

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

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 05  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 1  
**Program:** Biodiversity Conservation Division (BCD)  
**Topic:** Threatened Species Projects  
**Hansard Page:** 85  
**Question Date:** 24 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Spoken

**Senator Moore, Claire asked:**

Senator MOORE: If I am asking a question about how a mountain bike wash station or a heritage ship conservation project—both Green Army projects funded in round 1—can be considered adequate threatened species recovery projects, should that question go to you as the commissioner or to the department as a whole?

Mr Andrews: I could answer that from the threatened species side. I am not exactly sure—you said two projects from round 1, one to do with mountain bikes and one to do with a heritage ship conservation project? Did they identify that they were supporting threatened species?

Senator MOORE: That is my understanding—that they were funded under that heading.

Mr Andrews: I will need to get back to you on that. The Green Army projects that we count towards that \$210.899 million figure are ones that have been assessed as contributing to threatened species conservation. There may be a link between the mountain bike and the threatened species; I am not sure about that. But, for every project we count, the applicant is identifying that there is a threatened species outcome and it has been assessed through the department's rigorous processes. My colleague Mr Dadswell can explain how the Green Army assessment works. I do not know those two projects, off the top of my head, so it would be best for me to take them on notice and give you a detailed briefing.

Mr Andrews: Senator Moore, are you able to identify the two projects?

Senator MOORE: They were identified to me specifically under Green Army projects, in round 1, which was funding mounted by wash station. Another one is for heritage ship conservation project. I do not have the numbers. It is project 27 or project 28.

Senator Birmingham: I suspect where it is likely to go, there, having just picked up that it was a wash station, with the obvious benefits that could be accrued there for minimising the spread of—

**Answer:**

These projects were assessed based on information provided by the applicants, and accepted as supporting threatened species outcomes. The Green Army project "*Heritage garden, building, ship conservation\_Melbourne conservation and management*" is improving habitat through weed control and promoting greater conservation awareness of native vegetation. The Green Army project '*Limiting mountain bike weed dispersal into vulnerable bushland*' is improving habitat through weed control and also reducing invasive weed dispersal by mountain bikes, raising awareness of weed impacts and educating mountain bikers on methods of reducing weed spread to improve outcomes for threatened plants and animals.