

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 43  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Programme:** Wildlife, Heritage and Marine Division (WHM)  
**Topic:** Threatened Species Scientific Committee  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 23 February 2015  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

Could you please provide information on the Threatened Species Scientific Committee? What I am seeking is membership, budget and expenditure broken down into sitting fees, travel, administrative costs etc. Please provide this for the current financial year and the 2015-16 financial year (budgeted).

**Answer:**

Membership

The Threatened Species Scientific Committee consists of ten members including the chair.

A number of current vacancies and upcoming vacancies are in the process of being filled. Membership details are provided in the table below.

Member	Term Expiry Date
Chair Vacant	Professor Helene Marsh's term expired 31 December 2014
Vacant	Dr Michelle Heupel's term expired 16 September 2014
Vacant	Dr Andrea Taylor's term expired 16 September 2014
Vacant	Dr Bill Humphreys' term expired 16 September 2014
Professor Peter Harrison	30 April 2015
Judy Backhouse	30 April 2015
Dr Sue McIntyre	30 November 2015
Dr Sarah Legge	30 November 2015
Professor David Keith	30 October 2016
Professor Stuart Bunn	30 October 2016

### Budget and expenditure

Sitting fees and travel costs for the Threatened Species Scientific Committee are determined by the Remuneration Tribunal. Sitting fees (including a sitting day and preparation time) for the chair are set at \$1,017 per day, sitting fees for members are set at \$718. A breakdown of the 2014-15 budget for the Threatened Species Scientific Committee is provided in the table that follows. The Budget for the 2015-16 financial year has not been finalised.

<b>Item</b>	<b>2014-15 Budget</b>	<b>2014-15 YTD expenditure</b>
Sitting Fees	\$200,000	\$135,017
Administrative expenses	\$4,000	\$1,591
Travel	\$66,000	\$31,802