

Question No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Hansard Page & Hearing Date
1	1.1 BCD	Waters	Reef Funding	<p>Officials were very clear that this is new money for the reef—new money that was not allocated to any other specific environmental purpose.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Why then is there a reference in the budget papers talking not about the Natural Heritage Trust, which I understand is the bucket that then gets divvied off into specific projects? Why do the budget papers talk about \$101 million being met from the existing resources of the National Landcare Program? Are you saying that that is not the case?</p> <p><b>Ms Jonasson:</b> The National Landcare Program comprises the Natural Heritage Trust, but this was not money that was allocated to any existing programs or projects, so we have not made cuts to any existing programs or projects. It is ongoing funding in the budget papers, which is why it did not show up in the forward estimates. But it is ongoing funding and what the government has done is made an allocation decision to a priority area of the reef for \$101 million.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> What proportion of the National Landcare Program is that \$101 million?</p> <p><b>Ms Jonasson:</b> I will have to get back to you on that. It depends on the profile each year of the funding and that sort of thing, but I can take that on notice and get back to you.</p>	Page 29 5 May 2016
2	1.1 BCD	Siewert	National Landcare Program funding	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> I want to know how much of the National Landcare Program is funded out of the Natural Heritage Trust?</p> <p><b>Ms Campbell:</b> As flagged earlier, the National Landcare Program covers a number of appropriations. I misspoke earlier in the hearing when I said that the Natural Heritage Trust was \$1 billion over four years; it is the National Landcare Program that is \$1 billion over four years. Under the National Landcare Program, within this portfolio we have the Natural Heritage Trust, which is \$929 million over four years to 2017-18, and we have the Environmental Stewardship Program, which is \$46 million to 2017-18. Then within the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources we have the National Landcare Program—it is an interesting name—at \$25 million over the four years—</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> That is the actual Landcare program?</p> <p><b>Ms Campbell:</b> It includes the National Resource Management trust, but in the agriculture budget papers it is called the National Landcare Program as well, which is a subcomponent of what we would call the National Landcare Program—it is confusing.</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Senator Siewert, I am going to have to cut it off there because we are now chewing into the last bit of the Labor Party's question time.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Can we let the witness finish her answer?</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Okay. I have just been advised that we have a little more time.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Ms Campbell, can you take that on notice?</p> <p><b>Ms Campbell:</b> Yes.</p>	Page 97 5 May 2016

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3	1.1 DNP	Siewert	Commercial fishing licenses	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Were there commercial fishing licensees on any of the bioregional panels?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> I cannot answer that, sorry. I am going to come back later and respond to the coral bleaching questions you asked before. I will try and address that question in that context.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> That would be great. I would also like to know did any of those have operational licences within the CMRs being reviewed?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> So, commercial fishers on the panels?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Yes, and which ones.</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> And did any of have operational licences?</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Yes. Thank you.</p>	Page 70 5 May 2016
4	1.4 WHM	Siewert	Potato Cod in the Coral Sea	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> What I am after is: are aquatic collectors permitted to take potato cod from sites in Coral Sea reefs within the Coral Sea fishery?</p> <p><b>Mr Murphy:</b> We would like to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Dr de Brouwer:</b> We will pass it on to AFMA or others.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> And what I would like to know is: did that commence after the commencement of the review?</p> <p><b>Mr Murphy:</b> Okay.</p>	Page 71 5 May 2016
5	1.4 WHM	Back	WA Wheatbelt Woodland ecological community listing under the EPBC Act	<p><b>Senator BACK:</b> Given the shortness of time, I wonder if you would take on notice to give me some advice. I refer to the Western Australian Wheatbelt Woodland ecological community listing under the EPBC Act. I am anxious to know what impact the listing will have on normal farming operations for farmers, pastoralists and graziers in the affected area. Rather than have the time now, I would be most appreciative if you could provide me that on notice. And I wonder if it could be done reasonably quickly—though not by Monday at 5 pm.</p>	Page 100 5 May 2016
6	1.5 ESD	Waters	Compliance and Enforcement Staff	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> I am interested in how many staff you will lose from both the compliance and enforcement sections and the assessment and approval sections this year and next year.</p> <p><b>Mr Knudson:</b> The officers from that area will be appearing later on and we can definitely provide that information at that point if that is all right with you.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> If you do not have it to hand, because I know we will be running out of time as the day progresses—</p> <p><b>Mr Knudson:</b> We will make sure that is provided.</p>	Page 11 5 May 2016

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7	2.1 DERD	Waters	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Emissions Reduction Fund Auction	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> which is about 70 million tonnes. What does the 70 million represent of the five per cent reduction commitment of your government?</p> <p><b>Ms C Munro:</b> I do not think I dare do the back-of-the-envelope calculation for that. I think it is perhaps a matter for the department to advise on how that fits in with the abatement.</p> <p><b>Dr de Brouwer:</b> It is an arithmetic calculation. We can come back to you on that.</p>	Page 59 5 May 2016
8	2.1 DERD	Paterson	Cost of abatement for the Renewable Energy Target	<p><b>Ms Wilson:</b> ... I will take on notice all the 33 methods that we have available, and how many of those methods have we got contracts or projects registered for. I can describe in detail how those methods work, or I can take all that on notice.</p> <p>I do have a table that has some of the information about registered projects and contracted projects. Another method that has a lot of projects that have been successful at all three auctions is savannah fire management, which basically aims to reduce emissions from burning earlier in the season. I will take all this on notice and I will provide you with a good table that has every single method, exactly what each of these methods does, the number of projects registered under each method and the number of projects contracted under each method.</p>	Page 68-69 5 May 2016
9	2.1 ICCEID	Back	Noise Impacts	<p><b>Senator BACK:</b> In February, question 81 asked you whether there would be an increase in noise impact and therefore separation distances with the increasing size of turbines. At the time, you indicated there was preliminary expert advice to say that there would not be an impact. Can I draw your attention to a peer-reviewed study from two Danish university researchers, Moller and Pedersen, in a paper titled 'Low frequency noise from large wind turbines' published recently in the <i>Journal of the Acoustical Society of America</i>. They do draw the conclusion that larger turbines produce more noise and have a larger footprint on the surrounding landscape, and also alter the spectrum of that noise. Could you take that question on notice and have somebody look at that work and come back to the committee with a view either confirmed or changed?</p> <p><b>Mr Dyer:</b> Sorry, could you clarify the key question there for me?</p> <p><b>Senator BACK:</b> Yes, in February you indicated that you thought that an increasing size of wind turbines should not have an adverse effect on the overall noise impact of the wind farms. Firstly, what advice were you relying on for that and, secondly, would you direct others to look at the work of Moller and Pedersen to see whether your earlier evidence stands?</p> <p><b>Mr Dyer:</b> Okay.</p>	Page 65 5 May 2016

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10	4.1 CEWO	Singh	Murray Darling Basin environmental research	<p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> That is this program area. The MDB environmental research that you just referred to, as the footnote says, remains with the department and is administered by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, so it is one of David Papps's subprograms.</p> <p><b>Senator SINGH:</b> What about 'services for other entities and trust moneys'—that \$510,000?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> What page are you on?</p> <p><b>Senator SINGH:</b> I am on program 4.1.</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> I would have to take it on notice. Sorry, I do not have an answer for that one.</p>	Page 76 5 May 2016
11	CER	Waters	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Emissions Reduction Fund Auction	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> How many applicants were there?</p> <p><b>Ms C Munro:</b> I do not believe I have that information in front of me. What I can say is that we accepted 73 out of 103 bids at the auction. There is a smaller number of parties involved. I do not think I would be able to give you that information today. Clearly, there were a number who were unsuccessful.</p>	Page 58 5 May 2016
12	CER	Waters	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Emissions Reduction Fund Auction	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Again, that is because of the carryover. I am just interested in the auction result as it pertains to the target. Thank you for taking that on notice. Have there been any projects, Ms Munro, over any of the three auctions that have dealt with fugitive emissions?</p> <p><b>Ms C Munro:</b> Yes, there are. Again, I do not think I have detailed information here. I would have to work my way through the contract register to find them. Certainly, there are methods. I can take it on notice. I think that is probably best. There are certainly registered projects. I would have to confirm whether there are projects that have been contracted in this auction.</p>	Page 59 5 May 2016