

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

Question No: 19
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Programme: Biodiversity Conservation Division
Topic: National Reserve System - funding
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Singh asked:

Does the Department have adequate funds to maintain the ongoing acquisition program?

Answer:

There is currently no dedicated property acquisition programme. This is appropriate given that Australia has already met its target of 17 per cent of terrestrial land protected by 2020, the tight fiscal environment and limited availability of suitable land.

The Australian Government is committed to the ongoing protection of Australia's biodiversity and to appropriate ongoing maintenance of the National Reserve System.

The Government is investing more than \$2 billion over four years in managing our natural resources, including investment in the National Landcare Programme, Green Army Programme, Working on Country, Reef 2050 and continuing investment in the Land Sector Package.

Through the National Landcare Programme and other related initiatives, the Government is continuing to support Australia's National Reserve System including through funding for Indigenous Protected Areas and management of World Heritage properties.