

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

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Hearing: Budget Estimates
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Programme: Science
Topic: CSIRO and BoM Information
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Senator Urquhart asked:

Dr Wright: There are two components to this initiative. The first one was the one my colleague referred to earlier—the development of regional reports on climate change for NRM regions that were published in January and then followed with a website that was released on 8 April. The website provides very sophisticated modelling and planning tools. The website is provided by CSIRO. It was a \$5.1 million project. The NRM regions were all engaged in the development and delivery of the tools so that they were fit for their specific purposes. They facilitated the testing of the website before it went live. They now have at their fingertips the capability to look, on a regional basis and for different scenarios they can choose, at what the impacts will be—to help them make their own decisions. There is a second component which is not yet completed. It is nine individual projects to assist NRM regions with the actual planning. That is still ongoing. But the biggest part was the development of this modelling tool and the individual reports which are all available on the CSIRO website. We can provide the link to that.

Senator URQUHART: That is fantastic. The modelling and planning—is there a time frame on that?

Dr Wright: I do not have that information with me.

Senator URQUHART: Are you able to find that out?

Dr Wright: Yes, I will take it on notice.

Answer:

The climate change projection modelling and tool development work has been completed and made available on the 'Climate Change in Australia Website' (www.climatechanginaustralia.gov.au). The nine research projects supporting regional NRM organisations with their planning are due for completion by 30 June 2016.