Total	\$2,876.00	\$1,035.00

The department paid for all these items and is not aware of any other stationery purchases made by the Minister's/Parliamentary Secretary's offices.

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 117

Broad Topic: Changes to staffing levels

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What have been the changes in staffing levels since Budget Estimates 2010? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications? In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions these staff performed have been sacrificed and why?
2. How many permanent staff recruited since Budget Estimates 2010? What level are these staff? Where is their location?
3. Since Budget Estimates 2010, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?
4. Are there expected changes to current staffing levels over the next 12 months? If yes, provide details including a breakdown of each level staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band) detailing the changes. Will this be different to what was reported in the 2010-11 Budget?

Answer:

1. There has been a net decrease in employee numbers of 189 across the department since Budget Estimates 2010.

Most changes in the department have been as a result of machinery of government decisions.

There has been a decrease in salary costs, noting that financial resources are also transferred to other agencies when machinery of government changes occur. Otherwise, budgetary implications have been minimal.

As reductions have occurred as a result of machinery of government changes, this is not applicable.

No functions have been sacrificed as a result of these reductions.

2. 92 ongoing staff have been recruited since Budget Estimates 2010.

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APS Equivalent	ACT	WA	TAS	NT	Indian Ocean	Total
SES Band 2	1					1
SES Band 1	4					4
EL 2	14					14
EL 1	27	1				28
APS 6	19	1	2		1	23
APS 5	13		1	1		15
APS 4	3		2	1		6
APS 3				1		1
Total	81	2	5	3	1	92

3. 295 non-ongoing employees have been engaged since Budget Estimates 2010.

The average length of their employment period is 34 weeks.

4. Staffing levels will be influenced by the budget outcome for the department for the next year. There are no other factors known at the present time.

Not applicable

No

Note: Responses to these questions

- include staff who moved into the department as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (staff from Treasury working on the Population Taskforce and staff from FAHCSIA working on housing affordability programs)
- exclude staff who moved out of the department to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (Office of the Arts and the National Portrait Gallery)

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Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 118

Broad Topic: Staffing levels

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
2. What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers?
3. How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies on 10 May 2010?
4. How many SES were employed in your Department and portfolio agencies as of today?
5. What is the breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
6. What is the gender breakdown by each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
7. What is the breakdown by location for each level (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
8. What is the breakdown by each level of ongoing staff and non ongoing staff (each SES band, each Executive Level band and each APS band)?
9. What has been the general staffing trend in your department and portfolio agencies since the 2007 election (for example SES numbers and recruitment has increased by X per cent because of Y).

Answer:

1.

Financial year 2009-10			
Expenditure category	SES \$'000	Non-SES \$'000	Total \$'000
Wages and salaries	21,725	317,871	339,596
Superannuation	3,355	59,878	63,233
Leave and other entitlements	4,462	45,863	50,325
Separations and redundancies	278	796	1,074
Total employee expenditure for department and portfolio agencies	29,820	424,408	454,228

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Note: SES and non-SES expenditure figures disclosed are for the financial year ending 30 June 2010 and therefore reflect the situation prior to machinery of government changes in September 2010. Given the timing of the machinery of government changes, adjusting these expenditure figures for staff movements into the portfolio (population taskforce and housing affordability programs) and out of the portfolio (Office of the Arts, the National Portrait Gallery and associated portfolio agencies) would not be practicable.

2.

Current staffing levels as at 19 October 2010 for the department and portfolio agencies		
SES	Non-SES	Total
103	5160	5263

3 and 4.

No of SES employed in the department and portfolio agencies	
10 May 2010	19 October 2010
103	103

5.

Breakdown of staff by level	
SES Band 3	4
SES Band 2	26
SES Band 1	73
Executive Level 2	581
Executive Level 1	1331
APS6	1294
APS5	675
APS4	419
APS3	483
APS2	93
APS1	284
Total	5263

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6.

Breakdown of staff by gender			
Level	Male	Female	Total
SES Band 3	4	0	4
SES Band 2	20	6	26
SES Band 1	48	25	73
Executive Level 2	426	155	581
Executive Level 1	774	557	1331
APS6	676	618	1294
APS5	323	352	675
APS4	147	272	419
APS3	292	191	483
APS2	33	60	93
APS1	171	113	284
Total	2914	2349	5263

7.

Level	ACT	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	Antarctica	Indian Ocean	Norfolk Island	Total
SESB3	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
SESB2	20	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	26
SESB1	51	2	10	4	0	1	4	1	0	0	0	73
EL 2	262	11	203	20	7	8	55	15	2	0	0	583
EL 1	699	38	315	79	21	28	83	49	16	1	0	1329
APS6	622	66	233	107	25	49	118	58	12	3	1	1294
APS5	320	27	82	47	16	26	79	44	31	3	0	675
APS4	239	3	34	42	1	3	37	51	5	2	2	419
APS3	156	22	41	40	15	23	36	52	93	5	0	483
APS2	11	3	14	36	1	1	4	17	0	6	0	93
APS1	21	0	38	31	0	0	5	151	18	13	7	284
Total	2404	172	974	406	86	139	423	439	177	33	10	5263

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8.

Breakdown of staff by type of employment			
Level	Ongoing	Non-ongoing	Total
SES Band 3	4	0	4
SES Band 2	26	0	26
SES Band 1	71	2	73
Executive Level 2	540	41	581
Executive Level 1	1171	160	1331
APS6	1087	207	1294
APS5	546	129	675
APS4	312	107	419
APS3	290	193	483
APS2	62	31	93
APS1	62	222	284
Total	4171	1092	5263

9.

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

Employee numbers in the department have increased overall by 6.4% (177). The increase in SES classifications is 3.3% (2) and in non-SES classifications is 6.5% (175). The increase is primarily due to machinery of government changes and increased responsibilities in areas such as the *Water for the Future* program.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

The total number of employees as at 30 June 2007 was 196 and at 30 June 2010 the number was 207. In 2008 a restructure resulted in the abolition of two SES Band 2 positions and the creation of four SES Band 1 positions. Other staff increases have occurred due to new programs or functions for finite periods.

Bureau of Meteorology

Since the 2007 election the Bureau of Meteorology has had an upward trend in staff numbers as a result of new government programs together with initiatives to enhance Bureau services and systems. The number of SES positions has increased by five - four of these positions are related to the Government's new initiative *Water for the Future* and one SES position is associated with the transfer of the Ionospheric Prediction Service (IPS) to the Bureau in 2007.

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Overall staff numbers have increased by about 18% as a result of the following government resourcing decisions:

- installation and operation of the Australian Tsunami Warning System
- transfer of the IPS from the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research to the Bureau of Meteorology
- Water for the Future (\$400m program over 10 years)
- Emerald radar installation
- Next Generation Forecast and Warning System
- Strategic Radar Enhancement Project
- National Environmental Information System.

Murray Darling Basin Authority

The MDBA commenced operation on 8 September 2008. The passage of legislation referring powers to the Commonwealth and the enactment of the *Water Amendment Bill 2008* saw the abolition of the former Murray-Darling Basin Commission (MDBC) on 14 December 2008 and the transfer of the MDBC functions to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority on 15 December 2008. As part of that transition 189 staff accepted a position with the Authority.

There has been a general increase in non-SES staff numbers since 15 December 2008 reflecting the recruitment of staff to undertake the Basin Plan function. SES numbers have remained fairly constant since 15 December 2008.

National Water Commission

The number of SES staff has decreased by 20% due to the transfer of the Water Programs Group to the then Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts in March 2008. There has been a 22% increase in non-SES staff due to the introduction of new functions under the *Water Act 2007* and an increase in project activity.

Note: Questions 2-9:

- include staff who moved into the department as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (staff from Treasury working on the Population Taskforce and staff from FAHCSIA working on housing affordability programs)
- exclude staff who moved to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (Office of the Arts, the National Portrait Gallery and associated portfolio agencies).

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 119

Broad Topic: Hospitality spend - Ministerial

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz and Birmingham asked:

For each Minister/Parl Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD and for the past financial year. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.

Answer:

Neither the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities nor the Department of Finance and Deregulation has incurred expenditure by former and current Portfolio Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries:

- The Hon Peter Garrett AM MP for the period 1 July 2009 to 13 September 2010
- Senator the Hon Penny Wong (in relation to her Water responsibilities) for the period 1 July 2009 to 13 September 2010
- The Hon Mike Kelly MP (in relation to his Water responsibilities) for the period 1 July 2009 to 13 September 2010
- The Hon Tony Burke MP – 14 September 2010 to 18 October 2010
- Senator the Hon Don Farrell – 14 September 2010 to 18 October 2010

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 120

Broad Topic: Efficiencies announced during
2010 election

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

If your Department/agency has been identified in the 2010 election as delivering efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, savings commitments included reducing program funding, rationalising grants etc how will these impact the department and staffing).

Answer:

During the 2010 election campaign the Government announced a \$50 million Budget savings measure under the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan over the forward estimates. Lower than expected demand for the program has allowed for this reduction, and sufficient funds remain in the program to meet all expenditure commitments.

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Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 121

Broad Topic: Graduate and cadetship programs

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions or increases are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.

Answer:

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

The department has set the 2011 graduate intake at 30 positions. The 2010 intake was 54. The reduction in numbers is due to budgetary constraints and recent machinery of government changes reducing the size of the department.

The 2011 intake for the Indigenous Cadetship Program is one. The department normally aims to recruit two cadets per year based on availability of suitable candidates. A second position was offered but it was declined.

The proposed 2011 intake of ten positions in the department's School Leaver Trainee Program is unchanged from previous years.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

No changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs. The Authority had a graduate program from January 2009 to 30 June 2010. There are no plans at this stage for a further graduate program.

Murray Darling Basin Authority

MDBA's second intake of graduates occurs in 2011. This involves eight graduates, an increase of two on the inaugural intake of six in 2010.

MDBA is currently developing its cadet program and is aiming to employ two cadets in 2011 and four cadets for the year 2012.

The MBDA trainee program is in development. It is planned to commence in 2012 with two trainees.

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Bureau of Meteorology

Graduate recruitment for 2011 is at the high end of the Bureau's regular annual program with 24 Graduate APS Meteorologists, one Graduate APS Communications and 16 Trainee APS Observers (generally all graduates) commencing early in 2011.

This target of 41 is an increase of seven from 2010. The reason for the increase is to respond to capability and capacity requirements in Bureau-specific scientific and communication skills over the next five years as age retirements have peak impact on staff separations.

Cadetship recruitment is also increasing with three cadets due to start by the end of February 2011. This is an increase of two from commencements in the 2009-10 financial year.

Cadetship numbers will increase to build the Bureau's capability and capacity in broader professional areas including finance and information technology. This will also assist the Government to achieve its objective of increasing Indigenous employment in the Australian Public Service to 2.7% of the workforce.

National Water Commission

The Commission does not have a graduate recruitment or cadetship program.

Note: Responses to these questions

- include staff who moved into the department as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (staff from Treasury working on the Population Taskforce and staff from FAHCSIA working on the housing affordability programs)
- exclude staff who moved to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as a result of machinery of government changes in September 2010 (Office of the Arts, the National Portrait Gallery and associated portfolio agencies).

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Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: CSD **Question No:** 122

Broad Topic: Hospitality spend - department

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz and Birmingham asked:

What is the Department's hospitality spend since Budget Estimates 2010 and for the past financial year? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.

Answer:

As at 18 October 2010, the Department's hospitality spend since Budget Estimates 2010 was \$33,579.56 (excluding GST). The hospitality spend for the 2009/10 financial year was \$61,458.13 (excluding GST).

Note: The information disclosed reflects the machinery of government changes in September 2010 with respect to the outgoing functions that transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) and therefore excludes expenditure for events hosted by the Office of the Arts and National Portrait Gallery, but does not include information for events that may have been hosted before September 2010 by the population taskforce and housing affordability programs that transferred into the department. It is understood that PM&C is providing the relevant information with respect to the Office of the Arts and National Portrait Gallery in their responses to these questions.

Below is a table detailing the date, location and cost of all events. Note that the events that occurred before 1 July 2009 were paid for in 2009/10.

Date	Location	Event	Cost
30 March 2009	Otto Restaurant, Sydney, NSW	Hosted dinner as part of consultations for the independent review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act	\$340.91
29 April 2009	Budji Bim, Vic	Event to launch the first of the Jobs Fund projects and promote the importance of the Government's heritage conservation package	\$4,500.00
22 May 2009	John Curtin House, Fremantle, WA	Event to announce funding for John Curtin House, heritage conservation through the Jobs Fund	\$78.27
4 June 2009	Metropole Apartments, Brunswick, Vic	Dinner for Council of Australian Governments Water Meeting	\$655.91
16 June 2009	La Capanna, Kingston, ACT	Water Recovery and Environmental Use Stakeholder Reference Panel networking dinner	\$272.72

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Date	Location	Event	Cost
25 June 2009	Madeira, Portugal	Meeting of the key pro-conservation groups at the 61st annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission	\$1,908.27
9 July 2009	Ciuccio Restaurant, Hobart, Tas	Lunch meeting with David Jensen, representative of Mawson's Hut Foundation	\$58.64
13 July 2009	My Café, Manuka, ACT	Dinner with National Irrigator's Council stakeholders	\$59.09
14 July 2009	Courgette Restaurant, ACT	Hosting dinner for the President of ICOMOS (International Council On Monuments and Sites)	\$318.18
16 July 2009	Cairns, Qld	Hosting function for Indonesian Fisheries Minister and senior delegation	\$154.55
9 August 2009	Ottoman Cuisine, Barton, ACT	Council of Australian Governments Water Knowledge and Research Strategy	\$2,769.54
24 August 2009	Park Hyatt Hotel, The Rocks, Sydney, NSW	Welcome event for International Council on Monuments and Sites Expert Examiners	\$89.00
25 August 2009	Thai Chiang Rai, Kingston, ACT	National Irrigation Efficiency Stakeholder Reference Panel networking dinner	\$327.72
27 August 2009	Holiday Inn, Port Moresby, PNG	Dinner with Kokoda Track Authority staff about the Kokoda Safety Package	\$223.59
2 September 2009	Offices of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water, NSW	Threatened Species Scientific Committee Stakeholder Forum	\$236.78
4 September 2009	Kirribilli RSL Club, Sydney, NSW	The Kokoda Track Foundation 2009 Ralph Honner Oration Dinner	\$168.00
5 September 2009	Kooljamin, Cape Leveque, WA	Australian Heritage Committee Dinner	\$404.54
29 September 2009	Dunhuang Academy, China	Advancing Sustainable Tourism at Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites workshop	\$703.76
2 October 2009	Fremantle Prison, WA	Event to announce West Australian heritage projects as part of the National Jobs Fund Initiative	\$202.14
10 October 2009	Adelaide Mosque, SA	Event to announce South Australian heritage projects as part of the National Jobs Fund Initiative	\$919.43
12 October 2009	Royal Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Vic	Event to announce Victorian heritage projects as part of the National Jobs Fund Initiative	\$480.00
12 October 2009	Elizabeth Austin Home, South Geelong, Vic	Event to announce funding for Elizabeth Austin Home, heritage conservation through the Jobs Fund	\$180.00
20 October 2009	Hilary's Boat Harbour, Perth, WA	Commercial Fishing Sector Meeting	\$906.82
22 October 2009	The Athenaeum Library, Melbourne, Vic	Heritage Book Launch for Building a Free Australia: Places of Democracy	\$800.45

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Date	Location	Event	Cost
27 October 2009	Cornelian Bay Boathouse, Tas	Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources XXVII Reception	\$5,068.18
27 October 2009	The Boathouse, Barton, ACT	Australia / China High Level Water Policy Meeting	\$2,438.64
28 October 2009	Parliament House, Canberra, ACT	Australia / China High Level Water Policy Meeting	\$505.18
28 October 2009	Pines Country Club, Shepparton, Vic	Australia / China High Level Water Policy Meeting	\$2,664.09
29 October 2009	Cellar 47 Restaurant, Shepparton, Vic	Australia / China High Level Water Policy Meeting	\$623.55
1 November 2009	Plum Restaurant, Hobart, Tas	Meeting between Australian and French officials to discuss toothfish populations on the Kerguelen Plateau	\$763.63
1 November 2009	Rendezvous Allegra, Adelaide, SA	Visit by Secretary General, the Ramsar Convention, Mr Ananda Tiega	\$728.04
4 November 2009	Lake Macquarie City Council offices, NSW	Gallery visit in conjunction with a dinner to establish significant impact thresholds of the Tetratheca juncea, a EPBC listed species.	\$100.55
4 - 5 November 2009	Lake Macquarie City Council Offices, NSW	Two day workshop to assist with the development of a policy statement on the Black-eyed Susan	\$486.73
13 - 23 November 2009	Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney, NSW & Questacon, Parkes, ACT	Polar Science for Planet Earth (Polar Palooza)	\$6,497.73
23 November 2009	Canberra, ACT	Polar Palooza Participants Dinner	\$863.64
25 November 2009	Portia's Restaurant, Kingston, ACT	Water Recovery Environmental Use Stakeholder Reference Panel meeting	\$374.64
1 December 2009	Casey Station, Antarctica	Hosting Chinese Delegation from Zhong Shan Station	\$490.91
3 December 2009	The Lobby Restaurant, Parkes, ACT	State of the Environment Committee inception dinner	\$688.18
4 December 2009	The Ginger Room, Parkes, ACT	State of the Environment Committee meeting	\$347.57
9 December 2009	Batemans Bay, NSW	Morning tea and lunch provided for Indigenous representatives of Caring for our Country workshop	\$512.27
17 December 2009	Canberra, ACT	Australian Heritage Committee Meeting	\$131.30
4 January 2010	Wrest Point Casino, Hobart, Tas	Hosting Chinese Arctic and Antarctic Administration Program Delegation	\$1,596.82
21 January 2010	Darwin, NT	International Atomic Energy Agency scientific visit	\$108.36
21 January 2010	Australian Antarctic Division Offices, Hobart, Tas	Visit by President of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology Staff	\$81.36

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Answers to questions on notice

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Date	Location	Event	Cost
28 January 2010	Canberra, ACT	Interpol Environmental Crimes Programme - Stakeholder Information Session	\$119.34
3 February 2010	Maldini Restaurant, Salamanca, Hobart, Tas	Antarctic New Zealand Visitors Dinner	\$72.73
11 February 2010	Chairman Yip Restaurant, Canberra, ACT	Dinner with visiting senior official from the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water	\$60.23
20 February 2010	Lakes Hub, Milang, SA	Stakeholder Meeting Lower Murray EC	\$280.00
24 February 2010	Rubicon Restaurant , Griffith, ACT	Dinner - National Irrigation Efficiency Stakeholder Reference Panel	\$687.64
24 February 2010	Havana Restaurant, Perth, WA	Dinner with WA EPA Officials	\$366.64
10 March 2010	Pavilion on Northbourne, ACT	World Heritage Executive Officers Workshop Dinner	\$2,109.09
11 March 2010	Allara St, Canberra	Western Sydney Stakeholders Meeting with Approvals and Wildlife Division	\$177.50
18 March 2010	John Gorton Building, Parkes, ACT	Catering for Tanzanian Delegation visit	\$142.41
24 March 2010	Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne, Vic	Workshop (Southern Brown Bandicoot) dinner - Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne	\$573.64
30 March 2010	John Gorton Building, Parkes, ACT	Australia/New Zealand Environment Secretary's annual bilateral discussions	\$767.73
30 March 2010	Lanterne Rooms Restaurant, Canberra, ACT	Australia/New Zealand Environment Secretary's annual bilateral discussions	\$1,363.63
15 April 2010	John Gorton Building, Parkes, ACT	Hosting Chinese delegation - Lake Tai Water Pollution Treatment Project	\$132.32
29 April 2010	John Gorton Building, Parkes, ACT	Cater Workshop Commonwealth Environmental Water	\$362.27
6 May 2010	Highland Park, QLD	Official hospitality dinner for Wallum Sedge Frog expert workshop	\$277.45
12 - 13 May 2010	Club De Pesca, Punta Del Este, Uruguay	Official dinner with members of regional partners at Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting XXXIII	\$458.11
19 May 2010	Legends Restaurant, Manuka, ACT	Dinner - Water Recovery & Environmental Stakeholders Reference Panel	\$419.09
24 - 26 May 2010	Parliament House and National Portrait Gallery, ACT	2010 Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities Conference	\$12,517.27
27 May 2010	Ottoman Restaurant, Barton, ACT	High Level Review Meeting between eminent scientists, Murray Darling Basin Authority and DEWHA	\$601.36
31 May 2010	Sydney, NSW	Grey Headed Flying Fox workshop dinner	\$270.45
23 June 2010	Remi de Provence Restaurant, Hobart, Tas	Dinner with Australian and New Zealand Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) delegation representatives	\$850.45

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Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Date	Location	Event	Cost
28 June 2010	Elimatta Motor Inn, Devonport, Tasmania	Official hospitality dinner for burrowing crayfish/freshwater lobster expert workshop	\$245.73
28 June 2010	Parkes, ACT	Visit by prominent international water experts	\$78.00
29 June 2010	Lismore, NSW	Lowland Rainforest Workshop dinner	\$445.45
5 July 2010	Darwin, NT	Minister Garrett visit to Darwin for launch of Darwin Harbour Project	\$1,090.90
16 July 2010	Parkes, ACT	Catering for US Trade Delegation	\$131.59
18 July 2010	Allara St, Canberra	Browse Liquefied Natural Gas Strategic Assessment Natural Environmental Significance Impacts Workshop	\$104.71
19 July 2010	Allara St, Canberra	Browse Liquefied Natural Gas Strategic Assessment Natural Environmental Significance Impacts Workshop	\$211.09
19 July 2010	Canberra, ACT	National Seafood Industry Association and Marine Bioregional Planning workshop Day 1	\$1,050.00
19 July 2010	Belluci's, Woden, ACT	National Seafood Industry Association Workshop Dinner	\$1,361.82
20 July 2010	Allara St, Canberra	Browse Liquefied Natural Gas Strategic Assessment Natural Environmental Significance Impacts Workshop	\$211.09
20 July 2010	Bar do Capitaó Alvorada Royal Tulip (Hotel) Senegal Brasilia	Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee (AWHAC) to promote workshop Australia is hosting in Senegal	\$795.45
20 July 2010	Canberra, ACT	National Seafood Industry Association and Marine Bioregional Planning workshop Day 2	\$818.91
21 July 2010	Banana Leaf Restaurant, Canberra, ACT	Environment Research Advisory Panel Dinner	\$324.00
9 August 2010	National Gallery, Parkes, ACT	Visit by CEO of the South Australia Department of Natural Resources	\$23.86
11 August 2010	Mildura, Vic	Environmental Water Scientific Advisory Committee (EWSAC) Meeting	\$745.45
24 - 25 August 2010	Parkes, ACT	Workshop - Aligning Environmental Asset Database with State Datasets	\$340.00
9 September 2010	Canberra, ACT	Farewell function for Chair of Departmental Audit Committee	\$105.02
8 October 2010	Hyde Parks Barracks, Sydney	Event to recognise the recent World Heritage Listing of the Australian Convict Sites and to establish the new Australian convict sites steering committee	\$2,523.64
13 October 2010	Maguiag Island Community, Torres Strait, Qld	21st Indigenous Advisory Committee Country Day in Mab	\$3,900.00

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Answers to questions on notice

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: Corporate: PCD **Question No:** 123

Broad Topic: Media Subscriptions

Proof Hansard Page and Date Written Question
or Written Question:

Senator Abetz asked:

1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.
2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.
3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.

Answer:

Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

1. Yes. The department subscribes to Foxtel (Business Info and Sport Package) to assist with identifying and tracking issues relevant to the portfolio. The service is provided to a limited number of executive offices and the public affairs area. The cost year to date (1 July 2010 to 18 October) is \$2078.
2. Yes. The department subscribes to a number of newspapers to assist with identifying and tracking issues relevant to the portfolio. Total cost year to date (1 July 2010 – 18 October) is \$19,824. The department subscribes to: *The Australian; Financial Review; Sydney Morning Herald; The Land; Weekly Times; Herald Sun; Canberra Times; The Age.*
3. Yes. These items form part of the technical library & information service provided to staff. This resource is also available to the public through inter-library loans. The expenditure for serials (magazines and journals) year to date (1 July 2010 – 18 October) is \$150,256. A list of current subscriptions is at Attachment A.

Please note that subscriptions to magazines and journals relating to Arts and Culture are included in this list are they are annual subscriptions and these functions were a part of the portfolio during the financial year.

Bureau of Meteorology

1. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to pay TV. The Foxtel Business/News packages are available in operational forecasting areas where situational awareness is necessary, especially during severe weather events. There is also a general Austar subscription for staff at Willis Island, a remote locality where normal TV transmission is not available. The current cost is for a three year package for the period 2010-2013 and is \$7,686.

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

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

2. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to the following newspapers for current awareness and media monitoring for a total cost of \$3962 (2009-10 costs): *The Australian, Financial Review, Herald Sun, West Australian, Weekly Times, Northern Territory News, The Age, Stock Land*.
3. The Bureau of Meteorology subscribes to the magazines provided in the table for current or industry awareness or to support staff professional interests for a total cost of \$8757 (2009-10 costs).

APC	Choice Computer
Ausmarine	Communication Briefings
Australasian Science	Computerworld Australia
Australian PC Authority	EDN
Australian PC Journal	Electronics World
Australian PC User	IPAA Today
Australian Personal Computer	Law Institute Journal
Aviation Week & Technology	Linux Journal
Aviation Week and Space Technology	MacFormat
Buoyweather	QST
CADalyst	Risk
Choice	Scientific American
Monthly Climatic data for the World	Silicon Chip
National Weather Digest	Sky&Telescope
New Scientist	Technometrics
Online Currents	The Skeptic
PC Magazine	Training & Development
Policy	Weather (UK)
Public Administration Today	Workforce

National Water Commission

1. Yes. Subscription allows the Commission to identify emerging issues and track areas of national, regional and local interest. Cost is \$300 per month for the Business Info and Sport package.
2. Yes. Subscription allows the Commission to identify emerging issues and track areas of national, regional and local interest. Cost is \$595.15 per month. Newspapers received are: *The Australian, Melbourne Age, Financial Review, Sydney Morning Herald, The Canberra Times, Weekly Times*.
3. Yes. Subscription allows the Commission to identify emerging issues and track areas of national, regional and local interest. Cost of subscriptions since Budget 2010 (May 2010) to 18 October 2010 is \$534.80. Magazines received are: *The Land, New Scientist, Time*.

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
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Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1. No.
2. Yes. As an aid to staff keeping up to date with local and world news, particularly financial matters. The cost is \$390.00 pa. *Financial Review*.
3. No.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. No.
2. Yes. So that staff can be informed of current matters relevant to their duties. Total cost for 2009-10 was \$4,602. *The Age, The Australian, Courier Mail, Torres Strait News, Cooktown News, Port Douglas and Mossman Gazette, Cairns Post, Innisfail Advocate, Tully Times, Townsville Bulletin, Bowen Independent, Whitsunday Times, Whitsunday Coast Guardian, Daily Mercury, Morning Bulletin, Gladstone Observer, The Mirror, Canberra Times*.
3. Yes. These items form part of the technical library & information service provided to GBRMPA staff. The purpose of the service is to provide a library & information service and products which support the corporate goals of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. Subscriptions are reviewed annually to ensure ongoing relevance to the agency's information needs. The actual total expenditure for Serials Collection in 2009/2010 was \$55,002. List of current subscriptions is at Attachment B.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)

1. No.
2. The MDBA office receives newspapers on a daily basis, excluding weekends, which are made available to all staff. The newspapers are available to inform MDBA staff about current affairs in their respective fields. A full year cost (2009-10) of \$7,920. Papers currently received include *The Land, Weekly Times, Brisbane Courier Mail, Adelaide Advertiser, The Canberra Times, Sydney Morning Herald, The Financial Review and The Australian*.
3. The MDBA subscribes to the following magazines: *Business Review Weekly, Economist and New Scientist, APC (Australian Personal Computer), Habitat, Smithsonian, The Week, Helix Magazine* at a cost of \$1,808 (2009-10). The magazines are available to inform MDBA staff about new information in their respective fields.

Departmental Subscriptions

Aboriginal history
Access Economics' business outlook.
Adelaide Review
AJM : Australian journal of mining
ALMD advance
Alpine gardener
Alternative law journal
Ambio (not circulated)
American fern journal
Annals of the Missouri Botanical Garden
Aquatic conservation
Archaeology in Oceania
Arctoa
Art & Australia
Art + auction
Art almanac
Art antiquity and law
Art monthly Australia
Art nexus ; the nexus between Latin America and the rest of the world
Artefact
Artlink
Asia Pacific journal of environmental law
Auk
Ausmarine
Austasia aquaculture
Austral ecology
Australasian journal of ecotoxicology
Australasian journal of environmental management
Australasian journal of natural resources law and policy (not circulated)
Australasian mycologist
Australasian parks & leisure
Australasian science incorporating Search (not circulated)
Australian Aboriginal studies
Australian administrative law bulletin
Australian archaeology
Australian aviary life
Australian bird keeper
Australian entomologist
Australian environment review
Australian farm journal
Australian forestry
Australian garden history

Australian geographer
Australian geographic
Australian historical studies
Australian horticulture
Australian journal of botany
Australian journal of entomology
Australian journal of environmental education
Australian journal of public administration
Australian journal of zoology
Australian law journal
Australian legal monthly digest
Australian maritime digest
Australian orchid review
Australian philanthropy
Australian planner
Australian systematic botany
Australian zoologist
Australia's mining monthly
Biodiversity and conservation
Bibliography of systematic mycology
BioScience
Botanical review
Brooklyn botanic Garden all-region guides
BRW : Business review weekly
Business and the environment
Business Week
Bulletin of zoological nomenclature
C&EN : Chemical & engineering news
Canberra historical journal
Choice : journal of the Australian Consumers' Association (not circulated)
Colong bulletin
Condor
Conservation biology
Continuum : journal of media & cultural studies
Craft arts international
Cultural trends
Cunninghamia
Curtis's botanical magazine
Ecological economics
Ecological management & restoration
Ecologist
Economist
Ecos
Ecotoxicology

Ecotoxicology & environmental safety
Emu
Encephalartos
Endangered species bulletin
Environment : science and policy for sustainable development
Environmental and planning law journal
Environmental and resource economics
Environmental finance
Environmental impact assessment review
Environmental management
Environmental manager
Environmental policy and law
Environmental science and technology
Environmental toxicology
Environmental toxicology and chemistry
Eucryphia
Europolitics environment
Fern gazette
Fiddlehead forum
Field bryology
Fungimap news
Gardening Australia
Gardens illustrated
GEO world
Global environmental politics
Gold & minerals gazette
Habitat Australia
Harvard business review
Heritage living
Historic environment
Historical records of Australian science
History Australia
History news
Hortguide
HR monthly
IFAR journal
Impact assessment and project appraisal
Index of fungi
Intermedia
International environment reporter
International journal of heritage studies
Invertebrate systematics
Journal of Arts Management Law and Society
Journal of bryology

Journal of cetacean research and management
Journal of cleaner production
Journal of environment and development
Journal of environmental economics and management
Journal of environmental quality
Journal of industrial ecology
Journal of International wildlife law & policy
Journal of the air & waste management association
Journal of the royal australasian historical society
Journal of wildlife management
Just finches and softbills
Kew bulletin
Land
Land and water news
Land economics
Landscape architecture
Landscape Architecture Australia
Landscape ecology
Landscape (WA)
Lichenologist
Limelight
Lowdown magazine
Margaret Gee's Australian media guide
Marine & freshwater research
Marine mammal science
Marine policy
Marine pollution bulletin
Meanjin
Museum International
Museum management and curatorship
Museums Australia magazine
Music forum
National environmental law review
National parks journal
National Trust Magazine (NSW)
Nature (not circulated)
New Scientist
New Scientist (not circulated)
New Zealand journal of botany
Nordic journal of botany
Norfolk Islander
Northern Territory Naturalist
NPA bulletin
Ocean & coastal management
OECD Observer

Oil & gas gazette
Old news: Canberra Archaeological Society newsletter
Online currents
Oral History Association of Australia journal
Orchadian, The
Orchid Digest
Orchid review
Orchids Australia
Outlooks on pest management
Pacific horticulture
Packaging
Palms & cycads
Palms : journal of the International Palm Society
Park watch
Parks
Pesticide news
Pet Industry News
Phytologia
Plant protection quarterly
Plantsman
Plumbing connection
Policy
Position magazine
Potoroo review
Practical hydroponics & greenhouses
Proceedings of the Royal Society of Queensland
Pteridologist
Public garden : the journal of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta
Quadrant
Recycling international
Renew : technology for a sustainable future
Reptiles Australia
Resource and energy projects service (REPS)
Resource recycling
Richardiana
Rock art research
SGAP Australian Plants as Bonsai SG newsletter
SGAP Banksia Study Group newsletter
SGAP Brachychiton and Allied Genera Study Group newsletter
SGAP Eucalyptus Study Group
SGAP Hakea Study Group newsletter
SGAP Hibiscus and Related Genera Study Group
SGAP Indigenous Orchid Study Group newsletter
SGAP Isopogon & Petrophile Study Group newsletter
SGAP Palm & Cycad newsletter
SGAP Prostanthera & West SG - see National Mint, Lasianthos

SGAP Rainforest Study Group newsletter
SGAP Wallum & Coastal Heathland SG newsletter
SGAP Wildlife & Native Plants SG newsletter
Science
Science (not circulated)
Scientific American (not circulated)
Screen digest
Screen international
Seed Science & Technology
Seed testing International
Selbyana
Sight & sound
Smithsonian contributions to botany
SMPTE motion imaging journal
South African journal of botany
Southerly
T + D : better performance through workplace learning
Tasmanian Historical Research Association: papers & proceedings
Taxon
Telopea
Total Environment
Traffic bulletin
Traffic report
Training and development in Australia
Trust news (Australia)
Turning the tide
Waste disposal & water management in Australia
Water
Water: official journal of the Australian Water & Wastewater Association
Wild news
Wildlife Australia
Wildlife research
Wingspan
WME: Waste management and environment
World heritage review
Institute of Public Affairs Review

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Subscriptions

Ambio
Aboriginal History
Administrative Appeals Tribunal Practice (Federal)
Ausmarine
Austasia Aquaculture
Austral Ecology
Australasian Journal of Environmental Management
Australasian Journal of Natural Resources Law & Policy
Australian Aboriginal Studies
Australian Administrative Law Service
Australian Conservation Foundation - Habitat
Australian Contract Law Reporter
Australian Geographer
Australian Journal of Maritime and Ocean Affairs
Australian Journal of Public Administration
Australian Labour Law Reporter
Australian Map Circle membership / Globe
Australian Maritime Digest
Better Digital
Better Photography
Better Photoshop Techniques
Bluewater Boats and Sportsfishing
Coastal Management
Coasts and Wetlands Society membership
Conservation
Conservation Biology
Coral
Coral Reefs
Desktop Magazine
Ecological Applications
Ecos
Environment Business
Environmental and Planning Law Journal
Environmental Conservation
International Journal of Geographical Information Science
Environmental Impact Assessment Review
Environmental Management
Environmental Manager
EQ Australia
Fish and Boat
Fish and Fisheries
Fishing Today
Freshwater and Marine Aquarium
Global Aquaculture Advocate

Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal
Indigenous Law Bulletin
International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law
Journal of Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences
Journal of Cetacean Research and Management
Koori Mail
Land and Water News
Landscape
Lang's Commercial Leasing in Australia
Law of Intellectual Property
Margaret Gee Media Guide
Marine and Freshwater Research
Marine Mammal Science
Marine Ornithology
Marine Policy
Marine Pollution Bulletin
Marine Resource Economics
Modern Fishing
NAGA
New Scientist - Australasian edition
New Scientist Archive
Ocean and Coastal Management
Pacific Conservation Biology
Parks
Public Administration Today
Queensland Archaeological Research
Queensland Environmental Practice Reporter
Queensland Fisherman
Queensland Fishing Monthly
Science Teachers of Northern Territory membership / Scientriffic
Scuba Diver Australasia
Society and Natural Resources
Tourism in Marine Environments
Tourism Management
Transactions of the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference
Tropical Fish Hobbyist
Wetlands - Australia
Wildlife Australia
World Heritage Review
Yearbook Australia