

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

Answers to questions on notice

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: 1.1: PAD

Question No: 8

Broad Topic: National Reserve System
applications

Proof Hansard Page and Date 105 (18/10/10)
or Written Question:

Senator Siewert asked:

Senator SIEWERT—That leads to my next question. Were there properties identified for purchase that you were unable to fund because you ran out of money? I am aware that I am asking a complicated question because we have been through the way the contracts are organised.

Ms West—Certainly the competitive process was over-subscribed so there are some that we have not been able to process. I can not nominate what they are right now.

Senator SIEWERT—Were those properties assessed and judged to be of value but were not able to be purchased because you ran out of funds?

Ms West—I believe that is the case.

Senator SIEWERT—Can you tell me about how much?

Ms West—No I cannot tell you that right now, I am sorry. I do not have those numbers.

Senator SIEWERT—Are you able to tell me if you take it on notice?

Ms West—Yes we should be able to do that.

Answer:

No. There was sufficient funding available in 2009-10 for all projects which adequately met the Caring for our Country targets and the National Reserve System criteria, and all approved properties that were available for sale were purchased.

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Answers to questions on notice

Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates, October 2010

Program: Division or Agency: 1.1: PAD

Question No: 9

Broad Topic: Caring for our Country –
Indigenous Protected Area
network

**Proof Hansard Page and Date
or Written Question:** Written Question

Senator Siewert asked:

The Indigenous Protected Area network with its partner program the Working on Country program employs indigenous rangers and is now a key element of Australia's overall approach to biodiversity management, particularly in Northern and Central Australia but also in the Southern states.

1. What is the future plan for funding of the Indigenous Protected Area network?
2. What assessment process will be used to decide the future funding?

Answer:

1. There are three years of funding remaining for the Indigenous Protected Area program through the Caring for our Country initiative until 2012-13.
2. The mid-term review of Caring for our Country initiative will examine a range of factors including effectiveness and delivery against Caring for our Country targets. The review findings will inform Government consideration of its overall investment in natural resource management and conservation programs beyond 2012-13, including the Indigenous Protected Area network.