

Question on Notice

No. 688

Asked on Wednesday, 26 May 2021

MR D PURDIE ASKED THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE GREAT BARRIER REEF AND MINISTER FOR SCIENCE AND YOUTH AFFAIRS (HON M SCANLON)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the \$10.939m line item in the Budget 2020-21 Capital Statement titled Revitalising National Parks—

Will the Minister provide a full list of all projects being undertaken as part of this program outlining (a) project cost, (b) project description, (c) project spend to date and (d) projected underspend for this Financial Year?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

As I advised in my response to Question on Notice No. 450-2021, the Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring Queensland's iconic national parks are well managed and well presented with a \$47 million capital investment provided over four years (2017-18 to 2020-21) to revitalise infrastructure in the State's most popular national parks.

\$10.94 million of this package was allocated for the 2020-21 financial year. It has been expended on projects including the Ngaro Trail on Whitsunday Island; K'gari (Fraser Island) works including the upgrade of dingo fences for tourist safety, and further works to the Central Station precinct; Walkabout Creek Visitor Centre redevelopment; track upgrades in the Daintree, Tamborine and Lamington National Parks; upgrades to visitor facilities in the D'Aguilar, Great Sandy, Glass House Mountains and Springbrook National Parks; and eco-tourism.

Across all of these projects 150 construction workers were engaged to undertake this program, with more expected for the completion of the works.

In addition, a capital investment of \$5.2 million was made as part of the Palaszczuk Government's Economic Recovery Strategy – Unite and Recover for Queensland Jobs. This program has delivered improved visitor facilities and enhanced park management, while supporting local builders and trades people, regional supply chains and re-energising nature-based tourism in Queensland. This investment will support approximately 200 construction worker jobs during this financial year.