

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

**Question no:** NRM 01

**Division/Agency:** Natural Resource Management

**Topic:** Grants for research and development into water and land in Northern Australia

**Hansard page:** 54 (14/02/07)

**Senator Heffernan asked:**

**Chair**—If you are going to preach, you had better not. I have a question about grants. Could you supply the committee with the details of all grants in the last five years perhaps?

**Mr Robinson**—Grants for which purposes, Senator?

**Chair**—That relate to research and development into water and land in the north. There has been, I understand, a series of grants. Is that inappropriate?

**Mr Mortimer**—That is fine.

**Answer:**

The Department of Environment and Water Resources is responsible for the Northern Australia Future Assessment. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry understands that background information on research and development grants made in Northern Australia will be collected as part of this exercise.

**Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

**Question no:** NRM 02

**Division/Agency:** Natural Resource Management

**Topic:** National Landcare Program - funding

**Hansard page:** 47 (16/02/07)

**Senator Heffernan asked:**

Would you be able to give us a figure for how much actually went into something to do with the earth, rather than something to do with the computer, the car and the coordinator.

**Answer:**

Under the National Landcare Programme \$25.26 million has been committed for the Community Support Component in 2006-07. This includes \$4.08 million to fund Community Landcare Coordinators, whose primary purpose is to support the involvement of landcare and other volunteer groups and industry organisations in sustainable resource use at the regional and local level; and \$1.02 million for state and regional programme administration. A more detailed breakdown of the \$1.02 million administration costs associated with delivery through the states and regions is not available.

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**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

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**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

**Question no:** NRM 03

**Division/Agency:** Natural Resource Management

**Topic:** National Landcare Programme

**Hansard page:** 47 (16/02/07)

**Senator O'Brien asked:**

**Senator O'Brien** – How much is committed but unannounced?

**Mr Shaw** – The commitment, as I said, is about \$6.6 million, which relates to the priority national projects, innovation grant, and Sustainable Industry Initiatives.

**Senator O'Brien** – That is not quite the answer to my question, but perhaps you can take it on notice.

**Mr Shaw** – Certainly, Senator

**Senator O'Brien** – Thank you.

**Answer:**

The 2006-07 appropriation under the National Landcare Program (NLP) - National Component totalled \$11.722 million, of which \$11.130 million has been committed.

The National Component provides funding to support the Australian Landcare Council, the National Landcare Facilitator, State Landcare Councillors and Landcare Australia Ltd. In 2006-07, this totalled \$5 million.

Funding is also provided for Natural Resource Innovation Grants, Priority National Projects and Sustainable Industry Initiatives (SII). On 20 December 2006, the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Hon Peter McGauran MP, announced funding of \$3 million under the Natural Resource Innovation Grants to support 36 projects.

Priority National Projects and Sustainable Industry Initiatives are not normally announced although details of successful SII projects are placed on the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry internet site at <http://www.daffa.gov.au/natural-resources/landcare/national-landcare-programme/sustainable>.

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**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Additional Estimates February 2007

**Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**

**Question no:** NRM 04

**Division/Agency:** Natural Resource Management

**Topic:** Grants for research in Northern Australia

**Hansard page:** 49 (16/02/07)

**Senator Heffernan asked:**

**Chair**—Have you tagged grants that you have given for research in Northern Australia?

**Mr Aldred**—We can certainly supply a range of material and I understand that is likely to be done.

**Chair**—We just do not want to reinvent the wheel on a lot of this.

**Mr Aldred**—Yes.

**Chair**—Thank you. It would be handy if you could.

**Answer:**

The Department of Environment and Water Resources is responsible for the Northern Australia Future Assessment. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry understands that background information on research and development grants made in Northern Australia will be collected as part of this exercise.