

**Legal & Con. Committee: Questions on Notice**  
**Inquiry into Wild River Legislation**  
**Hearing in Cairns, 13 April 2010**

QON No.	Department/ Agency	Senator	Question
2	Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation	Heffernan	<p><b>My questions are to Murrandoo Yanner and Mark Hognos who heads up the Wild Rivers Ranger Program for the Council.</b></p> <p>1. How much state and federal government funding does your Corporation receive? Please list all your income/funding for the last 5 years?</p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see <i>enclosed</i> Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (CLCAC) Annual Reports for the last 5 years.</li> </ul> <p>2. Could I have a breakdown/outline of costs and expenses for the past 5 years?</p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see <i>enclosed</i> CLCAC Annual Reports.</li> </ul> <p>3. How often do you meet, can I have copies of agendas and minutes for last 5 years?</p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under CLCAC's Constitution the Board must meet at least twice per year. Details of actual meetings held are shown in the attached annual reports. Copies of Board papers and minutes are only available to CLCAC members.</li> </ul> <p>4. When did the Wild Rivers Ranger Program commence?</p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burketown Wild River Rangers were appointed 13/03/2008. The Normanton Wild River Rangers Coordinator was appointed 26/05/08, with the Rangers appointed on 30/07/08</li> </ul>

			<p><b>5. How many rangers do you employ each financial year? What training do they receive? Where are they sourced from? What are the rangers paid per annum?</b></p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CLCAC employs 10 staff with funding from the Queensland Government's Wild River Rangers program (6 Rangers at Burketown, and 3 Rangers and a Coordinator at Normanton).</li> <li>• CLCAC also employs 12 rangers with Australian Government Working on Country funding (8 Wellesley Island Rangers and 5 Gangalidda/Garawa Rangers)</li> <li>• Rangers receive a wide variety of training necessary to undertake on-ground land and sea management activities, including boat operation, chainsaw operation, 4WD and quad bike operation, chemical handling and use, first aid, leadership, and fire management training. They have also been trained in the use of GPS and I-tracker handheld computers, and have received training from a variety of partner organisations in biodiversity survey techniques (e.g. bird, turtle, dugong, crocodile and fish surveys) and biosecurity activities (e.g. pig disease surveys and autopsies).</li> <li>• The Rangers are employed as full time employees, with salaries in the range of approximately \$39,000 - \$45,000.</li> </ul> <p><b>6. According to its 2009 annual report, your Land Council received \$745,000 that year to run their Wild River ranger programs. These programs aren't guaranteed, or have any public service security attached to them. It's a discretionary program which could cease at any time at the whim of the government. With this in mind, do you think your Corporation will lose its funding if you are not in agreement with the government of the day and its agenda?</b></p> <p><u>Response</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding from the Queensland government is devolved through annual contracts, with a current 3 year commitment from the State Government.</li> <li>• CLCAC seeks to diversify its funding sources and receives funding from a number of other agencies, including through Federal government programs under the Caring for Our Country umbrella (eg. Working on Country, Indigenous Protected Area and Heritage programs).</li> </ul>
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