

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice
Environment and Energy portfolio

Question No: 49
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Outcome 1
Program: Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)
Topic: Flood Remediation
Hansard Page: n/a
Question Date: 01 November 2016
Question Type: Written

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

Mr Costello also said that some departmental money was provided to help give farmers advice on rehabilitation. Can you provide more detail on the dates and locations for these sessions? Can you advise the date it was decided to run them? Can you also let me know the number of farmers that participated in these sessions?

Answer:

NRM Cradle Coast and NRM North have used resources funded under the National Landcare Programme (NLP) to provide advice to flood-affected landowners on flood remediation following the June 2016 flood event.

NRM Cradle Coast advised the Department that an NLP-funded officer visited 20 property owners between July to October across the Mersey, Leven, and Inglis River catchments. The officer ascertained the extent of flood-related impacts, assisted completion of flood evaluation paperwork and provided general technical advice for streambank stabilisation. The officer also inspected past and current project sites in flood-affected areas for flood damage, and scoped opportunities for funding support with landowners, where required.

NRM North advised the Department that they provided officer assistance (NLP funded) to support the Tasmanian Government Flood Recovery Taskforce, and held two NLP-funded field days for flood-affected landowners. The events were:

Event 1: River erosion management field day

Date: 6 July 2016

Location: Camperdown (Nile River)

Number of participants: approximately 20

Content: A river engineer and geomorphologist provided advice regarding river assessment, the importance of riparian vegetation, the detrimental effects of stock on riverbanks, erosion prevention, erosion mitigation, and the construction of hard and soft engineering options for riverbank stabilisation.

Funding source: National Landcare Programme

Event 2: River erosion management field day

Date: 7 July 2016

Location: Colynn (Meander River)

Participants: Approximately 20

Content: A river engineer and geomorphologist provided advice regarding river assessment, the importance of riparian vegetation, the detrimental effects of stock on riverbanks, erosion prevention, erosion mitigation, and the construction of hard and soft engineering options for riverbank stabilisation.

Funding source: National Landcare Programme

In addition, NRM North advised the Department that NRM North officers and NRM local government facilitators (all NLP funded) worked with the Tasmanian Government Flood Recovery Taskforce to provide support that included:

- Nine referrals from the Taskforce over July and August that resulted in desktop and/or site assessments. NRM North staff assessed riverbank erosion on four properties. They also facilitated the involvement of Conservation Volunteers Australia and a Green Army crew to assist with debris clean up and site restoration.
- Conservation Volunteers Australia also engaged NRM North in October to advise on riverbank erosion stabilisation on the North Esk River. NRM North provided 500 plants for riparian revegetation works (NLP funded through the 20 Million Trees initiative).