

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 305  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Agency  
**Program:** Director of National Parks  
**Topic:** Park's responsibilities  
**Hansard Page:** -  
**Question Date:** 14 March 2017  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Siewert asked:**

What is your understanding of Park's responsibility for activities within the Buffalo Farm area? Has your understanding of Park's responsibility recently changed, noting the Facebook post on 15 December 2016 by Kakadu Park Manager Mr Cotsell stating that 'This incident took place in an area of the park we don't manage'?

**Answer:**

The Northern Land Council is responsible for ensuring that activities connected with the Buffalo Farm are carried out in accordance with the conditions of the approval issued by the then Director of National Parks in 1999.

Other people wishing to carry out activities within the area of Buffalo Farm that are subject to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* must comply with the Kakadu National Park Management Plan and obtain any relevant authorisations from the Park. Controlled activities include commercial tours and commercial photography. All authorisations are issued with conditions to protect the park's natural and cultural values and ensure that the activity is undertaken respectfully and safely.

Activities that are prohibited by the EPBC Act or Regulations that are not provided for in the Management Plan may not be undertaken in the area of the Buffalo Farm.