

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

Question No: 68
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Green Army Program and National Landcare Program
Hansard Page:
Question Date: 07 June 2017
Question Type: Written

Senator Kakoschke-Moore asked:

How many jobs have been lost with the termination of the Green Army Program?
How many new jobs will be provided through the National Landcare Program measure?
How many of the people who will be completing the same jobs as the Green Army be unpaid volunteers?
How many of these jobs will be set aside for indigenous people?

Answer:

Green Army Program

1. The Green Army is a voluntary initiative. Participants are not engaged as ongoing employees. Under the Program, participants are paid an allowance and are involved in projects for up to 30 hours a week for 20-26 weeks.
2. Service Providers employ staff to assist with managing their operations under the Green Army Program. The ongoing employment status of any such employees is a matter for Service Providers and the Department does not collect data on this matter.
3. The Government will continue to deliver on all projects committed to across Australia during the 2016 election campaign and from previous funding rounds. 118 projects are yet to commence under the Green Army Program, offering close to 1,180 places for young Australians to gain skills and experience in the conservation sector.

National Landcare Program

4. While we know that the various elements of the National Landcare Program aimed at delivering Natural Resource Management outcomes are creating jobs in communities and helping employment pathways, the Department of Environment and Energy does not currently collect data on the number of people employed through this program.
5. We know from the Review of the National Landcare Program that there has been an increase in Indigenous involvement in natural resource management and that this includes the creation of employment and training opportunities in regional communities, with a strong focus on Indigenous involvement.