

Question on Notice

No. 78

Asked on Wednesday, 5 February 2020

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS (HON L ENOCH)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the centrally held \$9.5m allocated to protected area estate acquisition in Budget Paper No. 4 2018-19—

Will the Minister detail the actual expenditure and the area purchased (in hectares) on protected area estate acquisitions in the 2018-19 financial year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

Since 2015, the Queensland Government has increased the size of the protected area estate by over one million hectares – up from 7.5% to 8.2% of the State.

The 2018–19 financial year saw the dedication and declaration of six new protected areas resulting in 34,977 new hectares.

In 2018–19, a total of \$3.69 million was expended by the Department of Environment and Science (the department) towards protected area acquisitions totalling 2,411 hectares.

The centrally-held \$9.5 million allocated to protected area estate acquisitions in the 2018-19 financial year was allocated to enable the department to progress priority acquisitions for protected areas in southern Queensland. Negotiations regarding these acquisitions are ongoing, with the allocated funding carried over to the 2019-20 financial year.