

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

Question No: 181
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: Director of National Parks
Topic: Kakadu National Park Fire - Purchase of new key Firefighting Assets
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 27 October 2015
Question Type: Written

Senator Peris asked:

1. Given the recurrence of such intense late dry season fires and the outstanding environmental and cultural values for which Kakadu is rightly listed on the World Heritage List, will the Australian Government consider purchasing new key firefighting assets to make available to the Park in future years? I am thinking of a larger and more effective helicopter.

Answer:

The Australian Government will consider a range of options to assist with the control of late season wildfires. Key consideration will be given to the most appropriate ways of fire fighting, existing resources including engaging Aboriginal Associations to assist with fire fighting services, access to helicopters and fixed wing aircraft and associated costs. A review of existing resources will be complete by early 2016. Consideration will also need to be given for the ability to access an appropriate water supply.