

**Question on Notice
No. 153
Asked on 20 February 2007**

QUESTION:

MRS MENKENS asked the Minister for Environment and Multiculturalism (Ms Nelson-Carr)—

Will she provide a breakdown, by type and by park, of the amount of revenue received from all visitors to State parks for the last three years (each year reported separately)?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) manages more than 250 National Parks across Queensland, with each park incorporating a diverse range of local features, attractions and opportunities for visitors to enjoy these significant areas. It is estimated that more than 16 million Queenslanders and tourists visit a national park each year. Given the number of Parks managed by the QPWS, it is not feasible to provide a breakdown of revenue from each park as requested; however, the requested data is summarised by Region in Table 1.

The QPWS charges a nominal fee for visitors to participate in a number of regulated activities on some National Parks such as guided tours and whale watching, as well as charging for some permits such as vehicle access and camping.

The QPWS has financial agreements with a number of private commercial partners, such as tour operators, to operate environmentally sustainable activities on various parks. These operators both collect visitor fees on behalf of the QPWS and pay various fees and permits charges in accordance with their agreement to operate on the estate.

The QPWS also offers a range of other resources for sale such as maps, books and other publications to enhance visitors' experience and understanding of the area. Proceeds from sales and permit and fees are directed back into estate management programs such as pest and weed management, maintenance of visitor facilities and maintenance of park infrastructure to preserve and improve park resources.

Queensland is currently the only State that does not charge visitors a general entrance fee to access its parks, making a visit to a Queensland National Park a cost effective day out for Queenslanders and visitors.

Table 1

Region/Activity	Annual Revenue		
	05-06	04-05	03-04
Central Region			
Camping Fee	259,140	263,187	288,121
Proceeds from Commercial activities on Parks	270,894	255,214	213,883
Sundry	4,596	6,082	8,257
Northern Region			
Camping Fee	389,194	404,253	396,135
Proceeds from Commercial activities on Parks	1,479,097	1,439,215	1,337,420
Sundry	21,513	23,397	19,565
Southern Region			
Facility admission Fees (Brisbane Forest Park)	60,380	72,282	70,581
Camping Fee	3,114,876	3,345,840	3,451,220
Proceeds from Commercial activities on Parks	1,801,648	1,957,634	1,669,795
Vehicle Access Permits	2,330,651	1,931,573	1,633,267
Sundry	151,340	154,377	152,889
Total Visitor Sourced Revenue	\$9,883,329	\$9,853,054	\$9,241,133