



**Australian Government**  
**Director of National Parks**

Senator Anne Ruston  
Chair  
Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Ruston

On 23 February 2015 I appeared as a witness before the Senate Environment and communications Legislation Committee Estimates Hearing.

During the hearing Senator Leyonhjelm asked about the 2013-14 expenditure by my office and Parks Australia in undertaking my duties (refer page 54 of the Hansard).

In my response to the above question I indicated the total expenses in 2013-14 were just over \$73 million. I would like to clarify my answer to this question. My answer was the 2013-14 estimated actual amount for total expenses reported in the 2014-15 Portfolio Budget Statement (refer page 181). The Portfolio Budget Statement did not include

- expenditure for the Commonwealth marine reserves, which I receive funding for under a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of the Environment
- the write off of assets and
- the cost of voluntary redundancies paid to staff.

The total expenses for 2013-14, as reported in the Director of National Parks 2013-14 Annual Report (refer page 77), was \$89 million.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify this matter for the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Sally Barnes  
Director of National Parks  
13 March 2015