



AUSTRALIAN SENATE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2017-18
Monday, 22 May 2017
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Senate Environment and Communications Budget Estimates.

The committee met from 9.00am until 7.35pm.

The committee called:

- the department and agencies of the Environment and Energy portfolio, including the Department of the Environment and Energy, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Director of National Parks, Bureau of Meteorology and the Climate Change Authority.

Some of the topics discussed by the committee included:

- management plans for marine park reserves;
- responses to statements on the State of the Environment report;
- the Renewable Energy Target;
- Independent Expert Panel and Reef 2050 Advisory Committee;
- Crown-of-thorns starfish management control programme;
- 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee to meet from 2-10 July in Quebec, Canada;
- effects of bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef;
- Diplomatic Corps visit to Far North Queensland - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority participation;
- impacts of mining operations on the reef;
- permits under the Great Barrier Reef Marine Parks Shark Control Program;
- Australia's participation in the International Coral Reef Initiative ;
- management of the Kakadu Buffalo Farm;
- recovery plan for the Norfolk Island green parrot;
- update on measures to control yellow crazy ants on Christmas Island;
- Japan's scientific whaling program in the Southern Ocean;
- National Reserve System -indigenous protected areas;
- shark mitigation and tagging programs; and
- Abbot Point coal terminal.