

**ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**  
**ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO**  
**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 8-9 FEBRUARY 2010**

Question No	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Out come	Date Rec'd
1	64 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	Reef rescue – assessments	<b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b> —All of the proposals were assessed against criteria in the 2009-10 business plan. I am really talking about the water management plan, as I understand it. How long did those assessments take and how many people were actually involved in those assessments? <b>Ms Lauder</b> —I could not give you exact numbers of staff involved. We would have to take that on notice.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
2	66 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	NRM – Tilapia issues	<b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b> —You are quite right; they were to Agriculture—rural and regional affairs. Tilapia is a huge problem. Is there any action being taken by the Commonwealth government to reduce tilapia infestation? <b>Ms Colreavy</b> —I am afraid you would have to direct that to Agriculture. I am not aware of such programs. <b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b> —Unfortunately they usually say these programs are run by Environment, and it does seem to me that agriculture is taking less and less involvement in these sorts of Caring for our Country programs. <b>Ms Colreavy</b> —We could take it on notice and I could talk to my agriculture colleagues to get an answer for you, if you like.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
3	67 (9/2/10)	Siewert	Caring for our Country – Bilateral agreements	<b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —They are different to the sorts of bilaterals that were in existence previously where, for example, joint funding was required from the states for particular elements? <b>Ms Colreavy</b> —Some of the requirements within the bilaterals are different from those under previous arrangements. <b>Senator SIEWERT</b> —Is it possible to get copies of the bilaterals? <b>Ms Colreavy</b> —Yes, I think they are available.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
4	73 (9/2/10)	Abetz	Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme	<b>Senator ABETZ</b> —I have just come from the estimates dealing with the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme and I forgot to ask whether the 600 fox scats that were imported into Tasmania, in fact, attracted freight equalisation scheme subsidies. Are you aware of whether that occurred? Are you aware that that has been alleged and, I understand, now confirmed? <b>Dr Zammit</b> —No, I am not. <b>Senator ABETZ</b> —And that, allegedly to keep tracker dogs up to speed, considerable money has been spent by the state department on this? I would imagine there is a huge cost associated with tracking a scat: making sure that it is placed down somewhere and then destroyed et cetera. It just seems a very cumbersome and very costly approach. Have you been provided with any confidential information from the state government that would suggest that any of the hundreds of baits that have been laid—and I do not know how many hundreds of baits there are—have resulted in a fox carcass being found?	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10

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				<b>Dr Zammit</b> —I would have to take that on notice, because I do not know.			
5	Written Qon	Fisher	Caring for our Country – 2009-10 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many approved projects funded under the 2009-10 Caring for our Country Business Plan that have commenced do not have the necessary planning, regulatory and other approvals, permits and permissions required?</li> <li>2. What is the breakdown by state?</li> </ol> Under the projects funded for 2009-10: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. How many jobs been created?</li> <li>4. How many trees have been planted?</li> </ol>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
6	Written Qon	Fisher	Caring for our Country	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have any jobs been lost from Landcare and natural resource management groups since the implementation of the Caring for Our Country program?</li> <li>2. What percentage of funding has gone to Catchment Management Authorities compared to grass-roots community groups?</li> <li>3. Have there been any complaints or concerns registered about the Government's method of funding from any of the groups involved?</li> <li>4. What steps have been taken to improve transparency and accountability since the implementation of the Caring for Our Country program?</li> </ol>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
7	Written Qon	Eggleston	Stirling Coastcare group	I refer to the article in the Stirling Times on 26/01/2010 regarding the \$20,000 boost for Stirling coastcare group. I ask the following questions. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What persons are authorised to act as representatives for the government and present grants to community groups or projects?</li> <li>2. Is it not the practice that all grants be presented by a Member of Parliament or Senator representing the relevant Minister or, if such persons are not available, a representative of the relevant government department?</li> <li>3. Is it still the practice that endorsed candidates for political parties who are not members of Parliament have no official status in representing the Government for the presentation of grants?</li> <li>4. Why did Louise Durack, the endorsed Labor candidate for the House of Representatives seat of Stirling, present a cheque of \$20,000 to the Stirling Natural Environment Coastcare under the Caring For Our Country program?</li> </ol>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
8	Written Qon	Siewert	Caring for our country – NRS grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many grants have been agreed respectively with the governments of the priority states of Queensland, Western Australia, NSW and the Northern Territory and also with the non-government sector.</li> <li>2. Are any grants for new protected areas outside of these target bioregions being made because the biodiversity values there are still high priority for</li> </ol>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10

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				<p>protection, because priority states have not taken up national reserve system program, or because of changes in administration or a mixture of all these factors?</p> <p>3. What is the cumulative area in hectares of all grant applications that exceeded the available budget allocation that nevertheless meet all Caring for Country criteria, in particular that they fall in the under-represented bioregions, for respectively a) NRS program grants or b) Indigenous Protected Areas program grants.</p>			
9	Written Qon	Siewert	Caring for our country – Covenants	<p>1. What dollar quantum of Caring for our Country funding committed to date, apart from the NRS and IPA programs, flows toward bringing land under new conservation covenants or toward management of lands already under conservation covenants?</p> <p>2. What is the total area of lands under conservation covenants benefiting from this funding?</p> <p>3. What proportion of these covenanted lands are considered part of the National Reserve System?</p>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
10	Written Qon	Siewert	Caring for our country – business plan 2010-11	<p>1. Why is the department's database out of date as indicated by Map 2.2.7 in the recently released Caring for our Country Business Plan January 2010-11?</p> <p>2. How old is the data used in the Caring for our Country Business Plan January 2010-11?</p> <p>3. What was the data source?</p> <p>4. Does this data represent the data being used for all planning and assessment for Caring for our Country programs in Western Australia?</p> <p>5. Does the department acknowledge that parks and nature reserves have been omitted in the Caring for our Country Business Plan January 2010-11?</p> <p>6. If the answer to question 4 is Yes, what area in hectares in Western Australia does the omission of these parks and nature reserves represent?</p> <p>7. If yes, will the department correct this?</p>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
11	Written Qon	Wortley	Reef rescue -	<p>1. Can you provide an overview on progress with Reef Rescue?</p> <p>2. What response has there been from farmers?</p> <p>3. How many farmers have signed contracts to change practices?</p> <p>4. How many farmers are you expecting to sign up over the life of the program?</p> <p>5. From the response to date, do you think there will be any difficulty getting enough farmers to sign up?</p>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10

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				6. Which farm industry organisations have become involved?			
12	Written Qon	Wortley	Environmental Stewardship program	1. Can you give us an outline of where the Environmental Stewardship program is currently operating, the vegetation communities being targeted, and what uptake there has been in the farming community? 2. Are there plans to expand the program in 2010-11?	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
13	Written Qon	Wortley	Caring for our Country business plan	What were the main issues raised by stakeholders over the design of the Caring for our Country Business Plan, and how have they been responded to in the 2010-11 Business Plan?	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
14	Written Qon	Birmingham	Community Water grants	1. What was the budgeted expenditure for each area of Community Water Grants for 2009-10? 2. How much has been spent to date?	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
15	Written Qon	Birmingham	Community Coast Care program	1. How much of the \$100 million Community Coast Care program promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election has been expended? 2. How many individual projects have been funded? Please provide a breakdown of project numbers and funding by electorate.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
16	Written Qon	Birmingham	Indigenous Rangers – Election commitment	1. How much of the \$90 million Indigenous Rangers program promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election has been expended? 2. How many have been trained and employed? 3. Please provide a breakdown of ranger numbers and funding by electorate.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
17	Written Qon	Birmingham	Great Barrier Reef Rescue Plan – Election commitment	1. How many grants have been issued under the \$146 million Water Quality Grants Scheme promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election as part of the Great Barrier Reef Rescue Plan? 2. What is the value of these grants? 3. How much of the \$10 million funding for Water Quality Research and Development promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election under the Great Barrier Reef rescue plan has been expended? 4. Please provide a breakdown of projects funded.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
18	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Cane toad Plan – Election commitment	How much of the \$2 million National Cane Toad Plan promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election has been allocated and expended on Cane Toad projects? Please provide a breakdown of all projects funded and their value.	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10
19	17 (9/2/10)	Abetz	Weather stations – Darwin Airport	<b>Senator ABETZ</b> —Can you tell us when they were first automated, on notice? <b>Dr Ayers</b> —We do have that information, and I can give you that on notice. <b>Senator ABETZ</b> —If you can take that on notice, also whether the information out of the various weather stations or automated stations are indicating very similar temperatures as well? <b>Dr Ayers</b> —I just make the single point that, when stations are moved, there will be inevitably some change in temperature. The bureau has procedures as it does	BOM	1.1	26/03/10

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				so to compare the changes and to track the changes. I do not have the detail on how that was done in that period, but there will be such information.			
20	18 (9/2/10)	Lundy	BOM Website hits	<p><b>Senator LUNDY</b>—I will just keep asking you questions about it. You mentioned that it had grown by 20 per cent per annum?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—Roughly; something of that order.</p> <p><b>Senator LUNDY</b>—How consistent has that been?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—I will refer you back to the figure in the annual report.</p> <p><b>Senator LUNDY</b>—I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—It goes back about 15 or 20 years.</p>	BOM	1.1	26/03/10
21	19 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	BOM staffing	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Just going back to where we were, with the centralisation of staff, could you indicate to me, on notice obviously, staff numbers in the capital cities say three years ago and what they are today, and staff numbers in the rest of Australia three years ago and what they are today? Could I get you to do that on notice?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—Yes, we can take that on notice.</p>	BOM	1.1	26/03/10
22	20 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	Copenhagan climate change conference	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Will there be, at some time, a public report that I can read that says what your guy did there, what his purpose was and what he got out of it? Does he report to you?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—I am happy to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Okay. I am just interested to know what his purpose was. Can you also tell us the cost of sending your representative there? Was that paid by you or by the department of the Prime Minister?</p> <p><b>Dr Ayers</b>—We will take that on notice</p>	BOM	1.1	26/03/10
23	20 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	Sunday Telegraph article – Cardinal Pell	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—I do not want to carry this on too far, but could I ask you to refer to an article about emissions by Cardinal Pell in Sunday's edition of the Sydney <i>Sunday Telegraph</i>. In that article, he had some opinions of his own, but he also made a number of factual statements. I wonder if you would mind assisting the Senate by going through that article and indicating—in relation to facts, not arguments or opinions—whether Cardinal Pell is right. For example, he has gone back over 20,000 years talking about the number of El Nino impacts and those sorts of things. Would you mind, with your expertise, just having a look at that? As I say, do not take issue with his arguments—I would not expect you to do that—but could you let me know, from a bureau point of view, whether the things he presented as facts were accurate or inaccurate? He talks about La Nina, El Nino and things like that, which made a lot of sense to me, but I would like to get your view on it.</p>	BOM	1.1	26/03/10
24	21 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	Water surface	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Again, we went through this a year or two year</p>	BOM	1.1	26/03/10

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			temperature – Great Barrier Reef	ago, but I wonder if we could have the update for this year on water temperature, perhaps on notice.			
25	30 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	Reef rescue – indigenous program	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Can you indicate how much you have spent on both those programs to date, perhaps on notice?</p> <p><b>Dr Reichelt</b>—Do you have those figures to hand?</p> <p><b>Ms Johnson</b>—For marine monitoring this year, \$1.5 million to date.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—And the Indigenous program?</p> <p><b>Ms Johnson</b>—I only have the marine.</p> <p><b>Dr Reichelt</b>—Apologies, Senator. We do not have that figure here, but I am happy to reply.</p>	GBRMPA	1.1	26/03/10
26	30 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	GBRMPA – Budget figures	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—I do not want to embarrass you, but how is the overall budget going? You have had additional commitments imposed upon you from elections and your budget has decreased. How are you managing to make two ends meet when it is very difficult?</p> <p><b>Dr Reichelt</b>—The results from last year reported in the annual report show that we have had a decline in revenue for a number of reasons. I could ask Mr Elliot to run through those. We have had a contraction. We have had a number of programs finish and reduced staff numbers. We have reduced from, I think, 220 to 212 in the past six months. We are managing by reducing staff numbers in programs that have finished. If you would like something more specific, I can ask Mr Elliot to tell you exactly.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Unless you can give me figures, and they are probably better on notice.</p>	GBRMPA	1.1	26/03/10
27	Written Qon	Birmingham	Land and Sea country and Indigenous Partnerships program	Please provide a breakdown of all expenditures incurred to date and allocated into the future under the \$10 million Land and Sea Country and Indigenous Partnerships Program promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election under the Great Barrier Reef Rescue Plan.	GBRMPA	1.1	26/03/10
28	34 (9/2/10)	Siewert	National reserve system – NRM Groups	<p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—My team, which manages the NRS component of it, is not involved directly with whatever the NRM regions do on NRS. We manage the direct acquisitions program and the applications that come to us via the states, the major NGOs and, more recently, local governments and groups of local governments which have taken a keen interest in contributing to the NRS. Eventually, if projects that NRM regions come up with to add areas to the NRS come to fruition and become declared parks, then we will add them, obviously, to the National Reserve System in an accounting sense, but we deal generally with the acquisitions by third parties.</p>	AGLC	1.1	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—I will ask later on, but why do those projects not go to you? If you are assessing the other projects and this is NRS money—and \$3.059 million is not an insubstantial amount of money—why is that not assessed as part of your process?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—Can I take that on notice or talk to the NRM groups? I know that if anything is to be added to the NRS, then we will be asked about our evaluation against the NRS criteria.</p>			
29	35 (9/2/10)	Siewert	National reserve system - projects	<p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—That is this financial year. We still have projects we are working on.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Beyond the 21?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—Beyond those.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—So the 21 are ones that are developed up to the point where you are negotiating?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—How many overall applications did you have?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—That is a good question. I might have to take that on notice, I am afraid.</p>	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
30	36 (9/2/10)	Siewert	National reserve system - purchases	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—I suspect it would take a while to go through the list of how your purchases stack up against those underrepresented bioregions. Could you provide that on notice, perhaps?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—I can, but I mentioned that we have 28 property purchase projects that we are working on at the moment. Twenty of them are in priority bioregions, with representation of less than 10 per cent in the NRS.</p>	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
31	36 (9/2/10)	Siewert	National reserve system – cumulative purchase	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—In terms of the cumulative purchase now under the new approach, we have nearly one million this financial year. How much are we up to now?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—In terms of total for the NRS?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane</b>—We have just finally published the 2008 data, which is on the department of parks website. I would have to take that on notice to tell you precisely where that takes us. It is not just property acquisitions; the Indigenous protected areas component adds significant area to the national conservation estate as well.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—If you could take it on notice, that would be appreciated, thank you.</p>	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
32	39 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Viewing platform - Uluru	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—You probably will not be able to tell me this offhand, but could you take on notice and please let us know: over the last couple of years</p>	PAD	1.1	26/03/10

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				since the construction of the new viewing platform, how many applications have been approved and how many have been rejected? <b>Mr Cochrane</b> —We have those statistics, but I do not have them with me.			
33	38 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Capturing images of Commonwealth properties - permit	<b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b> —What cost is applied to the permit? <b>Mr Cochrane</b> —I might have to take that on notice. Off the top of my head I cannot remember. It is pretty small	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
34	41 (9/2/10)	Lundy	Australian National Botanical Gardens – national leadership role in climate change	<b>Senator LUNDY</b> —Finally, I recollect the announcement in previous years about the Australian National Botanic Gardens’ national leadership role in climate change adaptation strategies. Is there anything you can update the committee on in that regard? I am happy for you to take that on notice if you would prefer. <b>Mr Cochrane</b> —I might take that on notice. One of the things we did agree to do was take on the role, in the context of climate change, of coordinator for the national seed banking effort, which is one of those insurance strategies for climate change. I am anticipating that position will be advertised fairly shortly. That will assist us with contributing in that role. Can I take it on notice and I will give you a fuller response?	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
35	Written Qon	Abetz	National Parks – feral animals and weeds programs and fuel reduction	What specific programmes and plans exist for each National Park (where relevant) to eradicate or control: 1. Feral animals; 2. Feral plants (weeds). 3. How much money is allocated to each Park for each of weeds and feral animals? 4. What programmes and plans exist for fuel reduction in each national park? 5. How much money has been allocated to each park for fuel reduction? 6. How many hectares have had their fuel load reduced in the past two years? And how was this achieved?	PAD	1.1	26/03/10
36	75 (9/2/10)	Abetz	EPBC – bushfire treatments	<b>Senator ABETZ</b> —I refer to the review, if I can call it that, into fuel reduction. Question No. 23, in fact, was taken on notice by the Approvals and Wildlife Division. I was told that the committee is expected to undertake a public consultation process on fire regimes as a threatening process in mid-2010. Is that still on track? <b>Dr Zammit</b> —Yes. <b>Senator ABETZ</b> —Can we be told—if need be, on notice—how we intend to undertake that public consultation? Will it be just via paper or internet, as in written submissions, or will this consultation process go especially to regional areas and get information? <b>Mr Burnett</b> —I do have some information, Senator. I do not have the full	AWD	1.2	26/03/10



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				<p>particulars as to whether it is by internet or regional meetings et cetera, but there are generally two strands to the kind of consultation that is done by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee when it is looking at key threatening process nominations like this. The first is that they usually run a round of consultations with specialists—in this case, fire ecologists and fire managers—and there is also a separate and extensive public consultation round. But, as I say, I am afraid I do not have the details of how that consultation will be done.</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—Will there be any particular discussion with Indigenous communities, especially—yes, there is a Western Australian here—in the ‘top bit’ of Western Australian, if I can use that geographic description, in the savannah lands?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett</b>—That would be my expectation, but I am afraid that I just do not have all those details.</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—Please take all that on notice.</p>			
37	8 (9/2/10)	Abetz	Gunns Pulp Mill – Ref Parliamentary Qon 1486	<p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—‘Unreasonable’, thank you—an unreasonable use of resource. I just want to get a handle on how difficult this task is given that, when I was given that answer by the department, I personally rang Telstra and said, ‘On the day in question can you tell me all the telephone numbers my office rang and what would the cost be?’ Telstra did it for us for nothing and gave us the telephone numbers in a matter of a 48-hour turnaround. Now that was one phone call by my office. Has the department even rung, so made that one phone call, or would one such phone call also be considered ‘an unreasonable use of resource’?</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—You put this previously to the department, this story of your own investigations. The department has indicated today their response to that. Mr Early has provided an answer and I would again refer you to the minister’s answer. It is the minister’s answer to which you are referring. If you wish us to take on notice what is meant by paragraph 4, which is what you are quoting, I will do so. But I do not think these officers can assist you any further.</p>	AWD	1.2	26/03/10
38	80 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Sugarloaf pipeline – public release of audits	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—I would like any commitments that Victoria has made in relation to publicly releasing audits for future years as well as what they have to provide to the Commonwealth and any commitments or approaches the Commonwealth has made for them to do so prior to the actual extraction of that water, not just the allocation of it.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—In relation to the second, we can; in relation to the first, if it is on the public record, we can, but that is an issue for the Victorian government.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—What knowledge the department has in that regard would be helpful.</p>	AWD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Senator Wong</b>—You could just look on the web, I suppose.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—The web is a very big place and I am sure the department has spent lots of time looking at these matters with the Victorian government already and has far greater knowledge than I would, so I am just hopeful they can share some of that knowledge. My main point is that I would appreciate your advice on the matter of timing and any commitments about timing beyond 2010.</p>			
39	9 (9/2/10)	Abetz	Gunns Pulp Mill – Ref Parliamentary Qon 1486	<p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—No, the minister is absolutely entitled to ignore or accept advice. His answer to me may in no way, shape or form reflect the advice proffered by the department. After all, the minister is in control and he will make the determination whether or not it is a reasonable or unreasonable use of resource. The department may well have advised that it was reasonable, but the minister, as is his right, may have determined that it was unreasonable. So I am not asking what the advice was. All I want to know is whether any advice was proffered prior to the minister giving that answer.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—So the question is in relation to the answer to question No. 1486 as to whether departmental advice was provided prior to that question being provided. I will take that question on notice.</p>	AWD	1.2	26/03/10
40	Written Qon	Colbeck	MDB fishing	<p>There was a suggestion in December by a river ecologist from Charles Sturt University that fishing be banned in large areas of the Murray Darling Basin to prevent native fish from "facing extinction".</p> <p>The ecologist suggested Australian Governments have been working on this for some time.</p> <p>1. Has DEWHA been doing any work on such protected areas?</p>	AWD	1.2	26/03/10
41	43 (9/2/10)	Boswell	Coral Sea – scientific studies	<p><b>Senator BOSWELL</b>—In light of the proclamation of the Coral Sea Heritage Park decision being made prior to the completion of the government's bioregional profile study, what scientific studies are currently being undertaken on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and I suppose that would include the Coral Sea?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—There has not been a decision to proclaim or establish a Coral Sea heritage park, and I think we traversed that issue in the last Senate estimates. I believe also in response to a question that we took on notice, we outlined the east regional profile which references the extensive range of scientific studies and information that was drawn on to identify the key conservation values and key ecological features of the east marine region, including the Coral Sea. In terms of the ongoing work under the marine bioregional planning process, I will take on notice detail in terms of scientific studies and analysis that is ongoing, but make the</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				observation that the main activities, which are being undertaken as part of this next step of the assessment process, are to look at the range of threats and pressures on the region and to use those to then identify some conservation priorities. So threat assessment work primarily, or risk assessment work.			
42	45 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	North Marine Bioregional plan - consultation	<b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b> —I do not want to put the department to huge expense but could you give me a relatively brief summary of the consultation that has taken place in communities affected by this, namely Weipa, Karumba, the Groote Eylandt people, the Wessel Islands people and the people around Darwin, including the Melville Islands and down into the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf? Could you just briefly indicate the details of the consultation; for example: ‘Officers met, Weipa, 10 October 09—’ just that sort of thing? <b>Mr Oxley</b> —I am happy to do so.	MD	1.2	26/03/10
43	46 (9/2/10) & Written Qon	Colbeck	Stakeholder advisory group – displaced activities	<b>Mr Oxley</b> —If I may I will just clarify the situation. We are currently planning to hold a meeting of the stakeholder advisory group in early March. I am not sure if an exact date is locked in; we have been looking at around 4 or 5 March. <b>Senator COLBECK</b> —Have there been any modifications to that group? <b>Mr Oxley</b> —... I am happy to provide on notice the current membership of that group if that would be helpful to the senator. The group is the stakeholder advisory group that was established by the government last year to provide advice on displaced activity policies. <u>In writing:</u> 1. What is the current status of the displaced activity stakeholders advisory group? 2. Who is a member of this group? What changes to the membership have changed since its setting-up? 3. Did any DEWHA officials provide advice to any of the stakeholders that the group would be disbanded, wound-up or similar prior to 31 January 2010? 4. What advice did DEWHA provided to or receive from the Minister about the ramifications of displaced activities with respect to the process? 5. Was the WWF or other NGOs invited to participate in the Displaced Activities process? What was the reasoning behind inviting them or other NGOs?	MD	1.2	26/03/10
44	46 (9/2/10) and Written Qon	Colbeck	Bioregional plans – update on planning expenditure	<b>Senator COLBECK</b> —You gave us at the last estimates costings for planning expenditure in each, and projected for 2009-10. Could you update those for us? That was in answer to question No. 59. If you could update that answer I would appreciate it.	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I presume you mean on notice?</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Yes. If you could just sort of quantify point 1, if it is possible once you get through the process a bit further, which talked about the time status, as well?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—You have given me some block figures on the expenditure. I think you have also mentioned, in perhaps another question on notice, assistance to members during the process to date. Can you indicate any assistance provided to NGOs as part of that process or would they fit within that overall answer to question on notice No. 52 that talks about stakeholder assistance?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—So you are asking for an update on that?</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—If you could provide that, that would be great.</p> <p><u>In writing:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the current expenditure on the planning process for each of the regions?</li> <li>2. What level of financial assistance – in-kind or otherwise – have the various NGO groups received? Can you please provide a breakdown by each group?</li> <li>3. Can you confirm a consultant was appointed to examine displace activity? What was the name of the consultant/s? When were they engaged? What was their terms of reference? What was the cost of this consultancy?</li> <li>4. When was an interim report provided by the consultant? When was a final report provided? Was this report made public? Can you make a copy available?</li> <li>5. Were stakeholders made aware of the report? Were they provided with a copy of the report (and not just a presentation)?</li> </ol>			
45	48 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	Displaced activities – consultancy and report	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—I would like to go back to the displaced activities process. Was there a consultant appointed to do some work on that process or to develop terms of reference as part of the displaced activity process under marine bioregional planning? I hope you got that that is where we were going back to.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—It was to a company called MAXimusSolutions and, yes, they then utilised a couple of employees of the ANU to support that consultancy.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Can you tell us the costs of the consultancy?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I may need to take that one on notice.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Who were the active participants in the preparation of the report?</p> <p><b>Mr Clark</b>—The report's authors included Professor Tim Bonyhady and Dr Andrew Macintosh.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Did Dr James Prest play any part in the process?</p> <p><b>Mr Clark</b>—The name does not sound familiar.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—We will take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Thank you. When was the report finalised?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—From my recollection—and I think we may have given this indication at the last Senate estimates—it was around the middle of last year.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Is it available to this committee?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—Not at this stage.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Is there an intention to make it public?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I have not had that discussion with the minister.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Perhaps you can consider our conversation a request.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I will take that on notice.</p>			
46	49 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – Mako sharks	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—The commencement of the process or the decision-making stage of the process was December 2008 at the CMS meeting in Rome.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—The only consultation that you are aware of is the states and CFA. What about the NGOs and particularly the ENGOS?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—What has been advised to me is that there was no consultation with the environment NGOs, although, as you have already noted yourself, one of the environment NGOs did participate on the Australian delegation to the CMS meeting. As it has been explained to me, there was no consultation with those NGOs per se.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Let us approach it from a different perspective. I understand what you are saying there. Were there any representations to the government or from those groups prior to the process that you are aware of?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I do not have an answer to that question with me. I would need to take that one on notice.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
47	50 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	Recreation Fishing Sector – NSW – tagging programs	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Did you get any information from New South Wales, which collects a lot of data from particularly the game fishing clubs, in relation to their tagging programs? Did they give you any information on that?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I would say that we were aware of tagging programs being undertaken in New South Wales.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—No, New South Wales collate all of the tagging data nationally, so they are the repository for all of the tagging data nationally for game fishing clubs. If you were looking to have catch information particularly for those who participate in catch-and-release programs—</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—If I may, I will take the specifics of that one on notice.</p>			
48	50 (9/2/10)	Siewert	Recreation Fishing Sector – Tag and release – Mako	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Do you have survival data on the tag and release?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I believe we do, but I will need to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—That would be appreciated.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10 + 2 att'ts
49	50 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – delegation	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—We have taken information from your website that indicates participation in the delegation. Is that the full participation in the delegation that is listed on the website?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—Are you referring to the delegation of a couple of years ago?</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I do not have it in front of me. If you could share with me what information you have, that would be helpful in answering the question.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—While that is being prepared so that you can have a look at it I should ask: how was the delegation selected?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I do not have information at my disposal that tells me how the delegation was selected, so I will need to take that one on notice.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
50	51 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – CSIRO assesment	<p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—The Australian government position was to support the nomination for listing on appendix II of the CMS. I might add that that position was based on analysis of the nomination proposals that was undertaken by CSIRO. That advice to us indicated that the science was sufficiently strong to support a listing of those species under appendix II.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—The CSIRO did an analysis for the government of the proposal—</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—That is correct.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—for consideration at the convention?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—To help inform the Australian government’s position.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Is it possible to get hold of that assessment?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I am happy to take that on notice.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10 + 1 att't
51	52 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – CSIRO assesment	<p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—CSIRO would have made its assessment on the basis of the nomination documentation and whatever analysis supported those nominations. Then looking at that data against the criteria for the species it would have made its findings known to the department.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Was there any active advocacy of the process or of the listing from Australia at the meeting, do you know?</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I am not in a position to answer that.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—Would you take that on notice?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—Certainly.</p>			
52	52 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – consultations post listing of Mako	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—We do not necessarily need to deal with it now, but could you table for me on notice a list of your consultations post the listing process in 2008?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—Yes, I would certainly be happy to do that.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
53	52 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	CMS Meeting 2008 – cost to sectors	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—In the national interest analysis paper that was compiled—and the tabling date that I have got is 25 November—it stated that it is anticipated that the costs for most sectors will be minor. Can I ask where that assessment came from?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—I will need to take that particular—</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—I do not have a page or a reference point.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—No, I understand that, but to answer the question as to where that conclusion came from I do need to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—If anything stirred up the recreational sector more—apart from the fact that they could not catch a fish when they wanted to—it was the fact that they did not have much of an investment in it. I think they have come out to demonstrate that in terms that you might understand.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—In those circumstances that assessment would have been based, I presume, on economic cost and I would suggest it would have been focused substantially on commercial fishing impacts. It may not have accounted for recreational impacts but, as I offered, I will take that on notice and come back.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
54	57 (9/2/10)	Siewert	Southern Ocean Reasearch partnership	<p><b>Ms Petrachenko</b>—This is part of the multiyear program that was announced by the minister about 18 months ago. We have been doing localised research and preparatory work, but this is the first actual cruise that has gone out under the program.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Is this particular project a joint Australia-New Zealand project?</p> <p><b>Ms Petrachenko</b>—No, it involves more countries than that, but the New Zealand government have generously offered us the use of the vessel as a platform for the research, so it involves a number of scientists from Australia and other IWC countries.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT</b>—Which ones?</p> <p><b>Ms Petrachenko</b>—I might have to take that one on notice.</p>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
55	Written Qon	Fisher	Whaling envoy	Please summarise all costs related to the appointment of the Whaling Envoy, including:	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Daily and total fees paid; days for which fees were paid; and extent of staff support costs.</li> <li>2. Total costs of travel, itemised by trip and countries visited, inclusive of any accompanying officers.</li> <li>3. Any other costs.</li> </ol>			
56	Written Qon	Colbeck	Mako Sharks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What consultation occurred prior to the Rome meeting in December 2008 over the listing of the 3 shark species?</li> <li>2. I understand DEWHA wrote to each of the State Governments seeking their feedback. What responses were received? And when?</li> <li>3. What were the views of each of those who responded? Can we please be provided copies of each of the responses from the State Governments?</li> <li>4. Which NGOs were consulted? What was their response?</li> <li>5. Which recreational or commercial fishing organisations were consulted? What was their response?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10 + 2 att'ts
57	Written Qon	Colbeck	CMS meeting – Rome 2008	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Who attended the Rome meeting of CMS in December 2008 and in what capacity?</li> <li>2. Who was a member of the official delegation?</li> <li>3. Why is HSI listed as an official member of the delegation? On what basis were they included in the official delegation? Who invited them? When were they invited?</li> <li>4. What position was taken to the Rome meeting?</li> <li>5. What data was used to back-up this position, apart from CSIRO advice?</li> <li>6. Can we please be provided with a copy of the advice from CSIRO? When was this received?</li> <li>7. What contribution did DEWHA officials make to the meeting? Are any speeches/reports of officials available?</li> <li>8. What contribution did HSI make?</li> <li>9. Did HSI have to seek approval from DEWHA prior to making any of its contributions to the Rome meeting?</li> <li>10. What DEWHA guidelines/rules/protocols did the HSI representative operate under as a member of the delegation?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
58	Written Qon	Colbeck	CMS meeting – Rome 2008 – consultation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What consultation occurred between DEWHA and fishing organisations between the Rome meeting and the tabling of the NIA on Nov 25? Recfish? Commonwealth Fisheries Association?</li> <li>2. What consultation occurred during this period with environmental NOGs?</li> <li>3. What correspondence was received from HSI International during this period?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10



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59	Written Qon	Colbeck	National Interest Analysis	<p>The National Interest Analysis [2009] ATNIA 26 paper compiled by DEWHA and tabled on November 25 stated:  <i>"It is anticipated that the costs for most sectors will be minor"</i>            Further it added:  <i>"There is likely to be some cost associated with changes required by game or charter fishing operators where they target the species concerned."</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How did DEWHA come to these conclusions?</li> <li>Did DEWHA provide the NIA to Minister Garrett for his approval? Did he read and approve and/or note it? What date was this approved and/or noted by the Minister?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
60	Written Qon	Colbeck	Humane Society – legal advice	<p>In a statement on January 25, HSI International said:  <i>"Minister Garrett had already tried to avoid these listings until HSI's lawyers advised him of his legal responsibilities"</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When did HSI provide this advice to the Minister?</li> <li>When did HSI meet with the Minister and/or his advisers over this matter?</li> <li>What was the nature and content of this advice? Can we please be provided with a copy of the advice?</li> <li>What actions did the Minister and/or DEWHA taken following receiving this advice? What correspondence was had with HSI? Can we please be provided with copies of this correspondence?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10 + 4 att'ts
61	Written Qon	Colbeck	EBPC Hawke review – migratory species	<p>On 1 October, AFMA stated in its update:  <i>"The Minister has decided to allow the review to finalise its assessment prior to consideration of adding Porbeagle, Shortfin Mako and Longfin Mako to the list of migratory species.            This will ensure that the Australian Government does not put in place processes that have the potential to be contradictory to the findings of the EPBC Review."</i></p> <p>The Minister received a copy of the final report from Mr Hawke on 30 October – so was obviously privy to recommendation 17 of the review.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Despite being privy to the recommendation – knowing very well recommendation 17 would completely change the listing of the 3 shark species – and having said before he was waiting for the review to finish before doing anything on the sharks....</li> <li>Why did Minister Garrett effectively approve the listing and allow the NIA to be tabled on November 25 and a listing to go ahead on January 29?</li> <li>What situation occurred between mid 2009 and November 25 for the</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				Minister to change his mind on the listing and its connection with the EPBC review?			
62	Written Qon	Colbeck	Migratory species listings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What advice did DEWHA provide to the Minister over the December-January period about the listings? When was this provided? Can we please be provided with a copy of this advice?</li> <li>2. What advice was provided during this period to DAFF and/or PM&amp;C about the listings and when?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
63	Written Qon	Colbeck	Game fishing club – mako shark listing	<p>On 5 February, DEWHA wrote to the Mayor of Break O'Day Council, Mr Legge following a letter from him and myself about the fate of the St Helens Game Fishing Club fishing tournament.</p> <p>This letter effectively stated the Department would not enforce the EPBC Act with respect to activities of the tournament and the mako shark listing.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What legal advice did DEWHA receive on this letter?</li> <li>2. Does DEWHA believe it would be 100% impossible for tournament participants to escape charges as a result of this letter and its content?</li> <li>3. How many other clubs have written to DEWHA or the Minister seeking similar advice? How many responses have been drafted? What is the advice contained in these responses?</li> <li>4. What is the status of the listing on State waters? What advice has been provided to or received from State authorities about the listing and its enforcement?</li> <li>5. What is the status of commercial fishing with respect to by-catch in both State and Commonwealth waters?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
64	Written Qon	Colbeck	Other species listings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Can DEWHA advise on additional marine species that are the subject of potential listing under CMS, CITES or other international convention?</li> <li>2. What consultations have occurred with the recreational and commercial fishing sectors about these listings and when? And with NGOs?</li> <li>3. This week I understand the Australian Government has sent representatives to the CMS Sharks III Meeting in Manila. Who is attending as part of the Australian delegation?</li> <li>4. What other species will be discussed? What positions has the Government taken?</li> <li>5. What impact will any decisions have on the fishing sector?</li> <li>6. What consultations occurred with the commercial or recreational fishing sector prior to this meeting?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10
65	Written Qon	Colbeck	UN convention on the Law of the Sea	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the status of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea Annex 1 – Highly Migratory Species?</li> </ol>	MD	1.2	26/03/10

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				2. Are these species likely to be listed on international conventions and thus recognised through the EPBC Act by the Australian Government? 3. Has DEWHA conducted any consultations with any groups about these species – who and when?			
66	Written Qon	Colbeck	Marine bioregional planning	1. Can you give me an update on the Marine Bio-region process around Australia including the current expected completion dates for each of the regions? 2. Are there still requests for additional time from any of the participating groups? 3. When will drafts be released for each region? 4. What will the process be following the completion of the drafts? Has DEWHA received any feedback on the proposed 60 day period for comment on the drafts?	MD	1.2	26/03/10
67	Written Qon	Colbeck	Marine bioregional planning – age of data	1. What is the age of data being used in the marine bioregional process? Is it true that some data goes back to 2001? 2. Will industry be given access to data sets used to make decisions to assess their viability, currency, etc? 3. What funding does DEWHA project will be required to manage all of the MPAs following implementation?	MD	1.2	26/03/10
68	Written Qon	Birmingham	Whaling	1. How many whales have been slaughtered by Japanese whalers since 20 November 2007? 2. How are the policies of this Government in regard to whaling different to those of the Howard Government? 3. Is the Department aware of any reports detailing whaling activities in the Australian Whale Sanctuary? What action has been taken in regard to these reports? 4. How has the Government monitored whaling vessels operating in Australian waters considering the absence of the Oceanic Viking from normal operations for much of this year's whaling season? How has the Government monitored whaling activities in the Southern Ocean this year?	MD	1.2	26/03/10
<b>Questions Nos 69–119 – Outcome 2—Program 2.1: Energy Efficiency &amp; Climate Change have been transferred to the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. The answers will be provided through the Senate Finance &amp; Public Administration Legislation Committee.</b>							
120	133 (9/2/10)	Fisher	MDBA regional	<b>Senator FISHER</b> —How many regional meetings has the MDBA had, and the	MDBA	4.1	24/05/10

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QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 8-9 FEBRUARY 2010**

Question No	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Out come	Date Rec'd
			meetings - groups	<p>board? Have you held any in South Australia?  <b>CHAIR</b>—This will have to be the last question, Senator Fisher.  <b>Mr Freeman</b>—We have held nine meetings and one of those has been held in South Australia, together with a field trip in South Australia to have a look at the Lower Lakes.  <b>Senator FISHER</b>—Where was the meeting?  <b>Mr Freeman</b>—It was in Renmark.  <b>Senator FISHER</b>—When? Perhaps you can let us know.  <b>Mr Freeman</b>—It was on 7 and 8 September last year.  <b>Senator FISHER</b>—Can you provide on notice the groups that you met with and consulted with on that trip?  <b>Mr Freeman</b>—They are board meetings. There is a public session and we send out wide invitations. I think we would have responses as to who indicated they were going to attend, for catering purposes et cetera, and I can provide that.</p>			
121	47 (9/2/10)	Colbeck	Fishing – Ban on fishing in Murray-Darling Basin	<p><b>Senator COLBECK</b>—I have just go a very quick question. There was a suggestion by a river ecologist from Charles Sturt University that fishing be banned in large areas of the Murray—I do not know whether you heard me talking about this with DAFF last night—to prevent native fish from facing extinction. I do not have the name of the ecologist, I am sorry, but this person suggested that the Australian governments have been working on this for some time. I have asked DAFF, as they have some responsibilities for that area, and you are an obvious choice to ask as well.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley</b>—It is a suggestion that the government has been working for some time on banning fishing in large areas of the Murray-Darling basin to prevent native fish from facing extinction.  <b>Ms Kruk</b>—We have Water on during the course of your hearings so you can pose the question to them while we take it on notice.  <b>Senator COLBECK</b>—I am happy for it to be taken on notice. I am just interested in getting a sense of where things are at.</p>	MDBA	4.1	18/05/10
122	Written Qon	Fisher	MDBA critical human water needs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Which organisations and interest groups has the Authority consulted with in their work to further describe the term critical human water needs under section 86A of the Water Act 2007?</li> <li>2. What form did these consultations take?</li> <li>3. When were these consultations undertaken?</li> <li>4. Are there any employees within the Murray Darling Basin Authority working specifically on the further definition of critical human water</li> </ol>	MDBA	4.1	24/05/10

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				needs? If so, how many?			
123	Written Qon	Fisher	MDBA regional board meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where and when have the 9 regional Murray Darling Basin Authority Board meetings taken place, and when?</li> <li>2. In addition to the Lower Lakes, how many site visits have the Murray Darling Basin Authority Board undertaken, and when?</li> </ol>	MDBA	4.1	24/05/10
124	Written Qon	Xenophon	MDBA – salinity levels in Murray	What assessment has been conducted by the Authority into the impact the upgrades to Victoria’s irrigation sector will have on the salinity levels in the Murray River?	MDBA	4.1	24/05/10
125	116 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Potable water supplies – research projects	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—What research projects or papers has the commission conducted into supplementing potable water supplies with recycled water, in particular stormwater runoff?</p> <p><b>Mr Matthews</b>—I am afraid I will have to take that on notice. We have not got that information with us.</p>	NWC	4.1	14/05/10
126	118 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Storm water harvesting v desalination	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Has the commission investigated what costs and environmental benefits stormwater harvesting and reuse may have compared to those of desalination?</p> <p><b>Mr Matthews</b>—Not that I can immediately bring to mind. There has been a publication—though it is some years old now—that tried to give a rank order of different forms of different water sources. That would be as close as anything to your question. And it is not in great detail.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—If you could take that question on notice to see if anything else comes to mind and to bring to our attention that publication you mentioned, Mr Matthews, even if it is a little old.</p>	NWC	4.1	14/05/10
127	Written Qon	Xenophon	NWC – Biennial Assesment	<p>The 2009 National Water Commission Biennial Assessment (which had 68 recommendations) was set to be considered at the December 2009 COAG meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many of the 68 recommendations will be implemented?</li> <li>2. Which ones?</li> <li>3. What discussions took place to determine which recommendations would be implemented and how?</li> </ol>	NWC	4.1	18/05/10
128	124 (9/2/10)	Xenophon	Broken hill water supply	<p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—can I put this on notice: could you indicate what the progress of engineering works has been in terms of Menindee Lakes and securing Broken Hill’s water supply, because that seems to be the nub of the issue. Broken Hill deserves a secure water supply, but there would be a massive loss, given the current structure of the lakes. Thank you.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—What are you seeking, Senator?</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—Just an update on both the engineering works and any</p>	WED	4.1	24/05/10

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				<p>progress with respect to securing Broken Hill's water supply, and—  <b>Senator Wong</b>—Ms Harwood can probably provide you with some information on what has occurred to date.  <b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—I was going to ask the same question, so I would be grateful for at least a quick briefing.  <b>Ms Harwood</b>—There are investigative studies taking place at the moment, looking among the options to see which investment in infrastructure would give the best outcomes in terms of securing Broken Hill's water supply and more efficient water management at Menindee Lakes itself. They are due to report at the end of February in one case and at the end of March in another. So when we have that suite of studies, including the investigation of managed aquifer recharge, we will be able to look at what the best investment decision to take forward is.  <b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—I put my hand up for a briefing when that becomes available.  <b>Senator Wong</b>—We would be happy to provide that, Senator.</p>			
129	130 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Water purchases NSW - MOU	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Is that MOU a public document?  <b>Dr Horne</b>—New South Wales's, yes.  <b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—It is on the website somewhere. If it is a public document could you provide it in answer—that would be more helpful.  <b>Dr Horne</b>—Yes.</p>	WED	4.1	25/05/10
130	131 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	NVIRP Stage 2 - NSW	<p><b>Ms Harwood</b>—Those time lines were agreed as part of the audit of where the state priority projects were up to. That took place late last year. They are dates agreed between the Commonwealth and the states.  <b>Senator Wong</b>—The audit was a Commonwealth initiative.  <b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—These are the first tranches of those dates to fall due since that audit was completed?  <b>Ms Harwood</b>—I would have to check on that. There may have been some for last year, but I will take that on notice just to check that I get the dates right and that the provision was needed by then.  <b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Remind me again: is that audit a public document?  <b>Ms Harwood</b>—I do not believe so.  <b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—Is there somewhere where we are able to see what the dates or commitments given by the states on these matters actually are?  <b>Senator Wong</b>—We will probably take that on notice. My recollection is that the audit was dealt with by COAG, so it would be a decision for COAG as to whether or not that would be released. We will have to take that on notice.</p>	WED	4.1	12/05/10

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131	Written Qon	Birmingham	Restoring the balance in the MDB	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much has the Government spent purchasing entitlements since its election, and in the current financial year? How much is allocated for next financial year?</li> <li>2. What targets for water purchases (by value and volume) does the Government have for each remaining year of the buyback program, including this one?</li> <li>3. What is the current water allocation against all entitlements purchased?</li> <li>4. What is the delay by state between acceptance of the Government as a tender and completion of the transfer?</li> <li>5. Of accepted tenders this financial year, what value (by dollars and megalitres) failed due diligence and were not settled?</li> <li>6. Has the 4 per cent cap, in relation to water in a particular irrigation system in Victoria being sold out of that system in any one year, been reached for any region? If so, for each region please detail when the cap was reached, how much water was purchased prior to the cap being reached and how many tenders have been unsuccessful due to the cap having been reached.</li> </ol>	WED	4.1	24/05/10
132	Written Qon	Birmingham	Infrastructure efficiencies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What dollar value of infrastructure operator efficiency spending will be spent in 2009/10 and in each of the forward estimates years, and what are the estimated resulting water savings?</li> <li>2. What dollar value of on-farm infrastructure spending will be spent in 2009/10 and in each of the forward estimates years, and what are the estimated resulting water savings?</li> </ol>	WED	4.1	24/05/10
133	Written Qon	Birmingham	On-farm infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much has the Government spent on on-farm infrastructure projects since its election?</li> <li>2. On what projects or programs has expenditure been made?</li> <li>3. What targets for on-farm infrastructure projects (in value and volume) does the Government have for each remaining year of the program, including this one?</li> </ol>	WED	4.1	25/05/10
134	Written Qon	Birmingham	Off-farm infrastructure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much has the Government spent on off-farm infrastructure projects since its election?</li> <li>2. On what projects or programs has expenditure been made?</li> <li>3. What targets for off-farm infrastructure projects (in value and volume) does the Government have for each remaining year of the program, including this one?</li> <li>4. What water saving/infrastructure projects were committed to or identified by the Intergovernmental Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform signed by Prime Minister Rudd and First Ministers of Murray-Darling</li> </ol>	WED	4.1	25/05/10

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				5. Basin states and territories in July 2008? What progress has been made on each of these projects? What funds have actually been expended on each of them?			
135	Written Qon	Nash	Water for the Future	1. Of the \$5.2b set aside in Water for the Future for infrastructure spending, how much has actually been spent? 2. Of the money that has been spent, how much of that has actually been on infrastructure rather than administration surround infrastructure programs? 3. What percentage of infrastructure funds does the government expect will be spent directly on water savings programs as opposed to the administration of running those programs?	WED	4.1	24/05/10
136	Written Qon	Nash	Menindee Lakes -	1. Can you confirm your election promise, contained in “Labor’s national plan to tackle the water crisis”, to spend “up to \$400m to reduce evaporation and improve water efficiency at Menindee Lakes...”? 2. How much of that “up to \$400m” has been spent? 3. Of the “up to 200 billion litres” that your Menindee Lakes promise was to “return” to the Basin, how many litres have actually been returned? 4. Noting your election policy statement that Menindee “loses 426 billion litres of water in an average year”, how much of that evaporation loss has your election policy commitment stopped to date? 5. Had you and your colleagues in the NSW Labor Government completed any work on Menindee, how many extra billion litres of the recent flood flows could have been saved from loss?	WED	4.1	25/05/10
137	Written Qon	Nash	Foodbowl Stage two	You commitment to provide “up to \$1b” to Victoria for its “Food Bowl Stage Two” project was based on an agreement that you made for the return of licenses that would see a value of around \$10,000 per megalitre. 1. Do you believe that this is a fair price? 2. Will this price be offered to other states in infrastructure programs? 3. Are you surprised in light of this that the Productivity Commission suggests that infrastructure investment is inefficient?	WED	4.1	18/05/10
138	Written Qon	Nash	Onfarm infrastructure spend	1. Returning to infrastructure investment, in last year’s Budget you announced a \$300m Southern Basin On Farm program. 2. How much of this has now been spent? 3. How much has been spent <i>on farm</i> . 4. Is it the case that you allowed six weeks for prospective delivery partners to apply, but have now been assessing those applications for some 12 weeks with no result having yet been announced? Do you not think this is absurd?	WED	4.1	25/05/10



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139	Written Qon	Birmingham	Modernising and repair of water systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much of the \$250 million promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election for modernising and repairing existing water systems in towns and cities has been allocated and expended?</li> <li>2. How many projects have been completed? Please provide a breakdown of funding by project and state.</li> </ol>	WED	4.1	25/05/10
140	Written Qon	Birmingham	Menindee Lakes	How much water has been lost from the Menindee Lakes water storage through evaporation, seepage and leakage storage since 20 November 2007?	WED	4.1	25/05/10
141	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water saving programs	How has the Government encouraged innovative water saving programs such as the River Reach program conducted by Murrumbidgee Irrigation?	WGD	4.1	18/05/10
142	Written Qon	Wortley	Climate change - water	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What action has the Government taken to help cities prepare for the impact of climate change?</li> <li>2. Can you detail what assistance the Commonwealth Government has provided to South Australia to help meet its water needs – both urban and rural?</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	25/05/10
143	120 (9/2/10)	Xenophon	NWC - advice	<p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—Can you just clarify this. I understand that the commission does not make the recommendations or give the advice. But, if advice or opinion is sought from the commission or any other expert body about the funding of a project and the funding still goes ahead, to what extent is there some transparency in that process?</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—I think the minister read out the transparency requirements for when there is a difference of view but I think the minister is also clarifying that it is not the commission anymore.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—It would be open to me to ask the commission for advice. But if your question is about either those circumstances or circumstances where advice came from the department, which would now normally be the case under the program given that they now administer it, the Commonwealth Grant Guidelines apply. If a minister chooses to approve a grant against the advice they have to disclose that to the minister for finance and provide a brief summary of the reasons for that.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—But it is not publicly disclosed at this stage?</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—I have to say that I do not recall to what extent Finance makes those public or whether those can be ascertained.</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—The reason I am hesitating is that I do not remember it occurring in my time at all, so we might get a bit of advice on it.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—Perhaps if it is on notice.</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—I do not know if the minister has a view that it would be</p>	WGD	4.1	20/01/10

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				<p>prudent in those cases where funding occurs against the advice of the department for it to be publicly disclosed.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—I would suggest that that is probably a question that should go to Mr Tanner’s representative because he is the responsible minister for the reporting framework and the guidelines.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON</b>—Okay, thank you. Could that be taken on notice?</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—We can transfer the question.</p>			
144	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water for the Future – national stormwater funding	What funding was budgeted for this program in 2009-10, what expenditure has been made this financial year, and against what costs or grants?	WGD	4.1	14/05/10
145	Written Qon	Birmingham	Surf lifesaving clubs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many surf life saving clubs have had rainwater tanks installed under the National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative: Surf Life Saving Clubs?</li> <li>2. Please provide a table which outlines which clubs have received rainwater tanks, when they were installed, what federal electorate the club is located in, and the cost of the tank.</li> <li>3. Are grants still being made?</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	14/05/10
146	Written Qon	Wortley	Stormwater harvesting	Regarding the stormwater harvesting initiative – which areas have received offers under the first round of funding and when will applications for the second round close?	WGD	4.1	12/05/10
147	Written Qon	Birmingham	Surf Life saving clubs – rainwater tanks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many rainwater tanks have been installed in surf clubs?</li> <li>2. How many surf clubs are yet to have their rainwater tank installed? Please provide a breakdown of number and value by electorate.</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	14/05/10
148	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Precincts – Election commitment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many projects have been completed under the \$15million Green Precincts Policy promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election?</li> <li>2. Please provide a breakdown of funding for each project</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	12/05/10
149	Written Qon	Birmingham	Desal, Water recycling and stormwater capture projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much of \$1billion for urban desalination, water recycling and stormwater capture projects promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election has been allocated and expended?</li> <li>2. How many projects have been completed? Please provide a breakdown of funding by project and state.</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	14/05/10
150	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water recycling	What progress has been made towards reaching Rudd Labor’s 2007 election target of recycling 30 per cent of wastewater by 2015? Does the Department consider that it is on track to meet this commitment?	WGD	4.1	25/05/10
151	Written Qon	Birmingham	Desalination plant – Spencer Gulf	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How much of the \$160 million committed by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election to build a desalination plant in the upper Spencer Gulf has been allocated and expended?</li> </ol>	WGD	4.1	18/05/10

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				2. What is the current state of this project and what proportion of the stated 11 billion litre water demand has been removed from the Murray?			
152	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Rainwater and grey water initiative	1. How many households have taken up rebates to help install rainwater tanks or grey water pipes under the Government's \$250 million National Rainwater/greywater plan? 2. What is the value of these installations? Please provide a breakdown by electorate.	WGD	4.1	24/05/10
153	Written Qon	Siewert	Water for rivers - Snowy River	The Commonwealth Government is a co-signatory to the Snowy legislation and agreements and has contributed \$125 Million of taxpayers money to Water for Rivers. 1. What action has the Government taken in response to the NSW Government's unilateral release of the Final Report of the first Five-Year Review of Snowy Water Licence which didn't address the failure of the current Licence provisions to deliver the legislated scheduled increased flows and improved environmental objectives to the Snowy River? 2. In particular what action does the Government intend to take to ensure that NSW Government addresses the critical environmental needs of the Snowy River, specifically major increased flows and the release of flows via Mowamba weir as well as Jindabyne Dam, following the closing of public submissions to the proposed variations to the Snowy Water Licence on 29th January? 3. The NSW Government has repeatedly justified the diversion of approximately 99% of the Mowamba River into Jindabyne Dam in order to drive the mini-hydro at the base of Jindabyne Dam wall. Is the Government aware that the Jindabyne Dam is a green power accredited generator? 4. Will the Government ensure that the green power accreditation of the Jindabyne Dam mini-hydro is reviewed by the appropriate authority for its compliance with Green Power guidelines requiring that a green power generator return a net environmental benefit?	WRD	4.1	12/05/10
154	Written Qon	Birmingham	Tuggerah Lakes – election commitment	How much of the \$20 million funding promised by Rudd Labor at the 2007 election to restore the Tuggerah Lakes has been allocated and expended? Please provide a breakdown of stated environmental objectives and results recorded.	WRD	4.1	18/05/10
155	Written Qon	Birmingham	MDB water saving infrastructure	How many water-saving infrastructure projects have been developed, funded and built in the Murray-Darling Basin by this Federal Government? Please provide details of all projects completed.	WRD	4.1	25/05/10
156	107 (8/2/10)	Fisher	Resale Royalty –	<b>Senator FISHER</b> —You talked about there being the repository of information	ARTS	5.1	26/03/10

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			collecting agency - tenders	<p>which can be harvested, if you like, to enable this to work. How do you propose that the collecting agency will capture all art resales? How do you know that some will not be missed? What sort of process do you envisage?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—This is a bit tricky because we are in the middle of a tender process to select the collecting society.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator FISHER</b>—I do not think you indicated to me how many tenders you had received, or maybe you do not know yet.</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—No. I do know. But again, as part of a normal tender process, one tends to keep all of those sorts of things confidential to preserve the integrity of the process.</p> <p><b>Senator FISHER</b>—Will you be able to disclose that in due course?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—Quite possibly. I would have to check.</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—We can take the process in this regard on notice and then obviously with the time frame the process will have progressed as well.</p>			
157	108 (8/2/10)	Fisher	Resale Royalty – UK	<p><b>Senator FISHER</b>—How long has the UK experience been? How long have they had it there?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—I do not actually know. I think it is about two or three years. It might be more. I can certainly take that on notice.</p>	ARTS	5.1	26/03/10
158	109 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Election commitments - Review of the current state of artists incomes	<p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—I would like to take you to Labor’s election commitment which said: Labor will develop a social security and the arts policy that harmonises current Australia Council, Centrelink and Australian Tax Office rules and determines the most equitable way to treat earnings and royalty payments for artists currently receiving welfare.</p> <p>At the last estimates hearing the department said, on notice: The department is undertaking joint research with the Australia Council to review the current state of artists’ incomes. Has that review been completed?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—Yes, it has.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Would you be able to table a copy of the report?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—Can I take that on notice?</p>	ARTS	5.1	26/03/10 + 4 att'ts
159	109 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Election commitments – employment and social security matters	<p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Yes. If you cannot provide it then I will ask for it on notice. An officer also said at the last estimates hearing: The department is working in collaboration with other Australian government departments to implement the election commitments surrounding employment and social security matters.</p>	ARTS	5.1	26/03/10

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				<p>What work has been done on that?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—We are continuing to work with those agencies. We do not have any government decisions in this area at this point in time.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Is that with other Australian government federal departments?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—That is correct. It is primarily FaHCSIA, DEEWR and, to a certain extent, Treasury.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Is there any sort of work plan on that?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—The work is ongoing with those agencies. There is not a project-by-project work plan in that sense.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—I would like to ask, on notice, for a summary of the work that has been done up until today.</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—I will take it on notice.</p>			
160	98 (8/2/10)	Abetz	Literature Board of Aust – <i>Quadrant</i> , <i>Meanjin</i> , <i>The Monthly</i>	<p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—The question is whether the <i>Quadrant</i> magazine has been cut from \$50,000 to \$35,000 per annum.</p> <p><b>Ms Keele</b>—I would have to take that on notice, because I do not have that here with me, but I can make sure you find that out. I actually cannot tell you right off the top of my head, so we will let you know.</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—I would assume then that you cannot tell us about <i>Meanjin</i>, <i>The Monthly</i>—</p> <p><b>Ms Keele</b>—I can tell you both of those, but I will have to tell you offline.</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—Yes, if you can let us know. Is funding by calendar or financial year?</p> <p><b>Ms Keele</b>—It depends. There are a number of different grants. Some are for three years and some are for two years. Some are for projects. These are key organisation grants. My guess is that they are for three years.</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—Possibly over three years and into the future. If you can, tell us the funding that has been and will be made available to the <i>Quadrant</i> magazine and also to the one we cannot quite agree how to pronounce but is spelt M-E-A-N-J-I-N and to <i>The Monthly</i>. Can you provide me with the comparisons of those three?</p> <p><b>Ms Keele</b>—Yes.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	26/03/10
161	98-100 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Board appointments – Aust Council	<p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—I would like to inquire about some of the board appointments that need to be made. I am talking about the vacancies from 29 September 2009 to 18 January 2010. For instance, I understand that on the Australia Council itself there are two existing vacancies. Have they been filled?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—The chair of the visual arts board has been filled. I am not entirely</p>	ARTS	5.1	26/03/10

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				<p>sure what list you are looking at because the appointments are a continuing changeover.</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—Which vacancies, if you would not mind telling us again?</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—I will go through the boards under the Australia Council one by one, but I understand that with the Australia Council itself there are two existing vacancies.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—I will just go through the vacancies that I have sequentially. There is an existing vacancy on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts board?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—There is still one existing vacancy?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—Yes, there is currently. As to whether it is the same vacancy since September, I do not have that information with me, because the membership turns over.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Perhaps on notice you could provide me with the existing membership of that board as of today, and the efforts being made to fill that vacancy.</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—Yes, certainly. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Yes, if you could let me know how many vacancies there are on the dance board that would be useful.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Tucker</b>—As Ms Bean said, people come and go and invariably that does lead to gaps at times.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Yes, I understand that, but I am interested in knowing what the progress is about filling existing vacancies. There are two with the literature board and I think you indicated just before that one of those had been filled.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Is there a selection committee for those boards to make the final recommendation to the minister?</p> <p><b>Ms Keele</b>—The council considers recommendations to be sent up to the minister.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—The council acts as the selection committee. With regard to those vacancies currently exceeding three months, if there are any, what is the reason an appointment has not been made?</p> <p><b>Ms Bean</b>—I would have to take on notice whether there are any that have</p>			

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				exceeded three months. Really it is a matter for consideration by the minister and at the minister's decision when he makes the appointment. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —If there are any vacancies that have existed for beyond three months you might tell me, on notice, on which boards those vacancies are and whether they are currently with the minister. <b>Ms Bean</b> —I can certainly take the entire board situation on notice.			
162	Written Qon	Ludlam	NITV - funding	1. Under the terms of its Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth, National Indigenous TV will be off air from 1 July this year unless the Government renews its funding. Can the Minister advise the Government's future intentions toward NITV? 2. When will an announcement be made on the future of NITV?	CULTURE	5.1	26/03/10
163	103 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Efficiency dividend and the special dividend of 2008 – impact on operations	<b>Dr Radford</b> —We did identify at a former Senate estimates that we had to cut down some administration. The touring exhibition program and the publication program had to be cut, which it was. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —Are you not doing anything now that you would have otherwise been doing, apart from those two programs that you mentioned? <b>Dr Radford</b> —No. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —So far it has not impacted at all on your operations? <b>Dr Radford</b> —Only on those areas, and that has been offset by a new government initiative to help with touring exhibitions. That has helped us. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —Has the new government initiative compensated for what you were doing before with the touring exhibitions? <b>Dr Radford</b> —To some extent, yes, it has. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —One hundred per cent? <b>Dr Radford</b> —I would have to actually work that out. We will take that on notice. I am not quite sure. I think it probably does but I had better check.	NGA	5.1	26/03/10
164	105 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Screen Aust – salary bands	<b>Senator TROETH</b> —How many staff does Screen Australia employ? <b>Dr Harley</b> —One hundred and thirty-five full-time equivalents. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —What is the number of salary bands for those staff? <b>Dr Harley</b> —Eight. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —What is the salary range for each salary band? <b>Dr Harley</b> —I would have to take that on notice.	Screen Aust	5.1	26/03/10
165	106 (8/2/10)	Troeth	Certificate for Producer Offset	<b>Senator TROETH</b> —Could you let the committee know if there is a benchmark regarding the timing it takes to get a final certificate for the Producer Offset? <b>Dr Harley</b> —I know what the time is. It is 10 weeks. That is the average time. <b>Senator TROETH</b> —Is that the average time?	Screen Aust	5.1	26/03/10

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				<p><b>Dr Harley</b>—Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—If it is 10 weeks, are there any cases which require a much longer time?</p> <p><b>Dr Harley</b>—Eighty to 90 per cent of the final certificates achieve that 10-week turnaround.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—Is there a reason for the other 10 per cent?</p> <p><b>Dr Harley</b>—I could speculate about that or I could take it on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator TROETH</b>—If you could take it on notice that would be helpful.</p>			
166	Written Qon	Birmingham	Screen Aust – Conflict of interest	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Was Screen Australia's Conflict of Interest Policy followed in relation the assessment, between 14 April 2009 and 17 November 2009, of proposed feature film <i>Brothers at War</i>?</li> <li>2. Does Screen Australia consider there to have been a conflict of interest at any stage of the <i>Brothers at War</i> assessment process, specifically with regard to Scott Meek's involvement given he had been appointed executive producer of another film subject to assessment during this period and which had also sought to employ actor Ryan Kwanten? If so, is Screen Australia satisfied with the management of this conflict of interest?</li> <li>3. Was any conflict of interest declared by Scott Meek?</li> <li>4. Has Screen Australia in any way modified its practices as a result of this matter? If so, in what way?</li> </ol>	Screen Aust	5.1	26/03/10
167	Written Qon	Troeth	Producer Offset acquittal	<p>I refer to the e-mail sent out on the afternoon of 18 November 2009 regarding the timing of the Producer Offset acquittal (attached)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What prompted this e-mail?</li> <li>2. Were you made aware of a press conference held by the Shadow Minister for the Arts earlier that day?</li> <li>3. Had you seen the Shadow Minister's media release or a transcript of his press conference at the time of sending out this e-mail?</li> <li>4. Did Minister Garrett or any of his staff ask or direct Screen Australia to respond to the Shadow Minister's policy announcement?</li> <li>5. Did Minister Garrett, or any member of his staff, contact anyone at Screen Australia on 18 November 2009 to discuss the Shadow Minister's policy announcement regarding the Producer Offset?</li> </ol>	Screen Aust	5.1	26/03/10
168	110 (8/2/10)	McEwen	Kokoda Track – Australian tour companies	<p><b>CHAIR</b>—What about interaction with Australian based tour companies?</p> <p><b>Mr Shevlin</b>—We are in very regular communication with everyone now. We have a regular email update that we send around. We also try and meet with the track operators about twice a year now, preferably before the season and at the</p>	HD	5.2	26/03/10



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				end of the season to talk about things that are going to be happening and things that will be happening in the following year and how the season actually went. We met last year; I could get you the dates for when the next one is.			
169	111 (8/2/10)	Ludlam	Jobs Fund - projects	<b>Senator LUDLAM</b> —Is there anything yet in the public domain or are you able to produce something for us now which would give us a total rundown of all the projects that were funded? If that is on your website, maybe just point us there. <b>Mr Shevlin</b> —I am not sure whether the list of all the funded projects is on the website. I would assume it would be, but we can easily provide it. <b>Ms Kruk</b> —I think it was in the public arena, but take it on notice. <b>Mr Shevlin</b> —We could easily provide you with a list of all the projects.	HD	5.2	26/03/10
170	115 (8/2/10)	Ludlam	National Trust funding	<b>Senator LUDLAM</b> —Is the amount that the Commonwealth funds collectively, no matter how it may be allocated, proposed to go up, down or sideways? <b>Mr Hooy</b> —The collective amount is a matter for the budget. It is a matter for government. <b>Mr Shevlin</b> —As I said, it has over the last few years been slightly increasing. <b>Senator LUDLAM</b> —There is no expectation that is going to suddenly fall or anything? I am trying to squash rumours here on your behalf. <b>Mr Shevlin</b> —We obviously do not control the budget process. <b>Senator LUDLAM</b> —The minister is studiously doing something different. Is that something I could ask you to take away? <b>Senator Conroy</b> —I will happily take that on notice and seek an answer for you.	HD	5.2	26/03/10
171	118 (8/2/10)	Boswell	World Heritage nomination – Cape York	<b>Senator BOSWELL</b> —What groups have you consulted? <b>Mr Tucker</b> —We can take on notice all the ones that we have consulted. When I was up there we talked to the Cape York Land Council. ... <b>Senator BOSWELL</b> —Which groups—Aboriginal councils? <b>Mr Tucker</b> —Aboriginal councils, yes. <b>Senator BOSWELL</b> —Could you tell us which ones?	HD	5.2	26/03/10
172	122(8/2/10)	Boswell	Wild rivers Act	<b>Senator BOSWELL</b> —You have two pieces of legislation. One says we will do this with wild rivers; the other says we will do this with World Heritage. I know you do not want to get into conflict, but I am a great believer in Murphy's Law: the worst thing always happens at the worst possible time. There will possibly be conflict. I am asking which one overrides. The World Heritage, I would understand, would override wild rivers. <b>Mr Shevlin</b> —I am not a lawyer. We would have to take that on notice to get official legal advice on something of that nature.	HD	5.2	26/03/10
173	29 (9/2/10)	Boswell	World heritage	<b>Senator BOSWELL</b> —No, I said you were a senior minister in the government.	HD	5.2	26/03/10

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			nomination – Cape York	Can you give a guarantee to the Indigenous community in North Queensland in the peninsula that you will not go ahead with the tentative list for World Heritage listing without the support of the Aboriginal community? <b>Senator Wong</b> —Senator, I am afraid I am not briefed on this area because this was an outcome for which I was not representing the minister. I apologise, Senator. I had my own estimates, as you know, yesterday, and representing the Attorney-General. I would have to take advice from the department about the extent of community consultation. I understood the evidence previously went to that issue. If necessary, I will take those issues on notice. I am not trying to be difficult, Senator; I am simply not briefed.			
174	Written Qon	Kroger	UNESCO listing for the Kokoda Track	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Where is the government at with UNESCO listing for the Kokoda Track?</li> <li>2. How is this being prioritised by the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts?</li> <li>3. If a listing request has been made, when will UNESCO report?</li> <li>4. Does this project have greater priority than the list of Ningaloo Reef?</li> </ol>	HD	5.2	26/03/10
175	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA - ASL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Department and for all portfolio agencies? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?</li> <li>2. What are the current staffing levels for SES and non-SES officers? What is the breakdown by location?</li> <li>3. What have been the changes in ASL since November 2007? Why have these changes occurred? What have been the Budgetary implications?</li> <li>4. In the case of reductions in staff numbers, how have these reductions been absorbed by the Department? What functions have been sacrificed and why?</li> <li>5. Has there been a target for staff reductions to achieve savings? What is that target and what strategy is being implemented to achieve this?</li> <li>6. Have any voluntary or involuntary redundancies been offered to staff? If so, how have staff been identified for such offers? Are there such plans for the future?</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	21/04/10
176	Written Qon	Barnett/ Fisher	DEWHA Staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many permanent staff recruited since the supplementary budget estimates?</li> <li>2. What level are these staff?</li> <li>3. How many temporary positions exist or have been created since budget estimates?</li> <li>4. Since supplementary budget estimates, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10

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				period?			
177	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA Staffing – Efficiency dividend	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have staffing numbers been reduced as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts?</li> <li>2. If so, where and at what level?</li> <li>3. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc.</li> <li>4. What changes are underway or planned for graduate recruitment, cadetships or similar programs? If reductions are envisaged please explain including reasons, target numbers etc.</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10
178	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA Hospitality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the Department's hospitality spend FYTD?</li> <li>2. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</li> <li>3. For each Minister/Par Sec's office, please detail total hospitality spend FYTD.</li> <li>4. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10
179	Written Qon	Barnett/ Fisher	DEWHA Consultancies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year?</li> <li>2. Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not?</li> <li>3. In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10
180	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA - Consultancies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway since November 2007?</li> <li>2. Please identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Please also include total value for all consultancies.</li> <li>3. How can the department justify this expenditure?</li> <li>4. Could the Department provide a complete list of current consultancy services. For each consultancy, please indicate the rationale for the project and its intended use. For each consultancy, please indicate why the Department or its agencies could not have undertaken the work themselves.</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10
181	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA discretionary grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants since November 2007?</li> <li>2. Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.</li> </ol>	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10
182	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA	Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the	CSD	Corporate	26/03/10

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			discretionary grants	publication of discretionary grants?			
183	130 (9/2/10)	Birmingham	Water infrastructure – Qons	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM</b>—The last area I want to touch on, given the time, is infrastructure. As Senator Siewert and others have reflected today, we have received a number of answers to questions on notice during the day. Of the four remaining, two relate to the water portfolio and, sadly, those two are both mine. One relates to off-farm infrastructure spending and the other relates to on-farm infrastructure spending: questions 110 and 111. Is there a particular reason why those questions, which virtually replicate the wording of questions I have asked previously for updates of figures, could not be answered in time on this occasion?</p> <p><b>Senator Wong</b>—In terms of the delay on some of the questions—and this is in response also to Senator Siewert—can I indicate that some of that is my responsibility. You might reflect on the timetable in terms of this portfolio’s activities and the last estimates. We have had negotiations with the opposition on the climate change legislation, the CPRS being in the Senate; Copenhagen; and then, I regret to say, I took some leave. So some of the delay on some of the questions is a matter for my office and me. I do regret that, but I do not want the officers of the table criticised for that. I will check on where the delay is on those two answers, Senator. There were a number of answers which were late because, for example, the figures were no longer in date and I did request that they be redone. I do not know if these are amongst them. If I could take that on notice, we will follow that up.</p>	PCD	Corporate	14/10/10
184	6 (9/2/10)	Abetz	Gunns Pulp Mill - FOI	<p><b>Senator Wong</b>—If I can just clarify this: you want me to take on notice what ‘in the very near future’ means in relation to—</p> <p><b>Senator ABETZ</b>—In relation to the letter to me dated 8 February 2010 from Mr Karl Warburton, legal section, Department of Environment, Water and Heritage.</p>	AWD	Corporate	26/03/10
185	60 (9/2/10)	Macdonald	DEWHA Qons	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—...I will simply get you to confirm or ask you when did the answers to questions on notice go to the minister’s office?</p> <p><b>Ms Kruk</b>—I will need to take that on notice.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD</b>—Who is responsible in your organisation for ensuring that answers come to questions on notice?</p>	PCD	Corporate	14/10/10
186	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA Commissioned reports	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts portfolio since November 2007?</li> <li>2. Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</li> </ol>	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10

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				3. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? 4. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?			
187	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA – advertising and marketing	1. How much has the Department spent on advertising and marketing since November 2007? Ask for justification of expenditure. 2. Could the Department provide a complete list of current contracts. Please indicate the rationale for each service provided and its intended use.	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
188	Written Qon	Barnett/ Fisher	DEWHA communications programs	1. What communications programs has the Department undertaken, or are planning to undertake? 2. For each program, what is the total spend?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
189	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA reviews	1. How many Reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency? 2. When will each of these reviews be concluded? 3. Which Reviews have been completed since Budget Estimates? 4. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? 5. What is the total number of Reviews <i>both completed and ongoing</i> in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio agency since November 2007? 6. What is the estimated cost of these Reviews? 7. What further reviews are planned for 2009 - 10 FY?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
190	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA Election commitments	1. What is the status of each election commitment within the portfolio? 2. Which election commitments are experiencing slippages? Why? 3. Where relevant, what are the revised implementation dates? What are the implications of this slippage?	PCD	Corporate	12/04/10 + 1 att't
191	Written Qon	Fisher	DEWHA – Electorate reports	1. Are there plans to publish a full suite of electoral reports on the Department's website? If not, why not? If so, when? What data will be included? 2. Does the Department prepare electorate level reports for Ministers? What data is included in these reports? How often is this updated? Why is this material not publicly available? Request copy of latest reports. 3. Has electoral specific data been used by the current Government in any grants scheme since November 2007?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
192	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA – gender ration across boards	What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
193	Written Qon	Barnett	DEWHA FOI	1. Has the Department/agency received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10

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				2. How many FOI requests has the Department received? 3. How many have been granted or denied? 4. How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
194	Written Qon	Barnett/ Fisher	Community Cabinet meetings	1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held since Budget Estimates? 2. How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meeting? 3. What was the total cost of this travel? 4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office?	PCD	Corporate	10/05/10
195	Written Qon	Birmingham	Ministers accommodation	1. Where did the Minister stay on the night of 7 October 2009? 2. Did the Minister incur any expenses in relation to his accommodation on the night of 7 October 2009? If so, to whom were payments made?	PCD	Corporate	26/03/10
196	Written Qon	Birmingham	Climate Change Adaptation – World Heritage Areas	What action has been taken in regard to the following 2007 Labor election commitment: • Fast track Climate Change Adaptation Plan for Australia's World Heritage and iconic areas	PCD	5.2	26/03/10
197	Written Qon	Birmingham	Windy Hill Green Development	What action has been taken in regard to the following 2007 Labor election commitment: • \$1m for Essendon's Windy Hill Green Development.	WGD	4.1	12/05/10